

Summary of investigations 2014/15

Internal Audit received 22 reports during 2014/15, of which:

- 11 were received via the “Report It” facility on the website (6 were reported anonymously)
- 10 were concerns raised direct with Internal Audit where investigations were carried out by Internal Audit
- 1 concern was raised with Internal Audit which was referred on to the relevant service to investigate.

Of the 11 website ‘Report It’ instances:

- 1 was in relation to possible fraudulent claim of housing benefit. This was referred on to the DWP for investigation as the claimant was in receipt of pass-ported housing benefit
- 4 cases were in respect of Trading Standards matters so were referred on to them.
- 3 repeated allegations were in respect of possible tenancy fraud however were not proven.
- 2 related to members of the public reporting that they had received cold callers purporting to be from Exeter City Council asking for bank details to provide Council Tax refunds (other services in the Council also received these reports and so a press release was issued to advise the public to be aware).
- 1 concern was referred onto the relevant service to investigate

Internal Audit Investigations

- 5 were proven. One case involved a joint management and Internal Audit investigation which lead to an employee being dismissed for theft of cash. This matter was referred to the Police.
- 5 were not proven

Fraud identified within other services 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015

Date Notified	Type of Fraud	Number of cases	Total value of fraud	How detected
10.11.14	Council Tax – Single Occupier Discount	7	£3195.15	NFI Data matching exercise 2013-14

21.11.14	Procurement Fraud – creditor payment	1	£3500.00 Money not paid over	Checking of change of bank account details of supplier
24.02.15	Procurement Fraud Fraudulent transactions on corporate credit card	3	£2411.97 Money refunded from bank	Bank identified fraud and notified card holder
19.02.15	Council Tax – Single Person Discount	37	£13264.85	SPD Review
24.02.15	Council Tax – Single Person Discount	3	£1008.00	SPD Review
20.02.15	Council Tax – Student Exemption	17	£45160.93	Student Exemption Review (569 letters sent to owners of private student accommodation resulting in 18 student exemptions being cancelled)
25.02.15	Council Tax – Student Exemption	1	£2998.57	Student Exemption Review (569 letters sent to owners of private student accommodation resulting in 18 student exemptions being cancelled)
12.03.15	Council Tax – Single Occupier Discount	16	£4012.62	SPD Review