

COUNTER FRAUD WORK PROGRAMME 2024/25

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ANNEX 2





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INTRODUCTION

- 1 Veritau undertakes counter fraud work on behalf of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. This document summarises planned areas of counter fraud work for 2024/25.
- 2 A total of 150 days of counter fraud work has been agreed for 2024/25. A large proportion of this work will focus on reactive investigations in response to information received from officers and the public about suspected fraud. Other work will be undertaken in accordance with priorities detailed in the Council's Counter Fraud Risk Assessment and Counter Fraud Strategy Action Plan. The risk assessment and strategy action plan are reviewed annually and were last presented to this committee in September 2023.
- 3 A high-level summary of planned areas of work is set out in the table below. An estimated number of days for each area is provided but this will be flexible to reflect the work that arises during the year.



2023/24 COUNTER FRAUD SUMMARY

Area	Days	Scope
Counter Fraud General	10	Monitoring changes to regulations and guidance, reviewing counter fraud risks, and supporting the Council with maintenance of the counter fraud policy framework. Updates on significant fraud trends and counter fraud activities will be provided to the Governance Committee during the year.
Proactive Work	20	This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raising awareness of counter fraud issues and procedures for reporting suspected fraud - for example through training and provision of updates on fraud related issues. targeted proactive counter fraud work - for example through local and regional data matching exercises. support and advice on cases which may be appropriate for investigation and advice on appropriate measures to deter and prevent fraud. advice and guidance on measures to deter and prevent fraud.
Reactive Investigations	105	Investigation of suspected fraud affecting the Council. This includes feedback on any changes needed to procedures to prevent fraud reoccurring.
National Fraud Initiative	15	This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collection and submission of data for bi-annual exercise and annual Single Person Discount exercise. Coordinating the review of data matches produced by the National Fraud Initiative and advising on cases which may be appropriate for investigation.