

NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE

FAIR PROCESSING NOTICE: HOW WE WILL SHARE INFORMATION

Rochford District Council is required by law to protect the public funds it administers. It is sometimes required to share information that it holds about you with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds, in order to prevent and detect fraud.

Data sharing or matching involves comparing computer records held by one organisation against other computer records held by the same or another organisation. This is usually personal information. Computerised data matching allows potentially fraudulent claims and payments to be identified. Where a match is found it indicates that there is an inconsistency which requires further investigation. No assumption can be made as to whether there is fraud, error or other explanation until an investigation is carried out.

The Audit Commission is responsible for carrying out the data matching exercises. We are required to provide particular sets of data to the Audit Commission for matching for each exercise, and these are set out in the Audit Commission's handbooks, which can be found at www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi

The use of data by the Audit Commission in a data matching exercise is carried out with statutory authority under its powers in Part 2A of the Audit Commission Act 1998. It does not require the consent of the individuals concerned under the Data Protection Act 1998.

Data matching by the Audit Commission is subject to a Code of Practice. This may be found at www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi/codeofdmp.asp

For further information on the Audit Commission's legal powers and the reasons why it matches particular information, see www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi/fptext.asp, or email nfiqueries@audit-commission.gov.uk.