

Ms Sue Lee
By email

Please ask for: Miles Watters
Contact Number: 01463 702029
Email Address: foi@highland.gov.uk
Your Ref:
Our Ref: HC0226-4997
Date: 1 March 2019

Dear Ms Lee

Freedom of Information Request

I refer to your Freedom of Information Request received on 12 February 2019. I have given my response below.

1) *Does your fraud response plan specifically address the fraud risks that apply to the departments dealing with the construction of new buildings and in the repairs & maintenance of existing properties, or has your council adopted a uniform anti-fraud and corruption policy across all departments of the council? Please would you provide a copy of your policy?*

A: We have a Council-wide Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption policy, copy attached.

2) *Do you have a clear unambiguous policy in relation to conflict of interest and gifts and hospitality, and if so, please would you provide a copy?*

A: The Council's Code of Conduct for Employees sets out the rules regarding the acceptance of gifts and hospitality. Copy attached.

3) *How many allegations of fraud involving an employee has your authority received in the following periods, and how many were found to be substantiated? 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018*

A: The following allegations of fraud were either received directly by/ or notified to Internal Audit for investigation.


Year	Received	Substantiated
2011	3	2
2012	2	1
2013	5	4
2014	0	0
2015	1	1
2016	2	1
2017	6	4
2018	3	1, the other 2 investigations are still in progress and a conclusion has not yet been reached.

I trust that this information is helpful to you.

Under Section 20 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and/or Regulation 16 of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs), you have the right to request that the Highland Council reviews any aspect of how it has dealt with your request. This requirement for review should be put in writing to the Freedom of Information Officer, Chief Executive's Office, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness IV3 5NX, within 40 working days of receipt of this letter. The request should include details of the information requested and the aspects of the Highland Council's response which you are not satisfied with.

If you are subsequently dissatisfied with the outcome of the Council's review, you have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner under Section 47 of the Act (Regulation 17 of the EIRS), within six months of receiving the Council's review response.

Yours sincerely



Derek Yule
Depute Chief Executive & Director of Corporate Resources

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