



Report under Section 9 of the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022 For the period 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

Background

The Protected Disclosures Act 2014 as amended by the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022, protects workers in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors from retaliation if they speak up about wrongdoing in the workplace.

In 2019, the European Union adopted Directive 2019/1937 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union Law (the “Directive”). The Directive introduces a common EU regime for the protection of persons who report breaches of EU law, and sets out, among other things, procedures for reporting channels, follow up of reports of breaches, prohibition of penalisation and provisions in relation to confidentiality. While many of the protections set out in the Directive were already provided for under the Act, an amendment to the legislation was required to implement all of the Directive’s provisions. The Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022 was signed into law on 21 July 2022 and commenced operation on 1 January 2023.

The Act requires all public bodies to establish, maintain and operate internal reporting channels and procedures to allow for the making of disclosures and for follow-up. Similarly, prescribed persons and the Protected Disclosures Commissioner are required to establish, maintain and operate independent external reporting channels and procedures for the making of disclosures and for follow-up.

The Local Government Management Agency is committed to ensuring that the culture and work environment are such that any employee/worker is encouraged and supported to report on any issue that may impact adversely on the Agency’s ability to deliver a high quality service and to facilitate the disclosure of wrongdoing and the protection of an employee/worker(s) who make such disclosures.

The Agency has a written Protected Disclosures Policy, which is available to all employees/workers on the LGMA intranet site. This policy sets out the approach to be taken when seeking to make a protected disclosure.

Annual Report

Under Section 30 of the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022, each public body is required to provide to the Minister, details of the number of protected disclosures received in the preceding year and the action taken.

No protected disclosures were received in the Local Government Management Agency between 1st January 2023 and 31st December 2023.

Geraldine Dunne

Board Secretary

6th March 2024