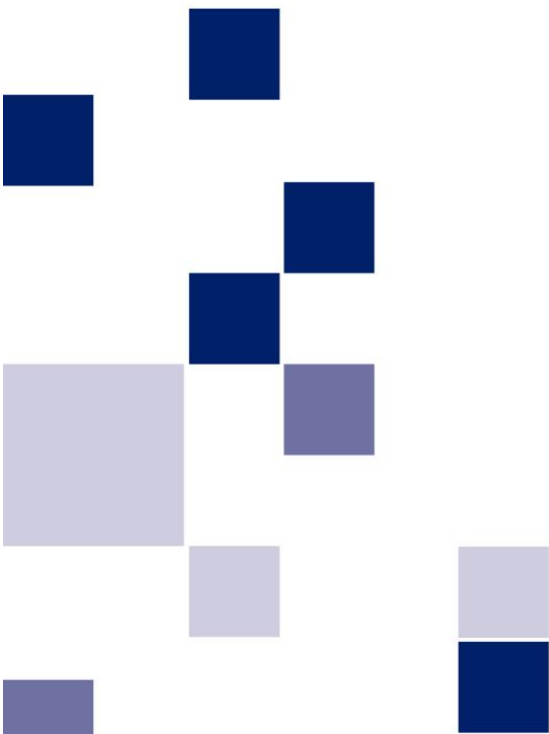


Whistleblowing Annual Report 2021/22



Prescribed Person (Whistleblowing) Report

1. The information reported below is an excerpt from the SSSC's draft Annual Report and Accounts for 2021/22, which are currently being prepared and due for approval at our Council meeting in November 2022. It will then be laid before the Scottish Parliament.
2. The SSSC has a dual role in responding to whistleblowing as an employer and as a prescribed person in the sector.
3. A social service worker can whistleblow to someone in their own organisation or to a third party known as a 'prescribed person'. The SSSC is a prescribed person listed in Prescribed Persons (Reports on Disclosures of Information) Regulations 2017. As a prescribed person, we are required to publish annually the details of referrals that qualify as whistleblowing and the actions we took.
4. In 2021/22 we received seven whistleblowing referrals. In six of these cases, we opened a fitness to practise case. By opening a case we investigate whether the fitness to practise of the worker is impaired or not.
5. In one referral we did not open a case as we assessed it as having no real prospect of finding current impairment.
6. For the six cases we opened:
 - three cases are ongoing
 - three cases have concluded
 - One case resulted in no action taken as we found the worker's fitness to practise was not currently impaired.
 - One case resulted in a worker receiving a warning.
 - One case resulted in a worker being removed from the Register.
7. We also have two open whistleblowing referrals which we opened before 2021/22. One is still under investigation, while the other is at the decision stage. We have concluded all cases referred prior to 2020/21.
8. We encourage staff to raise serious concerns about wrongdoing or alleged impropriety. Our Whistleblowing Policy informs staff on when and



how to raise these concerns. The policy is consistent with, and makes explicit reference to, the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998.

9. There were no internal whistleblowing referrals in 2021/22.





Scottish Social Services Council
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

Tel: 0345 60 30 891
Email: enquiries@sssc.uk.com
Web: www.sssc.uk.com

If you would like this document in another format,
please contact the SSSC on 0345 60 30 891