



Richmondshire District Council

Counter Fraud Plan 2021/22

**Assistant Director – Corporate Fraud:
Head of Internal Audit:**

Jonathan Dodsworth
Max Thomas

Circulation List:

Members of the Audit, Governance &
Standards Committee
Corporate Director (S151 Officer)

Date:

30 March 2021



Introduction

- 1 Veritau undertakes counter fraud work on behalf of Richmondshire District Council. This document summarises the agreed areas of counter fraud work for 2021/22.
- 2 The Counter Fraud Plan is based on an estimate of the amount of resource required to provide the range of counter fraud activities required by the council. A total of 90 days of counter fraud work has been agreed for 2021/22.

2021/22 Counter Fraud Plan

- 3 A summary of planned areas of work is set out in the table below.

Fraud Area	Days	Scope
Counter Fraud General	10	Monitoring changes to regulations and guidance, review of counter fraud risks, and support to the council with maintenance of the counter fraud framework. This will include completion of the annual counter fraud risk assessment and review of the counter fraud policy and strategy.
Proactive Work	15	This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• raising awareness of counter fraud issues and procedures for reporting suspected fraud - for example through training and provision of updates on fraud related issues.• targeted proactive counter fraud work - for example through local and regional data matching exercises.• support and advice on cases which may be appropriate for investigation and advice on appropriate measures to deter and prevent fraud.
Reactive Investigations	35	Investigation of suspected fraud affecting the council. This includes feedback on any changes needed to procedures to prevent fraud recurring.
Covid-19 response work	10	Undertake post assurance activities and investigation of potential fraud highlighted through this work. Assisting the council to recover money lost to fraud through grants.
National Fraud Initiative (NFI)	15	Coordinating submission of data to the Cabinet Office for the NFI national fraud data matching programme and investigation of subsequent matches.
Fraud Liaison	5	Acting as a single point of contact for the Department for Work and Pensions, to provide data to support their housing benefit investigations.