

**To:** Audit & Governance Committee

**Date:** 26 July 2023

**Report of:** Head of Financial Services

**Title of Report:** Anti-Bribery, Fraud and Corruption Policy Review

## Summary and Recommendations

**Purpose of report:**

To present the reviewed Anti-Bribery, Fraud and Corruption Policy for approval and adoption.

**Key decision** No

**Executive lead member:** Councillor Ed Turner

**Policy Framework:** Corporate Plan Priority – Enable an Inclusive Economy

**Recommendation(s):** That the Committee approve the reviewed policy.

## Appendix 1 – Anti-Bribery, Fraud and Corruption Policy

### Background

1. In today's complex and ever-evolving business landscape, it is imperative for organisations to have robust measures in place to combat bribery, fraud, and corruption. As a responsible and transparent entity, Oxford City Council recognises the importance of fostering a culture of integrity and compliance. Therefore, in order to strengthen the Council's anti-bribery, fraud and corruption framework, regular policy reviews are conducted to ensure any legislative updates are applied to the policy.
2. The policy details scope, roles, responsibilities, definitions, risk areas, reporting mechanisms, training and monitoring requirements.

### **Updates for 2023**

3. In February 2023, the Bribery Act 2010 amended the length of imprisonment on summary conviction from up to 6 months, to up to 12 months. The maximum prison term for conviction on indictment remains as up to 10 years. This change has no effect on the Council's Anti-Bribery, Fraud and Corruption Policy.
4. The Policy has been amended to remove references to the "Investigation Team" and replaced with "Counter-Fraud Team".
5. The Policy has been amended to remove references to "Human Resources" and replaced with "The People Team"

### **Legal Implications**

6. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. Staff who are trained on the policy will mitigate the risk of an adverse event occurring which if unchecked, could give rise to significant risk.

### **Financial Implications**

7. There are no financial implications for this report. Staff who are trained on the policy will mitigate the risk of an adverse event occurring which if unchecked, could give rise to significant risk.

### **Next Steps**

8. On approval, the updated policy will be added to the Council website, the staff Intranet and will feature as part of all Fraud Awareness Training delivered by the Counter-Fraud Team.

<b>Name and contact details of author:-</b>
---

Scott Warner
--------------

Counter Fraud Manager
-----------------------

Financial Services / Counter Fraud Team
---

Tel: 01865 252158 e-mail: swarner@oxford.gov.uk
---