

Cabinet Decision:

1. **Approved in principle** Havering Council joining the London Counter Fraud Hub.
2. **Delegated** authority to the Council's Chief Financial Officer (s151) to enter into the contract following consultation with the Director of Law and Governance

The London Counter Fraud Hub will provide greater opportunities for Havering Council to identify fraudulent activity, specifically in the areas of single person discount, business rates and tenancy fraud. The ability to match data with other London Boroughs will give the Council greater opportunity to identify those individuals committing fraud in multiple Boroughs.

Other options considered:

Havering could wait to join until other Councils have embedded the system so that its benefits can be evaluated. However, the hub needs Councils to join to make it a success, so if Havering were to take this approach it would not benefit the wider London authorities. It is also likely that late joiners will have higher costs charged.