

# **Counter Fraud for Senior Leaders**

As it takes money away from vital public services, fraud committed in the public sector is never a victimless crime. Its impact can be significant, jeopardising the government's ability to deliver vital services and severely affecting those (often vulnerable) citizens, families and communities who rely on those services. It can erode trust in government, especially where corruption is involved, leading to a loss of reputation, both at home and abroad. There can also be a security impact if fraud is able to compromise national security and defence.

For these reasons, fraud is something that all civil servants – but particularly our senior leaders – should be alert to. Understanding the motivations behind fraud, knowing how to help prevent it and setting the tone for an effective counter fraud culture; these are all things that senior leaders can do to help mitigate the risk of fraud and protect taxpayers' money.

### Description

This digital course is designed to introduce senior managers and leaders (from all functions and including the SCS) to the basics of counter fraud activity. It explores the importance of having a fraud management capability and the role that senior leaders can play in preventing, spotting and managing fraud, bribery and corruption. As well as exploring some of the most common types of fraud committed against the government, the course considers how to create and maintain a strong counter fraud culture within a team or organisation.

### What does it involve?

This course opens with a short video in which the CEO of the Public Sector Fraud Authority explains the impact that fraud can have and the role that senior leaders have in combatting it. This is followed by an interactive document, outlining the principal fraud theories and how they inform the prevention, detection and investigation of fraud. These points are explored in more depth in two subsequent podcasts where real examples are used to bring to life the cost and impact of fraud and the importance of creating a counter fraud culture. You're then introduced to a toolkit, containing resources to help create such a culture and to have effective conversations with your teams about fraud. The course concludes with a reflective activity where you're encouraged to consider how you'll put what you've learned into practice.

## What's the outcome?

Having completed this course, you'll understand the part you can play in creating a counter fraud culture that reflects Civil Service values. You'll be able to describe the threat that fraud can pose to your organisation and the harm it can do. Equipped with an understanding of the principal fraud theories, you'll know how these inform the prevention, detection and investigation of fraud. As well as being aware of how fraud is detected, you'll understand the importance of fraud management capability and accountability.

# Learning activities

Reflective activity

### **Delivery method:**



**Estimated learning time:** 1 hour 50 mins

### How to book

learn.civilservice.gov.uk

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