



14 August 2018

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 1016/18

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request / Response:

Datank wishes to understand the changes to the counter fraud capability that have taken place in Councils across the UK as a result of the establishment of the DWP's SFIS. Many Councils either lost or reduced their counter fraud capability as a result of SFIS, and whilst DCLG provided initial funding to help develop new and innovative methods of detecting fraud, that funding was for only two years and many Council fraud teams now have to be self-funding.

This FOI seeks to understand what Councils are currently doing to identify and tackle public sector fraud.

1. Does the Council have a Counter Fraud Team or persons in the Council responsible for investigating public sector fraud cases?

Answer: Rutland County Council does not have a Counter Fraud Team or persons responsible for investigating public sector fraud cases. We do have an Internal Audit team (provided by LGSS (Local Government Shared Services) with fraud capability and an arrangement with Leicester City to draw down support as required.

2. If so, how many fraud investigators do you have?

Answer: Not Applicable

3. If not, are you part of a shared counter fraud service with another council or other organisation? Please detail who.

Answer: Please see response to Question 1

4. Did the Council's benefits/counter fraud team transfer to SFIS when SFIS was established?

Answer: Rutland County Council's team was shared with Corby and that did transfer.

5. Has the Council increased/decreased the number of fraud investigation officers within the last 24 months? If so, by how many?

Answer: Not Applicable

6. How many fraud referrals or reports of fraud did the council receive in financial year 2017/18?

Answer: Rutland County Council received 1 fraud referral or report of fraud in financial year 2017/18.

7. Please supply a notional value for fraud successfully stopped and/or prosecuted in 2017/18?

Answer: Rutland County Council does not hold this information.

8. Do you record fraud statistics? If so, are they published? Where? Online?

Answer: Rutland County Council does not record fraud statistics.

9. How do you record and manage your fraud cases? Spreadsheet or software package?

Answer: Not Applicable

10. Do you use a fraud case management system? If so, which one?

Answer: Not Applicable

11. How many referrals/cases did you receive from the NFI (National Fraud Initiative) in 2017/18? How many led to a successful prosecution/outcome?

Answer: We received 1,295 potential matches from the NFI for 2017/18. There have been no prosecutions.

12. Do you use reports from NAFN? If so, how much did you spend on these in 2017/18?

Answer: Rutland County Council does not use reports from NAFN.

13. Do you use credit bureau reports/data/services? If so, how much did you spend on these in 2017/18?

Answer: Rutland County Council occasionally uses credit bureau reports / data / services. During 2017/18 less than £1,000 was spent.

14. Do you have plans to increase your counter fraud capability/budget in 2018/19?

Answer: Rutland County Council does not have plans to increase our counter fraud capability / budget in 2018/19.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP  
You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House, Water lane  
Wilmslow, Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
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Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator  
Business Support Team  
Rutland County Council