

For publication

National Fraud Initiative

Meeting: Standards and Audit Committee

Date: 5th February 2020

Cabinet portfolio: Governance

Report by: Internal Audit Consortium Manager

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1.0 Purpose of report

1.1 To present for members' information a summary of the results of the 2018/19 National Fraud Initiative (NFI) for Chesterfield Borough Council.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That the report be noted.

3.0 Report details

3.1 The Cabinet Office are responsible for NFI. Local Authorities are required to supply various data sets which the Cabinet Office process and match with other local authorities and participating organisations to try to highlight potential cases for further investigation. It should be noted that the existence of a match does not necessarily indicate that any form of fraud has taken place and each match needs to be investigated further.

- 3.6 In terms of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme errors the claims have been cancelled and an overpayment created.
- 3.7 All of the duplicate creditor payments have been refunded.
- 3.8 Risk Management Issues – There is a risk that there could be fraud or errors within the matches that have not been investigated, however, no fraud has been identified to date and the number of errors is minimal.
- 3.9 Financial - the investigation of matches has been undertaken within current staffing resources.

4 Alternative options and reasons for rejection

- 4.1 The report is for information.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That the report be noted.

6 Reasons for recommendation

- 6.1 To inform Members of the results of the 2018/19 NFI.

Decision information

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Key decision number | N/A |
| Wards affected | All |
| Links to Council Plan priorities | This report links to the Council's priority to provide value for money services. |

Document information

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| Background documents These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when the report was prepared. | |
| Appendices to the report | |
| Appendix 1 | NFI 2018/2019 CBC Summary |
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