

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**AUDIT COMMITTEE
18 JULY 2018 AT 2.00 PM**

Agenda Item
No:

8

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ANTI-FRAUD REPORT 2017/18

Report of the Director of Resources

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1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present a report (appended as Appendix 1) that provides details of the work of the Shared Anti-Fraud Service in implementing the Council's Anti-Fraud Action plan for 2017/18.

2. Background

- 2.1 According to reports from CIPFA, the National Audit Office (NAO), the Cabinet Office, and the Private Sector; fraud risk across local government in England exceeds £2.billion each year with some more recent reports indicating levels considerably above this.
- 2.2 The Council is a founding member, and host authority for the Hertfordshire Shared Anti-Fraud Service (SAFS) and it is essential that to support this service the Council has in place a robust framework to prevent and deter fraud, including effective strategies and policies, as well as plans to deal with the investigation and prosecution of identified fraud.
- 2.3 In early 2017 the Audit Committee approved the 2017/2018 Anti-Fraud Action Plan for the Council and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for SAFS to achieve in respect of delivery of the plan.
- 2.4 This report sets out SAFS' performance against the Action Plan and also includes the Annual Report for the Service.

4. Recommendation

That the Committee note the contents of the report.