

Audit and Assurance Committee

Date of Meeting	27 February 2024
Subject	Counter Fraud Highlight Report – Quarter 3 2023-24
Agenda No.	8
Paper No.	26.7a
Prepared By	[redacted]
Purpose	Monitor

Background

- 1.1 The attached report details key highlights of activities undertaken by Social Security Scotland's Counter Fraud Branch throughout Quarter 3 of 2023-24.

Key Points

- 2.1 Key highlights are shared in the first part of the report.

Conclusion/ Recommendation

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to review and comment on progress made during Quarter 3 of 2023-24.

Key Highlights

- Volumes of incoming Fraud Intelligence continues to increase resulting in increased investigations, these increases are resulting in a better understanding of the fraudulent activity that is ongoing within the benefit system. This has allowed us to stress test processes and develop innovative approaches to ensure the workload can be prioritised.
- Accommodation within [Redacted] Inverness has been identified which will now be our External Investigations location. This completes our geographic cover with offices in Glasgow, Dundee, Edinburgh and Inverness along with various locations in each available for Interviews Under Caution.
- Work continues with Programme Service Design to progress the procurement of a combined intelligence and investigation case management system. [Redacted]
- In response to the increased volume of intelligence being received relating to Adult Disability Payments, work is progressing to develop best practice for investigating doubtful disability allegations, to ensure efficiency and consistency. This is intended to make best use of the appropriate tactics and provide sufficient evidence to support robust decision making.

- Operational Performance

- Intelligence Management**

- [Redacted]

- Fraud and Error Risk Analysis**

- [Redacted]

- External Investigations (Traditional Benefit Fraud)**

- [Redacted]