



Report of: Director of Corporate Resources

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	20 April 2010		

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 2010 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

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1
January – March
0

Objections to the Council's Accounts

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1
January – March
0

Referrals to and Investigations undertaken by the Standards Board for England

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1
January – March
0

Complaints submitted to the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1
January – March
1

Number of Whistleblowing Incidents reported

2009

Quarter 1 January – March	Quarter 2 April – June	Quarter 3 July – Sept	Quarter 4 Oct – December
0	0	0	1 Relates to a complaint of alleged bullying, harassment and financial irregularities

2010

Quarter 1 January – March
0

Number of challenges to procurements

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1 January – March
0

Disciplinary action relating to breaches of the Member/Officer Protocol

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1
January – March
0

Disciplinary action relating to fraud

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1
January – March
0

Freedom of Information Act Indicators

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		Quarter 4	
July – September 2009		October to December 2009	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	233	Total number of requests received within this quarter	280
No of requests compliant within this quarter	175	No of requests compliant within this quarter	211
Non compliant requests within this quarter	67	Non compliant requests within this quarter	45
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	45	No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	66
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	13	Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	16

2010

Quarter 1	
January – March	
Total number of requests received within this quarter	279
No of requests compliant within this quarter	200
Non compliant requests within this quarter	76
No of requests still open and within the 20 working days	62
Number withheld due to exemptions/fees applied	17

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

Quarter: October to December 2009

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
284952	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Statistics around successful ASBO applications.
285165	Business	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit' / Section 40 'Personal information'	Information relating to unclaimed Credit Balances in the council area.
287210	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	The number of union representatives employed by the council who, for all or part of their week, work on trade union activities, rather than council duties.
287918	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information'	Details of a specific pension overpayment.
289406	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 21 'Information accessible to applicant by other means.'	Questions around the maintenance of listed buildings in the borough.
289421	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	Addresses of long term empty residential properties in Islington Council.
290172	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 41 'Information'	All reported incidents on Claremont Close Estate.

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
			provided in confidence'	
290867	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	A list of all residential properties owned by the council, including those currently occupied and unoccupied.
292999	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	The address of every property which in 2008 has been the subject of a prohibition order, a demolition order or emergency remedial action as defined in the Housing Act 2004.
293180	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information'	Documents submitted to the council around a specific piece of structural work.
293181	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'/ Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Costs and figures around the council's legal department.
294175	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 21 'Information accessible to applicant by other means.'	A list of properties in Branston House (N7 7BS) and also Rollit House (N7 7BT) which are leaseholder properties.
294575	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Consultant spend for Human Resources work.
295292	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Questions around the council's anti-bullying procedures.
295981	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	A copy of the council's spend analysis/invoice report for the last 12 months
297517	Business	Partial disclosure	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	Copy of the procurement process that Islington Council followed late 2003/early 2004, which resulted in Comensura winning the Vendor Neutral System contract.

Quarter: January to March 2010

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
302908	Political researcher	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	Questions around child protection and adoption.
302913	Media	Fully exempt	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	The amount of money spent on staff away days (eg. Team building trips, brainstorming sessions, executive board sessions, etc) in each of the last four years.
305012	Business company	Fully exempt	Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	Deceased estate information passed to central government.
305819	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Questions about the work of the council's Child Protection LADO and the statistics on racist incidents at Islington schools.
307833	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Questions on resident correspondence sent to the Islington Now publications.
310178	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	A list of incident reports and repairs made to HFI by any residents of a house in N7.
310181	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 12 'Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit'	How much money was spent by Islington council for collecting, or attempting to collect, unpaid council tax in the borough.
310760	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Statistical information regarding childrens exclusion from the Borough's Secondary schools .
312233	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Information relating to primary school pupils who have been excluded from school for the 2007, 2008 and 2009 academic years.
313702	Media	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information'	The highest weekly and or monthly housing benefit claim currently being paid by the council.

Request number:	Type of requestor	Disclosure Type	Exemptions applied	Original request
313705	Member of the public	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information'	Information about the suspension of teaching staff from all schools in Islington from 2007-2009,
314378	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	A complete list of empty homes within the borough.
314416	Media	Partial disclosure	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 41 'Information provided in confidence'	Questions around a recent internal investigation carried out by the council.
315210	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	A list of all empty properties in the borough, both commercial and residential.
315233	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 14 'Vexatious or repeated requests'	Questions around previously disclosed CDYP correspondence.
315272	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 40 'Personal information' / Section 31 'Law Enforcement'	A list of "empty properties" in Islington.
318247	Member of the public	Fully exempt	Section 43 'Commercial interests'.	A copy of the Finsbury Square property report.

Industrial Action taken or notified

2009

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

2010

Quarter 1 January – March
0

Number of Employment Tribunals received

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	4 new cases 2 for the same period last year

2010

Quarter 1
January – March
7 New cases 4 for the same period last year

Outstanding Cases

Number of Outstanding cases is 23 and 2 multiple claims - (Pensions 26 individual pension claims , 20 Equal Pay Homecarers Claimants.).

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

Disposed of Cases

Number of cases disposed are 5 (1 won, 4 settled).

1 case was disposed of for the same period last year.

Type of cases received

Of the 7 cases brought against the Council this quarter, there were 5 claims of unfair dismissal, 1 of disability discrimination, 1 of PIDA, 4 of race discrimination, 1 of sex discrimination, 3 of unlawful deduction of wages, 1 of Breach of contract.

Number of New Ombudsman complaints received**2009****Number of New Ombudsman complaints received**

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	January – March	April – June	July - September	October-December
Total	9	11	17	8
- Corporate Resources	0	0	0	0
- Childrens Services	0	0	0	0
- Environment & Regeneration	2	0	3	1
- Finance	1	0	1	2
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	4	8	5	3
- Housing & Adult Social Services	2	3	8	2
- Other	0	0	0	0

2010

	Quarter 1
	January – March
Total	
- Corporate Resources	0
- Childrens Services	0
- Environment & Regeneration	11
- Finance	3
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	5
- Housing & Adult Social Services	1
- Other	0

Number of Ombudsman complaints settled**2009**

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	January – March	April – June	July - September	October-December
Complaints settled	2	6	7	9
Total no. where compensation paid:	0	0	3	5 (2-HFI/Partners, 3-HASS)
- Corporate Resources	0	0		0
- Childrens Services	0	0		0
- Environment & Regeneration	0	0	2	1
- Finance	0	1		0
- Homes for Islington (incl. PFI)	0	4	3	2
- Housing and Adult Social Services	0	1	2	6
- Other	0	0	0	0

2010

	Quarter 1
	January – March
Complaints settled	3
Total no. where compensation paid:	1
- 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.

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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