**Counter Fraud Statement**

The Local Government Transparency Code 2015 requires the Combined Authority to publish information about their counter fraud work.

The definition of fraud is set out by the Audit Commission as “*an intentional false representation, including failure to declare information or abuse position that is carried out to make gain, cause loss or expose another to risk of loss*”.

In accordance with paragraph 35 of the Local Government Transparency Code 2015, the following statement is made in relation to the financial year 2023/24:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Information required to be published** | **Response** |
| Number of occasions that powers were used under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud (Power to Require Information) (England) Regulations 2014, or similar powers | Not applicable to the Combined Authority |
| Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of employees undertaking investigations and prosecutions of fraud  | One |
| Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of professionally accredited counter fraud specialists | None |
| Total amount spent by the authority on the investigation and prosecution of fraud | £0 |
| Total number of fraud cases investigated | Seven |