

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: OFFICE OF THE SURVEILLANCE COMMISSIONER-
RIPA INSPECTION 4TH JUNE 2014

Meeting/Date: Corporate Governance 23rd July 2014

Executive Portfolio: Barry Chapman, Executive Councillor for Customer
Services

Report by: Corporate Fraud Manager (NDJ)

Ward(s) affected: All

Summary:

As a public body HDC is required to comply with the provisions of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA). Compliance includes having in place appropriate policies/procedures and being subject to tri-annual inspections by the Office of Surveillance Commissioner (OSC) and 18 monthly inspections by the Interception of Communications Commissioners Office (IOCCO).

The OSC inspection took place at HDC on 4.6.2014, the inspector being Sir David Clarke. As part of the pre-inspection process Sir David had already reviewed the Councils policies and procedures and his inspection on the day was primarily a meeting with NDJ and CM and a review of the Councils use of RIPA since the last inspection in 2011.

A copy of Sir Davids report is attached and is generally favourable with some suggested minor amendments to the existing policy. These minor amendments can all be made by Colin Meadowcroft without need for member approval as the Councils *Scheme of Delegation* permits this.

Sir David made only two recommendations, the first that the policy be amended in line with the content of his report and secondly that once the new management team at HDC is in place suitable officers be identified to become 'Authorising Officers', to replace those that have left, and that training be reviewed across the services affected by RIPA.

HDC will need to provide a brief response to the OSC report confirming what actions we are taking to meet these recommendations.

LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 - *OSC report 2014*

Appendix 2 – HDC RIPA (*Surveillance*) Policy

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

OSC RIPA Code of Practice (*Home Office*)

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