



Resources Directorate Internal Audit Section



Investigation Team Progress Report (as at 31st October 2019)

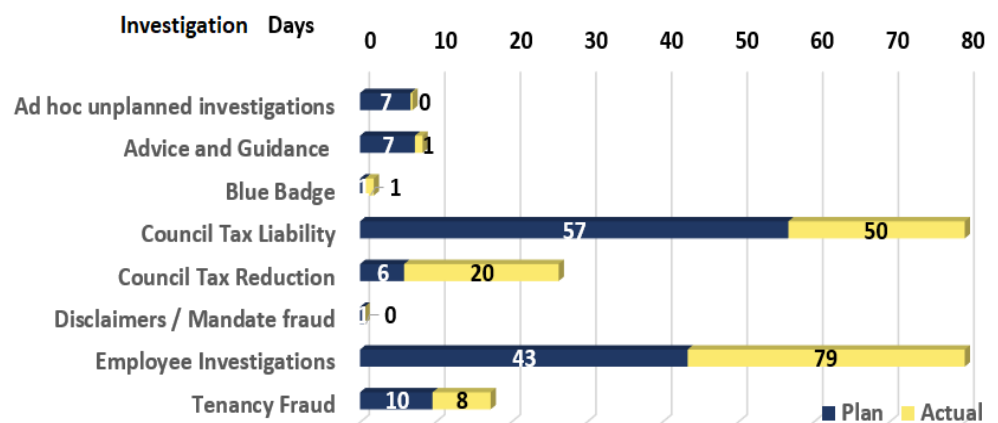
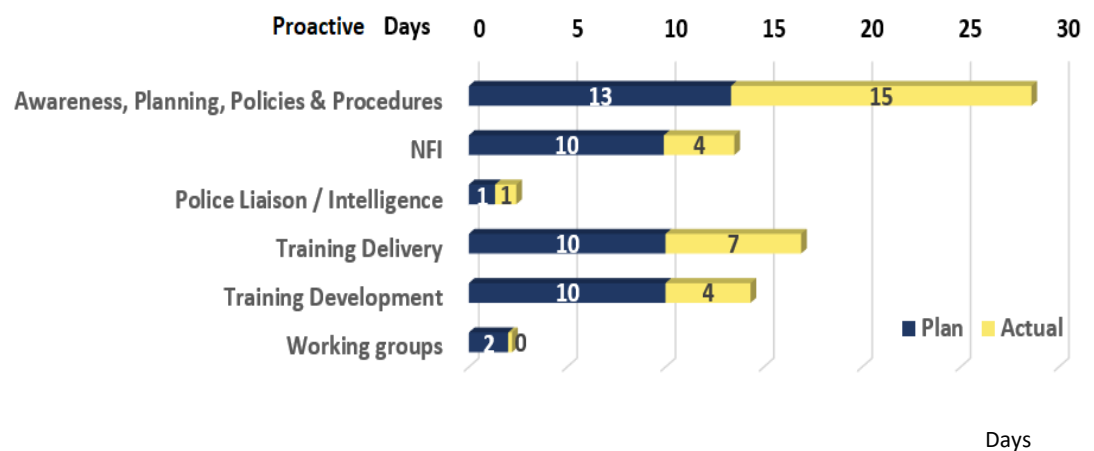
Resources



The team consists of 2.5 full time equivalents, following the commencement of a new investigator, on the 30th September 2019. The new Investigator has been allocated initial investigation cases in respect of council tax liability, council tax reduction and tenancy fraud, and has already conducted a number of interviews under caution, in accordance with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

Plan

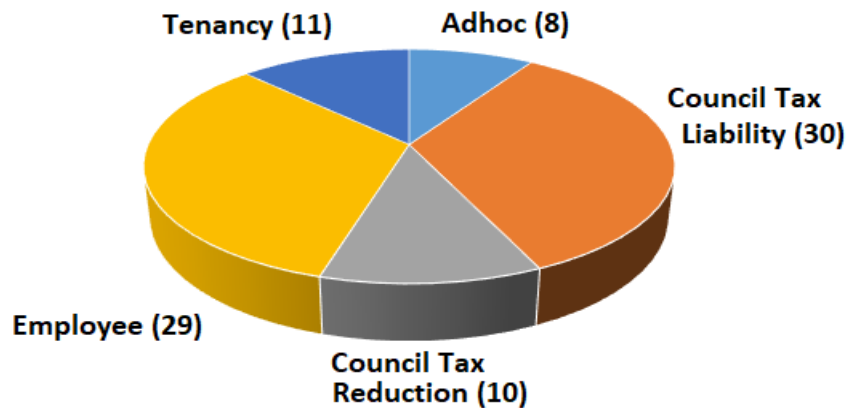
There were 278 days available (based on 1.5 fte.) in the original 2019-20 Investigation plan, which was adjusted to 376 days to account for the additional investigator appointed at the end of quarter 2. For the financial year to 31st October 2019, the team have applied 190 days as follows:



Ongoing Investigations

There are currently eighty-eight investigations ongoing (twenty-two more than reported in September):

Ongoing Investigations



Fraud Awareness Training

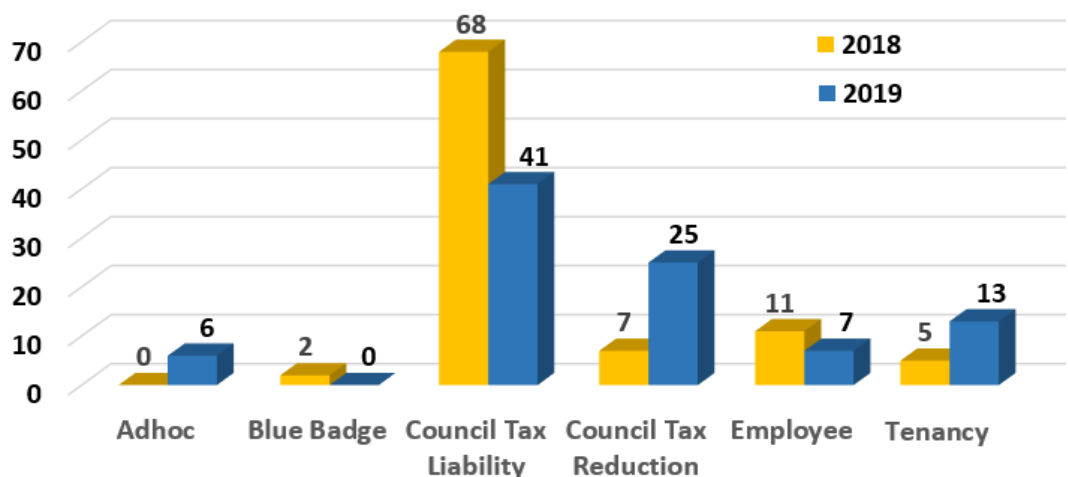
Following Audit Committee review, and Cabinet approval of the Counter-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, mandatory Fraud Awareness Training has been rolled out to all staff. To date, more than a thousand PC users within the Council have completed the eLearning module, and 23 face-to-face sessions have been delivered to non-PC users with more than 500 attendees. Additionally face-to-face training has been delivered to more than 70 Headteachers during their Conferences.

To further support Schools, a counter-fraud CRSA audit has been arranged for the Autumn Term, which has been introduced through strategic briefings Chairs of Governors and School Budget Forum meetings.

Reactive - Referrals

Ninety-two referrals have been received, compared to ninety-three for the same period last year:

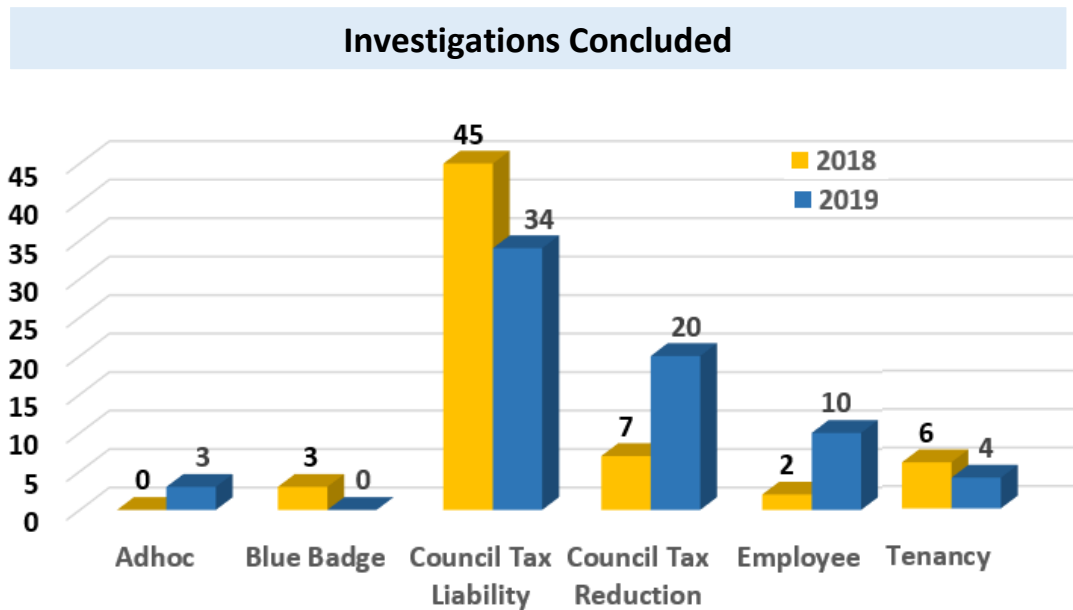
Referrals Received



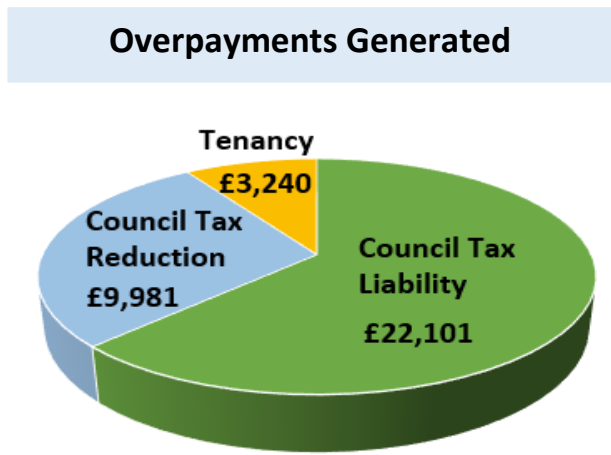
Ad hoc referrals related to a potential insurance fraud and a number of requests to undertake pension verification checks.

Investigations concluded

Seventy-one investigations have been completed, compared to sixty-three for the same period last year:



In respect of the investigations concluded, overpayments have been generated as follows:



The tenancy case related to a housing waiting list applicant who was removed from the list following investigation.

In respect of employee investigations, there were 2 Final Written Warnings Issued and 3 Dismissals.