

Report to: Audit Committee
Date of meeting: 13th January 2010
Report of: Audit Manager
Title: Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy

1.0 **SUMMARY**
A revised Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy, including the Whistleblowing Policy, is presented for approval.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 The revised Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy be approved.

Contact Officer:

For further information on this report please contact: Barry Austin – Audit Manager
telephone extension 8032 email: barry.austin@watford.gov.uk

Report approved by: Bernard Clarke – Head of Strategic Finance.

3.0 **DETAILS**

- 3.1 The Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy, including the Whistleblowing Policy, is normally formally approved on an annual basis. The last approval was in March 2008. There have been no changes made to the Strategy since then as it was decided to wait for the introduction of Shared Services and then to take the opportunity to harmonise Watford's and Three Rivers' strategies.
- 3.2 Attached to this report is the joint strategy. This has been agreed with senior managers at Three Rivers and will be presented for formal approval by Members there when the first opportunity arises.

4.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **Financial**

- 4.1.1 The Head of Strategic Finance comments that there are no financial implications in this report.

4.2 **Legal Issues** (Monitoring Officer)

- 4.2.1 The Head of Legal and Property Services comments that there are no legal issues in the report.

4.3 **Potential Risks**

4.3.1

Potential Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Overall score
Failure to adopt robust measures for tackling fraud and corruption or to have a confidential process for reporting concerns could lessen our ability to tackle these issues and lead to criticism by the external auditors.	1	3	3

Background Papers

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report. If you wish to inspect or take copies of the background papers, please contact the officer named on the front page of the report.

Previous Strategy.

File Reference

None.