



Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board

Audit & Risk Committee – 22 August 2022

Counter Fraud Progress Report

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to update the Audit Committee on key areas of work undertaken by the Health Board Local Counter Fraud Specialists (LCFS) since the last meeting.

2. BACKGROUND

The following sets out activity under the Key Principles specified within the Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Standards for NHS Bodies (Wales).

3. RESOURCE UTILISATION

AREA OF WORK	Planned Days	Days to Date
Strategic Governance		
Ensuring that anti-crime measures are embedded at all levels across the organisation	45	22
Inform and Involve		
Identifying the risks and consequences of crime against the NHS, and raising awareness of these risks amongst NHS staff, stakeholders, and the public.	125	29
Prevent and Deter		
Discouraging those who may want to commit crimes against the NHS and ensure that such opportunities are minimised.	125	51
Hold to Account		
Detecting and investigating crime, prosecuting those who have committed crimes and seeking redress as a result.	321	109
TOTAL	616	211

4. STRATEGIC GOVERNANCE

The NHS Counter Fraud Authority Quality Assurance Inspector (QA Inspector) has confirmed that the Health Board has been selected to be reviewed. The QA Inspector will be reviewing outcomes of action plans set following previous Thematic Assessment of the former Standards 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6 and Testing Fraud Risk Assessment and Local Proactive Exercises undertaken by the Counter Fraud Team.

A meeting has been held with the new Local Counter Fraud Specialist at NWSSP. The Organisation previously had part FTE arrangement with Cardiff and Vale UHB; the new LCFS is a full-time appointment solely focused on NWSSP fraud work. This will

be a useful link to work cross functionally with on issues arising in particular risk areas where NWSSP provide services to the Health Board. A data sharing agreement is being produced to ease future working with this new contact.

5. INFORM AND INVOLVE

The Counter Fraud Team have conducted site visits to deliver the counter fraud message across the Health Board estate directly to staff. The visits were well received by staff and promotional materials including a counter fraud information booklet were issued to staff engaged. Further visits are planned to cover all Health Board sites.

A summer edition of the Counter Fraud Newsletter has been issued to staff. The newsletter publicises a recent conviction of a GP Practice Manager in the Swansea area for fraud offences following investigation by the Counter Fraud Team. The investigation is being covered in Series 5 of BBC's 'Fraud Squad' documentary series. The inclusion will highlight the professional investigation work carried out by the Team and give exposure to local counter fraud work in the NHS.

The Counter Fraud Team have disseminated 9 alerts and bulletins to staff in this year. They cover targeted communications to local Departments and Teams around specific fraud risks to their area to all staff communications via SharePoint.

6. PREVENT AND DETER

Risk assessment work in line with NHS Requirement 3 which the Health Board returned as amber in the most recent self-assessment is progressing. Twenty-eight core risks have been identified utilising the NHS Counter Fraud Authority's risk guidance. So far the Team have completed seventeen risk assessments which feed into the fraud risk profile being developed as a result of this work. Work is underway in relation to the outstanding risk assessments with completion anticipated by the end of the calendar year. Guidance on direction and further implementation of this area of work will be gained following inspection by NHS Counter Fraud Authority's Quality Assurance Team in September 2022.

7. HOLD TO ACCOUNT

The status of the LCFS investigative caseload is summarised in Appendix 2 to the report. A summary of basic investigation KPI data is presented at outset of the appendix.

Case information presented is split by between those cases which are currently open and under active investigation by the LCFS; contained in the Open Cases table. The Pending Cases table reflects those cases where active investigation by the LCFS has concluded, however the case must remain open due to other outstanding actions from third parties such as (but not limited to) disciplinary, professional body enquiries, financial recoveries.

A table of Closed Cases is also presented to review outcomes of investigations.