

Appendix F

Sample of investigations undertaken

Case One

Housing tenancy fraud referral received in respect of a Sanctuary Housing property. Following an investigation and a visit made to the property it was confirmed that the resident was not the legal tenant and a signed statement was taken to this effect. The tenancy holder was out of the country and had been for 12 months.

The Corporate Fraud team estimate that this has saved the Council £18k pa based on the cost of a family in temporary accommodation (figure provided by National Fraud Authority).

Sanctuary Housing are now obtaining a Notice Seeking Possession.

Case Two

As a result of Real Time Information (RTI) a referral for Council Tax Reduction and Housing Benefit fraud was received. Claimant had received earnings that had not been declared. Following an investigation and the claimant being interviewed under caution, an offence under The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Detection of Fraud and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 was made out.

The Corporate Fraud Team recovered an excess Council Tax Reduction of £1,974.56 and a Housing Benefit overpayment of £9,743.99.

Case Three

Referral received from Entitlements that claimant had failed to respond to requests for proof of earnings. Following an investigation it was established that the claimant had had a change in earnings which had not been declared. Claimant was interviewed under caution and an offence under The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Detection of Fraud and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 was made out.

The Corporate Fraud Team recovered an excess Council Tax reduction of £2,130.00.

Case Four

Following a recent investigation in co-operation with the DWP in Northants, this identified that the customer had capital in excess of £16,000, They had failed to declare.

Following interview a Housing Benefit overpayment was identified, also Council Tax Support Excess Reduction of £1,255.39.

Case Five

An investigation in Sept 2015 confirmed that the customer had been in receipt of a Single Occupier Discount since July 2007.

It was confirmed that the customer's son also lived in the household, he turned 18 years old on the 2.4.2013 and he had also been in employment whilst resident in the household.

Information from the customer during an informal interview confirmed these facts. This has created an Excess discount award of £1,302.57.