

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

LOCAL GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY CODE 2014

REPORT BY THE TRI-BOROUGH DIRECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT, FRAUD AND RISK MANAGEMENT

ANTI FRAUD REPORT

The Local Government Transparency Code 2014 was published by the Department for Communities and Local Government in May 2014. The Code sets out key principles for local authorities in creating greater transparency through the publication of public data. This report is intended to brief members of the Committee in respect of the fraud data that must be published in respect of counter fraud work.

FOR INFORMATION

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Local Government Transparency Code 2014 was published by the Department for Communities and Local Government in May 2014. The Code sets out key principles for local authorities in creating greater transparency through the publication of public data.
- 1.2 The Government believes that in principle all data held and managed by local authorities should be made available to local people. The Government believes that local people are interested in how their authority tackles fraud and have introduced a mandatory requirement in respect of fraud data.
- 1.3 Local authorities must publish the following information about their counter fraud work:
 - number of occasions they use powers under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud (Power to Require Information) (England) Regulations 2014, or similar powers
 - total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of employees undertaking investigations and prosecutions of fraud
 - total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of professionally accredited counter fraud specialists
 - total amount spent by the authority on the investigation and prosecution of fraud, and
 - total number of fraud cases investigated.

2. DATA

2.1 The table below shows current activity in respect of the required data for the first two quarters of 2014/15.

Information	Q1	Q2
Number of occasions they use powers under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud (Power to Require Information) (England) Regulations 2014, or similar powers	9	16
Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of employees undertaking investigations and prosecutions of fraud	10	10
Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of professionally accredited counter fraud specialists	10	10
Total amount spent by the authority on the investigation and prosecution of fraud, and	142,865	112,745
Total number of fraud cases investigated	80	91

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Local Government Access to Information Act – background papers used:
Case Management Information

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