

Investigation Team – Progress Report

Training

The Investigation Team continues to develop and deliver the one day, mandatory, Disciplinary Policy, Investigating Officer training. This year, 4 sessions have been delivered with 26 attendees, comparable with the same period last year. All attendees completed feedback forms and the course continues to attain 100% satisfaction with positive feedback. Following the success of the training sessions, a training requirement was identified for note takers. A half day training session was developed and is also being delivered by the Investigation Team. This year there have been 2 sessions with 17 attendees, all feedback that they were totally satisfied with the training.

Resources

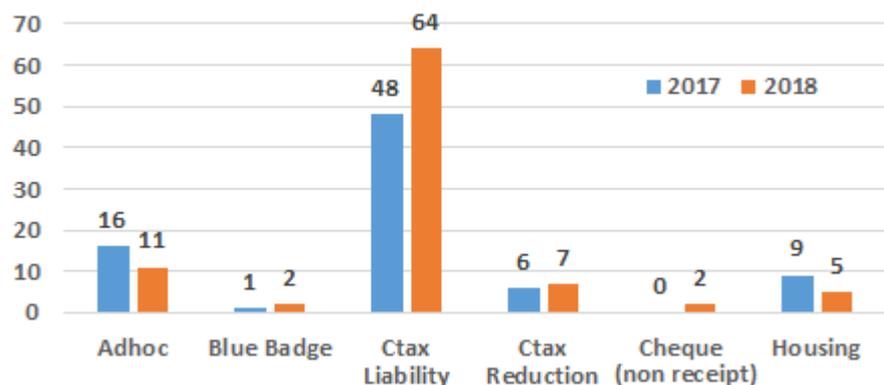


The Investigation Team consists of 1.5fte staff, a Professional Accredited Counter Fraud Manager / Accredited Counter Fraud Specialist, and a Counter Fraud Technician. Due to the current investigation within Waste which is being led by the Internal Audit, Investigation Team, a number of officers have been drawn in to assist from other Directorates.

Reactive - Referrals

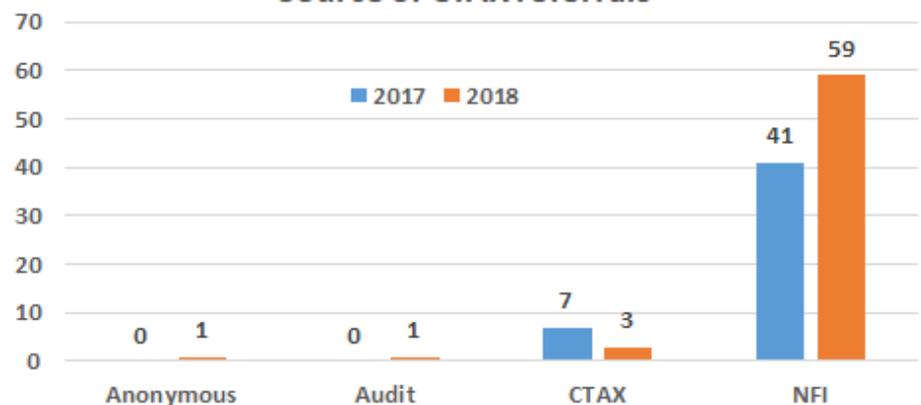
Ninety one referrals were received by the team, compared to eighty for the same period last year:

Referrals received (April to October)



The primary source of Council Tax liability referrals is the NFI.

Source of CTAX referrals

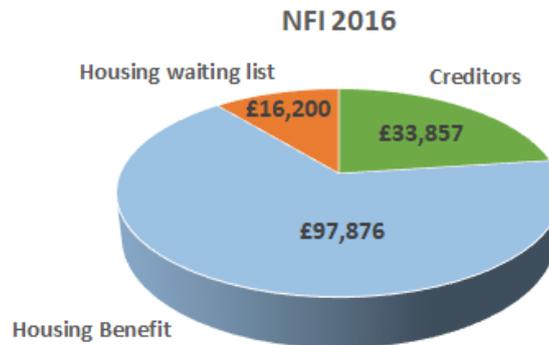


Data matching



Preparations for the biennial National Fraud Initiative (NFI) 2018 data matching exercise are well underway. The Investigation Team fulfil the mandatory key contact role and will be uploading more than 10 data sets, including Creditors, Housing, Pensions and Payroll.

The last exercise, NFI 2016 with output from January 2017, resulted in Cardiff Council processing 3,646 matches, detecting £148,000 fraud and error.

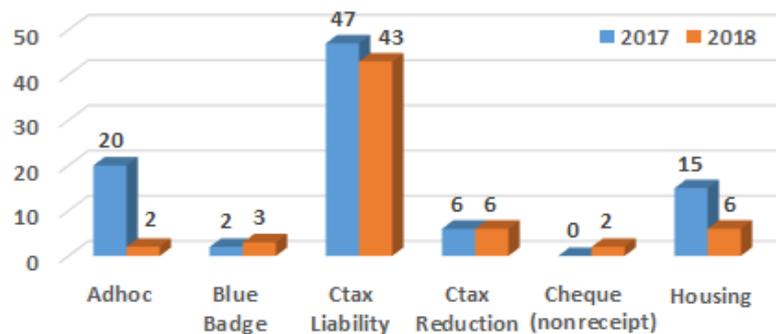


In addition to the biennial exercise, Council Tax and Electoral Register data is submitted annually. The aim is to identify discount recipients who may have failed to report changes to their circumstances, following their application / receipt of a discount.

Since July 2017, 1,115 matches have been processed, resulting in amendments to council tax liabilities totalling more than £144,000.

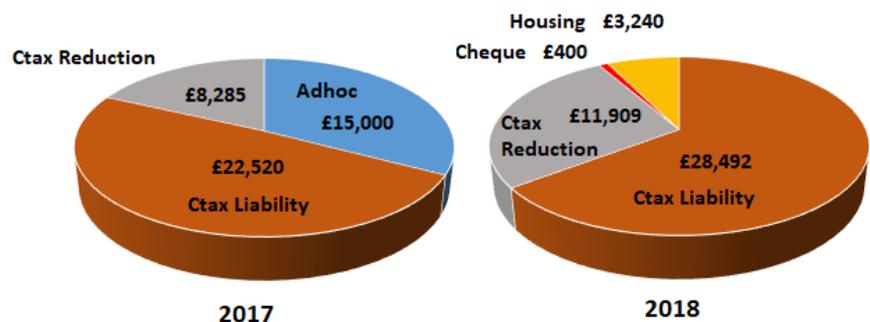
Investigations completed

Investigations completed (Apr to October)



Value of completed investigations

April to October



Investigations ongoing

There are currently eighty six referrals assigned to a member of the investigation team.