



LANCASHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Lancashire Police Authority is committed to maintaining the highest possible standards of openness, probity, and honesty.

The Authority is dedicated to ensuring that its members and staff conform with the highest ethical standards and to reducing the risk or possibility of fraud and corruption.

This Policy is intended to raise the profile of the standards of conduct expected from Members and staff. This Policy identifies relevant documents and the actions to be taken in the event of any suspected contravention of the policy.

DEFINITION OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

Fraud is defined as:-

“the intentional distortion of financial statements or other records by persons internal or external to the organisation, which is carried out to conceal the misappropriation of assets or otherwise for gain”.

Corruption is defined as:-

“the offering, giving soliciting or acceptance of an inducement or reward which may improperly influence the action of any person”.

Fraudulent or corrupt acts may include

- Systems issues
- Financial issues
- Equipment issues
- Resource issues
- Governance issues.

APPLICATION

The Policy Statement applies to all Members of the Authority, the Lay Members appointed to serve on Audit and Standards Committee and all officers engaged in the carrying out of the duties of the Police Authority.

The detection, prevention and reporting of fraud or corruption is the responsibility of all Members and officers of the Authority.

Members of outside bodies and members of the public will be encouraged to report any suspected fraudulent or corrupt behaviour.

PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

The Authority expects its Members and officers to comply with the statutory general principles of conduct.

- Selflessness
- Honesty and Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Openness
- Personal Judgement
- Respect for Others
- Duty to Uphold the Law
- Stewardship
- Leadership

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

The Authority has a duty to comply with its statutory requirements and accordingly it has in place a number of documents that in themselves are relevant to the Authority, its members and staff, conducting business in a manner that will prevent fraud and corruption. These documents are as follows:

Members Code of Conduct
Employees Code of Conduct
Standing Orders
Financial Regulations

STANCE AGAINST FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

The Authority expects that Members and Officers at all levels will act with integrity at all times, comply with the legal requirements placed upon the Authority, its standing orders, financial regulations, codes of conduct and procedures and practice.

The Authority will:-

seek to ensure that effective measures are in place to prevent fraud or corruption;

rigorously investigate instances of alleged fraud or corruption; and,
take firm and vigorous action against any individuals or groups that seek to perpetrate fraud or act corruptly against the Authority.

The Authority has within its structure a Committee whose monitoring role is relevant and which may receive reports on any inappropriate conduct. The Audit and Standards Committee, which includes co-opted (Independent) members, has the following responsibilities: setting and monitoring standards of conduct, receiving reports of the external and internal auditors and considering the findings and responses to audit reports.

RAISING CONCERNS

Anyone suspecting fraudulent activities or financial irregularities should contact the Chief Executive or the Monitoring Officer to the Police Authority whose details are provided below.

Individuals are encouraged to put their name to the concern wherever possible. All information received will be treated as confidential. Anonymous concerns will be investigated. However, at the appropriate time it may be necessary for the individual raising the concern to come forward as a witness.

Information must be disclosed in good faith and malicious, false or vexation allegations must not be made. Appropriate action will be taken against the instigators of such allegations.

Chief Executive
Lancashire Police Authority
PO Box 653
PRESTON
PR2 2WB

Monitoring Officer
Lancashire Police Authority
PO Box 653
PRESTON
PR2 2WB

Telephone : 01772 532010

Telephone:- 01772 533462

If you are unsure whether or how to raise a concern or use this policy and you would like some impartial advice, you can contact the free, confidential helpline run by public Concern at Work on 020 7404 6609 or at whistle@pcaw.co.uk.