



**Report of:** Director of Corporate Resources

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	22 April 2009	6	

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt
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## **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 first quarter of 2009 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**

##### **2008**

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

##### **2009**

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

## Objections to the Council's Accounts

**2008**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
1 Dr. Sharpley	1 Dr. Sharpley *Audit Commission wrote on 10./12/08 to Dr. Sharpley rejecting her objections.	0	0

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0			

## Referrals to and Investigations undertaken by the Standards Board for England

**2008**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0	0	0	0

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0			

**Complaints submitted to the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee**

**2008**

<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>May – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0	2 First complaint was referred to the Monitoring Officer for Investigation but subsequently no further action was taken as an apology was offered.	1 No further action was taken on the complaint which was then considered by the Review Sub-Committee on 11 <sup>th</sup> December who also decided to take no further action
	Second complaint – the Monitoring Officer was asked to take alternative action.	

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
1			

**Number of Whistleblowing Incidents reported**

**2008**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0	0	2 One relates to immigration status of an officer and the other relates to falsification of time sheets. Both cases currently being investigated.	2 One case relates to shift allowance of an employee and the other complaint relates to use of work van for personal use.

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0			

**Number of challenges to procurements****2008**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0	0	0	0

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0			

**Disciplinary action relating to breaches of the Member/Officer Protocol****2008**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0	0	0	0

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0			

**Disciplinary action relating to fraud****2008**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0	0	0	0

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>Quarter 3</b>	<b>Quarter 4</b>
<b>January – March</b>	<b>April – June</b>	<b>July – Sept</b>	<b>Oct – December</b>
0			

## Freedom of Information Act Indicators

**2008**

<b>Quarter 3</b>		<b>Quarter 4</b>	
<b>July – September</b>		<b>October – December</b>	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	184	Total number of requests received within this quarter	181
Number of requests compliant within this quarter	139	Number of requests compliant within this quarter	136
Non compliant requests within this quarter	44	Non compliant requests within this quarter	40
Number of requests still open and within the 20 working days	36	Number of requests still open and within the 20 working days	47
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	11	Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	5

**2009**

<b>Quarter 1</b>	
<b>January – March</b>	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	219
No of requests compliant within this quarter	166
Non compliant requests within this quarter	48
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	54
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	23

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

**2009**

<b>Request number:</b>	<b>Type of requestor</b>	<b>Disclosure Type</b>	<b>Exemptions applied</b>	<b>Original request</b>
229854	Member of the public	Fully Exempt	Section 21 'Information Accessible By Other Means'	I'm trying to locate the burial records for: <i>A number of individuals from the turn of the 19th / 20<sup>th</sup> century</i> All lived in Islington. Do you have a record? And if you do are there any other people in the graves?
230068	Member of the public	Fully Exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' and Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	Complaints received and action taken concerning noise at specific address.
231320	Member of the public	Fully Exempt	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	How many times since 2003 that the noise team has been called out to a specific address in Whitehall Mansions.
231124	Member of the public	Fully Exempt	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	How many times since 2003 there has been a report of flooding and anti social behaviour from Whitehall Mansions.
231326	Member of the public	Fully Exempt	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	How many times HFI complaints have received a complaint about Whitehall Mansions since 2003.
231818	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Information on the business rates paid by businesses in Turnmill street.
232495	Legal company	Fully exempt	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	Copies of all correspondence, notes, meetings, or phone calls between councillors and employees of LBI and a specific person relating to proposed compulsory purchase of 150 Mercers Road.
233178	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information'	Information around a specific staff suspension.
233978	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	I am making the following request under the Freedom of Information Act. I require the following details: Name Last known address, Date of birth, Date of death and estimated size of estate For any persons who have died since July 2008 in your local authority area and whose details you have or will pass onto either the Treasury Solicitor, Duchy

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
				of Lancaster/Cornwall and the QLTR (in Scotland). The information I am requesting is normally kept by social services or departments such as environmental protection and bereavement services. It is not available from the office of birth, marriage and deaths
233981	Business company	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	<p>1. How many child protection referrals were received by the council between 10 November 2008 and January 2009?</p> <p>2. How many child protection referrals were received by the council between 10 November 2007 and 10 January 2008?</p> <p>1. How many child protection referrals were received by the council between April 2008 and October 2008?</p> <p>2. How many child protection referrals were received by the council between April 2007 and October 2007?</p>
234827	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	<p>1 – How much the council has spent on security on empty buildings over the last three years</p> <p>2 – How many buildings does this total</p> <p>3 – Please can you also give me a list of all properties that have been secured for over six months, with a breakdown of how much security for each one cost and how long they have been secured?</p> <p>4 – Please can you give me a list of all properties that have cost more than £25,000 in security, how much each one has cost and for how long.</p>
234837	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 22 'Information intended for future publication' Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Can I please have the following information: 1)The list of successful groups that tendered for this opportunity 2)Names of the panel members who were involved with the decisions on this funding 3) The Matrix and scoring sheets for all the bids 4)List of the amounts and projects that were tendered by

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
				the Islington Youth Services – can I also have copies of those particular bids. 5) If the Islington Youth Service were successful then was there any conflict of interest and did that decision breach any of the following policies, tendering, procurement, ethical and equal opportunities policies
234841	Business company	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	1. Current overpayment/credit shown for 2008/2009 or any other financial year if credit balance hasn't been carried forward 2. Accounts where a 'write on' has been used since 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2000 to cancel an overpayment which has not since been reversed I would request that the list contains the following information: Ratepayer name * Address of property concerned Amount of overpayment/write on If possible, the period/financial year relating to overpayment/credit/write on
236172	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	I am requesting a list of the address of every empty/void property in the LB Islington owned by a non-individual, and the start dates of when they became empty. Please be aware that this encompasses all of your council's properties, as it is a non individual.
236885	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	Details of vacant properties in your Authority. The details required are the address of the property and the length of time it has remained vacant and whether the property is owned by the Authority, or in private ownership. I am aware the details are held on the list of properties registered for Council tax exemption, due to the fact you have had notification they are vacant.
237561	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 42 'Legal professional privilege'	Details around a legal case in Homes for Islington.



Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
237569	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	Please give answers that relate to the specific childcare website if you have one; if you do not, please give answers that relate to the relevant pages of your general website. What is the website address? How much did it cost to set up? How much does it cost to maintain, per year? How many unique visitors does it receive, per year? (or per month?) What feedback have you had from childcare providers about the service?
237576	Legal company	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information'	Registration forms for a specific council tax case.
238886	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Questions around the Partners for Islington contract.
238895	Business company	Partial disclosure	Section 30 'Investigations and proceedings conducted by public authorities'	Please send me the details of the venues you issued with noise abatement notices in 2008 – specifically due to amplified noise. E.g. bars, hotels, nightclubs and parties in marquees. Could you please also include the venues that were investigated due to noise complaints but did not or have to date received a noise abatement notice.
240481	Business company	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	'I hereby request a list of Business Rate accounts that meet the following criteria: 1. Current overpayment/credit shown for 2008/2009 or any other financial year if credit balance hasn't been carried forward 2. Accounts where a 'write on' has been used since 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2000 to cancel an overpayment which has not since been reversed I would request that the list contains the following information: Ratepayer name * Address of property concerned Amount of overpayment/write on If possible, the period/financial year relating to overpayment/credit/write on *Information is only requested where the ratepayer is a

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
				company and not an individual as I appreciate this is limited by the Data Protection Acts.
241773	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	How much total grant money was allocated to community/voluntary organizations by your council each year between 1998 and 2009, and which community organizations received how much grant money each year between 1998 and 2009.
242753	Business company	Fully exempt	Section 17 'Refusal of request'	I would be grateful if you would provide the following information: names; dates of birth; dates of death; last known addresses; estimated size of estates; date that information was passed to the Treasury Solicitor. I request that the data provided covers the last 12 months from and including March 2008.

### Industrial Action taken or notified

#### 2008

Quarter 1 January – March	Quarter 2 April – June	Quarter 3 July – Sept	Quarter 4 Oct – December
0	0	2 Industrial action taken on 16 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> July with regards to national pay negotiations. 200 employees participated on both days (full and part-timers). Further industrial action has been called off pending discussions at national level.	0

#### 2009

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

## Number of Employment Tribunals received

### 2008

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

### 2009

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

## Outstanding Cases

Number of Outstanding cases is 8.  
29 outstanding cases for the same period last year.

## Disposed of Cases

Number of cases disposed is 0.  
5 cases disposed for the same period last year.

## Type of cases received

Of the cases brought against the Council this quarter, there were 2 claims of unfair dismissal, 1 of disability discrimination, 1 gender and religion-based discrimination.

## Number of New Ombudsman complaints received

### 2008

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	January – March	April – June	July - September	October-December
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>
- Corporate Resources	0	0	0	0
- Childrens services	0	0	0	1
- Environment & Regeneration	4	1	2	0
- Finance	1	1	1	1
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	15	12	7	6
- Housing & Adult Social Services	2	0	0	0
- Other	0	0	0	0

## 2009

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

### Number of Ombudsman complaints settled

## 2008

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	January – March	April – June	July - September	October-December
<b>Complaints settled</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
Total no. where compensation paid:	1	4	0	2
- Corporate Resources	0	0	0	0
- Childrens Services	0	0	0	0
- Environment & Regeneration	0	1	0	0
- Finance	0	1	0	0
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	1	2	0	2
- Housing and Adult Social Services	0	0	0	0
- Other	0	0	0	0

## 2009

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	January – March	April – June	July - September	October-December
<b>Complaints settled</b>	<b>2</b>			
Total no. where compensation paid:	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.

Please note: the figures for Q1 may change slightly if the Ombudsman forwards updated information over the next couple of weeks.

## **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 \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Corporate Resources

Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Head of Service – Democratic Services

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