

Summary of Concluded Irregularities

| Ref | Directorate | Allegation | Outcome |
|-----|-------------|--|---|
| 861 | FSC | The parent of a child in receipt of a Direct Payment was alleged to have inappropriately used the funds. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some evidence of inappropriate expenditure was identified. The misused funds (£3,271) will be recovered. The facility to withdraw cash has been removed from the Kent Card and arrangements have now been put in place for a managed service. |
| 867 | C&C | A Blue Badge application was received from a person reported to have died in 2008. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The investigation identified that the applicant was alive and the application for a Blue Badge has now been processed. |
| 880 | BSS | A member of the public alleged that a third party unrelated to KCC had falsified a letter purporting to come from KCC to avoid payment in relation to the private purchase of a taxi business. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The letter was confirmed as false and the member of the public was advised. Kent police are not investigating the matter further. The member of the public is seeking civil recovery of their losses. No further action is required by KCC. |
| 885 | FSC | Anonymous information was received suggesting a member of staff was failing to fulfil her contracted hours and was taking unauthorised leave. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The member of staff retired on the 22 August 2013. There was no evidence to support the allegation. |
| 897 | BSS | Fraudulent request to change a supplier's bank details detected by Finance Business Partner Support. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request confirmed as false with the supplier. Attempted fraud reported to the police. |

Summary of Proactive Fraud Reviews

Declarations of Interest

| Directorate | Scope | Overall Findings |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| Authority Wide | <p>Preventing fraud through design or redesign of policy and procedures is a key element of the Council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy. The purpose of the review was to highlight potential weaknesses or risks in existing controls, policies or procedures in relation to declarations of interest for both officers and Members.</p> | <p>The review was completed using payroll and accounts payable records from KCC which were compared with data supplied by Companies House in relation to company directors and company secretaries for all limited companies in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.</p> <p>In our view, while the process for recording declarations of interest for Members, Corporate Directors and Directors is generally sound, the process for officers may be susceptible to fraud or error. The data matching identified many instances of officers omitting to make a declaration of interest. Our testing suggested there was a general lack of awareness of declarations of interest requirements and that there were no clear processes in place to brief and remind officers of their obligations.</p> <p>Six recommendations were made to strengthen procedures of which none are high priority.</p> |