Appendix B

Central Bedfordshire Council

Audit Committee   **11ᵗʰ March 2019**

Annual review of Risk Based Verification (RBV) Policy for Housing Benefit and Local Council Tax Support assessments

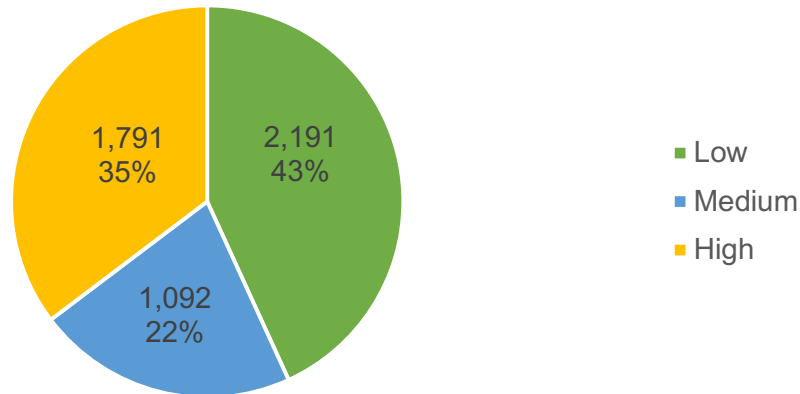| **Responsible Director(s):** | Charles Warboys, (Charles.Warboys@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) |

Update to paragraph 10 of the main report

We have monitored the effectiveness of RBV since its introduction in April 2015 and can report as follows:

Risk Score	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	Variance (2015/16 to 2018/19)
Low	2,146 (48.9%)	2,305 (44.6%)	2,316 (44.8%)	2,191 (43.2%)	+45 (+2.1%)
Medium	811 (18.5%)	1,154 (22.3%)	1,147 (22.2%)	1,092 (21.5%)	+281 (+34.7%)
High	1,432 (32.6%)	1,709 (33.1%)	1,706 (33.0%)	1,791 (35.3%)	+359 (+25.1%)

Distribution of risk scores 2018/19

■	Low
■	Medium
■	High

Update to paragraph 11 of the main report

For the 2018/19 year (April 2018 to end of February 2019) the number of high-risk cases submitted increased slightly to 1,791 with 407 claims still being in receipt of Housing Benefit/Local Council Tax Support at the end of that year.

Analysis of these high-risk cases by claim type is shown below. Some cases fall into more than one category and this combination maybe the reason for the high risk as opposed to the claim type itself, so for example we could not say all student claims are high risk:

Type of claim / Income	No. of claims 2015/16	No. of claims 2016/17	No. of claims 2017/18	No. of claims 2018/19
In receipt of DWP out of work benefit	58	88	73	63
Has a non-dependant	36	56	41	34
Student	7	12	8	5
Receiving a discretionary housing payment	7	5	4	5
Claimant earnings	403	399	432	374
Claimant self employed	65	75	81	37
Partner earning	98	84	73	33
Partner self employed	32	21	15	15
Child care costs	3	3	2	2
Tariff income from capital	13	15	12	8
Social housing reduction applied	36	32	29	10