Bolsover District Council

Meeting of the Audit Committee on 16th July 2026

ANTI-FRAUD, BRIBERY, AND CORRUPTION POLICY

Report of the Director of Finance & Section 151 Officer

Classification	This report is public.
Contact Officer	Director of Finance & Section 151 Officer

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

To enable the Committee to consider the Anti-Fraud, Bribery, and Corruption Policy attached at **Appendix 1,** before recommending it to Executive on the 27th of July 2026.

REPORT DETAILS

1 Background

1.1 The Council is opposed to all forms of fraud and corruption and wishes to promote a culture of openness and honesty consistent with the principles for conduct identified by the committee for Standards in Public Life and expects all those who work for and with the Council, to adopt the highest standards of propriety and accountability.

1.2 The Anti-Fraud, Bribery, and Corruption policy aims to help employees (including temporary and agency workers), Elected Members and Co-opted Members on the Council's committees, to understand their roles in the Council regarding fraud, bribery, and corruption. Employees must ensure they adhere to legal and contractual requirements and ensure that all procedures and practices remain above reproach.

1.3 The policy also aims to help partners, contractors, suppliers, voluntary organisations, and members of the public to understand how and when to contact the Council with their concerns.

1.4 The policy refers to the following legislation:

- The Fraud Act 2006 – which refers to there being 3 ways fraud can be committed,

- The Bribery Act 2010 - introduced to update and enhance UK Law on bribery, it introduced a new strict liability offence for companies and partnerships of failing to prevent bribery. This includes local authorities.

- The Criminal Finance Act 2017 – introduced 2 new criminal offences relating to tax evasion.

- The Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023, which created the new offence of failing to prevent fraud. This also applies to local authorities.

1.5 The policy sets out appropriate and proportionate safeguards and reporting arrangements, designed to detect and avoid involvement in the crimes described in the above legislation.

1.6 The policy has been reviewed for new legislation and updated for changes to job titles since the approval in August 2022. The updated policy was presented to the Senior Leadership Team meeting on the 9th of April 2026.

2 Reasons for Recommendation

2.1 The Anti-Fraud, Bribery, and Corruption Policy has been updated to take account of all legislative and operational changes to ensure it remains fit for purpose. Once approved, refresher training will be provided for Officers and Members.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 No alternatives found – the Council is required to have a policy and this ensures we set the standard at a sufficiently high level to send a clear message that fraud, bribery, or corruption, will not be tolerated, that all reported or identified instances will be dealt with in a professional and timely manner, that we are committed to preventing and detecting fraud, bribery, or corruption, and that those perpetrating the aforementioned acts will be dealt with swiftly and firmly, and be prosecuted using all the sanctions available to the Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Audit Committee considers the Anti-Fraud, Bribery, and Corruption Policy at **Appendix 1** to this report and recommends it to Executive for approval on the 27th of July 2026.

Approved by Councillor Clive Moesby, Portfolio Holder for Resources

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IMPLICATIONS.

Finance and Risk: **Yes☐** **No ☒**

Details:
Financial issues are covered in the Policy which is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes☐ No ☒ **Details:** Legal implications are covered throughout the Policy but there are no new ones arising specifically from the report. There are no data protection issues arising directly from this report. On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council **Staffing:** Yes☐ No ☒ **Details:** There are no human resource implications arising directly from this report. On behalf of the Head of Paid Service **Equality and Diversity, and Consultation:** Yes☐ No ☒ **Details:** Not applicable to this report **Environment:** Yes☐ No ☒ **Details:** Not applicable to this report

DECISION INFORMATION

☒ ***Please indicate which threshold applies:***	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District, or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:	**Yes**☐ **No** ☒
Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or **(b)** Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.	**(a)** ☐ **(b)** ☐
Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or **(b)** Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.	**(a)** ☐ **(b)** ☐
District Wards Significantly Affected: *(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)* Please state below which wards are affected or tick **All** if all wards are affected:	**All** ☐

Is the decision subject to Call-In? (*Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In*)	**Yes**☐ **No** ☒
If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? ***(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)***	**Yes**☐ **No** ☒
Consultation carried out: *(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)*	**Yes**☐ **No** ☐
Leader ☐ **Deputy Leader** ☐ **Executive** ☐ **SLT** ☒ **Relevant Service Manager** ☐ **Members** ☐ **Public** ☐ **Other** ☐	Portfolio Holder for Resources

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, and Environment.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION	
Appendix No	**Title**
1	Anti-Fraud, Bribery, and Corruption Policy

Background Papers
(*These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).*
None