

# **BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **REPORT TO AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**10 APRIL 2014**

### **REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - RESOURCES**

#### **ANTI-FRAUD AND BRIBERY POLICY**

##### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Committee with the draft Anti-Fraud and Bribery Policy.

##### **2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives and Other Corporate Priorities**

- 2.1 Achievement of the aims and objectives in the Corporate Plan is underpinned by ensuring that effective governance arrangements are in place. The Anti-Fraud and Bribery Policy is an integral part of the Council's overall governance framework.

##### **3. Background**

- 3.1 The Audit Committee has to monitor Council policies on anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements as part of its Terms of Reference.
- 3.2 The Council's existing Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy was out of date and needed revision to include the effects of the Bribery Act 2010.

##### **4. Current Situation / Proposal**

- 4.1 The Council encourages a culture of openness and fairness and expects Elected Members and employees at all levels to adopt the highest standards of propriety and accountability.
- 4.2 The draft Anti-Fraud and Bribery Policy, attached as Appendix A, recognises that the Council as a large organisation is at risk of loss due to fraud and corruption both from within the Council and outside it. In adopting this Policy, the Council seeks to demonstrate clearly that it is firmly committed to dealing with fraud, corruption and bribery and will deal equally with perpetrators from inside (members and employees) and outside the Council.

## **5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedural Rules**

5.1 There are no implications upon policy framework and procedural rules.

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1 There are no equality implications.

## **7. Financial Implications**

7.1 There is no direct financial impact of the report but effective fraud prevention and detection form a key element of the Council's internal control framework and maximises the resources available for frontline services.

## **8. Recommendations**

8.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- Note the draft Anti-Fraud and Bribery Policy (Appendix A)
- Note that the Policy will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

### **Ness Young CPFA Corporate Director - Resources**

**Contact Officer** : Mary Williams, Group Manager – Chief Accountant

**Telephone** : (01656) 643605

**E-mail** : [mary.williams2@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:mary.williams2@bridgend.gov.uk)

**Postal address:** Accountancy  
Financial Services  
Raven's Court  
Brewery Lane  
Bridgend  
CF31 4AP

### **Background Documents:**

None