

Review of Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy

Report of the Treasurer

For further information about this report please contact James Walton, Treasurer, on 01743 258915 or Joanne Coady, Head of Finance, on 01743 260215.

1 Purpose of Report

This report requests the Committee to recommend that the Fire Authority re-affirm the Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy (attached as an appendix), following the annual review conducted by officers.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to consider the Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy, attached as an appendix, and to recommend that the Fire Authority re-affirm the document (with or without amendment).

3 Background

At its meeting on 25 April 2005, the Fire Authority adopted an Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy (since amended to include references to bribery), which is designed to:

- Encourage prevention;
- Promote detection; and
- Identify a clear pathway for investigation.

The Strategy is reviewed annually by officers and the Audit and Performance Management Committee. Any amendments proposed are then taken to the Fire Authority for consideration.

4 Review

The Strategy has been reviewed by officers and only minor amendments have been necessary. These amendments are shown in appendix to the report, with deletions struck and additions shown in bold italics.

Following approval by the Fire Authority, the Strategy will be brought to the attention of all employees on the Service's weekly newsletter.

The Strategy will be kept under review, and any changes required during the forthcoming year will be brought to the attention of the Committee.

5 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

6 Legal Comment

Although the Fire Authority is not legally required to have in place an Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy, it is considered best practice to do so.

7 Initial Impact Assessment

An Initial Impact Assessment form has previously been completed.

8 Appendix

Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy

9 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.