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**Regulation of Investigatory  
Powers Act 2000  
Bi-Annual Performance Report  
July 2025 – December 2025**  
Governance and Audit Committee

Decision to be taken by: Committee Members

Date of meeting: 16 March 2026

Lead director: Kamal Adatia

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## **Useful information**

- Ward(s) affected: All
- Report author: Vanessa Maher-Smith – Principal Lawyer - Information Governance & Risk and Data Protection Officer
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- Report version number: 1.0

### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 The report advises on the performance of the Council in authorising Regulatory Investigation Powers Act (RIPA) applications from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

### **2. Recommended actions/decision**

- 2.1 Receive the Report and note its contents.
- 2.2 Make any recommendations or comments it sees fit either to the Executive or to the City Barrister and Head of Standards.

### **3. Scrutiny / stakeholder engagement**

N/A.

### **4. Background and options with supporting evidence**

- 4.1 The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) enables the Council to use covert surveillance; covert human intelligence sources (CHIS); and the acquisition of service use or subscriber information in relation to communications data in a manner that is compatible with Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights governing an individual's right to respect for their private and family life, home and correspondence.
- 4.2 There are various criteria which must be met, including a 'seriousness threshold' for the use of directed surveillance, and any requests by the Council to use the RIPA powers must be approved by a Magistrate, under the current legislation.
- 4.3 The Council has applied for 0 Directed Surveillance Authorisation and 0 Communications Data Authorisations between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.
- 4.4 The Council has submitted its annual data return for 2025 to the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office.
- 4.5 As part of the Council's continued compliance with RIPA, key officers across our Regulatory Services, Corporate Investigations Team, CCTV Team as well as authorising officers undertook training in 2025. Whilst the Council doesn't actively use its powers under RIPA, it's necessary for officers to be aware of the requirements.

4.6 The Council continues to ensure compliance with RIPA as set out above.

## 5. Financial, legal, equalities, climate emergency and other implications

### 5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report, although the Council could incur legal costs should procedures not be correctly followed.

Signed: Amy Oliver

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

### 5.2 Legal implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report

Signed: Kamal Adatia (City Barrister and Head of Standards) ext. 37 1402

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### 5.3 Equalities implications

N/A.

Signed:

Dated:

### 5.4 Climate Emergency implications

N/A.

Signed:

Dated:

5.5 Other implications (You will need to have considered other implications in preparing this report. Please indicate which ones apply?)

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph References Within Supporting Information
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	No	
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Climate Change	No	
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	Yes	HRA Article 8 must be considered for all applications

Elderly/People on Low Income	No	
Risk Management	No	

**6. Background information and other papers:**

None

**7. Summary of appendices:**

None

**8. Is this a private report (If so, please indicate the reasons and state why it is not in the public interest to be dealt with publicly)?**

No.

**9. Is this a “key decision”? If so, why?**

No.