

APPENDIX 2: 2012 AUDIT COMMISSION NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE DATA MATCHES FINAL UPDATE

Background

- Southend-on-Sea Borough Council received a total of 6,064 matches as part of the National Fraud Initiative 2012/13. This is across a total of 43 reports.
- The National Fraud Initiative lists matches with 3 different categories High, Medium, Low and within those categories highlights certain matches as recommended.
- Each report has guidance attached to it which advises that the report is filtered so the high level recommended matches are processed. As such, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council will normally only process high level recommended matches on a report. However, some departments will process additional matches due to the nature of the report.
- The summary below lists the total recommended matches for a report and the number of recommend matches cleared.
- Work in progress identifies cases still under investigation.
- The comments section will refer to Notes below and provide further explanation on the reports:
 - **Note 1:** *'Total Recommended'* are those matches identified by the Audit Commission as being recommended for investigation in the high level category.
 - **Note 2:** *'All recommended matches completed'* are those which have been recommended by the Audit Commission to be investigated, normally in the high level category.
 - **Note 3:** Further filters have been applied to these matches which have removed some high level recommend matches e.g. removing benefit claimants in receipt of a primary benefit as the Department for Work and Pensions would normally investigate those individuals.
 - **Note 4:** *'Report not actioned'* means that none of the data matches in that category have been reviewed at the time of reporting.
 - **Note 5:** Indicates cases currently under investigation or awaiting response from an external body i.e. Department for Work and Pensions, Other Local Authorities or court hearings.
 - **Note 6:** Unable to review matches in the foreseeable future due to staff resource issues.
 - **Note 7:** Pilot exercise so all matches considered recommended.
- It should also be noted that the National Fraud Initiative database was recently updated and data matches re-run so some reports have an increased level of recommended matches.

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Report Name	Total Recommended Matches (See Note 1)	Cleared Recommended Matches	Work in Progress	Comments	Case Proven No. & (£)	Target Completion Dates
Blue Badge						
Blue Badge Parking Permit to Blue Badge Parking Permit	2	2	0	See Note 2. 2 system or process errors identified and corrected.		
Blue Badge Parking Permit to DWP Deceased	180	180	0	See Note 2. 85 system or process errors identified and corrected.		
Concessionary Travel Passes						
Concessionary Travel Passes to DWP Deceased	591	591	0	See Note 2. 199 system or process errors identified and corrected.		
Creditors						
Duplicate records by amount and creditor reference	140	140	0	See Note 2.		
Duplicate records by invoice number and amount but different creditor reference and name	2	2	0	See Note 2.		

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Duplicate records by name, invoice number and amount but different creditor reference	1	1	0	See Note 2.		
VAT overpaid	1063	1063	0	See Note 2.		
Housing Benefit Matches						
Housing Benefit Claimants to Amberhill Data	0	5	0	This was a special match and NFI requested even non-recommend matches be checked.		
Housing Benefit Claimants to Housing Benefit Claimants	13	12	1	2 system or process errors identified. 1 full fraud investigation underway.		
Housing Benefit Claimants to Housing Tenants	18	18	0	See Note 2.		
Housing Benefit Claimants to Insurance Claimants	1	1	0	1 system or process error identified.		
Housing Benefit Claimants to Market Traders	0	5	0			
Housing Benefit Claimants to Payroll	4	4	0	See Note 2.		

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Housing Benefit Claimants to Pensions	22	12	0	See Note 3. 1 fraud and 6 system or process errors found resulting in recoverable overpayments of £43,142 being identified.	1 fraud proven. Overpayment calculated at £3,304	
Housing Benefit Claimants to Personal alcohol licences	0	0	0			
Housing Benefit Claimants to Right to Buy	0	7	1	This report links to the Housing Tenancy reports so non-recommended matches have been checked.	See Right to Buy to Housing Benefit Claimants report below.	
Housing Benefit Claimants to Student Loans	57	29	0	See Note 3.		
Housing Benefit Claimants to Taxi Drivers	3	0	0	See Note 3.		
Housing Benefit Claimants to UK Visas	1	0	0	See Note 3.		
Housing Benefit Claimants to Waiting List	0	0	0			

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Housing Tenants						
Housing Tenants to Housing Benefit Claimants	1	1	0	See Note 2.		
Housing Tenants to Housing Tenants	4	6	2	2 system errors have been identified. Still awaiting response from other agencies to progress,		Unable to provide date as awaiting information from other agencies.
Housing Tenants to In-Country Immigration	0	0	0			
Payroll Matches						
Payroll to Creditors	2	0	0	See Note 4.		30/05/2014
Payroll to Housing Benefit Claimants	0	0	0			
Payroll to Payroll	0	29	2	These matches are reviewed even though they are not high, as they relate to Council employees.		30/05/2014

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Personal Budgets (Pilot Exercise)						
Personal Budgets to Payroll	1	1	0	See Note 7.		
Personal Budgets to Pensions	16	15	1	See Note 7.		Staff working on match unavailable until 02/06/2014
Personal Budgets to Personal Budgets	8	8	0	See Note 7.		
Personal Budgets to Taxi Drivers	1	1	0	See Note 7.		
Private Residential Care Homes						
Private Residential Care Homes to DWP Deceased	9	9	0	1 system or process error resulting in recoverable overpayments of £3,000 being identified.		

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Right to Buy						
Right to Buy to Housing Benefit Claimants	16	15	1	This report links to Housing Benefit to Right to Buy. 1 full fraud investigation underway.		