

Counter Fraud, Corruption and Bribery Policy Update	
Executive Summary	<p>The updated Counter Fraud, Corruption and Bribery Policy is attached to this report at Appendix 1.</p> <p>It outlines the Council's approach to preventing, identifying and investigating any allegations of fraud, corruption and bribery highlighting relevant legislation and best practice where appropriate.</p>
Options considered	The policy contained at Appendix 1 outlines the Council's approach to preventing, identifying and investigating any allegations of fraud, corruption and bribery highlighting relevant legislation and best practice where appropriate.
Consultation(s)	No Consultation Required
Recommendations	That Members review the policy before recommending to Cabinet for approval.
Reasons for recommendations	<p>The legal framework for fraud and corruption is defined by a number of acts.</p> <p>Primarily, the Fraud Act 2006 establishes a criminal liability for fraud through either false representation, failing to disclose information or abuse of position. Section 17 of the Theft Act 1968 creates an offence of destroying, defacing, concealing, or falsifying any account, record or document made, or required, for any accounting purposes.</p> <p>The Bribery Act 2010 makes it an offence to attempt to bribe someone or receive a bribe where that may result in improper discharge of a public function.</p>
Background papers	None

Wards affected	All
Cabinet member(s)	Cllr Lucy Shires
Contact Officer	Cara Jordan Assistant Director – Finance Assets Legal Cara.Jordan@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Links to key documents:	
Corporate Plan:	A strong, responsible, and accountable Council
Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)	No Links
Council Policies & Strategies	This policy is to be read in conjunction with the council's Whistleblowing Policy.

Corporate Governance:	
Is this a key decision	No
Has the public interest test been applied	The Item is not exempt
Details of any previous decision(s) on this matter	This Policy was previously brought to GRAC in 2020

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. This report aims to update members on the changes made to the Counter Fraud, Corruption and Bribery Policy following a recent review.

2. Introduction & Background

- 2.1. In order to deliver against Council priorities, it is necessary for North Norfolk to ensure that it minimises losses to fraud, corruption and bribery. As a public service authority, the Council has a duty to ensure that it promotes effective stewardship and value for money in the use of public funds.
- 2.2. The policy contained at **Appendix 1** outlines the Council's approach to preventing, identifying and investigating any allegations of fraud, corruption and bribery highlighting relevant legislation and best practice where appropriate.
- 2.3. This policy, once recommended by GRAC and approved by Cabinet will be applicable to officers, members and those working directly with North Norfolk to achieve its objectives. This policy is updated every three years.

3. Proposals and Options

- 3.1. There have been minimal updates to the existing policy which was last reviewed in 2020. Updates have been made to job titles to reflect recent changes in personnel at the Council and changes were made to reference changes in relevant legislation.
- 3.2. Updates made to the policy have been highlighted to the Committee by track changes for ease of reference.

4. Corporate Priorities

- 4.1. A Strong, Responsible and Accountable Council – This policy ensures that North Norfolk District Council is ensuring strong governance is at the heart of all that we do.

5. Financial and Resource Implications

- 5.1. There are no direct financial or resource implications of this policy.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1. This policy helps to ensure that the Council promotes effective stewardship and value for money in the use of public funds.

7. Risks

- 7.1. None as a direct consequence of this report.

8. Net Zero Target

- 8.1. None as a direct consequence of this report.

9. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

- 9.1. None as a direct consequence of this report.

10. Community Safety issues

- 10.1. None as a direct consequence of this report.

11. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 11.1. The above policy has been reviewed and updated. The last review was carried out in 2020. There have been minimal updates to this policy. The next review will be carried out in 2027.
- 11.2. It is recommended that Members review the updates to the policy at **Appendix 1** before recommending to Cabinet for approval.