

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:**           **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**DATE:**               **MONDAY, 25 JUNE 2012**

**REPORT BY:**       **HEAD OF FINANCE**

**SUBJECT:**           **INVESTIGATIONS PROGRESS REPORT**

**1.00   PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01   To outline ongoing proactive counter fraud work and reactive investigation work.

**2.00   BACKGROUND**

2.01   One of the areas of responsibility of Internal Audit is to promote the Ant-Fraud and Corruption Strategy. Its objectives are to proactively develop an anti fraud culture, deter, prevent, and investigate fraud, as well as provide advice on sanctions and redress.

**3.00   CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01   The gravity and status of referrals which have been subject to further audit work are detailed in the attached referral report (appendix 1). The referral report also includes the number of fundamental, significant and merits attention recommendations for completed draft reports. Some referrals are classed as management issues. They are referred directly to the appropriate Directorate for further action and are followed up by Internal Audit.

3.02   The following new investigations have been referred and are being investigated:

1. An anonymous allegation has been received concerning Council property which may have gone missing. Information has been provided and the investigation is ongoing
2. A school has referred a case where invoices have been paid for services that are not required by the school. A member of staff has been suspended and Internal Audit are assisting with the internal investigation

3.03   The following investigations have been reported to previous committees and are still being investigated

3. Information was received regarding a potential fraudulent benefit claim by a member of the public. The subject is also in receipt of allowances from the Council under the Direct Payment scheme. Counsel opinion is currently being sought on the case.
4. Information was received regarding alleged collusion between employees and a supplier. An extensive investigation was undertaken by Internal Audit and the evidence gathered was passed to the Police.
5. A complaint was received that a member of staff abused his position for personal gain. A report has been presented to management which has resulted in disciplinary action being taken.

3.04 The following investigations have been completed

6. An employee (Headteacher) admitted to the theft of monies. The matter was referred directly to the Police. Internal Audit assisted with the evidence gathering. The employee has been convicted and was subsequently dismissed.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 The Committee is requested to note the report

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 None

#### **6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 None

#### **7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None

#### **8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 None

#### **9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 None

#### **10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 None

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 None

**12.00 APPENDICES**

12.01 Investigation detail

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985  
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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