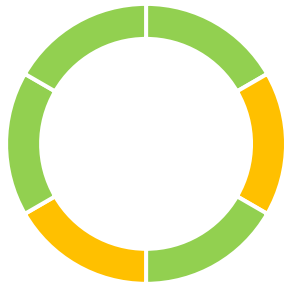


Baseline Assessment of Six Themed Areas



- Resource and Communication
- Fraud Risk Management
- Policy Related
- Committee Related
- Culture and Awareness
- Reporting, Investigating and Monitoring

Scope and Ambition

This baseline assessment is a corporate view of fraud maturity within the organisation. This exercise is a revisit of the assessment performed in 2021 and shows any progress with regards to counter fraud work and any increase in the level of maturity at the authority.

Management should ensure the key findings from this work are considered to reduce risk of fraud and to protect the public purse.

SWAP's Counter Fraud Team is committed to helping Partners and Clients to reduce the risk of fraud and to protect the public purse.

Key Findings

	The Terms of Reference for Audit, Governance and Standards Committee has not been expanded to include a requirement to monitor the council's counter fraud plan, performance of the contractor and regularity of reporting. This will be taken to Committee in September 2022.
	There has been no update to the contract template for third parties and contractors which advises them of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy, however the Council are aware of this recommendation, and it will be picked up as part of the Local Government Reorganisation workstream.
	Actions from the 2021 review have been implemented and this has led to visible progress in the comparison between years.
	An Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and an Anti-Money Laundering Policy have been created and are available on the Somerset West and Taunton website.
	The Risk and Opportunity Management Strategy has been updated to reflect the risks of fraud and corruption and the Corporate Risk Register has been updated accordingly.

Assessments per Area Reviewed

<p>Resource and Communication</p>	<p>Fraud Risk Management</p>
<p>Policy Related</p>	<p>Committee Related</p>
<p>Culture and Awareness</p>	<p>Reporting, Investigating and Monitoring</p>

Comparison of Results Between Years



- Assessed not to be in place/ operating ineffectively – requires significant improvement.
- Assessed to be partially in place – requires improvement.
- Assessed as in place/ operating effectively.