



**Report of:** Director of Corporate Resources

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	17 June 2008	8	

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 first and second quarter of 2008 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. Information for quarter 2 only includes statistics for April and May 2008.

#### **District Audit Public Interest Reports**

##### **2007**

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

##### **2008**

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

## Objections to the Council's Accounts

2007

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

2008

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

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

2007

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July - Sept	Oct – December
1	0	0	1
			Allegation concerning misuse of Council resources in the publication of the Islington Now Magazine. The Standards Board decided not to refer the matter to an Ethical Standards officer for investigation.

2008

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

## Number of Whistleblowing Incidents reported

2007

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
January – March	April – June	July - Sept	Oct - December
0	0	0	1
			Relates to the award of a contract. Initially sent to a third party who forwarded it to the Council. Currently being investigated by Internal Audit.

2008

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

**Number of challenges to procurements**

2007

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

2008

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

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

2007

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

2008

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

**Disciplinary action relating to fraud**

2007

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

2008

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

## Freedom of Information Act Indicators

2007

<b>Quarter 1</b>		<b>Quarter 2</b>	
<b>January – March</b>		<b>April – June</b>	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	141	Total number of requests received within this quarter	114
No of requests compliant within this quarter	125	No of requests compliant within this quarter	89
Non compliant requests within this quarter	28	Non compliant requests within this quarter	29
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	20	No of requests still open and within the 20 working days Request On Hold	1
		Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	13 partial 1 fully exempt

<b>Quarter 3</b>		<b>Quarter 4</b>	
<b>July – September</b>		<b>October – December</b>	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	105	Total number of requests received within this quarter	94
No of requests compliant within this quarter	87	No of requests compliant within this quarter	69
Non compliant requests within this quarter	36	Non compliant requests within this quarter	30
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	14 open	No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	0
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	4	Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	9

2008

<b>Quarter 1</b>		<b>Quarter 2</b>	
<b>January – March</b>		<b>April - June</b>	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	109	Total number of requests received within this quarter	110 (as of 5 June)
No of requests compliant within this quarter	59	No of requests compliant within this quarter	54
Non compliant requests within this quarter	37	Non compliant requests within this quarter	42
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	0	No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	52

**No. where information was withheld due to exemptions/fees applied****2008****Quarter 1 – January – March 2008**

<b>Request number:</b>	<b>Surname of requestor</b>	<b>Disclosure Type</b>	<b>Exemptions applied</b>	<b>Original request</b>
165168	Rosie Waterhouse	Partial disclosure	s 40 personal info	"I am writing to make a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act to have copies of all the correspondence regarding the consultation process over the council's proposals for Duncan Terrace/Colebrooke Row Gardens in Colebrooke Row, N1, including the removal of plants, shrubs and trees. I am also requesting copies of any correspondence and official communications authorising the already completed removal of trees, plants and shrubs from the Duncan Terrace side of the gardens which appears to have been carried out before the official consultation process has been completed and before the official start date of works on the notice on the entrance gate to the gardens."
160226	Stephen Gee	Partial disclosure	S21	Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Spa Green Management Organisation requests copies of all applications for listed building consent and planning permissions and any subsequent consents dating from December 2006 to the January 2008.
174961	Neil Fraser	Fully exempt	S31 – Law Enforcement	"information relating to names, dates of birth, dates of death, last known addresses and estimated sizes of estates released to the Treasury Solicitor of persons dying with no known next of kin going back to March 2007. Also date that information was passed to the Solicitor."
160819	Guy Basset	Partial disclosure	S40 personal info	"I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act for details of the number times the council has requested access to people's private information, such as mobile phone records, telephone subscriber information, billing information, and internet records. More specifically, I am requesting the following: For the calendar year 2007 – The total number of requests made to access people's personal information. – A list of the types of information sought – for example, but not limited to, mobile phone records, telephone subscriber info, and so on. Please provide as much information as to the different types of information that have

Request number:	Surname of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
				been requested. – For each request made – what was requested, and a summary of the reasons for the request. Please provide as much information as possible on each. For example: Request 1; Mobile phone records obtained for investigation into fly-tipping, etc"
166010	Fraser Stevenson	Partial disclosure	S40 Personal info	Details of applicants of Fireworks storage for 2007, including name, address and any contact telephone numbers

**Quarter 2 – April – June 2008**

Request number:	Surname of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
181032	Paul Curran	Partial disclosure	s12 - Refused part of the request on the grounds that it would be too onerous too look for the info as this would exceed the appropriate fees limit.	Has the Council used covert surveillance in the last 2 years? If so, for what purpose and under which power eg Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000? How much did each operation cost and what was the outcome of each operation?
182855	RC Turner	Fully exempt	Section 22 and 43	to examine the extent and nature of your proposed works, to obtain by calculation and by tender independent prices for the works in question and to compare the same with your costs. They will then, if necessary, act as expert witness on behalf of the Leaseholders at any proceedings arising from this matter. I understand that at the present time you do not have the returned tender documents, in due course I would expect to receive copies of the same.
178013	Simmons and Simmons		"Section 22 for material waiting to be published	"Correspondence regarding an enforcement action to secure a compulsory purchase order in respect of 150 Mercers Road, London, N19 4PX  All information you hold relating to the proposed compulsory purchase proceedings and any other enforcement action (eg planning), which shall include any expressions of opinion and email correspondence, "

Request number:	Surname of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
176141	Clive Wolman		Section 41 for information given by another party in confidence"	<p>Please supply all and any documents or information communicated to Islington London Borough Council ("Islington") and or its agents concerning the validity of penalty charge notices for alleged or suspected parking offences from 1st January 1994 to 21st May 2001 (inclusive) by</p> <p>The Association of London Governments or its successors or predecessors The Parking and Traffic Appeals Service The National Parking Appeals Service Any other person</p> <p>Please supply all and any documents or information communicated to Islington and or its agents concerning the validity of penalty charge notices from 22nd May 2001 to 31st March 2008 (inclusive) by</p> <p>The Association of London Governments or its successors or predecessor The Parking and Traffic Appeals Service The National Parking Appeals Service Any other person</p> <p>Without prejudice to the generality of the above, please supply for the above periods supply all and any documents or information relating to or including any reference to the following parking cases or issues:</p> <p>Sutton LBC v Moulder (Parking Appeals Service case ref.: 1940113243) given by the chief adjudicator Gary Hickenbottom, now His Honour Judge Hickenbottom the Designated Civil Judge for South Wales, on 24th May 1995.</p> <p>Wandsworth LBC v Al's Bar (Parking Appeals Service Case No. 2020106430) in October 2002</p> <p>Moses v Barnet LBC - decisions of the Parking and Traffic Appeals Service (PATAS) in 2005-06 and in particular the decision of Parking Adjudicator Timothy Thorne on 18th February 2006.</p> <p>the seminar held by the Association of London Government for Islington and other London boroughs on the consequences of the Moses v Barnet decision, and possibly other decisions, on 27th March 2006, the matters discussed and the advice given at that seminar;</p> <p>Friedman v London Borough of Tower Hamlets – 2006</p>

Request number:	Surname of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
				<p>the High Court case Barnet v Parking Adjudicator [2006] EWHC 2357 (Admin) Moreover this request covers both Islington and its agents including any contractor that operates on the council's behalf.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing from you promptly, as required by the legislation and in any case within 20 working days"</p>
176195	Ian Dyer	Fully exempt	Section 22 Legal Professional privilege	<p>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 March 2007 in your local authority area and whose details you have passed onto either the Treasury Solicitor, Duchy 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.</p>
176104	John Kelly	Partial disclosure	Section 41	<p>the number of PCN's issued for contravention code 31JJ in Drayton Park last month. (not sure if he means February or March)</p>

### Industrial Action taken or notified

#### 2007

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

#### 2008

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

## **Number of Employment Tribunals received**

**2007**

<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>
8 new cases 5 for same period last year	7 new cases 5 for the same period last year	4 new cases 9 for the same period last year	4 new cases 4 for the same period last year

**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>
6 new cases 8 for same period last year	3 New Cases 7 for the same period last year		

### **Outstanding Cases – Quarter 1**

Number of Outstanding cases is 29 and 2 multiple claims - (Pensions: 57 individual pension claims and Equal Pay Homecarers: 48 Claimants).

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

### **Disposed of Cases – Quarter 1**

Number of cases disposed is 5.

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

### **Outstanding Cases – Quarter 2**

Number of Outstanding cases is 29 and 2 multiple claims - (Pensions 56 individual pension claims and 48 Equal Pay Homecarers Claimants).

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

### **Disposed of Cases – Quarter 2**

Number of cases disposed is 3

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

**Number of New Ombudsman complaints received****2007**

	<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 - Dec</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>
- Adult Services	1	1		
- Childrens services	1			0
- Environment & Regeneration	2	2	2	0
- Finance	3	2	2	1
- Homes for Islington	12	5		7
- Housing Performance & Property	3	4		
- Corporate Resources		1	1	0
- Customer Focus		1	3	1
- Other	3			
- Housing and Adult Social Services				3

**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 - Dec</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>		
- Adult Services	2	0		
- Childrens services	0	0		
- Environment & Regeneration	4	1		
- Finance	1	1		
- Homes for Islington	15	7		
- Housing Performance & Property	0	1		
- Corporate Resources	0	0		
- Customer Focus	0	0		
- Other	0	0		
- Housing and Adult Social Services	0	0		

**Number of Ombudsman complaints settled****2007**

	<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 - Dec</b>
<b>Complaints settled</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>
Total no. where compensation paid:	4	10	4	4
- Childrens Services	1			0
- Environment & Regeneration	3			0
- Finance	1		1	0
- Homes for Islington	6	7	1	2
- Housing, Perf. & Property	3	3		
- Customer Focus			2	0
- Housing and Adult Social Services				1
- Corporate Resources				1

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	January – March	April – June	July-Sept	Oct - Dec
<b>Complaints settled</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>		
Total no. where compensation paid:	1	2		
- Childrens Services	0	0		
- Environment & Regeneration	0	0		
- Finance	0	1		
- Homes for Islington	1	1		
- Housing, Perf. & Property	0	0		
- Customer Focus	0	0		
- Housing and Adult Social Services	0	0		
- Corporate Resources	0	0		

### **Ombudsman maladministration cases**

There were 0 maladministration reports issued against the Council by the Ombudsman during these quarters.

Please note: the above figures 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

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Director of Corporate Resources

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Date

Received by

-----  
Head of Democratic Services

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Date

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