



Report to:

Northwards Housing Board
12th October 2006

Item No:

12d

Title:	Fraud Policy		
Date:	27 th September 2006		
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Confidential:	No		
For: (Please tick action required)	NOTING	DISCUSSION	APPROVAL 3

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Further to a question at the Board discussions have taken place with the Council to ensure that the Fraud Policy as originally drafted is acceptable and conforms with the provisions of the Sixth Schedule to the Management Agreement.

As a result of this review an amendment is recommended in the Fraud Policy amending the Council notification level to £1,000 rather than £5,000.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board are asked to approve the amendment to the Fraud Policy.

IMPLICATIONS

Equality & Diversity:	None directly
Financial:	The Fraud Policy plays a key role in the overall financial management of the organisation
Staffing:	None directly
Decency Target:	None directly
Governance:	None directly
Risk Assessment:	Not a primary risk area.

Equality & Diversity Implications (Please tick where relevant):

BME	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Parents	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young	<input type="checkbox"/>	Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alcohol / Drug Mis-users	<input type="checkbox"/>

Consultation/Consideration:

	Yes, No or N/A:	Name:	Date:
Sub-Committee:	Yes	Resource & Governance	26 th September 2006
Area Panel:	No		
Task Groups:	No		
Ward Councillors:	N/A		

1. At the Board meeting on 15th August, the paragraph below was queried:

“As soon as it is apparent that a fraud has been attempted or committed, the Director of Business Services shall (if in excess of £5,000, or if it involves a member of the Board, its Sub-Committees or a member of the Executive Management Team) immediately notify the Council’s Representative, and shall in any case notify the External Auditor and the Chair of Resources & Governance Sub-Committee. Reports shall be made to the Resources & Governance Sub-Committee, the Chair of the Board and the Board if considered appropriate.”

2. The figure of £5,000 was queried at the Board and this has now been discussed with the Council.
3. Reference in the discussions has been made to paragraph 33.1 of the Management Agreement:

“As soon as the Organisation becomes aware of or suspects any fraudulent action or malpractice in the provision of the Services or which otherwise affects it the Organisation's Representative shall notify the Council's Representative.”

4. The result of the discussions has been that there needs to be a sense of realism in the process and therefore it is recommended that the level be reduced to £1,000.

Recommendation

5. The Board are asked to approve an amendment to paragraph 2.4 of the Fraud Policy changing £5,000 to £1,000.