

**Example Cases**

**Case 1**

A man from Ward A accepted a caution for failing to declare that he had started work a year before reporting that his circumstances had changed.

This was a joint working exercise with DWP fraud investigators which identified overpayments of £1,592.43 Housing Benefit, £326.67 Council Tax Support and £2,312.00.

A caution was offered as an alternative to prosecution for the housing Benefit offences after it was decided that prosecution should not be the first option in view of the mitigation given during the interview under caution.

Overpayment recovery action is currently being pursued.

**Case 2**

A woman from Ward B was prosecuted for failing to declare work for 3 consecutive employers between 2012 and 2015.

This investigation started following receipt of real time employment information from HMRC showing the undeclared work and identified overpayments of £7,365.72 Housing Benefit, £482.82 Council Tax Benefit and £1,055.01 Council Tax Support.

After pleading guilty to the offences, the customer was fined £200 and was ordered to pay costs of £135 with an additional £20 victim surcharge.

The overpayment is being repaid by monthly instalments.

**Case 3**

After becoming a widower, an elderly man from Ward C found that his late wife had held premium bonds that had not been declared on his claim to Council Tax Benefit/Support.

The investigation established that Council Tax Benefit of £8,937.71 and Council Tax Support of £2,075.05 had been overpaid. It was decided that no further fraud action was appropriate in the circumstances.

A lump sum of £8,000 has been paid toward the overpayment and the balance is being repaid through an instalment agreement.