

Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	15/07/13
Originator	Dr Renate Gertz
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	Office of Surveillance Commissioners Inspection Report of Compliance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000

Please indicate if access to the document is to be "unrestricted" or "restricted", with regard to the terms of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

Unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------	-------------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

If the document is "restricted", please state on what grounds (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

For Publication

Please indicate which committee this document should be recorded into (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

Cabinet

Additional information:

Authorised By	Jim Lamond
Designation	Head of Council Resources
Date	15/07/13

For Office Use Only:	
Library Reference	170/13
Date Received	17/07/13
Bulletin	Jul13

REPORT TO: Members' Library Service

MEETING DATE:

BY: Executive Director (Support Services)

SUBJECT: Office of Surveillance Commissioners Inspection Report of Compliance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To note the Inspection Report issued by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners on East Lothian Council's compliance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Council notes the Inspection Report and the intention of Law and Licensing to maintain the areas of good practice and act on the improvement issues identified.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 3 June 2013 an inspector from the Office of Surveillance Commissioners reviewed East Lothian Council's management of covert activities and its compliance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000 (RIPSA). On 20 June 2013, the Rt Hon Sir Christopher Rose, Chief Surveillance Commissioner, endorsed the Inspection Report.
- 3.2 The Inspection Report recognised that 3 of the 4 recommendations made at the last inspection in 2010 had been fully discharged. The Report also recognised that staff demonstrated a very good knowledge of the requirements of RIPSA in relation to directed surveillance and covert human intelligence sources.

3.3 Some recommendations were made in order to achieve further improvement. These were:

- that staff training is reviewed
- applications for surveillance should fully articulate the case for surveillance
- authorisations of surveillance must be bespoke and contain the detail required by the legislation and Codes of Practice as well as a description of that activity authorised

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 East Lothian Council is committed to improving compliance with the legislation.

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 This Report is not applicable to the wellbeing of equalities groups and an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial - none

6.2 Personnel - none

6.3 Other - none

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

AUTHOR'S NAME	Dr Renate Gertz
DESIGNATION	Data Protection & Freedom of Information Compliance Officer
CONTACT INFO	rgertz@eastlothian.gov.uk ext. 7993
DATE	15 July 2013