

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam.

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: REQ06967

Thank you for your request for information relating to External Whistleblowing.

You have requested the following information:

Q1Does your organisation take action to protect external whistleblowers from unjustified treatment by their employers or others? Please select one of the below answers if possible –

Q2 Does any protection against unjustified treatment provided by your organisation extend to persons reporting on behalf of external whistleblowers?

Q3 Does any protection extend to proposed or intended unjustified action against an external whistleblower contemplated by his/her employer or another in respect of the disclosure?

Q4 Does your organisation offer any reward or bounty for information received from an external whistleblower in respect of information about which you are the prescribed body or person?

Q5 Does your organisation publish for the public a step by step guide on how it follows up on external whistleblower information?

Q6 Where your organisation does not feel itself to be legally competent to engage with a disclosure made by an external whistleblower, do you have a policy and process to refer that disclosure to another prescribed body/person/regulator or other agency better placed to deal with it?

Q7 Where in the circumstances described in Q6 above, your organisation passes information to another prescribed body etc., do you have a policy and process to advise the external whistleblower that the disclosure has been passed to another body etc?

Q8 Where an external whistleblower may be dissatisfied with his/her dealings with your organisation, is there an appeals policy and process which engage someone who is independent of the investigating department?

Q9 Does your organisation publish FAQ to advise and assist external whistleblowers considering making a disclosure to you?

Q10 Does all your staff which communicates with or otherwise manages external whistleblowers receive specialist and on-going training for that purpose?

Q11 Where, following a disclosure to your organisation by an external whistleblower about a matter for which you are prescribed, an alleged act of retaliation occurs against the external whistleblower by the employer or another person, does your organisation investigate the alleged act of retaliation?

Q12 Please describe what criteria you consider in deciding whether to investigate information received from an external whistleblower about a matter in respect of which you are prescribed?

Q13 Does your organisation distinguish between public complaints and external whistleblowers?

Q14 Apart from any information on your website, does your organisation undertake any public awareness programme(s) regarding whistleblowing?

We can confirm that we do not hold the information are therefore advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. The Council's whistleblowing policy only deals with concerns relating to the business of the Council. The whistleblowing policy states that the private concerns of persons relating to non-council business should be raised with their employer.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: <u>infogov@coventry.gov.uk</u>

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email <u>casework@ico.org.uk</u>.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance