

TO:	PERSONNEL COMMITTEE		
DATE:	13 JULY 2017	AGENDA ITEM:	5
TITLE:	WHISTLEBLOWING ACTIVITY REPORT		
LEAD MEMBER	CLLR LOVELOCK	PERSONNEL COMMITTEE CHAIR	
SERVICE:	CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICES	WARDS:	BOROUGHWIDE
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Personnel Committee with an overview of Whistleblowing activity over the last twelve months.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Personnel Committee note the overview of Whistleblowing Activity.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In July 2014, Personnel Committee approved a revised Whistleblowing Policy which replaced the earlier version, introduced in 2000.
- 3.2 The Council is committed to the highest possible standards of openness, honesty and accountability. In line with that commitment, you are encouraged, if you have serious concerns about any aspect of the Council's work, to come forward and voice those concerns. It is recognised that certain cases will have to proceed on a confidential basis.
- 3.3 To support this, a Whistleblowing Policy was introduced to enable people to raise serious concerns within the Council rather than overlooking a problem or blowing the whistle outside.
- 3.4 Since the beginning of 2016, there have been 10 recorded cases of Whistleblowing. The Whistleblowing Policy states "The Council will do its best to protect your identity when you raise a concern and do

not want your name to be disclosed.” The table below provides an anonymised summary of Whistleblowing Activity. Where investigations are ongoing, further anonymity has been provided.

Date Issue Raised	Service Area	Source	Type	Subject	Outcome
28 January 2016	School	Member of staff	Internal investigation (Audit) - police informed	Allegations of falsification of school census data and weak internal controls	Disciplinary and action plan to improve controls
5 th February 2016	Customer Relations Team	Whistleblowing email	Internal Audit of data governance undertaken	Concerns regarding data governance	Recommendations for improvement made
1st June 2016	Planning	Member of staff	Internal Investigation (Audit)	Fraud	Individual prosecuted
8 th June 2016	School	Whistleblowing email	Management Investigation	Illegal operations	No further action
15 th November 2016	Adult Social Care	Members of staff	Audit and Police investigation	Fraud	Ongoing investigation
23 rd February 2017	Housing	Members of Staff	Management investigation and action	Management style and favouritism	Matter resolved
1 st April 2017	DENS	Member of staff	Internal investigation (Audit)	Poor practice	Ongoing investigation
3 rd May 2017	Adult Social Care	Member of staff	Internal investigation (Audit) - police informed	Fraud	Ongoing investigation
24 th May 2017	DENS	Member of staff	Internal Investigation (Audit)	Theft	Ongoing investigation
19 th June 2017	Children's Services	Member of staff	Management Investigation	Victimisation	Ongoing investigation

4. FINANCE

N/A

5. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Whistleblowing will continue to be investigated as and when it occurs. Appropriate action will be undertaken including referral to external organisations where required.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

N/A