

National Fraud Initiative 2014/15

The use of DFID data to prevent or detect fraud.

DFID is participating in the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) 2014/15 data matching exercise carried out by the Audit Commission. We are required by law to protect public funds that we administer and our participation in the NFI will assist in the prevention and detection of fraud.

We are participating on a voluntary basis and will provide the Audit Commission with details of our trade creditors as set out in the Audit Commission's guidance, which can be found at www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi.

This form of data matching involves comparing computer records held by one public body against those held by other public bodies to establish if there are any corresponding records. Computerised data matching allows potentially fraudulent claims and payments to be identified. Where an inconsistency is found it may indicate that further investigation is necessary.

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 <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/national-fraud-initiative/code-of-data-matching-practice/>

For further information on the Audit Commission's legal powers and reasons why it matches particular information, see <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/fairprocessing>