

OSC – 6th December 2010

Action No. 117.3

The Committee would be sent the results of recent annual tenancy fraud audits as well as comparative data on the numbers of illegal tenants found in other Boroughs.

We have identified 22 cases of unauthorised occupancy so far this year:

There are currently 7 cases in the North Tottenham area, 6 of which are now with legal to pursue possession proceedings;

The West Team have 8 cases, 7 of which are with legal;

The South Team have 7 cases (5 in South Tottenham and 2 in Broadwater Farm). All of these are with legal.

We do an occupancy check against 20% of the stock each year, so that over a 5 year period the occupancy of every property has been checked. In addition, in the last few months we have run a publicity campaign advising people to report fraud through our telephone hotline. Other fraud preventative measures include: participating in the National Fraud Initiative, which is an annual exercise to identify discrepancies in information held on various government and local authority databases. We have also recently entered into a new contract with Experian (the credit reference check agency) which we can use to trace former tenants or check discrepancies in information/ multiple addresses etc.

The current rate of unauthorised occupancy represents 0.15% of the stock, which is extremely low.

Jackie Thomas

Executive Director - Housing Management

Homes for Haringey Ltd.

Tel: 020 8489 5912

jackie.thomas@homesforharingey.org