



Public Sector  
Fraud Authority

# Public Sector Fraud Authority

## Working with Departments and Public Bodies to understand and reduce the impact of fraud.

**Fraud against the government is an increasing and ever present challenge to the public sector. Government has raised its ambition in how it deals with fraud against the public sector and through the Public Sector Fraud Authority (PSFA) is modernising its approach to fraud.**

The Crime Survey for England and Wales reports fraud as the most prevalent crime type across the UK. The scale, diversity and sophistication of fraud continues to increase. The public sector is just as affected by this hidden crime as other sectors. Fraud against the public sector takes money away from vital public services that citizens rely on and can reduce their confidence in government.

Government is committed to take action to understand and reduce the impact of fraud across the system. We are modernising our approach, developing a greater depth and breadth of expert-led services to support government departments and public bodies, and putting increased focus on performance and outcomes. The PSFA is at the heart of this change, working with departments, public bodies and partners from across sectors to reduce the impact of fraud and better safeguard public money.

### Modernising our approach to counter fraud

Finding and reducing the impact of fraud is an essential part of government efficiency. In the Spring Statement 2022, the Chancellor announced the creation of a new Public Sector Fraud Authority, which launched in August 2022. The PSFA provides increased scrutiny of activity to reduce fraud and economic crime, and builds broader and deeper expert services to support departments and public bodies to further improve their capability.

✓  
Improve  
capability

✓  
Outcome  
focus

✓  
Expert  
support

***“The creation of the Public Sector Fraud Authority represents a landmark in our fight against public sector fraud. We know that fraudsters are a committed, capable and evolving adversary. To respond to this we must raise our ambition and challenge ourselves to increase our impact. The PSFA supports public servants across government and public bodies to take that step - to innovate and to modernise our approach to fraud.”***

Mark Cheeseman OBE,  
Interim Chief Executive, Public Sector Fraud Authority





Public Sector  
Fraud Authority

# Public Sector Fraud Authority brings...



The creation of the PSFA is part of a wider investment by the government of £1bn per year to combat public sector fraud. The PSFA builds on and replaces the Centre of the Counter Fraud Function which brings together c.13,000 public servants working in departments and public bodies to counter fraud.

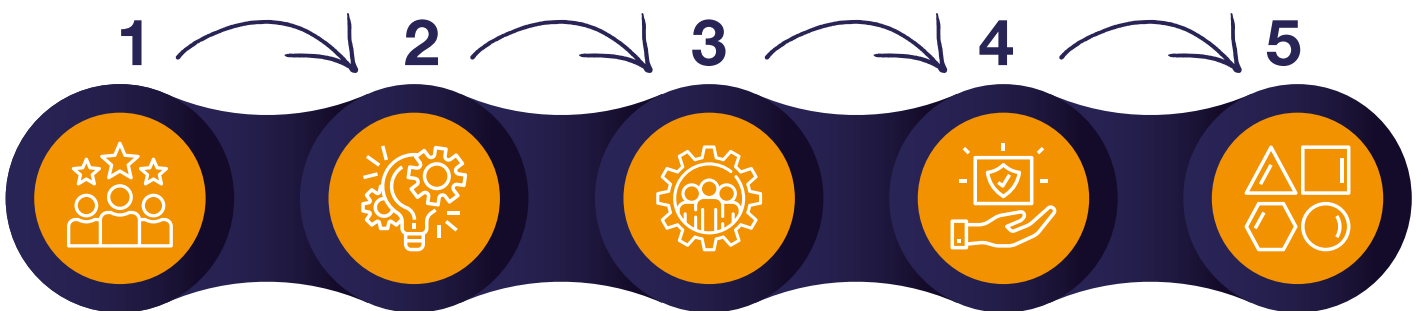
## Our mission

## The PSFA works to:

- ✓ Modernise the fraud and error response by widening access, and use of, leading practices, tools and technology - better protecting taxpayers money.
- ✓ Build expert led services that collaborate with experts in departments and public bodies to better fight fraud and error through risk, prevention, data and enforcement techniques
- ✓ Develop capability in the public sector to find, prevent and respond to fraud and error - both organisationally and individually
- ✓ Put performance at the heart of the public sector fraud conversation - focusing on investments and outcomes
- ✓ Be seen as a beacon of fraud and error expertise and a destination for those wanting to make a difference in fighting public sector fraud.

## Our values

## Our operations are underpinned by five value principles:



### Expertise

We ensure that our expertise drives decision making, building our reputation as authoritative and credible experts in our field.

### Innovation

We innovate to meet the ever evolving fraud threat through creativity and agility to achieve results.

### Collaboration

We work in close alliance with partners and across all business areas to achieve our collective goals and maximise our strengths.

### Integrity

We are professional, committed, honest and transparent. Integrity underpins every aspect of our work.

### Respect

We respect each other and celebrate diversity, valuing different ways of working to bring inclusion to the heart of our working practices.

# Our Functions and support services

Performance and outcomes should be at the heart of the fraud conversation. We will deliver expert functions to drive the public sector fraud agenda and provide access to expert-led support services for departments and public bodies.

We aim to be a beacon of fraud expertise, providing access to services that enable departments and public bodies to better fight fraud through risk management, prevention, data analytics and enforcement. The functions and services of the PSFA will continue to be built over the next 2 years.

## PSFA Functions

**Performance, Assurance and Evidence** We increase understanding of the extent of fraud and error loss and oversee the performance of public bodies. We review public bodies' compliance against the standard. We will continue to build and maintain the evidence base for fraud and error in central government by collating data on fraud loss and undertaking research.

**Practices, Standards and Capability** We bring expertise together from across the government to define good practice, set professional standards and develop capability through the existing Counter Fraud Profession. This provides the structure to recognise the knowledge, skills and experience of counter fraud professionals across the public sector.

**Policy** We provide expert advice and information to Ministers, government departments and public bodies. We develop cross government policy to modernise the counter fraud response and bring together international partners to share leading practices through the International Public Sector Fraud Forum.

## PSFA Support Services

**Risk, Threat and Prevention** We will create a service to support government departments and public bodies in understanding the fraud risks and threats they face. We will then help to design fraud controls and countermeasures, and test their effectiveness. This is an integral part of a modern fraud prevention approach.

**Data and Intelligence** We are building a new National Counter Fraud Data Analytics Service (NCFDAS) that provides best-in-class tools and techniques to support public bodies to find and prevent fraud. This will facilitate the long standing National Fraud Initiative (NFI) and the Centre of the Counter Fraud Function's data sharing pilots programme. We will facilitate public bodies' access to data and other advanced and innovative counter-fraud technologies, making best use of both the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Digital Economy Act 2017. We will enhance the use of intelligence across the public sector to find and reduce the impact of fraud.

**Enforcement** We are exploring the creation of a civil and criminal enforcement unit to take action on cases of fraud in the public sector in support of government departments and public bodies.

**Core Services** The operation of the PSFA is underpinned by core services including, human resources, commercial and finance.



# Public Sector Fraud Authority

## For more information

### Website

[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-sector-fraud-authority](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-sector-fraud-authority)

### Public Sector Fraud Authority

[PSFA@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:PSFA@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)