

QSMTM Quarterly Interventions Activity Report Q2

Purpose of report

1. To report on interventions activity by the Scottish Information Commissioner ('the Commissioner') across 2024-25 to the Senior Management Team (SMT), as required by the Commissioner's Governance Reporting Requirements.

Recommendation and actions

2. I recommend that the SMT:

- (i) Note the attached report and activity it sets out
- (ii) Agree that this Report can be published in full.

REPORT

Active Interventions

Scottish Ministers (performance)	<u>Level 3</u>	Entering final stage of monitoring
Scottish Ministers (informal comms)	<u>Level 3</u>	Report drafting
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	<u>Level 3</u>	Monitoring
NHS Forth Valley	<u>Level 3</u>	Action plan to be drafted – monitoring stats requested. Mtg with CEO to be arranged.
Clackmannanshire Council	<u>Level 3</u>	Action plan to be drafted and monitoring stats to be requested (Enforcement led)
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service	<u>Level 2</u>	Opened in Q3
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency	<u>Level 2</u>	Closure anticipated Q3
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	<u>Level 2</u>	Monitoring
Midlothian Council	<u>Level 2</u>	Monitoring
Heriot Watt University	<u>Level 1</u>	Monitoring – closure anticipated in Q3

Interventions closed in Q2

No interventions closed in Q2

Quarterly Statistics summary (Q1)

- The volume of requests decreased in Q1 of 2024-25 compared with the previous quarter i.e. the “spike” we saw in the previous quarter (Jan-March 2024) has subsided.
- A small number of large Public Authorities continue to deteriorate with their response rates in Q1 of 2024-25, (notably some Health Boards as well as Police).
- A proportion of the intervention work identified at our last meeting has not been started due to continued pressure on our staff resources.

- The number of FOI/EIR late responses and FTRs increased April-June 2024, as did the number of reviews/late review responses. This potentially means increased appeals to OSIC in the coming months.
- Overall, the “FOI+EIR requests on time” response rate has dipped, but only slightly from 88.8% to 86.8%. We are now seeing a very slight, but consistent, deterioration in response times over the last 4 quarters.

Statistics summary table

FOISA/EIRs	Q2 2023-24	Q3 2023-24		
			Q4 2023-24	Q1 2024-25
Total requests	24,078	22,750	26,360	23,124
Resp. on time	19,762	21,367	22,393	20,524
Late responses	2,122	2,394	2,466	2,756
FTRs	294	350	360	360
On time %	89%	89%	89%	87%
Late response %	10%	10%	10%	12%
FTR %	1%	1%	1%	2%
Review req's	606	696	644	698
Reviews on time	465	553	485	578
Review late/FTR	97	148	125	134
Rev. on time %	83%	79%	80%	81%
Review late %	14%	16%	11%	15%
Review FTR %	3%	5%	9%	4%
Appeal numbers	139	167	165	162
Appeal rate	23%	24%	25.6%	23%

- Across the year, approximately 23-24% of all reviews convert to appeals to the Commissioner. The P&I team have identified a number of opportunities to improve the quality of review work and will continue to do this.

Resources

We continue to experience difficulties in resourcing intervention activity, but we’ve formulated and submitted a business case for additional resource to the SPCB and await feedback.

Related papers

Last Quarterly Interventions meeting was held on 26 September 2024 – minute available at VC215981

Quarterly Statistics Analysis report: VC214598