



Government
Internal Audit
Agency

Better insights, better outcomes

Counter Fraud and Investigation

A professional service from GIAA

June 2025



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Empowering government to tackle fraud proactively

Government organisations face a growing threat from fraud, bribery, and corruption. Left unchecked, these risks lead to significant financial losses and erode public trust. A proactive approach is essential for tackling fraud to safeguard taxpayer funds and maintain the effectiveness of public services. Partnering with a professional counter-fraud team within government can strengthen your organisation's defences, protect your reputation, and support the government's Plan for Change to improve services and economic resilience.



Constant financial threats: fraud, bribery, and corruption

Fraud is one of the most prevalent and evolving crimes in the UK. Government spending is particularly vulnerable. The UK's Public Sector Fraud Authority estimates that between 0.5% and 5% of all government spending may be lost to fraud and error - amounting to tens of billions of pounds being diverted from essential public services.

Fraud is not static. Fraudsters constantly adapt to technological advancements and exploit vulnerabilities. Fraud, bribery, and corruption can impact any department, from external attacks to insider abuse. It's crucial to recognise that these threats are persistent, growing, and evolving.

The time to act is not tomorrow. The time to act is now.

Reputational impact

Fraud diverts crucial public resources from vital public services including schools and hospitals. It directly threatens government's ability to deliver quality services, especially in an environment of ongoing fiscal challenge. Fraud also carries a heavy reputational cost, diminishing public trust and tarnishing an organisation's credibility. Fraud undermines the very foundation of public institutions.

Our team



We are a multi award-winning counter fraud and investigation team, members of the Government Counter Fraud Profession, and trusted partners to organisations across the UK government. With a track record of delivering effective and efficient solutions, we offer a comprehensive, proactive approach to tackling fraud, from supporting vital fraud risk assessments to assisting civil and criminal investigations. Over the past three years, we:

- supported **68** organisations 
- identified losses of over **£5.6m** 
- prevented loss of over **£4.1m** 

Our offer

We can provide a comprehensive range of counter fraud services, delivered to the highest standards, on time and to budget:

Expert support

We tailor our support to meet your needs. Our services include conducting thorough investigations, facilitating fraud risk assessments and guiding you to build structures and policies essential for an effective counter fraud response. We also work closely with you - and in partnership with our internal audit teams - to strengthen controls and embed lasting resilience across your organisation.

Data analytics

We have access to bespoke data analytics tools that can review investigation information, design impactful data visualisations, and understand patterns and trends. Our inhouse data analytics expertise means that we refine the tools we have at our disposal, ensuring our approach evolves with your needs and delivers measurable outcomes.

Skilled people

Our professional counter fraud specialists are fully trained in all aspects of fraud. Their expertise and experience ensures swift, discreet action with minimal disruption - safeguarding your operations, reputation, and protecting your organisation's integrity. You can rely on our people to deliver results with precision, professionalism, and purpose.

Cultural change

We can help you to embed a strong, organisation-wide counter-fraud culture. One that goes beyond fraud awareness to inspire a robust counter fraud culture at all levels. Our support includes implementing and promoting effective whistleblowing services; empowering employees to speak up safely and confidently. When people are supported to do the right thing, your culture becomes your most powerful defence.

Fraud Risk Assessment

A strong counter-fraud strategy begins with understanding your exposure. Our expert support with thematic and organisational fraud risk assessments, together with scoring and prioritisation of risk, encourage you to consider your fraud exposure and challenge existing approaches and controls.

Proactive fraud prevention

In the Government Internal Audit Agency (GIAA), we blend the expert skills of our internal audit and counter fraud specialists to double our impact. Our joint expertise helps you to implement stronger fraud prevention frameworks, identify vulnerabilities, and reduce the risk before it happens.

Efficient fraud detection

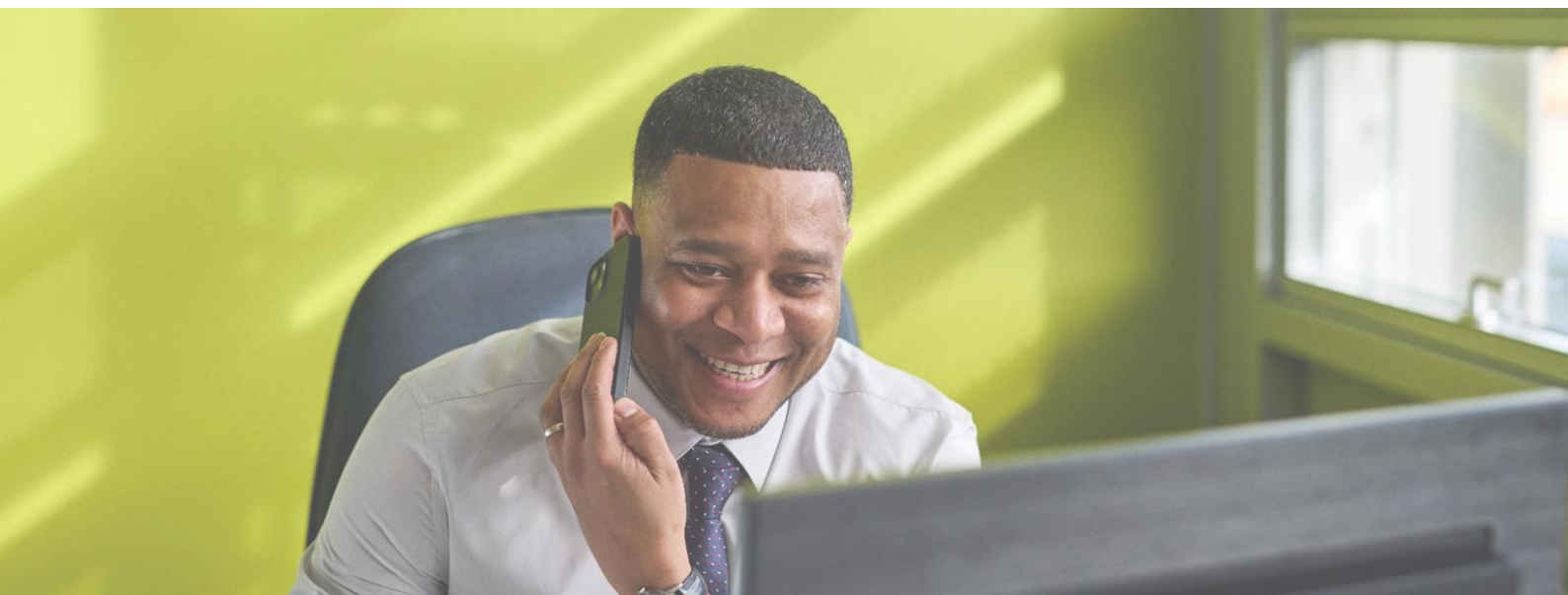
We can help you detect fraud early, through the analysis of data to help identify emerging threats and trends in order to protect funding and reputation.

Specialist investigations

When fraud, and other serious wrongdoing is detected, we manage investigations thoroughly and with discretion, ensuring compliance and due process. We are trusted to handle the most sensitive cases, deploying employees with the appropriate level of security clearance.

Cross-government collaboration

We work closely with specialist areas and partners across government to create a robust, unified response to fraud. We identify patterns of fraudulent behaviour and share insights on the trends and threats organisations face enabling the development of a robust counter fraud culture.



Strategic support

We are committed to protecting public money by supporting government organisations to understand and manage fraud risk.



To fight fraud effectively, organisations need a robust strategy to prevent, detect, and investigate. Each approach reinforces the other, helping to reduce fraud risks and mitigate their impact.

- **Prevention**

Strong controls, ethical governance, and fraud awareness training lay the groundwork for reducing fraud risk and stopping fraud before it happens.

- **Detection**

Using modern analytics and effective speak-up policies and procedures that help to identify fraud early on can help to limit damage.

- **Investigation**

When fraud is detected, professional investigators can quickly gather evidence and mitigate the situation, ensuring fairness, transparency, and justice.

Committed to your success

"In alignment with the government's Plan for Change, which sets out ambitious milestones to improve public services and strengthen the economy, we recognise that fraud, bribery, and corruption within government can cause serious financial and reputational harm. By leveraging our expertise, collaborative approach, and extensive experience, we are committed to helping you prevent, combat fraud, and reinforce fraud defences in your organisation."

Neil Green, Deputy Director, GIAA, Counter Fraud & Investigation



How to commission our services

We begin by listening, working with you to understand the nature of your request and assessing whether we – or one of our trusted partners – are best placed to provide the right support. We consider each commission consistently, however diverse, sensitive or complex. Our collaborative approach ensures that all commissions are fully assessed and resourced appropriately.

- **Tailoring our response:** whether it is an investigation or counter fraud activity, we assess the most effective and proportionate response, drawing on our knowledge and specialist expertise.
- **Agreeing costs:** our charging model is to simply recover our costs. Our premise is one of government serving government. For many of our clients, our work aligns with existing annual audit plans.
- **Defining terms of reference:** these include a clear scope, approach, estimated duration and checkpoints for the commissioned activity, ensuring a shared understanding from the outset.
- **Delivery:** we maintain regular engagement with you throughout, providing progress updates, and appropriate senior oversight to ensure quality and confidence in delivery.

Our service lines

Investigation



Our professionally trained team investigates allegations of fraud and serious wrongdoing by employees and contractors across government. We respond at pace to emerging threats, delivering high-quality reports, supporting robust action. Our security clearance levels let us handle the most sensitive and high-profile cases.

Fraud Risk



Assessment

Professionally trained fraud risk specialists with extensive experience in enabling organisations to identify, understand, assess, and categorise their fraud risks.

GovS 013

Supporting organisations to implement the requirements of Government Functional Standard GovS 013: Counter fraud, bribery and corruption. Through expert support we can help organisations develop fraud awareness programmes, understand the prevailing fraud landscape and respond to potential system, process or control vulnerabilities.

Tailored counter fraud support



Recognised as a Centre of Excellence across government, we utilise our experience and insight to provide comprehensive services to support organisations develop their counter fraud response.

Whistleblowing/raising a concern



We can facilitate a whistleblowing service for your organisation, working with your people to raise and report concerns, ensuring compliance with all the protections afforded in law.

What our clients say

“Highly professional, engaging, and supportive service”

“The team was friendly, helpful, responsive, and delivered an efficient high-quality service”

“The quality of the investigation report was head and shoulders above any report I’ve received before”

“Excellent from start to finish... really helped push our Public Sector Fraud Authority functional standards forward”

“The report was clear, easy to read and understand. The decision was made far easier by the quality of the report”

“Very thorough investigation presented well - very easy to work through”

Contact us

You can get in touch directly by contacting GIAA-Communication@giaa.gov.uk

More information about the GIAA is available online at:
gov.uk/government/organisations/government-internal-audit-agency.





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