

HUMBERSIDE FIRE AUTHORITY

ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION STATEMENT 2025/26



Introduction

1. Humberside Fire and Rescue Service (the Service) is committed to the highest possible standards of integrity, openness, probity and accountability. The management of the risk of fraud and corruption and ensuring that effective counter fraud arrangements are in place are key elements of Corporate Governance.
2. Communities expect the Service to conduct its affairs with integrity, honesty, openness and to demand the highest standards of conduct from those working for it.
3. The Service recognises that sound systems of public accountability are vital to effective management and to maintain confidence in the Service and is committed to protecting the public funds entrusted to it. This Statement outlines the Service's commitment to creating an anti-fraud culture and maintaining high ethical standards in its administration of public funds. A culture of honesty and openness is a key element in tackling fraud.
4. In order to prevent, discourage and detect fraud, the Service has in place and will continue to develop appropriate controls and procedures. These are inter-related and are designed to deter and block fraud or corruption. They cover culture, prevention, detection and training.
5. Actions around financial crime form part of the Service's commitment to robust governance arrangements.

Key Actions during 2025/26

6. Existing policies and strategies are reviewed on an ongoing basis and annually in conjunction with the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny (GAS) Committee. The Committee considered the Anti-Fraud related policies at its meeting of 9 February 2026, and whilst making recommendations to enhance the policies further, was assured by the robustness of the policies and procedures in place.
7. The policies listed below are current and published on the Service's [website](#):
 - Anti-Bribery Policy
 - Anti-Money Laundering Policy
 - Professional Standards Anti-Fraud & Corruption Policy
 - Professional Standards Whistleblowing Policy

As stated in the Anti-Fraud & Corruption and Whistleblowing policies the Monitoring Officer and Chair of GAS Committee are, amongst others, independent named contacts that individuals can report any concerns to.

The Monitoring Officer and Chair of the GAS Committee can confirm that there have been no identified allegations of attempted fraud, bribery or corruption reported during 2025/26.

The Service remains vigilant and constantly reviews its operating environment.

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Assurance

8. The Service has comprehensive crime insurance arrangements in place. This cover is for all employees and third parties up to £500,000.
9. The GAS Committee reviews annually, the anti-fraud and corruption policies to combating fraud across the Authority.
10. Arrangements are in place to utilise Internal Audit if required to investigate suspected cases of fraud.
11. The Service periodically draws to the attention of staff the relevant policies. This is usually through email bulletins and entries in internal communications.
12. The Service maintains its knowledge, assurance and best practice to deal with current fraud risks and issues through its relationship with Internal Audit. Disseminate alerts are also received via the Internal Auditors (TIAA).
13. The Service challenges itself through Internal and External audit provision to ensure procedures are robust and current. These activities provide robust testing and assurance of the systems in place, helping to confirm that controls remain effective, proportionate and responsive to emerging fraud risks. Examples of this testing include reviewing the design and operation of key financial controls, sample checking transactions and authorisations, assessing compliance with relevant policies and procedures, following up agreed audit actions, and considering the outcomes of data matching exercises such as the National Fraud Initiative.
14. The Service continues to fully participate in the Cabinet Office's National Fraud Initiative (NFI) and receive reports on the outcomes.
15. The Service has appropriate arrangements in place that encourage staff to raise concerns. The Professional Standards Whistleblowing Policy and additional support routes complement internal actions.

Signed

Councillor Nigel Sherwood
Chair of Humberside Fire Authority

Phil Shillito
Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive