

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

**RECORD OF DECISION OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE**

Decision Made: 23 September 2015

Fraud Investigation Team

Issue for Decision

To consider arrangements for the investigation of council tax and business rates fraud, following potential transfer of housing benefit fraud staff to the Single Fraud Investigation Service.

Decision Made

- 1) That subject to the agreement of Kent County Council, Tunbridge Wells and Swale Borough Councils, the continuation of a Counter Fraud Team to reduce the level of customer fraud and error in relation to council tax and business rates be approved;
- 2) That the Head of Revenues and Benefits Shared Service be authorised to make the necessary operational arrangements as set out in the report of the Head of Revenues and Benefits Shared Service;
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Director of Environment and Shared Services to negotiate and subject to reaching satisfactory terms, enter into a collaboration agreement with Kent County Council, Tunbridge Wells and Swale Borough Councils for the continued delivery of Counter Fraud Service for council tax and business rates; and
- 4) That a review of the service be undertaken in 18 months with a further report to be provided to the Committee detailing the impact of the service on Fraud and Error.

Should you wish to refer this decision to Council, please submit a Decision Referral Form, signed by five Councillors, to the Head of Finance and Resources by: 2 October 2015
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