10.2 Fraud and Corruption Policy

Report To:	Council
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, 24 September 2025
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Authorised by:	Chief Executive

Purpose

To provide an update for the Council on the Fraud and Corruption Policy.
To seek Council's approval and adoption of the proposed Fraud and Corruption Policy.

Recommendation

That the Council:

a. Receives and notes the Fraud and Corruption Policy Report (Resolve # 2025-118).

b. Adopts the Fraud and Corruption Policy.

c. Delegates approval to the Chief Executive to make any further amendments to the Policy as suggested by Council.

Executive Summary

As part of Council's responsibilities, it is expected that Council approve and adopt policies that relate to or involve Council elected members directly as part of the mitigation of risk.

The Fraud and Corruption Policy is one such policy. This policy outlines Council's commitment to preventing, detecting and responding to fraud to protect Councils assets and reputation to ensure public trust.

Context

The previous Fraud Policy was due for review and update, so the opportunity to ensure it met the requirements of Council in its entirety was taken and a variation on the original policy was made.

Discussion

The Fraud and Corruption Policy was presented to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee on 18 June 2025 for their review.

The policy has previously been a management policy that didn't include elected members, contractors, volunteers or individuals who were engaged to undertake work for Council. It had been primarily focused on management and staff and the potential for fraud at that level. The policy has been updated significantly to extend beyond management to mitigate more of the risk that surrounds Council. It now meets additional requirements under relative legislation including the Protected Disclosures (Protection of Whistleblowers) Act 2022.

This policy also refers to the introduction of a portal to act as a reporting mechanism that allows for anonymous reporting that can be managed, treated and investigated promptly and in confidence. We are currently finalising the entity that will provide portal services and are unable to disclose who that is until the engagement is confirmed.

Options

The two viable options for Council consideration are:

Option One - adoption of this proposed Policy (recommended)

This option would provide Council with the tools to manage matters in relation to fraud and the relative risk.

Option Two - do nothing

By not adopting this proposed Policy, Council risk:

- no changes to current processes
- no formalised guidance for Council in managing fraud
- situations dealt with on an ad hoc and inconsistent basis

Financial Considerations

There will be a charge for the portal that will manage reporting but the cost of this is expected to be minimal and managed within current budgets available.

Attachments

1. Fraud and Corruption Policy 2025