

ANGUS COUNCIL

SCRUTINY & AUDIT COMMITTEE – 26 JANUARY 2016

AUDIT SCOTLAND REPORT – REDUCING FRAUD & ERROR IN HOUSING BENEFIT

REPORT BY THE HEAD OF CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT & FINANCE

ABSTRACT

This report presents for the Committee's interest and review a recently published report by Audit Scotland which is relevant to the business of the Council and role of this Committee.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Reviews the Audit Scotland report "Review of Activity to Reduce Fraud & Error in Housing Benefit" attached as Appendix 1 and considers the implications for the Council.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/COPORATE PLAN

This report does not contribute directly to any of the local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016 but it is a key part of the Council's overall governance arrangements and thus makes a contribution towards all of the outcomes the Council is trying to achieve.

3. PROPOSALS

The terms of reference of the committee involve consideration of relevant reports published by Audit Scotland. A copy of a report on fraud and error in housing benefit is appended.

Members of the Committee are asked to review the Report and the issues raised therein. Members may note from the Report that Angus Council is cited as demonstrating good practice in a number of areas.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

- 1. Review of Activity to Reduce Fraud & Error in Housing Benefit