**TRANSPARENCY CODE DATA 2023/24 – FRAUD**

**Number of occasions they use powers under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud (Power to Require Information) (England) Regulations 2014, or similar powers**

NIL (The Council is not a social landlord as its housing stock has previously been transferred to a social provider)

**Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of employees undertaking investigations and prosecutions of fraud**

Absolute 1 and FTE 0.5

**Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of professionally accredited counter fraud specialists**

Absolute 1 and FTE 0.5
(PINS trained in Benefits)

**Total amount spent by the authority on the investigation and prosecution of fraud**

£15,682

**Total number of fraud cases investigated.**

NIL (The Fraud investigation service has transferred to the DWP Single Fraud Investigation Service.)

There were 10 fraud referrals made to the DWP during the period 01/04/23 – 31/03/24.

In addition, the Council has an Internal Audit Unit (currently outsourced to Mersey Internal Audit Agency), to which any cases of suspected fraud are reported and these are investigated on an ad-hoc basis. Internal Audit investigated 0 allegations during 2023/24.