

## AUDIT COMMITTEE - TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2023

### Report of the Head of Governance & Human Resources

#### Part A

#### ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION STRATEGY AND WHISTLEBLOWING STRATEGY

##### Purpose of Report

To provide information on the operation of the Anti-Fraud & Corruption Strategy and Whistle-blowing Policy during 2022/23.

##### Recommendation

The Committee is requested to note the information provided within the report on the operation of the Anti-Fraud & Corruption Strategy and the Whistle-blowing Policy.

##### Reason

To ensure the Committee is kept up to date on the operation of the policies, and instances where they have been applied.

##### Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

The Council is obliged under the Public Interest Disclosure Act to maintain a Whistle-blowing Policy, designed to encourage staff, elected Members, contractors and the public to raise legitimate concerns about wrong-doing within the Council without fear of reprisal. In line with its role of community leadership, and its responsibilities for the stewardship of public funds, the Council also has an Anti-fraud & Corruption Strategy setting out how cases of fraud and corruption will be prevented, and how suspicions will be dealt with.

##### Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

Updates will continue to be provided to the Committee on an annual basis.

##### Report Implications

##### ***Financial Implications***

None.

##### ***Risk Management***

There are no risks associated with this decision.

### ***Equality and Diversity***

None identified.

### **Climate Change and Carbon Impact**

None identified.

### ***Crime and Disorder***

The policies are designed to give an opportunity for people to alert the Council to potential wrong-doing, and to respond to reports of fraud or corruption in an appropriate manner.

### **Wards Affected**

Not applicable.

### **Publicity Arrangements**

Not applicable.

### ***Consultations***

Not applicable.

### **Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Caring for the Environment	No
Healthy Communities	No
A Thriving Economy	No
Your Council	Yes

Background Papers:                      None

Officers to contact:                      Adrian Ward  
Head of Governance and Human Resources  
Tel: 01509 634573  
Adrian.Ward@charnwood.gov.uk

## **Part B**

### **1. Background**

All new members of staff receive awareness training re the documents as part of their Induction process. The Whistle-blowing Policy is also provided to potential suppliers as part of the procurement process.

### **2. Policy Documents**

The documents have been reviewed and no amendments have been identified.

### **3. Whistleblowing Notifications**

No whistleblowing notifications were received during the year.

### **4. Fraud**

There were no incidents of internal fraud identified during 2022/23.