



Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

Audit & Risk Committee – 17 August 2021

Counter Fraud Progress Report

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to update the Audit Committee on key areas of work undertaken by the Health Board Local Counter Fraud Specialists (LCFS) since the last meeting.

2. BACKGROUND

The following sets out activity under the Key Principles specified within the Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Standards for NHS Bodies (Wales).

3. RESOURCE UTILISATION

AREA OF WORK	Planned Days	Days to Date
Strategic Governance		
Ensuring that anti-crime measures are embedded at all levels across the organisation	66	16
Inform and Involve		
Identifying the risks and consequences of crime against the NHS, and raising awareness of these risks amongst NHS staff, stakeholders, and the public.	135	28
Prevent and Deter		
Discouraging those who may want to commit crimes against the NHS and ensure that such opportunities are minimised.	135	36
Hold to Account		
Detecting and investigating crime, prosecuting those who have committed crimes and seeking redress as a result.	255	116
TOTAL	591	196

4. STRATEGIC GOVERNANCE

The Health Board's Director of Corporate Governance has been formally nominated as Fraud Champion. A meeting was held to discuss the role and support agreed in areas of risk management, proactive fraud detection work and communication messaging.

5. INFORM AND INVOLVE

The Counter Fraud Team have issued a Summer edition of the Counter Fraud Newsletter, The Fraud Reporter. A copy is appended to this report for the Committee's perusal.

Direct access to make changes to the Health Board's Sharepoint Counter Fraud pages has been arranged for the Team. The pages have subsequently been refreshed with up-to-date information and resources. A series of communications articles and awareness materials based around common fraud issues and risk areas have also been produced; the materials will be released throughout the coming weeks. Issue of these messages is intended to be multi-modal utilising internal and external communications streams including targeted delivery, Sharepoint and social media.

The Counter Fraud Team have disseminated 7 awareness messages, alerts and bulletins to staff in this year. They cover targeted communications to local Departments and Teams around specific fraud risks to their area to all staff communications via SharePoint.

6. PREVENT AND DETER

The NHS Counter Fraud Authority (NHS CFA) are undertaking a post event assurance exercise based around Covid-19 procurement activity. The exercise is split into 2 parts and covers spend as well as performance relating to revised procurement policy notices.

Specifically, Part 1 is submission of questionnaire around PO vs Non-PO spend form 2019/20 and 2020/21 split by quarter and in line with NHS eClass categories. Part 2 is submission of questionnaire around testing PPNs issued during pandemic; PPN 01/20, PPN 02/20 and PPN 04/20 referenced. Questions are based around contract cancellations, direct award and supplier relief payments linked to the PPNs.

The deadline for submission of data to NHS CFA is 23rd August 2021, data analysis will be conducted and a report issued to participants. This will be presented to Committee once available.

The Counter Fraud Team have concluded work relating to pre-employment checks compliance amongst NHS recruitment and Nursing Agencies. A concluding report is at Appendix 2 for information.

The exercise found good compliance within the substantive and bank recruitment processes, there was some adjustment during period of Covid restriction particularly around face to face document checks which does heighten risk in this area; this will return to normal face to face document checks from 1st September however.

Nursing agency compliance with All Wales Agreement requirements was mixed and recommendations have been made to address issues encountered.

7. HOLD TO ACCOUNT

The status of the LCFS investigative caseload is summarised in Appendix 3. A summary of basic investigation KPI data is presented at outset of appendix.

Case information presented is split by between those cases which are currently open and under active investigation by the LCFS; contained in the Open Cases table. The Pending Cases table reflects those cases where active investigation by the LCFS has concluded, however the case must remain open due to other outstanding actions from third parties such as (but not limited to) disciplinary, professional body enquiries, financial recoveries. A table of Closed Cases is also presented to review outcomes of investigations.