

The Department for Communities and Local Government published The Transparency Code on 31 October 2014. The Code legally requires local authorities to publish annually details of their counter fraud work, including information about the number of occasions they use powers to obtain information from specified bodies to help investigate cases of fraud, the number of staff investigating fraud cases and the number of fraud cases they have investigated.

Counter fraud work between 01/04/15 to 31/03/16

Number of occasions powers used under The Prevention of Social Housing Fraud (Power to Require Information) (England) Regulations 2014 (POSHFA), or similar powers – (Social Security Administration Act 1992 and Council Tax Reductions Schemes (Detection of Fraud and Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 (SSFA))

POSHFA	14
SSFA	61

Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of employees undertaking investigations and prosecutions of fraud

3.7 FTE Investigation Officer
(excludes 2 FTE Intelligence Officer and 1 FTE Manager)

Total number (absolute and full time equivalent) of professionally accredited counter fraud specialists

3.7 FTE Investigation Officer
1 FTE Intelligence Officer
1 FTE Manager

Total amount spent by the authority on the investigation and prosecution of fraud

£260k

Total number of fraud cases investigated.

418 (does not include 10 investigated within business areas)

Number of cases where fraud and irregularity has been identified

297 (71% of cases investigated by Corporate Investigation Team)

Monetary value

Total overpayments identified £1,731,149 (includes Department of Work and Pensions overpayments (joint investigations), excludes National Fraud Initiative results and bulk Single Person Discount review). Recovery ongoing in all cases.

Savings and additional income identified £499,352

£1,021,781 Fraud investigated (Wiltshire Council only, includes cases investigated within business areas)