

Meeting:	Grampian NHS Board Meeting
Meeting date:	Thursday 4 August 2022
Item Number:	8
Title:	Whistleblowing Annual Report 2021-2022
Responsible Executive/Non-Executive:	Adam Coldwells, Director of Strategy & Deputy Chief Executive Albert Donald, Whistleblowing Champion and Non-Executive Board member
Report Author:	Cover paper – Adam Coldwells Annual Report - Louise Ballantyne, Head of Engagement

1 Purpose

This is presented to the Board for:

- Assurance

This report relates to a:

- Government policy/directive

This aligns to the following NHS Scotland quality ambition(s):

- Safe
- Effective
- Person Centred

2.1 Situation

NHS Grampian implemented the new national Whistleblowing Standards in April 2021. The Board has received an update report every quarter throughout the year. This paper provides the Board with its first annual report (Appendix 1) which is set out as a requirement in the new Standards.

2.2 Background

The attached annual report (Appendix 1) provides a comprehensive background.

2.3 Assessment

The attached annual report (Appendix 1) provides detail on what has happened during the first year of operating the new standards and also sets out the key areas of risk. The report also describes the areas which we will develop further during the second year of operating the Standards.

Whilst this paper is presented to the Board to present the annual report (Appendix 1), the August 2022 Board meeting coincides with the end of the first quarter for the 2022/23 year. On this basis, for completeness against the requirements, I am reporting that there have been NO new whistleblowing cases raised in the first quarter of 2022/23.

2.3.7 Route to the Meeting

The quarterly whistleblowing reports have been considered by the Staff Governance Committee prior to being considered by the Board. This annual report, for timing reasons, is being considered directly by the Board. However, a copy of the Annual Report was shared with all members of the Staff Governance Committee by email inviting any reflections or comments. Only one response was received and this (1) sought clarity on the relationship between the Health and Social Care Partnerships (HSCPs) and NHS Grampian and (2) reflected on the support that we will provide for the confidential contacts – both of these issues will, if helpful, be explored with the Board during the Q&A for this item.

2.4 Recommendation

The Board is asked to:

- **Agree that it is assured that the new Whistleblowing Standards, introduced in April 2021, are being implemented effectively.**
- **Agree to continue to receive quarterly reports, in-line with the requirement of the Standards.**

3 List of appendices

Appendix 1 – NHS Grampian Whistleblowing Annual Report 2021-2022