

Committee: Resources
Date: 20 November 2003
Agenda Item No: 11
Title: Anti-Fraud Policy
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Summary

- 1 This report introduces a draft Anti-Fraud Policy for Housing and Council Tax benefit fraud and explains the background to its production. The report recommends that the draft Policy is adopted.

Background

- 2 As part of the recent Revenues Best Value review, a self-assessment of the Anti-Fraud function was carried out. The assessment was based on the Benefit Fraud Inspectorate (BFI) model Performance Standards. These standards will be used to assess the Council's anti-fraud arrangements for the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) process, due to take place in February 2003.
- 3 The self-assessment exercise identified the need for a written Anti-Fraud Policy setting out how the Council counters housing and council tax benefit fraud. Following this exercise, a draft policy has been produced, and is attached as an Appendix to this report. The policy closely follows the Department of Works and Pensions model which all councils are urged to adopt. It also closely resembles the practices and procedures currently in operation within the Revenues Section and Anti-Fraud Team.

It is therefore recommended that the draft Anti-Fraud Policy is approved.

Background Papers: Department of Works and Pensions Performance Standards