Fraud control

Policy, procedure, protocol	Policy
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Related documents	Privacy Management Plan Code of Conduct Internal Reporting Policy Complaints Management Policy Grievance Handling Protocol Private Use of Council Resources Policy
Author	Director Corporate & Governance
Section / Department	Organisation Performance & Governance
Linkage to Our Community Plan	5 Leadership
Objective	5.1 We will have a strong, accountable and representative Government
Strategy	5.1.4 Ensure transparent and accountable decision making for our community

1. Purpose

This policy is designed to protect public funds and assets, protect the integrity, security and reputation of the Council and maintain a high level of services to the community.

Council is committed to the elimination of fraud against Council.

2. Definition of Fraud

Fraud is not restricted to monetary benefits. For the purpose of this policy, fraud against Council is described as the dishonest misuse of Council's resources or using one's position and power for personal gain.

Fraud prevention is the protection of Council's assets from fraudulent exploitation.

3. Policy Statement

Council is committed to fostering an environment that discourages fraud and encourages fraud prevention. Fraud prevention is concerned ultimately with the effective utilisation of resources and the minimization of waste, mismanagement and fraud. Council is committed to preventing fraud at its origin. Fraud flourishes in an environment where there are insufficient controls to prevent waste, abuse and mismanagement. Council believes that an emphasis on fraud prevention rather than fraud investigation will lead to a reduction of these opportunities for waste, abuse and mismanagement.

To this end, Council is committed to the following strategy:

(a)   visible and unambiguous decision making by Council and staff,

(b)   the promotion of its fraud prevention principles in the community to ensure that there is awareness that Council will not tolerate fraudulent acts against Council by contractors, suppliers or members of the public,

(c)   the General Manager developing and implementing fraud management strategies to cultivate a culture of fraud prevention among staff within Council,

(d)   encouraging the reporting of instances of fraud and corruption within Council, including the adoption and dissemination of an Internal Reporting Policy, and

(e)   maintaining policies that promote ethical conduct by Councillors, staff and those who deal with Council.