

11th January 2016 Executive – Review of Fraud Sanction Policy
Appendix 2: Extract from Policy Scrutiny Committee Minutes 17th December 2015

41. Review of Fraud Sanction Policy

The Head of the Shared Revenues and Benefits Service:

- a. presented the report 'Review of Fraud Sanction Policy'.
- b. informed that from 1 October 2014 the fraud team moved to work with the DWP.
- c. brought members attention to paragraph 3.2 of the report and outlined the main changes to the Fraud Sanction Policy.
- d. explained that the DWP had a much higher threshold before they would sanction residents, only tending to prosecute only for much higher amounts than the £2,000 previously in the Council's policy.
- e. invited members questions and comments.

Members made the following questions and comments and received the relevant responses.

Question Fully supportive of the changes, had anymore thought been given to partnering with other authorities?

Answer No, other than partners of the shared service at NKDC it would need to be reviewed again with a proper business case if anything like this was being proposed.

Question Why was anything over, for example, £5,000 being investigated when it was previously £2,000?

Answer Due to the move to the DWP they were only focussing on much higher amounts, with specific targets as to what the team are looking to focus on.

Question Were we successful with our own sanctions before the team moved over to the DWP?

Answer The team had some great results whilst working for the Council. There is very little in the way of statistical information since the team moved over to the DWP.

RESOLVED that the report and members comments be noted.