

## External Investigation Outcomes

**Table 1 – Benefits & Council Tax Reductions / Discounts - Prosecutions completed in the 3rd Quarter 2014/15**  
 (Amounts of overpayments outstanding as at 13 February 2015)

Prosecutions					
Case ref.	Fraud Type	Fraudulent overpayment £	Period of overpayment or Evasion of liability	Court and sentence	Comment
13175 / 1014382	W&C	£3,194.83 (CTB)  £15,108.81 (PC)	23/03/09 – 13/09/09 16/06/10 – 10/03/13  23/03/09 – 13/09/09 14/06/10 – 10/03/13	Medway Magistrates  Found guilty of: 2 x Medway offences 2 x DWP offences  Sentenced to: 18 month Conditional Discharge. £85 Costs. £15 Victim Surcharge	Department for Work and Pensions led prosecution, prosecuted by Crown Prosecution Service.  There was a recharge of Council Tax Reduction (CTR) for the period 01/04/13 -20/10/13 of £516.03. This additional offence was not prosecuted as CPS will not include CTR in welfare benefit prosecutions.  The CTB and CTR recharge was repaid in full on 04/02/14. There is currently no outstanding Council Tax debt.
13363 / 1038718	W&C	£4,742.28 (HB/CTB)	06/08/12 – 31/03/13	Medway Magistrates  Found guilty of: 5 x Medway offences  Sentenced to: 140 hours unpaid work. £200 Costs. £16 Victim Surcharge.	Medway led investigation and prosecution.  The offences related to claimant failing to disclose own and partners earnings. After summons was issued further evidence was obtained which showed the partner had 5 further periods of undeclared paid employment. This resulted in an additional HB/CTB/CTR O/P totalling £13,800.86.  The larger Housing Benefit overpayment has an

					outstanding balance of £11,927.99 and is being recovered from on-going benefit at the rate of £10.95pw. Claimant has failed to keep to an arrangement to repay the small overpayment; the current balance outstanding is £4,058.91.
13613 /1058682	W&C	£8,326.41 (HB/CTB)  £5,329.31 (JSA)	16/07/12 – 16/02/14  09/07/12 – 11/02/14	Medway Magistrates  Found guilty of: - 2 x Medway offences 4 x DWP offence  Sentenced to: 12 months imprisonment, suspended for 12 months. 12 weeks Community Order with supervision.	Department for Work and Pensions led prosecution, prosecuted by Crown Prosecution Service.  There was a recharge of CTR for the period 01/04/13 - 16/02/14 totalling £498.72. This additional offence was not prosecuted as CPS will not include CTR in welfare benefit prosecutions.  The claimant is no longer in receipt of Medway or DWP Benefits.  The Housing benefit overpayment is currently being recovered by means of a Direct Earnings Attachment (DEA). A total of £456.53 has been recovered to date with an outstanding balance of £7,444.00.
13640 / 1066929	W&C	£1,581.98 (HB/CTB)  £1,708.50 (JSA / ESA)	21/08/12 – 23/01/14  17/08/12 – 23/01/14	Medway Magistrates  Found guilty of: - 2 x Medway offence 2 x DWP offences  Sentenced to: Community Punishment Order to include 60hrs unpaid work before 24/11/15.	Department for Work and Pensions led prosecution, prosecuted by Crown Prosecution Service.  There was a recharge of CTR for the period 02/09/13 - 26/01/14 totalling £136.03. This additional offence was not prosecuted as CPS will not include CTR in welfare benefit prosecutions.  The Housing Benefit overpayment is being recovered from on-going Benefit at the rate of £18.25pw. The

				£85.00 Costs. £60 Victim Surcharge.	outstanding balance is £1,034.85.
13665 / 1065629	FT	£4,383.00 (HB)	17/09/12 – 10/11/13	Medway Magistrates  Found guilty of: - 1 x Medway offence  Sentenced to: 12 month Community Order with the requirement to complete 12 days of the “women’s programme” and 40 hours unpaid work. £431.50 costs. £60.00 Victim Surcharge.	Medway led investigation and prosecution.  Claimant is no longer in receipt of Medway benefits.  The Housing Benefit overpayment is currently being repaid at the rate of £10.00pw, with an outstanding balance of £3,699.80.
12787 / 1029228	L/T	£0.00 (CTB) *  £0.00 (JSA) *	19/01/09 – 01/01/12  16/01/09 – 03/12/11	Medway Magistrates  Found <b>not-guilty</b> of: - 1 x Medway offence 1 x DWP offence	Department for Work and Pensions led prosecution, prosecuted by Crown Prosecution Service.  The prosecution was withdrawn on advice from the Judge who considered the Prosecution would be unable to disprove the alternative address provided by the alleged partner’s mother.  * The claimant appealed the CTB and JSA decisions, but asked for the Tribunal to be delayed until after the trial. The appeal was subsequently allowed in full and the overpayments of £2,574.62 (CTB) and £24,662.71 (JSA) removed.

<b>Totals (£)</b>		<b>£22,228.50</b> <b>HB/CTB/CTR</b>			
		<b>£22,146.62</b> <b>(DWP)</b>			

**Table 2 – Benefits & Council Tax Reductions / Discounts – Cautions issued in the 3rd Quarter 2014/15**

<b>Cautions</b>					
<b>Case ref.</b>	<b>Fraud Type</b>	<b>Fraudulent overpayment £</b>	<b>Period of overpayment or Evasion of liability</b>	<b>Date Caution accepted</b>	<b>Comment</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Table 3 – Benefits & Council Tax Reductions / Discounts – Administrative Penalties issued in the 3rd Quarter 2014/15**

<b>Administrative Penalties</b>					
<b>Case ref.</b>	<b>Fraud Type</b>	<b>Fraudulent overpayment £</b>	<b>Period of overpayment or Evasion of liability</b>	<b>Date Administrative Penalty issued</b>	<b>Comment</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Table 5 – Benefits, Council Tax Reduction and Single Person Discount overpayments identified and recorded by the Corporate Anti-Fraud Team during the 3rd Quarter 2014/15 – With comparison to the same quarter in previous financial years.**

<b>Types of overpayment</b>	<b>3rd Quarter 2012/13</b> £	<b>3rd Quarter 2013/14</b> £	<b>3rd Quarter 2014/15</b> £
Housing Benefit (HB)	270,054.05	82,366.18	250,185.56
Council Tax Benefit (CTB)	65,000.94	17,987.94	41,885.83
Council Tax Reduction (CTRS)	0.00	3,971.37	14,574.77
Single Person Discount (SPD)	2,054.27	2,473.29	2,657.51
Other Council Tax Discounts	0.00	0.00	1,977.11
Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)	0.00	0.00	0.00
DWP benefits e.g. JSA / IS / ESA	346,108.42	99,955.35	94,327.37
Pension Credit (PC)	30,517.77	0.00	17,645.55
Other (e.g. Tax Credits)	72,979.42	3,488.44	50,400.43
<b>Totals</b>	<b>786,714.87</b>	<b>210,242.57</b>	<b>473,654.13</b>

**Key: -**

- Clmt Claimant
- LT Living together as husband & wife
- WC Working & claiming
- CAP Failure to declare capital
- ND Non Dependent
- CofC Failure to report a change in circumstances
- Inc Failure to declare income
- QB9 Employer prosecuted for failing to supply information requested under Social Security Legislation.
- FR False representation
- FT False tenancy
- SPD Single Person discount

HB Housing Benefit  
CTB Council Tax Benefit  
CTR Council Tax Reduction

**Note re costs** – Medway no longer receives details of Costs awarded where Crown Prosecution Service undertake proceedings on behalf of DWP / Medway Council.