

Report on Protected Disclosures received by the Data Protection Commission in 2019

The policy operated by the Data Protection Commission (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 Disclosures 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 2019

- No internal protected disclosures (from staff of the DPC) were received.
- Six protected disclosures (set out in the table below) were 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 Number	Type	Date Received	Status	Outcome
1/19/1/16	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	6 November 2019	Open - under examination	
1/19/1/15	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	3 April 2019	Closed	Closed - complainant did not pursue matter
1/19/1/14	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	16 March 2019	Open - Being investigated under Article 57(1)(f) of GDPR	

1/19/1/13	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	1 March 2019	Closed	Closed - not a protected disclosure - to be handled as a standard DP complaint
1/19/1/12	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	2 March 2019	Closed	Closed - complainant did not pursue matter.
1/19/1/11	Section 7 (external, to 'prescribed person')	4 February 2019	Closed	Closed - complainant failed to provide evidence of data protection breaches.