

<b>Item/Min Ref:</b>	<b>Title of Report:</b>  <b>National Fraud Initiative</b>	<b>Officer presenting:</b>  <b>Lead Assurance Officer</b>  <b>Author:</b>  <b>Lead Assurance Officer</b>
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## **1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations**

- 1.1 To update Members on the results of the National Fraud Initiative exercise 2016/2017.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 Members are reminded that in October 2008 the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) had been given new statutory powers to conduct data matching exercises for the purpose of the assisting in the prevention and detection of fraud.
- 2.2 Data matching involves comparing sets of data, such as the payroll or benefits records of a body, against other records held by the same or another body. This allows potentially fraudulent claims and payments to be identified. Where no match is found, the data matching process will have no material impact on those concerned. Where a match is found it indicates that there is an inconsistency that requires further investigation.
- 2.3 Derry City Council participated in the National Fraud Initiative in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016 and submitted data sets for payroll, pensions and trade creditor's payments on each occasion.

## **3 Key Issues**

- 3.1 Members are advised that a number of matches were identified in the data sets submitted by Derry City Council. All recommended matches have now been investigated by Council Officers and no instances of fraud were identified. As a result of this all matches identified for 2016/2017 have now been closed and there is no further action to be taken.

## **4 Financial and Other Implications**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **5 Recommendations**

5.1 This update is for Member's information.

### **Background Papers**

**None**