



Report of: Director of Corporate Resources

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	20 October 2009		

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt
-----------------------	--------	------------

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 and third quarters 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	0	0	

Objections to the Council's Accounts

2008

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

2009

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

Referrals to and Investigations undertaken by the Standards Board for England

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	0	0	

Complaints submitted to the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee

2008

Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
May – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
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 th December who also decided to take no further action
	Second complaint – the Monitoring Officer was asked to take alternative action.	

2009

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

Number of Whistleblowing Incidents reported

2008

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

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

Number of challenges to procurements**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	0	0	

Disciplinary action relating to breaches of the Member/Officer Protocol**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	0	0	

Disciplinary action relating to fraud**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	0	0	

Freedom of Information Act Indicators

2008

Quarter 3		Quarter 4	
July – September		October – December	
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

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	
July to September 2009	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	233
No of requests compliant within this quarter	175
Non compliant requests within this quarter	67
No of requests still open and Within the 20 working days	45
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	13

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

Quarter: July to September 2009

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
265940	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	The number of teachers who have criminal records.
267340	Business company	Partial disclosure	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Questions around a recent tender for projects reducing carbon dioxide emissions.
269481	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Copies of documents produced by consultants for Islington Council where the value of the contract has been specified for development of the former Crouch Hill Recreation Site.
269485	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 30 'Investigations and proceedings conducted by public authorities'.	The number of times the council has used powers under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act and the reasons for using those powers.
270341	Business company	Partial disclosure	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	The renewal date, value and a copy of the winning tender for any contract you may hold for Computer/Server hardware maintenance.
271893	Political researcher	Partial disclosure	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Questions around the prospective major works to the roadway by Tiber Gardens.
272023	Business company	Partial disclosure	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Full contact details for managing bailiff enforcement of Council Tax, Non Domestic Rate & Business Improvement District Liability Orders plus details of the number and value of instructions passed to the incumbent bailiff service.
276064	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	A list of properties which have had mortgages secured over them by the Council under the Deferred Payment Scheme.
276066	Business company	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	Questions around home educated children in the borough.
276114	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Names and contact details of school improvement advisors who work within the education and learning team of the council.
276311	Business company	Fully exempt	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Copy of the winning tender submission for the Summer Hanging Baskets and Barrier Plants contract.
278876	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information', Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	Details of any third party complaints from residents of Claremont Close regarding an Anti Social Behaviour incident.

280329	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	Date of death and estimated size of estate for any persons who have died since November 2008 whose details you have or will pass to the Treasury Solicitor, Duchy of Lancaster/Cornwall.
--------	----------------------	--------------	---	--

Industrial Action taken or notified

2008

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	2 Industrial action taken on 16 th and 17 th 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	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July – Sept	Oct – December
0	0	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 8 for same period last year	3 New Cases 7 for the same period last year	5 New Cases 4 for the same period last year	2 New Cases 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 the same period last year	7 New cases 3 for the same period last year	4 New cases 5 for the same period last year	

Outstanding Cases

Number of Outstanding cases is 15 and 2 multiple claims - (Pensions 26 individual pension claims , 20 Equal Pay Homecarers Claimants.).

31 outstanding cases and 3 multiple claims for same period last year.

Disposed of Cases

Number of cases disposed is 4 (1 case was won and 2 were withdrawn 1 settled).

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

Type of cases received

Of the 4 cases brought against the Council this quarter, there were 4 claims of unfair dismissal, 1 of disability discrimination, 1 of age discrimination, 1 of sex discrimination and 2 of race discrimination.

Number of New Ombudsman complaints received

2008

	Quarter 1 January – March	Quarter 2 April – June	Quarter 3 July - September	Quarter 4 October- December
Total	22	14	10	8
- 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

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	
- Corporate Resources	0	0	0	
- Childrens Services	0	0	0	
- Environment & Regeneration	2	0	3	
- Finance	1	0	1	
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	4	8	5	
- Housing & Adult Social Services	2	3	8	
- Other	0	0	0	

Number of Ombudsman complaints settled

2008

	Quarter 1 January – March	Quarter 2 April – June	Quarter 3 July - September	Quarter 4 October- December
Complaints settled	8	10	6	5
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 January – March	Quarter 2 April – June	Quarter 3 July - September	Quarter 4 October- December
Complaints settled	2	6	7	
Total no. where compensation paid:	0	0	3	
- Corporate Resources	0	0		
- Childrens Services	0	0		
- Environment & Regeneration	0	0	2	
- Finance	0	1		
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	0	4	3	
- Housing and Adult Social Services	0	1	2	
- Other	0	0	0	

Ombudsman maladministration cases

There were no maladministration reports issued against the Council during Quarter 1, 2 or 3.

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

Head of Service – Democratic Services

Date

Report author : John Lynch
Tel : 020 7527 3002
Fax : 020 7527 3323
E-mail : john.lynch@islington.gov.uk