



Private Investigators

The use of private investigators by councils, public authorities and government departments in the United Kingdom

A Big Brother Watch report

March 2013

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Executive Summary

The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 introduced important safeguards in the use of surveillance powers by local authorities. The requirement of prior judicial authorisation is an important change in the law and one we wholeheartedly support.

However, as this report highlights, the scope of public surveillance using private investigators risks undermining these protections. Of particular concern is the number of cases where private investigators have been commissioned, yet their work deemed to not require RIPA authorisation, even in cases where the explanation provided appears to indicate surveillance was undertaken.

The law in the UK, particularly the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, is broadly drawn to allow evidence to be introduced in court that in other jurisdictions would not be deemed admissible. Contrasted with the fruit of the poisonous tree provisions in the US, and broader protection offered by the Fourth Amendment, UK law risks failing to join up the evidential admissibility process and the regulation of surveillance.

Accordingly, we are seriously concerned there is a gap in UK law emerging around surveillance and the ability of third parties to conduct surveillance operations without proper regulation.

As the cost of advanced surveillance technologies falls, the temptation is for a number of individuals and organisations to take advantage of the covert cameras, hidden recording devices, aerial devices and countless other gadgets that are now available in a growing market. While there are many situations where regulation is not appropriate, it is also essential to maintain legal safeguards to deter the unaccountable and improper use of such technologies.

Equally, as is the risk with private investigators, the arrangement may allow techniques to be used that would require RIPA authorisation, but because they are conducted by a third party, the commissioning organisation can claim it was unaware of the specific methods employed.

Whether private investigators, individual citizens or unconnected third party organisations, we believe that the law should be revised to ensure that if surveillance is undertaken and the intention is to use the material obtained in legal proceedings, if it has not been undertaken by the police then it should not be admissible if it has not been authorised under RIPA.

Equally, the ongoing lack of custodial sentences for those guilty of an offence under section 55 of the Data Protection Act 1998 remains a serious issue and particularly where private investigators may be gathering information that they are not authorised to do so.

With as many as 10,000 people working as private investigators in the UK, we agree with the Home Affairs Select Committee that the current legal framework is wholly inadequate.

This highlights the ongoing concern that RIPA is not fit for purpose, in failing to deal with evidence and material obtained outside the legislative framework. Equally, the changing nature of surveillance – particularly the ability to search online, through social networks and through semi-public sources of information – further reinforces the need for the law to be reformed to strengthen protection against unwarranted and unauthorised surveillance becoming a frequent occurrence.

Key Findings

All findings are for the two financial years 2010-11 and 2011-12

- The total amount spent on commissioning external organisations to undertake surveillance is **£3,932,804.65**
- **29 organisations** (27 councils, 1 public authorities, 1 government department) commissioned external organisations to undertake surveillance *under the provision of RIPA*
- **14 organisations** (10 councils, 4 public authorities, 0 government departments) commissioned external organisations to undertake surveillance *not under the provision of RIPA*
- **4 organisations** (2 councils, 2 public authorities) commissioned **other public bodies** to undertake surveillance at a cost of **£7,600¹**
- **4 councils** (Caerphilly, Dudley, Leicestershire, York) used private investigators to monitor their own staff
- The **Department for Transport** was the only government department to commission external organisations to undertake surveillance *under the provision of RIPA*, using G4S and Outforce Corporate Investigation Ltd on **3 occasions** at a cost of **£53,075.00**
- The **Marine Management Organisation** commissioned Direct Flight to conduct surveillance *without the provision of RIPA* on **1 occasion** at a cost of **£3,211,550.76²**
- **Stafford Borough Council** commissioned external organisations to undertake surveillance *under the provision of RIPA* on **1 occasion** at a cost of **£142,140.00**
- **Hammersmith and Fulham Council** commissioned external organisations to undertake surveillance *under the provision of RIPA* on **2 occasions** at a cost of **£136,337.97**

¹ See appendix 4

² The operation was carried out over a period spanning more than 12 months

Policy recommendations

1) The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 is in fundamental need of reform to protect against unauthorised surveillance

Whether acquiring data through social media websites or the use of private investigators undertaking surveillance without appropriate supervision and authorisation, this piece of legislation is in urgent need of fundamental review and reform. As the Joint Committee on the draft Communications Data Bill warned, the “language of RIPA is out of date and should not be used as the basis of new legislation.”

2) The Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 should be strengthened to deter unauthorised surveillance by raising the bar about what evidence can be used in legal proceedings

To ensure evidence obtained with the intent of being used in a prosecution or civil claim is only obtained with proper authorisation, the law allowing ‘tarnished’ evidence to be introduced into court should be strengthened, with a clearer threshold ensuring that there is a strong protection against unauthorised surveillance.

3) Provision for private investigator licensing should be strengthened

We wholly agree with the Home Affairs Committee that all private investigators should be licensed or registered. We believe that this should include provision for an offence to be committed if an investigator undertakes activities on behalf of a third party without appropriate legal authorisation under RIPA or other relevant statutes.

The Association of British Investigators have argued that it should be a criminal offence to engage an investigator who is not licensed, and we would agree with this provision.

4) A duty to regulate contracted investigators should be introduced

In order to address the potential conduct of investigators that should fall under RIPA, we believe a new offence should be introduced to allow corporate-level sanctions against an organisation who commission surveillance and in the course of that surveillance activities which should fall under RIPA is carried out without appropriate authorisation. Such corporate liability would mirror the Information Commissioner's power to pursue action against organisations for failure to adhere to the Data Protection Act 1998.

5) Custodial sentences should be enacted for Section 55 of the Data Protection Act

We have previously called for the provisions of section 77 of the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 to be enacted, which would allow custodial sentences to be handed down to those found guilty of an offence under s55 of the Data Protection Act 1998, which covers the unlawful obtaining of personal data.

Where information is collected by individuals, private investigators or otherwise, without proper legal authority we feel it is essential that they can be punished with a custodial sentence.

Appendix 1: Councils

Organisation	External organisations commissioned under RIPA		External organisations commissioned		Name of body/ investigator	Total amount paid (£)		Total	Reason for surveillance
	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012	2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012		2010 - 2011	2011 - 2012		
Aberdeen City	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Aberdeenshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Adur									
Allerdale	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Amber Valley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Angus	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Antrim	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Ards³	0	1	0	0	Select Management	0.00	3,525.00	3,525.00	Moveable CCTV service around the Borough to concentrate on Anti-social behaviour hot spots on a Friday and Saturday night
Argyll and Bute	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Armagh	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Arun	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Ashfield	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

³ Information not broken down by date.

Ashford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Aylesbury Vale	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Babergh	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Ballymena	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Ballymoney	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Banbridge	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Barking and Dagenham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Barnet	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Barnsley	2	0	0	0	Robertson & Co (instructed by the Authority's Solicitors)	1,107.00	1,500.00	2,607.00	Suspicion of feigning / exaggerating an injury to claim insurance monies
Barrow-in-Furness	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Basildon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Basingstoke and Deane	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bassetlaw	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bath and North East Somerset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bedford Borough	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Belfast	0	0	0	1	Select Management and Security Ltd	0.00	13,720.00	13,720.00	Mobile CCTV on occasion to assist with tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime in Belfast
Bexley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

Birmingham⁴	1	0	0	0	Xfor Local Authority Services Ltd	38,769.53	25,732.00	64,501.53	For the prevention or detection of crime/disorder
Blaby	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Blackburn with Darwen	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Blackpool	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Blaenau Gwent	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bolsover	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bolton	0	1	0	0	Consort Investigations	0.00	257.60	257.60	Care proceedings – serious non accidental injury to child.
Boston	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bournemouth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bracknell Forest	0	0							
Bradford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Braintree	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Breckland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Brent									
Brentwood	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bridgend	0	0	0	1	AIS2000 Cardiff Ltd	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	To provide and confirm information.
Brighton and Hove	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bristol, City of	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Broadland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bromley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

⁴ Information not broken down by date

Bromsgrove	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Broxbourne	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Broxtowe	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Buckinghamshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Burnley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Bury	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Caerphilly⁵	0	0	0	1	Conquest Surveillance Services	48,205.00	62,487.00	110,692.00	To monitor staff who were suspected of committing a crime against the authority e.g. fraudulently obtaining sick pay, theft of council property/supplies, etc.
Calderdale	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cambridge	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cambridgeshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Camden	Refused	0	Refused	0	Refused	Refused	Refused	Refused	Refused
Cannock Chase	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Canterbury	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cardiff	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Carlisle	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Carrickfergus	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Castle Point	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Castlereagh	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Central Bedfordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

⁵ Information not broken down by date

Ceredigion	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Charnwood	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Chelmsford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cheltenham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cherwell	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cheshire East	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cheshire West and Chester	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Chesterfield	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Chichester	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Chiltern	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Chorley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Christchurch	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
City of Edinburgh	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
City of London									
Clackmannanshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Colchester	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Coleraine									
Conwy	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cookstown	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Copeland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Corby	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cornwall	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Cotswold	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Coventry City	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Craigavon	0	0	1	0	Collingwood de	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00	Purpose in relation to

					Caunteton Limited				suspected criminal activity at a recycling centre
Craven	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Crawley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Croydon	1	0	1	0	Farleigh Consultants	3,548.50	0.00	3,548.50	Mobile video surveillance
Cumbria	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Dacorum	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Darlington	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Dartford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Daventry	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Derby	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Derbyshire	1	0	2	1	Susan Ward Investigators and Monitor Investigations	4,128.75	1,541.67	6,804.5	Safeguarding concerns and investigating civil claim
Derbyshire Dales	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Derry City	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Devon	0	1	0	0	Covert Investigations and Surveillance	0.00	2,550.00	2,550.00	Prevention and detection of crime
Doncaster	1	0	0	0	Yorkshire Investigations Ltd	3,880.76	5,646.00	9,526.76	In connection with childcare proceedings
Dorset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Dover	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

Down	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Dudley	1	0	0	0	MC Eden & Associates	852.96	0.00	852.96	These were commissioned by our Audit Services Section for a disciplinary investigation in March / April 2011.
Dumfries and Galloway	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Dundee City	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Dungannon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Durham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Ealing	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Ayrshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Cambridgeshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Devon									
East Dorset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Dunbartonshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Hampshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Hertfordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Lindsey	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Lothian	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Northamptonshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Renfrewshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Riding of Yorkshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

East Staffordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
East Sussex	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Eastbourne	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Eastleigh									
Eden	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Eilean Siar	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Elmbridge	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Enfield	1	0	0	0	BBFI	Information not held		0.00	Surveillance into fraudulent use of blue badge parking permits
Epping Forest	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Epsom and Ewell	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Erewash	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Essex	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Exeter	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Fareham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Fenland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Fermanagh	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Fife	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Flintshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Forest Heath	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Forest of Dean	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Fylde	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Gateshead	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Gedling	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Glasgow City	0	1	0	0	Glasgow	No cost	No cost	0.00	Trying to reduce and

						Community & Safety Services				deal with antisocial behaviour
Gloucester	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Gloucestershire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Gosport	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Gravesham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Great Yarmouth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Greater London Authority	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Greenwich	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Guildford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Gwynedd	0	1	0	0	The Cotswold Group	0.00	Paid by the Councils insurers, not the Council	0.00	Investigate false insurance claim	
Hackney	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Halton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Hambleton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Hammersmith and Fulham	1	1	0	0	BBFI	69,418.91	66,919.06	136,337.97	To investigate fraudulent use of Blue Badges	
Hampshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Harborough	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Haringey	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	
Harlow	1	0	0	0	Organised by the Council's insurance provider		Paid by the Councils insurers, not the Council	0.00	0.00	Surveillance re a personal injury claim

Harrogate	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Harrow	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hart	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hartlepool	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hastings	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Havant	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Havering	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Herefordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hertfordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hertsmere	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
High Peak									
Highland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hillingdon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hinckley and Bosworth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Horsham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hounslow	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hull City Council	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Huntingdonshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Hyndburn	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Inverclyde	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Ipswich	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Isle of Anglesey	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Isle of Wight	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Isles of Scilly									

Islington⁶	1	0	0	0	Cerberus Security Services Ltd	32,155.00	23,215.00	55,370.00	For the purpose of preventing or detecting crime or of preventing disorder
Kensington and Chelsea	1	1	0	0	Cotswold Group	1,152.50	No money paid on contractual arrangements	1,152.50	"Cost efficiencies – offered a contract where no fee would be charged if not useful footage obtained"
Kent	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Kettering	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Kingston upon Hull, City of									
Kingston upon Thames	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Kirklees	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Knowsley	1	0	0	0	Information not provided	6,324.00	0.00	6,324.00	Addressing issues of Anti-Social Behaviour in the borough. The private investigation company installed covert surveillance measures and provided covert human intelligence source for the purpose of this operation. The role of the private investigation company was to install

⁶ Information not broken down by date

									cover camera equipment in support of the operation and to monitor the functioning capacity of those cameras. The company was not involved in the investigation and all footage captured etc was passed to Knowsley MBC and its multi-agency partners
Lambeth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Lancashire	0	0	0	1	AGF Law Services Ltd	0.00	1,462.40	1,462.40	Child protection case
Lancaster	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Larne	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Leeds	1 (insurance)	0	2 (Children's services)	0	Insurance – Cotswold Group Children's services - Burton Regan and 1st Call Private Detective	8,873.65	7,274.20	16,147.85	Insurance - Fraudulent compensation claim / Children's services - Surveillance is normally arranged in child protection cases
Leicestershire⁷	1	0	0	0	Dukeries ASI Group	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	Investigation of council employee suspected of theft from LCC
Lewes	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Lewisham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

⁷ Total cost is an approximation made by Leicestershire Council

Lichfield	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Limavady	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Lincolnshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Lisburn	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Liverpool	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Luton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Magherafelt	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Maidstone	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Maldon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Malvern Hills	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Manchester									
Mansfield	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Medway									
Melton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Mendip	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Merthyr Tydfil	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Merton	Refused	0	0	0	Refused	Refused	Refused	0.00	Refused
Mid Devon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Mid Suffolk	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Mid Sussex	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Middlesbrough	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Midlothian	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Milton Keynes	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Mole Valley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Monmouthshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

Moray	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Moyle	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Neath Port Talbot	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
New Forest	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Newark and Sherwood	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Newcastle upon Tyne	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Newcastle-under-Lyme	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Newham	1	0	0	0	Castle Associates	10,392.88	0.00	10,392.88	Required to use specialist surveillance equipment
Newport	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Newry and Mourne									
Newtownabbey	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Norfolk	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Ayrshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Devon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Dorset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Down	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North East Derbyshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North East Lincolnshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Hertfordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Kesteven	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Lanarkshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Lincolnshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

North Norfolk	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Somerset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Tyneside	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Warwickshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North West Leicestershire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
North Yorkshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Northampton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Northamptonshire	0	0	0	1	Commissioned by Insurers Representatives	0.00	0.00	0.00	"Scambusters commissioned in 2011/12, no charge. Cost for surveillance to "assist in the detection and prevention of protection insurance fraud"
Northumberland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Norwich									
Nottingham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Nottinghamshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Nuneaton and Bedworth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Oadby and Wigston	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Oldham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Omagh	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Orkney Islands	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Oxford									
Oxfordshire	0	1	0	0	APW Investigations	0.00	2,279.58	2,279.58	To gather evidence of contact within Care

Proceedings									
Pembrokeshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Pendle	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Perth and Kinross	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Peterborough	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Plymouth	We are unable to provide a description of the activity for each transaction but the majority of work undertaken on our behalf by private detectives is the service of court papers on parties to care proceedings. There are also occasions when detective agencies are used to serve Notices and Court papers on groups of travellers in connection with their eviction from the Council's land, and this is also due to safety concerns primarily if Council staff are involved.								
Poole	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Portsmouth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Powys	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Preston	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Purbeck	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Reading									
Redbridge	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Redcar and Cleveland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Redditch	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Reigate and Banstead	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Renfrewshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Ribble Valley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Richmond upon Thames	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

Richmondshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rochdale	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rochford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rossendale	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rother	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rotherham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rugby	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Runnymede	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rushcliffe	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rushmoor	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Rutland									
Ryedale	1	0	0	0	Veritau Limited	Information not held		0.00	For the prevention and detection of crime against Ryedale District Council
Salford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Sandwell	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Scarborough									
Scottish Borders	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Sedgemoor	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Sefton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Selby	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Sevenoaks	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Sheffield	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Shepway	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Shetland Islands	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Shropshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

Slough	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Solihull	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Somerset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Ayrshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Bucks	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Cambridgeshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Derbyshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Gloucestershire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Hams	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Holland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Kesteven	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Lakeland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Lanarkshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Norfolk	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Northamptonshire									
South Oxfordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Ribble									
South Somerset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Staffordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
South Tyneside	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Southampton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Southend-on-Sea									
Southwark	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Spelthorne	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

St Albans	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
St Edmundsbury	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
St. Helens	0	1	0	0	The Cotswold Group	0.00	750.00	750.00	To investigate allegations relating to a potential fraudulent insurance claim
Stafford⁸	1	0	0	0	OCS	71,070.00	71,070.00	142,140.00	Tendered service – CCTV under direction of police
Staffordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Staffordshire Moorlands	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Stevenage	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Stirling	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Stockport	1	1	0	0	Trident Electronics and Protec Surveillance	8,000.00	10,602.60	18,602.60	Investigation of complaints of anti-social behaviour from Stockport Homes customers and to gather evidence to use in legal action to stop anti-social behaviour occurring
Stockton-on-Tees	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Stoke-on-Trent	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Strabane	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Stratford-on-Avon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Stroud	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

⁸ Information not broken down by date

Suffolk	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Suffolk Coastal	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Sunderland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Surrey	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Surrey Heath	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Sutton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Swale	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Swansea									
Swindon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Tameside	1	0	0	0	Exempt under S. 31 of the Freedom of Information Act				For the prevent or detection of crime or disorder
Tamworth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Tandridge	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Taunton Deane	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Teignbridge	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Telford and Wrekin	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Tendring	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Test Valley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Tewkesbury	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Thanet	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
The Vale of Glamorgan	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Three Rivers	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Thurrock	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Tonbridge and Malling	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

Torbay	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Torfaen	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Torrige	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Tower Hamlets	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Trafford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Tunbridge Wells	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Uttlesford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Vale of White Horse	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wakefield	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Walsall	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Waltham Forest	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wandsworth	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Warrington	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Warwick									
Warwickshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Watford	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Waveney	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Waverley	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wealden	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wellingborough									
Welwyn Hatfield	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Berkshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Devon									
West Dorset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Dunbartonshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Lancashire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

West Lindsey	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Lothian	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Oxfordshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Somerset	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
West Sussex									
Westminster	0	0	1	0	Gresham & Reed Limited	666.22	0.00	666.22	To determine whether or not a household had accommodation
Weymouth and Portland	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wigan	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wiltshire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Winchester	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Windsor and Maidenhead	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wirral	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Woking	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wokingham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wolverhampton	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Worcester	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Worcestershire	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Worthing									
Wrexham	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wychavon	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wycombe	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wyre	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Wyre Forest	0	0	0	0	N/A	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A

York	1	0	0	0	Veritau Ltd	Information not held	To investigate fraud committed against the council either by employees or others	
TOTALS	20	10	5	6		316,018.45	298,815.44	614,833.89

Appendix 2: Public Authorities

Organisation	External Organisations commissioned under RIPA		External Organisations commissioned		Total amount paid (£)		Total (£)	Name of body/ investigator	Reason for surveillance
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012			
Accountant in Bankruptcy	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
ACAS									
Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Arts Council	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Arts Council of Wales	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Audit Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Audit Scotland	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
BBC (Group)									
BFI (incorporating the UK Film Council)	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Big Lottery Fund	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
British Council	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
British Waterways	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Care Quality Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Centre for Environment,	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A

Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)										
Channel 4 Corporation	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance									
Charity Commission for England and Wales	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Civil Aviation Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Coal Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Commission for Rural Communities	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Companies House	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance									
Competition Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Construction Skills (Construction Industry Training Board)										
Consumer Council for Water	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Countryside Council for Wales	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Criminal Cases Review Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	

Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Crown Prosecution Service	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Defence Science and Technology Laboratory	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Disability and Carers Service									
Driving Standards Agency (DSA)	1	1	0	0	£31,855.00	£20,720.00	£52,575.00	Outforce Corporate Investigations Limited	Outforce are contracted in to supplement DSA's fraud investigation capability due to volumes of work and the requirement to procure specialist expertise.
East Midlands Strategic Health Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
East of England Strategic Health Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Economic and Social Research Council									
Engineering and	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A

Physical Science Research Council										
Engineering Construction Industry Training Board	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
English Heritage	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Equality and Human Rights Commission	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance									
Equality Commission for Northern Ireland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Finance Wales	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Fire Service College	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Food and Environment Research Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Food Standards Agency	0	0	1	0	270.00	£0.00	270.00	Refused to provide name	Trained mobile surveillance was required to assist an internal discipline investigation. The name was refused on the grounds that the surveillance was undertaken by an individual specialist whose name is not in the public domain	

Forestry Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Gambling Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Gangmasters Licensing Authority		Refused				Refused		Refused	Refused
General Medical Council	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
General Register Office for Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
General Social Care Council									
General Teaching Council for Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Government Actuary's Department	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Health and Safety Executive									
Health Protection Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Higher Education Funding Council for England	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Higher Education Funding Council for Wales	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Highland and Islands Enterprise	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
HM Inspectorate of Constabulary Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
HM Inspectorate of									

Education									
HM Land Registry	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
HM Prison Service									
HMRC	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Homes and Communities Agency									
House of Commons	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
House of Lords	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority									
Independent Living Fund (2006)	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Independent Police Complaints Commission	Refused		0	0	£0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Independent Safeguarding Authority									
Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance									
Information Commissioner's Office	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Insolvency Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Intellectual Property Officer (IPO)	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Job Centre Plus									
Joint Nature Conservation Committee	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Judicial	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A

Appointments Commission										
Land and Property Services	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Law Commission	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Learning and Teaching Scotland										
Legal Services Commission	0	0	1	1	0.00	500.00	500.00	Devon Investigations Limited		undertake a variety of services related to debt collection and enforcement of proceedings and the total value of the contract for the three year period was £116,097. On only one occasion was the firm asked to conduct surveillance on a subject (to establish a place of work)
Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	

London Strategic Health Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Marine Management Organisation⁹	0	0	1	0	2,411,095.95	800,454.81	3,211,550.76	Direct Flight	Direct Flight Ltd is commissioned to conduct fisheries surveillance and regulatory enforcement for the MMO
Marine Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Medical Research Council	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA)	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Mental Health Tribunal for Scotland	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
MET Office	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Monitor (Independent Regulator of Foundation Trusts)	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
National Blood Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
National College for									

⁹ Information not broken down by date

School Leadership										
National Heritage Memorial Fund & Heritage Lottery Fund	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
National Patient Safety Agency										
National Policing Improvement Agency	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance									
National Savings and Investments	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
National Treatment Agency for Substance Abuse	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Natural England	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Natural Environment Research Council	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance									
National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts										
NHS Business Services Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
NHS Education Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	

NHS Litigation Authority	0	0	1	1	Not available	Not available	Not available	Information falls under the legal professional privilege exemption contained in s.42 of the FOI Act	For the detection of fraud in connection with claims made against members of our schemes.
NHS North West SHA									
NHS Professionals	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
North East Strategic Health Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Northern Ireland Courts Service									
Northern Ireland Policing Board	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Northern Lighthouse Board	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Nuclear Decommissioning Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Office for National Statistics	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Office of Communication (Ofcom)	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Office of Fair Trading	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A

Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem)	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Office of Rail Regulation	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland									
Ofsted	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Ofwat	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Olympic Delivery Authority	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Ordnance Survey	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Parole Board	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Partnerships for Schools									
Pension Protection Fund	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Planning Inspectorate	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Probation Board for Northern Ireland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Queen Elizabeth 2 Conference Centre	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Registers of Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Remploy									
Royal Botanical Gardens	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A

Royal Mail¹⁰	Information not held				Information not held			Information not held	
Royal Mint	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Royal Parks	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Rural Payments Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
School Food Trust									
Science and Technology Facilities Council	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Natural Heritage	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Agricultural College	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Children's Reporter Administration	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Courts Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Enterprise	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Refused				Refused			Refused	Refused
Scottish Funding Council	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Prison Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Public Pensions Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A

¹⁰ Royal Mail stated: "Royal Mail Group does not employ external contractors for the purposes of surveillance. Royal Mail Group maintains a professional internal security, criminal investigation and prosecution team, RM Security. The team is regulated and inspected for all surveillance matters under RIPA by the Office of the Surveillance Commissioner."

Scottish Qualifications Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Social Services Council	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Scottish Water	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Sea Fish Industry Authority									
Security Industry Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Serious Fraud Office		Refused				Refused		Refused	Refused
Service Personnel and Veterans Agency									
Skills Funding Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Social Care & Social Work Improvement Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
South Central Strategic Health Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
South East Coast Strategic Health Authority									
South West Strategic Health Authority		Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance							
Sport England (Group)	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
State Hospitals Board									

Student Awards Agency Scotland	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Student Loans Company	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								
Sustainable Development Commission									
Technology Strategy Board	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Tenant Services Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
TfL	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
The NHS Information Centre	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
The Pensions Regulator	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
The Scottish Housing Regulator	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
Transport Scotland (Scottish Transport)	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
UK Atomic Energy Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
UK Border Agency	Refused			Refused			Refused		Refused
UK Debt Management Office and Debt Management Account	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
UK Intellectual Property Office	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A
UK Sport	Does not have investigatory powers under RIPA and has not commissioned surveillance								

UK Trade and Investment										
Valuation Office Agency	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Valuation Tribunal Service	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Veterinary Medicines Directorate	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Visit Britain	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Visit Scotland	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Welsh Channel 4										
West Midlands Strategic Health Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Working Ventures UK										
Yorkshire and the Humber Strategic Health Authority	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Youth Justice Board	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
Office of Surveillance Commissioners	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A	N/A	
British Potato Council										
Inspectorate of Prosecution										
Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence										
Government										

Decontamination Service							
Low Pay Commission							
Total	1	1	4	2	£2,443,220.95	£821,674.81	£3,264,895.76

Appendix 3: Government Departments

Organisations	External Organisations commissioned under RIPA	External Organisations commissioned	Total amount paid (£)	Total (£)	Name of body/ investigator	Reason for surveillance
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	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012			
Transport	2	1	0	0	32,355.00	20,720.00	53,075.00	G4S and Outforce Corporate Investigation Ltd.	In 2010-11 the surveillance was carried out for two reasons: (a) to protect the public purse against suspected possible fraud and (b) to supplement an executive agency's own fraud investigation capability due to volumes of work and the requirement to procure specialist expertise. In 2011-12 the surveillance was again carried out to supplement an executive agency's own investigation capability.
Total	2	1	0	0	32,355.00	20,720.00	53,075.00		

Appendix 4: Public bodies commissioned for surveillance

Organisation	External Organisations commissioned under RIPA	External Organisations commissioned	Total amount paid (£)	Total (£)	Name of body/ investigator	Reason for surveillance
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	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012	2010-2011	2011-2012			
Financial Services Authority (FSA)	2	0	0	0	7,600.00	0.00	7,600.00	Two Police Forces	Specialist surveillance skills required
Environment Agency	2	2	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	British Waterways. A local authority. Police	Prevention and detection of crime and in the interests of public health and safety
Carmarthenshire	0	3	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	Department of Work and Pension	
Falkirk	0	1	0	0	0.00	Information not held	0.00	Stirling Council Animal Health and Welfare	Gathering evidence about alleged illegal transfer of animal carcasses
Total	4	6	0	0	7,600.00	0.00	7,600.00		

Appendix 5: Methodology

Starting on the 1st November 2012, a Freedom of Information request was sent to councils, public authorities, police forces and government departments. Information was requested relating to the use of external organisations (for instance private investigators) who were commissioned to undertake surveillance, both under the provisions of RIPA and without. The names of the contractors, the purpose of the surveillance and the total cost were also requested.

As all police forces responded stating that they do not commission external organisations for the purposes of surveillance, police forces have not been included in this report.

We received responses from 581 public bodies (406 councils, 161 public authorities and 14 government departments).

For the purposes of this report we included all responses received up to and including 8th March 2013.

Appendix 6: Freedom of Information Request

Please provide answers to each of the questions for the financial years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

1. The number of external organisations (for instance, private investigators) commissioned to undertake surveillance under the provisions of RIPA
2. The number of external organisations (for instance, private investigators) commissioned to undertake surveillance
3. The names of the contractors commissioned to undertake surveillance
4. The total amount paid to the contractors commissioned to undertake surveillance
5. For what reason(s) the non-public bodies or private investigators were commissioned to carry out such surveillance

About Big Brother Watch

Big Brother Watch was set up to challenge policies that threaten our privacy, our freedoms and our civil liberties, and to expose the true scale of the surveillance state.

Founded in 2009, we have produced unique research exposing the erosion of civil liberties in the UK, looking at the dramatic expansion of surveillance powers, the growth of the database state and the misuse of personal information.

We campaign to give individuals more control over their personal data, and hold to account those who fail to respect our privacy, whether private companies, government departments or local authorities.

Protecting individual privacy and defending civil liberties, Big Brother Watch is a campaign group for the digital age.

If you are a journalist and would like to contact Big Brother Watch, including outside office hours, please call +44 (0) 7505 448925 (24hrs). You can also email press@bigbrotherwatch.org.uk for written enquiries.

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