



ISLINGTON

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

Report of : Director of Corporate Resources

Meeting of		Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	19 June 2006	8	

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 part of the second quarter, April - May 2006, and comment as appropriate. The Indicators for June and the third quarter will be given in the report to Standards Committee on 17 October 2006.

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

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

Objections to the Council's Accounts

2005

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

2006

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

Referrals to and Investigations undertaken by the Standards Board for England

2005

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

2006

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

Number of Whistleblowing Incidents reported

2005

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

2006

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – May
1	3

One anonymous complaint reported about the conduct of a senior manager in the Environment Department. Internal Audit investigated the matter and found no evidence of misconduct.

Another anonymous complaint about bullying of unnamed staff by unnamed managers in Social Services. No information to pursue allegation.

Third complaint concerns allegations of misuse of Section 106 and Magpie funding by an officer. Issue currently being investigated.

Number of challenges to procurements

2005

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

2006

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

1 challenge during Quarter 2 from KPS regarding the Arboricultural contract. KPS (one of the unsuccessful tenderers) challenged the award during the 10 day standstill period but their challenge was found to have had no grounds and the contract was awarded.

Disciplinary action relating to breaches of the Member/Officer Protocol

2005

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

2006

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

Disciplinary action relating to fraud

2005

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

2006

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

Freedom of Information Act Indicators

2005

Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
January – March		April – June	
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

Quarter 3		Quarter 4	
July – September		October - December	
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

Quarter 1		Quarter 2	
January – March		April - May	
Total number of requests received	94	Total number of requests received	55
No. of requests closed	68 2 of which were outside of the deadline	No. of requests closed	44 11 of which were outside of the deadline
No. of requests still open	26	No. of requests still open	2
No of requests still open and outside the 20 working days	5	No of requests still open and outside the 20 working days	11

No. where information was withheld due to exemptions/fees applied**Quarter 1: January – March****2006**

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

Request number:	Surname of requestor	Exemptions applied	Original request
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)

Quarter 2: April - May

2006

Request number:	Surname of requestor	Exemptions applied	Original request
45061	Blunden	s 43 Commercial Interest	Please tell me how much the Islington Gazette newspaper tendered for the most recent Islington Council legal notices advertising contract.
46896	Beale	Fees notice	Copy of the PFI 1 Contract
50467	Lee	Fees Notice	Figure of how many permission to park applications relating to Zone A. We would need to look at all the duplicate vouchers to determine how many were issued for a particular zone or street for a given period

Industrial Action taken or notified

2005

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

2006

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

Number of Employment Tribunals received**2005**

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July-Sept	Oct – December
1 new case	3 new cases	3 new cases	1 new case
7 for same period last year	11 for the same period last year	11 for the same period last year.	5 for the same period last year.

2006

Quarter 1	Quarter 2
January – March	April – May
5 new cases	7 new cases (16 pension cases became live from 31.05.06)
1 for same period last year	3 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).

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

Disposed of Cases

Number of cases disposed is 2.

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

Number of New Ombudsman complaints received

2005

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

	Quarter 1 January – March	Quarter 2 April – May
	14	15
- Housing Performance and Property	11	4
- HFI		5
- Corporate Resources		1
- Social Services (Adult)	1	
- Environment & Regeneration	1	1
- Customer Focus		1
- Finance	1	3

Number of Ombudsman complaints settled

2005

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

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2
	January – March	April – May
Complaints settled	25	12
Total number where compensation paid:	9	4
- Homes for Islington	12	10
- Environment & Regeneration	6	
- Housing Needs & Strategy	1	
- Finance	1	1
- Housing Performance & Property	3	
- Customer Focus	1	
- Corporate Resources		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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