

Management response form

Audit Wales use only	
Audited body	Monmouthshire County Council
Audit name	Counter Fraud
Issue date	May 2025

Ref	Recommendation	Commentary on planned actions	Completion date for planned actions	Responsible officer (title)	Audit Wales only
R1	<p>To support transparency and provide assurance that fraud is prevented, investigated and deterred, the Council should put clear counter-fraud performance management arrangements in place, including, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• clear goals and objectives for counter-fraud work;• relevant monitoring metrics;	<p>This recommendation will be strengthened as part of the review of the Councils Fraud Risk Assessment, scheduled to take place in September 2025 and presented to the Governance & Audit Committee in October 2025.</p> <p>The Fraud Risk Assessment will look to provide appropriate transparency over and above the level of detail which will continue to be provided to the</p>	October 2025	Chief Internal Auditor	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regular reporting on counter-fraud performance, including reporting to GAC; feedback and continuous improvement mechanisms to ensure lessons learned are embedded within departments 	Governance & Audit Committee within Internal Audit quarterly progress and annual reports. Consideration will be made to setting objectives for counter fraud work along with relevant monitoring metrics to allow the Council and Governance & Audit Committee to better monitor the fraud landscape of the Council.			
R2	<p>To ensure the Council is maximising its use of data and intelligence, the Council should identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ways to maximise its use of data to inform counter-fraud work; 	The Council will explore how it can maximise the use of data within it's Counter Fraud work, including if there are any systems available which could strengthen our approach, subject to affordability.	October 2025	Chief Internal Auditor	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> whether current arrangements to share data and intelligence with other public bodies are effective and if other opportunities for collaboration exist. 	<p>We wil continue to take a prompt and active part in the National Fraud Initiative data matching exercise and have already made a good start to the 2025 report releases. The outcome of this exercise will be reported to the Governance & Audit Committee.</p> <p>The Council has existing informal data and intelligence sharing networks it uses to inform counter-fraud work. The Council will continue to use the NAFAN service and raise alerts with service areas when appropriate. Conversations will be explored with other providers, the outcome of this will be dependent on any budgetary constraints.</p>			

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		The progress with this work will be captured as part of the September 2025 review of the Fraud Risk Assessment.			