

Report on Protected Disclosures 2016

Report of the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner

The policy introduced by the DPC under the terms of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 is designed to facilitate and encourage all workers to raise internally genuine concerns about possible wrongdoing in the workplace so that these concerns can be investigated following the principles of natural justice and addressed in a manner appropriate to the circumstances of the case.

Section 22 of the Protected Disclosure Act 2014 requires public bodies to prepare and publish, by 30th June in each year, a report in relation to the previous year in an anonymised form.

Pursuant to this requirement, the DPC confirms that in 2016

- No internal protected disclosures (from staff of the DPC) were received.
- Two protected disclosures (set out in the table below) was received from individuals external to the DPC in relation to issues pertaining to data protection within other entities. These cases were raised with the DPC in its role as a 'prescribed person' as provided for under Section 7 of the Protected Disclosures Act (listed in SI 339/2014 as amended by SI 448/2015).

Reference No	Type	Date Received	Status	Outcome
1/19/5/3	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	21 August 2016	Closed	Complainant did not pursue matter
1/19/5/2	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	31 March 2016	Closed	Investigated under Section 10(1)(a) of the DP Acts