



## **WRL Fraud Prevention and Detection Policy**

**The policy and procedures for the prevention and detection of fraud, corruption and other irregularities affecting Wales Rugby League**

### **Introduction**

The purpose of this paper is to set out how WRL protects itself from losses from fraud, corruption and other irregularities.

- **Fraud** is defined as dishonest, irregular or illegal acts, characterised by a deliberate intent at concealment or false representation, resulting in the diversion of resources, whether or not for personal gain, for the benefit of an individual or group of individuals and resulting in a loss or the potential loss of resources to the University.
- **Corruption** is the action of a member of staff or office holder who allow themselves to be influenced by a third party, usually by the receipt of some benefit, to act or appear to act in a way that is detrimental to the best interest of the University in order to benefit the third party or some other group or individual.

For the purpose of the remainder of this paper fraud is used to describe all forms of fraud, corruption or other irregularity.

### **Prevention and detection**

1. Wales Rugby League senior managers and Directors are committed to the highest standards of behaviour and a strict policy on conflict of interest, including the registration of interests, is maintained.
2. The aftermath of fraud is costly, time-consuming, disruptive and unpleasant. The organisations approach is therefore to place emphasis on the prevention of fraud, though all of these systems also play a significant role in the detection of fraud, through the implementation of its financial regulations and procedures and other policies as they impact on staff's conduct, including:
  - The design and operation of systems so as to minimise the opportunity of fraud including the segregation of duties, authorisation requirements etc;



- Control of access to IT systems.
- Application of formal tendering requirements and process for approving suppliers and for monitoring the use of non-approved suppliers.
- Informing all staff, by supplying them with an abridged copy of the financial regulations with their joining pack, of their obligations to secure the financial resources of the WRL from loss.
- Staff adherence to the WRL Anti-Corruption and Bribery;
- Staff adherence to the WRL policy on Conflicts of Interest.
- The application of its Whistle-blowing Policy to encourage staff who suspect fraud to report it;

## **Prosecution**

WRL policy is that it will report to the Police any cases of suspected fraud and irregularity. Any exceptions to this policy must be agreed by the WRL Chairman.

### **Actions when fraud is reported or detected**

Fraud may be detected through the WRL procedures or reported through the Whistle-blowing policy or other channels. The primary contact for suspected fraud or corruption issues will normally be the lead WRL Executive i.e. CEO, General Manager or COO, unless they are suspected of involvement; in which case the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman will be the primary contact.

## **Approval**

This policy and procedure were approved by Executive Board on 31/01/2024



## **Appendix 1**

### **WRL COUNTER FRAUD POLICY STATEMENT:**

1. WRL does not and will not tolerate any form of fraud, corruption or bribery. We are committed to carrying out our business fairly, honestly and openly at all times. We do not, and will not, engage indirectly in or otherwise encourage bribery. We are committed to the prevention, deterrence and detection of bribery. We have zero tolerance towards bribery. We aim to maintain anti-bribery compliance “business as usual”, rather than as a one-off exercise.
2. WRL expects the highest standards of propriety from staff and organisations supplying services.
3. WRL works with colleagues, external suppliers and grant recipients to ensure we minimise the risk of fraud. WRL seeks to deter and prevent fraud, corruption and bribery by designing and implementing proportionate policies, strong internal controls and systems to minimise risk.
4. Upon detection of fraud or any related criminal activity WRL works with the relevant authorities to pursue prosecution. In addition, we will seek civil recovery of any funds that have not been used for the stated purposes will be sought as well as reasonable costs in seeking recovery.

### **Report a Concern**

WRL encourages anyone with a concern to contact us. Via our website

<http://www.wrl.wales/> or contact our Chair James Davies on  
[james.davies@walesRugbyLeague.co.uk](mailto:james.davies@walesRugbyLeague.co.uk)

should you wish to remain anonymous, by writing to us:

WALES RUGBY LEAGUE, Sport Wales, Sophia Close, Cardiff CF11 9SW.