

Fraud Investigations

214

total number of fraud
investigations

Brought forward

New in year

105

109

Casework undertaken by the Investigation team is highly varied in nature, ranging from the straightforward to the highly complex. In 2015/16 CFPS received 109 new referrals from HSC clients. The type of cases investigated varied from time sheet fraud and bursary cases, through to prescription fraud and

cases involving adults who are suspected of being at risk to financial abuse.

A new system for reporting prescription fraud has been implemented this year, while patient entitlement cases are now channelled to the Detection team for initial screening and are not accounted for in referrals in 2015/16.

21

convictions secured for
a range of fraud offences

SOURCE

HSCB	145
HSC Trusts	54
Other Agencies	15

CATEGORY

Customer	158
Staff	28
Contractor	15
Practitioner	13

CASE STATUS (as at 31/03/2016)

Closed	115
With PSNI	31
With PPS	7
With Client	9
With CFS	52

Fraud Prevention

During 2015/16 CFPS continued to deliver a range of activities aimed at increasing the level of fraud awareness held by staff across the HSC.

This year, as one of the stakeholders in the NI Adult Safeguarding Partnership, CFPS has worked closely with HSCB and HSC Trust Safeguarding Leads to increase awareness of matters of financial abuse.

- ✓

3,600 staff attended awareness events across the HSC.

▲ 20%
- ✓





54,000 views across website and social media platforms.

▲ 62%

Practitioner Verification

409

post payment
verification exercises

	Exercises	Recoveries
<div>  <div> GDS </div> </div>	148	£61,801
<div>  <div> GMS </div> </div>	80	£25,536
<div>  <div> GPS </div> </div>	101	£20,322
<div>  <div> GOS </div> </div>	80	£4,227

secured recoveries

£112k

Healthy Start

CFPS administers the Northern Ireland component of the National Healthy Start Scheme, verifying and processing payments of £2.8m for the NI share of the Scheme costs.

In 2015/16 1198 nurseries and childminders were registered with the Business Services Organisation under the Day Care Foods component of the Scheme, resulting in reimbursements of £533k for the supply of milk to children aged under 5 years.

The team also supplied 1600 vitamin tablets and drops to qualifying beneficiaries.

Fraud Detection

CFPS provide specialist advice and guidance to HSC clients in relation to entitlement to free health services. In 2015/16 the team received 357 queries from health care providers, a 123% increase on the previous year.

The team also provided assistance to two HSC Trusts in undertaking pilot exercises to identify chargeable patients, which identified almost £250k in charges and savings relating to persons attempting to access free health services.

A new electronic screening process was introduced to detect fraud/error in patient registrations. Some 35,000 patients were screened, resulting in 254 individuals being referred for deduction from the NI GP register. The projected savings to the HSC are estimated to be in the region of £2.6m over the next five years.

The Forensic Data Analyst has worked closely with HSC colleagues to improve the effectiveness of identifying fraud, with a number of proactive projects and smaller initiatives underway to identify the misappropriation of HSC funds.

Patient Claims

A total of 26,658 dental and ophthalmic claims were selected for verification this year, resulting in 6700 cases requiring further examination. Some £70k has been recovered directly by CFPS with a further £7k recovered via civil action.

A regional campaign was undertaken in June 2015 aimed at reducing losses to patient fraud and error. A range of materials were produced and issued to dental and ophthalmic practitioners.

Client Feedback

- ✓ 100%

rated our customer service as very good or good
- ✓ 87%

rated our response rate as very good or good
- ✓ 94%

rated the clarity of our information as very good or good

