

NHS Western Isles



Whistleblowing Quarterly Report

2024/2025

Quarter 4 – January-March

NHS Western Isles Whistleblowing Quarterly Report 2024/25 – Quarter 4

NHS Western Isles had a Whistleblowing Policy in place which was superseded by the new National Whistleblowing Standards which were launched on 1st April 2021. This report details whistleblowing activity in quarter 4 – January to March 2024/25 which will include performance information and an overview of cases that was handled within the reporting period for assurance purposes.

During October to December (Q4) 2024/25:

There were no new cases received for consideration as Whistleblowing during quarter 4.

Indicator	Performance
Total number of concerns received	1
Timescales for closure	Stage 1 – 0 Stage 2 – 1
Concerns closed at each stage of the process	Stage 2 – 100%
Concerns upheld, partially upheld and not upheld	Stage 2 concern was upheld = 100% (15 working days)
Number of cases where extension was authorised	N/A
Learning from concerns raised	An improvement plan has been written and will be monitored by the Risk Review Group.
Experience for those raising concerns	The number of whistleblowing cases raised and concluded each year remains small. The informal feedback from staff involved were satisfied with the process.

There was one concerns received and closed during this reporting period. There are no outstanding cases.

Following a previous Whistleblowing concern which was escalated to the Independent National Whistleblowing Officer recommendations have been issued to the Board and a working group has been established to work through these recommendations.

Staff awareness and training:

Communication is regularly sent out to all staff via email through the weekly Team Brief which contains information on the role of the confidential contacts. The staff intranet page has a page dedicated to Whistleblowing section which contains useful information for staff on what whistleblowing is, how to raise concerns etc. The intranet page also has links TURAS learn which has modules available to staff which includes information for raising concerns as well as for managers receiving concerns. Posters are in areas where staff are able to view them with information on what Whistleblowing is and how to raise concerns.

A forum has been established for the Confidential Contacts where they can link with the Whistleblowing Champion, Head of Human Resources and Head of Clinical Governance and Professional Practice.

Conclusion:

During this reporting period there was one concern received and closed within this reporting period.

The National Whistleblowing Standards will continue to be promoted across the organisation.