



An Roinn Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta
Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION FOR 2016 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22 OF THE PROTECTED DISCLOSURES ACT 2014

Each public body is required under Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 to publish an annual report setting out the number of protected disclosures received in the preceding year and the action taken (if any). This report must not result in persons making disclosures being identifiable.

This is the report of the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation for year ending 31 December 2016.

There were four new issues raised as protected disclosures with the Minister/Department in the period covered by this report.

One of these matters was raised by an employee of the Department and its Offices. It related to business operations in a particular area of the Department/Offices. The matter had already been raised as a protected disclosure to a senior official in the Department in 2015 and had been investigated using the services of an independent professional third party. No wrongdoing had been found.

Other matters raised were;

- An issue, from an external individual, about a health and safety concern in a particular workplace, in the context of the Department's remit for workplace health and safety. This matter was referred to the Health and Safety Authority, which is the statutory body for enforcing health and safety law in Ireland, for examination and the individual was advised in writing in respect of the Health and Safety Authority involvement and its conclusions in respect of any issues falling within the remit of the Health and Safety Authority.
- Correspondence from an external individual in respect of a protected disclosure that had been made to a Minister in another Department, in respect of an individual's treatment in employment, in a body under the aegis of that other Department. The individual was advised in writing that the Department to whom the disclosure had been made was the relevant one to deal with the issue raised.
- A concern raised by an employee in an Agency of the Department in respect of certain operational issues in that Agency. Following initial evaluation, it was concluded that the issues raised did not constitute a relevant wrongdoing within the meaning of the Protected Disclosures Act. The individual was advised of this conclusion.

A review into a matter, which was raised by an employee of the Department and its Offices, and which has been reported in the Departments annual report 2014/2015, under Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act, is being undertaken by an independent external reviewer.

30 June 2017