

Whistleblowing Annual Report 2022/23



Whistleblowing

1. The SSSC has a dual role in responding to whistleblowing as an employer and as a prescribed person in the sector.
2. 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.
3. In 2022/23 we received six whistleblowing referrals. In four of these, 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.
4. In two referrals we did not open a case as the concerns fell below our thresholds for investigation.
5. For the four cases we opened:
 - three cases are ongoing
 - one case has concluded and resulted in no further action due to insufficient evidence.
6. We have concluded all cases referred before 2022/23.
7. 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,
8. There were no internal whistleblowing referrals in 2022/23.