

NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE (NFI) – NATIONAL EXERCISE 2010/11

1. INTRODUCTION

This report provides the current position of NFI match investigations as at 29 February 2012. Two tables are provided in Appendix 1. Table 1, details the cumulative monthly progress of match investigations with an estimated completion date for any remaining datasets. Table 2, provides key external agency review dates, when an evaluation of the Council's progress with NFI match investigations will be undertaken.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Audit Committee is asked to note the contents of this report which will be followed up by Internal Audit.

3. DETAILS

- 3.1 On the 22nd of February, the NFI released an additional 606 matches for investigation. These matches were issued under a new dataset category called Council Tax. Of the 606 matches, there are no recommended matches. Customer and Support Services have been asked by Internal Audit to complete a 5% sample of the 606 matches, in order to give an assurance that there are no issues. If any issues are found then the sample will be extended. With training already having been undertaken, It is estimated that sampling will be concluded by 31 March 2012.
- 3.2 The Housing Benefit Fraud Team has one remaining investigation which is due to be finalised by the end of March 2012. The Fraud Team is working in co-operation with the DWP who have 6 remaining investigations to complete for the Council. It is anticipated that the DWP will complete their investigation work by 31 March 2012. However, they cannot guarantee this due to staffing issues.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Monthly reports will be provided to the SMT and quarterly to the Audit Committee covering progress of the remaining match investigations. External Audit will also continue to receive update reports.

APPENDIX 1

Table 1 - Cumulative Progress Report - 29 February 2012

Datasets	Recommended Filter Matches	Total Matches	Matches selected for Investigation	Cumulative Matches Processed as at 29th February 2012	Responsible Officer	Target dates for completion of Matches
Housing Benefit	161	1370	161	222	Fraud Administrator	31/03/2012
Creditors	509	7723	190	212	Completed	N/A
Payroll	5	195	21	21	Completed	N/A
Residential Care Homes	47	86	86	86	Completed	N/A
Blue Badges	114	120	120	120	Complete	N/A
Insurance	0	7	7	7	Completed	N/A
Council Tax	0	606	30	0	Council Tax Supervisor	31/3/2012
Total	836	9502	615	662		

Datasets	Outcomes for Completed Datasets
Creditors	The match sample investigation identified four duplicates, however in each case Creditors duplicate software (Fiscal Technologies) had picked them up and were resolved at the time.
Private Residential Care Homes	There were no issues found.
Insurance	There were no issues found.
Blue Badges	There were no issues found.
Payroll	There were no issues found.

Table 2 – Key External Review Dates

Key Dates	Target Dates
NFI: Final position statement. The council should ensure all work is up to date	February 2012
NFI: Case Studies - National report examples of good practice.	March 2012
Publication of national report	May 2012

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