**Anti-fraud and corruption strategy**

**Corporate anti-fraud transparency code**

The transparency code was introduced in 2014 to meet the government’s desire to place more power into citizens’ hands, enabling demonstrable democratic accountability and ease for local people to contribute and help shape public services.

The council shares in the principle that data held and managed by local authorities should be made available to local people and their partners subject to specific sensitivities (e.g. protecting vulnerable people or commercial and operational considerations).

As part of the requirement to publish data, the corporate anti-fraud team have the following key areas to be transparent with:

* number of occasions Prevention of Social Housing Fraud (power to require information) (England) Regulations 2014 have been used
* total number (full-time equivalent – FTE) of employees undertaking investigations and prosecutions of fraud
* total number (full-time equivalent– FTE) of professionally accredited counter fraud specialists
* total amount spent by the authority on investigations and prosecutions of fraud
* total number of fraud cases investigated.

The council has a duty to protect public money and is committed to tackling bribery, fraud, corruption and money laundering whenever it happens.

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| Fraud | Jan –Dec 2020 | Jan-Dec  2019 | Jan-Dec  2018 |
| Prevention of social housing fraud powers | 242 | 164 | 342 (198 cases) |
| Total number FTE fraud officers | 11.5 | 11.5 | 11 |
| Total number FTE ACFS | 7 | 8 | 7 |
| Total amount spent on investigation | £375,408 | £384,303 | £640,303 |
| Total amount spent on prosecution | £5,185 | £18,376 | TBA |
| Total number of fraud cases investigated | 335 | 752 | 744 |
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