



SFC whistle-blowing policy and fraud update

Purpose

1. This paper gives the Committee information on:
 - SFC's current whistleblowing policy
 - Incidences of fraud or whistleblowing
 - Audit Scotland's 2017 National Fraud Initiative.

Background

2. At its September 2013 meeting (ACC 13/79) the Committee agreed that an annual update on whistleblowing and fraud be presented to the Committee.

Whistleblowing policy

3. There have been no changes to The Public Interest Disclosures chapter of SFC's Financial Procedures Manual (FPM) and the SFC's Code of Conduct. Copies are available on request from the Clerk. These policies will be reviewed later in the year to ensure they are compliant with the General Data Protection Regulations (ACC/18/05).

Fraud Response Guidance

4. There have been no changes to the Staff Disciplinary Procedure.

Incidences of Whistleblowing or Fraud

5. There have been no incidences of whistleblowing or fraud since the last report.

National Fraud Initiative

6. The SFC responded to Audit Scotland's National Fraud Initiative 2016/17 and no issues were raised.

Risk assessment

7. This paper is designed to mitigate the risk of fraud.

Equality and diversity assessment

8. The information in the paper refers to administrative procedures and does not adversely impact on any groups with protected characteristics.

Recommendations

9. The Committee is invited to note this paper.

Financial implications

10. There are no direct financial implications from this report.

Publication

11. This paper will be published on the Council's website following the meeting.

Further information

12. Contact: Fiona O'Neill, Assistant Director of Finance (direct line: 0131 313 6525, email: foneill@sfc.ac.uk).