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Public Health
Wales

PUBLIC HEALTH WALES NHS TRUST

**Audit and Corporate Governance Committee
15th September 2021**

**Counter Fraud Progress Report
For the period ending 31st August 2021**

**NIGEL PRICE
COUNTER FRAUD
CARDIFF & VALE UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD**

PUBLIC HEALTH WALES NHS TRUST

AUDIT AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
15th September 2021

COUNTER FRAUD PROGRESS REPORT

- 1: Introduction**
- 2: Progress Report & General Issues**
- 3: Investigations updates**

Appendix 1: Counter Fraud Plan Summary

Mission Statement

To provide the Trust with a high-quality NHS Counter Fraud Service, which ensures that any report of fraud is investigated in accordance with Welsh Assembly Directions and all such investigations are carried out in a professional and cost-effective manner.

1. INTRODUCTION

In compliance with the Welsh Assembly Directions on Countering Fraud in the NHS, detailed below is the standing of the current Counter Fraud and Corruption work carried out, by the Trust's Local Counter Fraud Specialist (LCFS), for the period ending 31st August 2021. This purpose of this report is to inform and update, the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee members of counter fraud investigations.

2. PROGRESS AND GENERAL ISSUES

2.1 National Fraud Initiative 2020/2021

The Trust recently received the proposals of the Auditor General for Wales which have been issued for consultation in relation to the planned National Fraud Initiative (NFI) 2020-21 work programme and the draft data specifications for this work.

The data was published on the 31st of January 2021. There are 3 priority matches linked to the trust and 32 other matches that are not considered high-risk. All the priority matches linked to PHW have been investigated and closed. No frauds were identified.

2.2 Fraud Awareness Sessions

Covid-19 has considerably restricted conducting face-to-face fraud awareness presentations. However, 3 fraud awareness sessions have been given through 'Teams' during this reporting period. Invites have been sent to departments to arrange virtual sessions for the organisation's staff.

3. CURRENT CASE UPDATE

3.1 During this reporting period one case was closed. And one new referral was received in August.

INV/21/00137 Allegation of False Qualifications to Obtain Employment.

Information was received that an applicant had put qualifications on an application form which they did not have. Inquiries are continuing.

3.2 At the time this report was submitted a total of **38.5** days have been spent on counter fraud work within the Trust and the breakdown of this work is also detailed in **Appendix 1**.

APPENDIX 1

COUNTER FRAUD SUMMARY PLAN ANALYSIS 2020/21

AREA OF WORK	Planned Days	Days to Date
General Requirements		
LCFS Attendance at CFS (Wales) and LCFS All Wales Meetings	4	3
Planning/Preparation of Annual Report and Work Programme	4	2
Production of Reports and attendance at Audit & CG Committee	4	2
Liaison with the DOF, NHS CFA, Welsh Government	4	1.5
Government Functional Standards and QA Assessment	5	3
Liaison with Audit Wales/Internal Audit for WG Report	2	0.5
Annual Activity		
Create an Anti Fraud Culture	10	2
Presentations, Briefings, Newsletters etc.	20	3
Fraud Awareness Events	1	
Deterrence		
Review/develop Policies/Strategies	5	1.5
Prevention		
The reduction of opportunities for Fraud and Corruption to occur.	4	
Detection		
Trust/National Pro-Active Exercises (e.g. Procurement)	8	4
National Fraud Initiative (NFI) 2020/21	12	10
Investigation, Sanctions and Redress		
The investigation of any alleged instances of fraud	10	6
Ensure that Sanctions are applied to cases as appropriate	4	
Seek redress, where fraud has been proven to have taken place	3	
TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH WALES NHS TRUST	100	38.5

