

Corporate Resources Town Hall, Upper Street London N1 2UD

Report of: Director of Corporate Resources

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	15 July 2010		

Delete as	Exempt	Non-exempt
appropriate		

Subject: STANDARDS AND ETHICS INDICATORS

1. Synopsis

This report sets out a series of indicators which will help give members an indication of the health of the authority in relation to Standards and Ethics.

2. Recommendation

That the Committee consider the indicators for the second quarter of 2010 and comment as appropriate.

3. Background

This report pulls together existing information which will help give members an indication of the health of the authority in relation to Standards and Ethics.

District Audit Public Interest Reports

2009

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	0

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	
January – March	April – June	
0	0	

Objections to the Council's Accounts

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	0

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	
January – March	April – June	
0	0	

Referrals to and Investigations undertaken by the Standards Board for England

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	0

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
0	0

Complaints submitted to the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
1	0	0	1

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
1	0

Number of Whistleblowing Incidents reported

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	1 Relates to a complaint of alleged bullying, harassment and financial irregularities

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
0	1 Relates to an allegation of mis-use of disabled blue badge by a member of staff

Number of challenges to procurements

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	0

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
0	0

Disciplinary action relating to breaches of the Member/Officer Protocol

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	0

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
0	0

Disciplinary action relating to fraud

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	0

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
0	0

Freedom of Information Act Indicators

Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
January – March		April – June 2009	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	219	Total number of requests received within this quarter	210
No of requests compliant within this quarter	166	No of requests compliant within this quarter	157
Non compliant requests within this quarter	48	Non compliant requests within this quarter	49
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	54	No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	0
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	23	Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	15

Quarter 3		Quarter 4	
July – September 2009		October to December 2009	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	233	Total number of requests received within this quarter	280
No of requests compliant within this quarter	175	No of requests compliant within this quarter	211
Non compliant requests within this quarter	67	Non compliant requests within this quarter	45
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	45	No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	66
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	13	Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	16

2010

Quarter 1 January - March		Quarter 2		
		April - June		
Total number of requests received within this quarter	279	Total number of requests received within this quarter	226	
No of requests compliant within this quarter	200	No of requests compliant within this quarter	153	
Non compliant requests within this quarter	76	Non compliant requests within this quarter	72	
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	62	No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	72	
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	17	Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	16	

No. where information was withheld due to exemptions/fees applied

Quarter: April to June 2010

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
319957	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	The name of the firm (or firms) whose tender (or tenders) was accepted and the sum for the renovation of Ironmonger Baths, 1- 11 Ironmonger Row, London EC1V 3QF.

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
321429	Business company	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	The number of children and young people in council's care who have committed suicide; the number of care leavers who committed suicide within one year of leaving care and the number of looked after children and young people in care who have been prescribed Ritalin in the last five years.
322686	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	The number of claims made against the council for subsidence to buildings on Sotheby Road, where the claim is that tree roots have contributed to subsidence.
322689	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	The number of times the council has used the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000 in the last 24 months.
322693	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	A list of all empty commercial and residential property in the borough.
323145	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	A list of empty properties in the borough.
324304	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	3 questions on a contract held by the Housing Department.
324307	Media company	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Allegations of sexual abuse at nursery schools within the borough.
326784	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 31 'Law Enforcement	Addresses and rateable values of empty commercial properties with a current rateable value between £18,000 and £20,000 within Islington Borough Council area.

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
328271	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information'	Whether the council placed a family at an address in N18.
329172	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	The council's IT acceptable use policy and statistics on IT use and disciplinary action at the council.
329184	Business company	Fully exempt	Section 21 'Information accessible to applicant by other means'	Series of questions on investments related to the council's pension fund.
330912	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Series of question s about two legal cases.
330964	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 22 'Information intended for future publication'	A copy of the draft report referenced in the quarterly PFI Performance Report to London Borough of Islington.
331846	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	The address of every property in the borough which is exempt from council tax and the exemption class is class F, and the deceased was an owner-occupier.
331860	Media company	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	The amount of money the Council paid to students from Islington schools as compensation for personal injuries in the last financial year.

Industrial Action taken or notified

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	0	0

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
0	0

Number of Employment Tribunals received

2009

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July-Sept	Oct – December
4 New cases	7 New cases	4 New cases	4 new cases
6 for the same period last year	3 for the same period last year	5 for the same period last year	2 for the same period last year

2010

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – June
7 New cases 4 for the same period last year	0

Outstanding Cases

Number of Outstanding cases is 23 and 2 multiple claims - (Pensions 26 individual pension claims, 20 Equal Pay Homecarers Claimants.).

15 outstanding cases and 2 multiple claims for same period last year.

Disposed of Cases

Number of cases disposed are 5 (1 won, 4 settled).

4 cases were disposed of for the same period last year.

Type of cases received

Of the 7 cases brought against the Council this quarter, there were 5 claims of unfair dismissal, 1 of disability discrimination, 1 of PIDA, 4 of race discrimination, 1 of sex discrimination, 3 of unlawful deduction of wages, 1 of Breach of contract.

Number of New Ombudsman complaints received

2009

Number of New Ombudsman complaints received

	Quarter 1 January – March	Quarter 2 April – June	Quarter 3 July - September	Quarter 4 October- December
Total	9	11	17	8
- Corporate Resources	0	0	0	0
- Childrens Services	0	0	0	0
- Environment & Regeneration	2	0	3	1
- Finance	1	0	1	2
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	4	8	5	3
- Housing & Adult Social Services	2	3	8	2
- Other	0	0	0	0

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
	January – March	April – June
Total	20	12
- Corporate Resources	0	0
- Childrens Services	0	1
- Environment & Regeneration	11	0
- Finance	3	1
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	5	9
- Housing & Adult Social Services	1	1
- Other	0	0

Number of Ombudsman complaints settled

2009

	Quarter 1 January – March	Quarter 2 April – June	Quarter 3 July - September	Quarter 4 October- December
Complaints settled	2	6	7	9
Total no. where compensation paid:	0	0	3	5 (2-HFI/Partners, 3-HASS)
- Corporate Resources	0	0		0
- Childrens Services	0	0		0
- Environment & Regeneration	0	0	2	1
- Finance	0	1		0
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	0	4	3	2
- Housing and Adult Social Services	0	1	2	6
- Other	0	0	0	0

2010

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
	January – March	April – June
Complaints settled	3	2
Total no. where compensation paid:	1	0
- Corporate Resources	0	-
- Childrens Services	0	-
 Environment & Regeneration 	0	-
- Finance	0	-
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	0	-
- Housing and Adult Social Services	0	-
- Other	0	-

Ombudsman maladministration cases

There were no maladministration reports issued against the Council during Quarter 1 or Quarter 2.

5. Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendation

These indicators are provided at the request of the committee to help give the committee an indication of the health of the authority in relation to Standards and Ethics.

Background papers:

Statistics provided by the relevant departments.

Final Report Clearance

Signed by	Director of Corporate Resources	Date
Received by		
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