



Public Sector Fraud Authority

19 Dec 2022

Dear Chair,

Re: Public Accounts Committee Response for the 9th Report of the Session held in 2021/2 on Counter Fraud

I am writing to update you on our actions to address the Public Account Committee Response for the 9th Report of the Session held in 2021/2 on Counter Fraud, 30th June 2021.

Public Sector Fraud Authority

Since the PAC hearing in June 2021, following investment from the Spring Statement, we have successfully launched the Public Sector Fraud Authority. The PSFA was established to work with departments and public bodies to understand and reduce the impact of fraud. It is operated in the CO, and integrated with HMT. The [mandate](#) for the PSFA can be found here for further reference.

Glasgow

1 Atlantic Square
Glasgow

York

Mallard House, Kingspool
1-2 Peasholme Green, York

Newcastle

Benton Park View
Newcastle

London

10 South Colonnade
London

1 Horseguards Road
London

Since the launch we have been focusing on:

- **Delivering key publications including:**
 - [NFI report](#) (attached)
 - The **6 month plan** (attached)
 - The 20/21 **Fraud Landscape Report**
- **Delivering our data analytics services**, in particular the National Fraud Initiative and the services in support of Bounce Back Loans - this will enable us to hit the agreed £180m target (we are currently on track);
- **Recruiting experts to deliver our new workstreams**, we have run recruitment campaigns at all levels and are onboarding new colleagues into the Authority;
- **Designing our new service and function areas**, we have been pulling together expertise from across the government and more widely to design the new service areas, such as the Risk, Threat and Prevention Service and the Enforcement Service;
- **Developing Counter Fraud capability**, we have delivered training to HMT on understanding fraud, fraud risk assessment and have continued to build the Counter Fraud Profession by launching a pilot of the Counter Fraud Function Leaders Course.
- **Rolling out Initial Fraud Impact Assessments** training across government and reviewing submissions on major new spend initiatives;
- **Supporting departments** to understand and manage the impact of fraud, including the deployment of a Tiger Team to BEIS to work on the £100bn package of new energy schemes.

Commitments to progress

We have identified some areas from the recommendations to which we responded in December 2021 that are due a further update. They relate to:

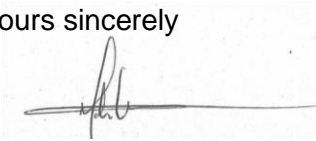
- The publication of the highest risk schemes within the Global Fraud Risk Assessment (GFRA) in the Fraud Landscape Report
- The publication of COVID-19 fraud and error data across departments following post event assurance activity.

Our focus for Q1-2 this year has been the design, launch and early implementation of the PSFA's new service and function areas. We also prioritised resources available in Q3 to support work on fraud risk in energy schemes. Regarding the specific information above, we hope to be in a position to respond with additional information in the PSFA's Spring Bulletin - allowing for necessary assurance work to be completed on the fraud risk assessment and COVID-19 data.

Next steps

I will write again to update you prior to publication, with further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'M. Cheeseman', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Cheeseman
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Public Sector Fraud Authority (PSFA)

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