

**AUDIT COMMITTEE: 24 January 2017**

---

**DRAFT PROSECUTION POLICY**

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR RESOURCES**

**AGENDA ITEM: 9.3**

---

**Reason for this Report**

1. The Audit Committee's Terms of Reference requires that:
  - Members consider any anti-fraud strategies, policies and procedures.
  - Members receive reports on fraud prevention and detection initiatives and updates to any related policies and strategies.

**Background**

2. The Internal Audit, Investigation Team consists of trained professional investigators who conduct criminal investigations in respect of individuals who commit fraud against Cardiff Council, for example Council Tax and Housing.

**Issues**

3. Prior to 2014 the team also investigated and sanctioned benefit fraudsters, however, on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 the responsibility for investigating benefit fraud transferred to the DWP. Whilst the criteria for sanctioning a fraudster remain the same, a new, updated Policy has been drafted to remove reference to benefit fraud.

**Reasons for Recommendations**

4. To consider and note the content of the revised Prosecution Policy.

**Legal Implications**

5. No direct legal implications arising from this report.

**Financial Implications**

6. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

**Recommendations**

7. That the Committee note the report and the attached appendix.

**CHRISTINE SALTER  
CORPORATE DIRECTOR RESOURCES**

**Date:**

*The following Appendix is attached:*

**Appendix A – Draft Prosecution Policy**