



# ISLINGTON

Corporate Resources  
Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD

Report of : Director of Corporate Resources

Meeting of		Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	30th March 2006	10	

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt

If exempt under paragraph 10.4, category (1-15) of the Access to Information rules give reasons. Because:

## 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 fourth quarter, January - March 2006, 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

2005

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

## District Audit Public Interest Reports

2006

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
0

## Objections to the Council's Accounts

2005

<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>October – December</b>
0	0	1	0

2006

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
0

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

2005

<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>October – December</b>
3	2	0	3

2006

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
1

A complaint was made to the Board over allegations that a member should not have chaired an Area Committee and voted on the planning application in relation to an Academy as she was the owner of a nursery school. The Standards Board have advised that the allegations should not be investigated.

## Number of Whistleblowing Incidents reported

**2005**

<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	3	2	0

**2006**

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
1

One incident reported in February 2005 in relation to Youth Services. Being dealt with as a staff complaint and investigated by the Head of Service as not considered a whistleblowing case.

## Number of challenges to procurements

**2005**

<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

**2006**

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
0

## Disciplinary action relating to breaches of the Member/Officer Protocol

**2005**

<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

2006

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
0

**Disciplinary action relating to fraud**

2005

<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

2006

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
0

**Freedom of Information Act Indicators**

2005

<b>Quarter 1</b>		<b>Quarter 2</b>	
<b>January – March</b>		<b>April – June</b>	
Total number of requests received	100	Total number of requests received	103
No. of requests closed	53 20 of which were outside of the deadline	No. of requests closed	72 26 of which were outside of the deadline
No. of requests outstanding	47 29 beyond deadline, 11 of which were for contracts	No. of requests outstanding	31

**2005**

<b>Quarter 3</b>		<b>Quarter 4</b>	
<b>July – September</b>		<b>October - December</b>	
Total number of requests received	51	Total number of requests received	89
No. of requests closed	35 (7 of which were outside of the deadline)	No. of requests closed	61 (5 of which were outside of the deadline)
No. of requests outstanding	5	No. of requests outstanding	2
No. of requests open (still within deadline)	11	No. of requests open (still within deadline)	26

**2006**

<b>1 Quarter 1</b>	
<b>January – March</b>	
Total number of requests received	94
No. of requests closed	68 2 of which were outside of the deadline
No. of requests still open	26
No of requests still open and outside the 20 working days	5

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

**Quarter 1: January – March**

**2006**

<b>Request number:</b>	<b>Surname of requestor</b>	<b>Exemptions applied</b>	<b>Original request</b>
33142	Whelan	s22 Information intended for future publication.	A copy of the Information Governance Strategy (incorporating Records Management)

<b>Request number:</b>	<b>Surname of requestor</b>	<b>Exemptions applied</b>	<b>Original request</b>
35381	Lewis	S44 Prohibited by another Act <i>7, 8 and 10 of Schedule 12A of the LGA 1972</i>	Copies of reports on behalf, or for the Council in advance of it entering into the contract.
37775	Lewars	s43 Commercial Interests	List of empty residential properties (partial i.e. addresses were withheld – figures were released)
38435	Chapman	s43 Commercial Interests	The Finsbury Town Hall contract (partially exempt)

### **Industrial Action taken or notified**

**2005**

<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

**2006**

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
1

Industrial action taken by Unison in relation to the changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

### **Number of Employment Tribunals received**

**2005**

<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 new case 7 for same period last year	3 new cases 11 for the same period last year	3 new cases 11 for the same period last year.	1 new case 5 for the same period last year.

## 2006

<b>Quarter 1</b>
<b>January – March</b>
5 new cases 1 for same period last year

### Outstanding Cases

Number of Outstanding cases is 15 and 2 multiple claims - (Pensions 58 individual claims and Equal Pay Homecarers 48 Claimants).

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

### Disposed of Cases

Number of cases disposed is 2.

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

### Number of New Ombudsman complaints received

## 2005

	<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>
	14	12	16	27
- Benefit	1	3	3	2
- Other housing	10	6	11	15
- Environment & Conservation	3	2	1	5
- Finance	-	1	-	-
- Social Services	-	-	1	-
- Education/CEA	-	-	-	1
- Council Tax	-	-	-	4

## 2006

	<b>Quarter 1</b>
	<b>January – March</b>
	14
- Housing	11
- Social Services (Adult)	1
- Environment & Regeneration	1
- Finance & Property Services	1

## **Number of Ombudsman complaints settled**

### **2005**

	<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>
Complaints settled	15	15	19	4 **
Total number where compensation paid:	6	6	14	0
- Benefit	4	3	4	-
- Other Housing	2	3	8	-
- Social Services	-	-	1	-
- Finance	-	-	1	-

### **2006**

	<b>Quarter 1</b>
	<b>January – March</b>
Complaints settled	25
Total number where compensation paid:	9
- Homes for Islington	12
- Environment & Regeneration	6
- Housing Needs & Strategy	1
- Finance and Property	1
- Housing Performance & Property	3
- Customer Focus	1
- Social Services	1

## **Ombudsman maladministration cases**

There were no maladministration reports issued against the Council by the Ombudsman during this quarter.

## **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 Democratic Services Date -----

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