

	<p><b>Audit Committee</b> <b>29<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Corporate Anti-Fraud Team (CAFT) Progress Report Q3 October – December 2014</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Clair Green – Interim Assurance Director</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>Appendix 1 - CAFT Progress Report Q3 October – December 2014</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Officer Contact Details</b></p>	<p>Clair Green <a href="mailto:clair.green@barnet.gov.uk">clair.green@barnet.gov.uk</a> 0208 359 7791</p>

<b>Summary</b>
<p>This report covers the period 1st October 2014 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 and represents an up-to-date picture of the work undertaken by Corporate Anti-Fraud Team (CAFT) during that time.</p>

<b>Recommendations</b>
<p><b>That the Committee note the CAFT Progress Report covering the period 1st October - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.</b></p>

## **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1 The Audit Committee included in the work programme for 2014/5 that quarterly progress reports on the work of the Corporate Anti- Fraud Team is produced to this meeting.

## **2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 N/A

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

- 3.1 None

## **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 None

## **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

- 5.1.1 The Council has a responsibility to protect the public purse through proper administration and control of the public funds and assets to which it has been entrusted. The work of the Corporate Anti-Fraud Team (CAFT) supports this by continuing to provide an efficient value for money anti-fraud activity, that is able to investigate all referrals that are passed to us to an appropriate outcome, whilst continuing to offer support, advice and assistance on all matters of fraud risks including prevention, fraud detection, money laundering, other criminal activity, and deterrent measures, policies and procedures, whilst delivering a cohesive approach that reflects best practice and supports all the new corporate priorities and principles.

### **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

- 5.2.1 The structure and budget that CAFT operate within has proven successful and provides sufficient resource and commitment that is required to carry out an effective anti-fraud service and deliver the key objectives as set out within the strategy.

### **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

5.3.1 Under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council has a statutory obligation to ensure the protection of public funds and to have an effective system of prevention and detection of fraud and corruption.

5.3.2 The Council's Constitution under Responsibility for Functions - The Audit Committee's terms of reference, details the functions of the Audit Committee including  
To monitor the effective development and operation of the Council's Corporate Anti-Fraud Team; and  
To consider regular anti-fraud progress reports and summaries of specific fraud issues and investigation outcomes.

5.3.3 There are no Legal issues in the context of this report.

### **5.4 Risk Management**

5.4.1 The on-going work of the CAFT supports the council's risk management strategy and processes. Where appropriate, outcomes from our investigations are reported to both Internal Audit and Risk Management to support their on-going work and to assist in either confirming effective anti-fraud controls and or suggested areas for improvement.

### **5.5 Equalities and Diversity**

5.5.1 Pursuant to section 149 of the Equality Act, 2010, the council has a public sector duty to have due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; advancing equality of opportunity between those with a protected characteristic and those without; promoting good relations between those with a protected characteristic and those without. The, relevant, 'protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. It also covers marriage and civil partnership with regard to elimination discrimination

5.5.2 Effective systems of anti-fraud provide assurance on the effective allocation of resources and quality of service provision for the benefit of the entire community.

## 5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 None

## 6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Delegated Powers Report (ref: BT/2004-05 -2 March 2004) - The Corporate Anti-Fraud Team (CAFT) was launched on 7th May 2004
  - 6.2 Audit Committee 29th April 2014 (Decision item 10) – the Audit Committee approved the Internal Audit and Anti-Fraud Strategy and Annual Plan and Risk Management approach 2014-2015.
  - 6.3 Audit Committee 29th 2014 - (Decision item 13 ) – the Audit Committee included in the work programme for 2014/5 that quarterly progress reports on the work of the Corporate Anti- Fraud Team be produced to this meeting.
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