



Risk, Audit and Performance Committee

Date of Meeting	23 September 2021
Report Title	JB Whistleblowing Policy-Quarter 1
Report Number	HSCP.21.102
Lead Officer	Alex Stephen, Chief Finance Officer
Report Author Details	Name: Martin Allan Job Title: Business Manager Email Address: martin.allan3@nhs.net
Consultation Checklist Completed	Yes
Appendices	None

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To provide Risk, Audit and Performance Committee (RAPC) with a quarterly update on whistleblowing incidents raised under the Integration Joint Board's (JB) Whistleblowing Policy.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. It is recommended that the RAPC note that no whistleblowing incidents have been raised under the JB's Whistleblowing Policy since the Policy was approved by JB on 6 July 2021.
- 2.2. It is further recommended that the RAPC agree that future "nil returns" be reflected in the Committee's Business Planner rather than via a separate report.



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3. Summary of Key Information

IJB Whistleblowing Policy

- 3.1.** On 6 July 2021 the IJB approved their Whistleblowing Policy. The Policy relates to all IJB Members and Office Holders of the Board and is committed to dealing responsibly, openly and professionally with any genuine concerns held by staff of the Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP), Members of the Board or Office Holders, encouraging them to report any concerns about wrongdoing or malpractice within the IJB, which they believe has occurred.
- 3.2.** The aim of the policy is to ensure that staff and Members are fully aware of the types of matters that they should report and the reporting procedure they should follow to raise any genuine concerns about any possible wrongdoing or malpractice, at an early stage, without fear of penalty or victimisation.
- 3.3.** The IJB agreed that any whistleblowing incidents raised through the Policy would be reported to RAPC by the Board's Standards Officer on a quarterly basis.
- 3.4.** During the time period since the Policy was approved, the Standards Officer has not received any incidents relating to the Policy.
- 3.5.** It is proposed that future "nil returns" be reported through the Committee's Business Planner, rather than via a separate report.
- 3.6.** In terms of publicising the Policy, work has been undertaken to publish the Policy on the Partnership's Internet and intranet as well as sharing the Policy details with the Partnership's Leadership Team for distribution through their Teams.



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4. Implications for IJB

- 4.1. Equalities, Fairer Scotland and Health Inequality** – there are no direct implications arising directly as a result of this report.
- 4.2. Financial** – there are no direct implications arising directly as a result of this report.
- 4.3. Workforce** - there are no direct implications arising directly as a result of this report.
- 4.4. Covid-19** – There are no implications relating to Covid-19 in this report.
- 4.5. Unpaid Carers**-There are no implications relating to unpaid carers in this report.
- 4.6. Legal** – there are no direct legal implications arising directly as a result of this report.
- 4.7. Other** - there are no direct implications arising directly as a result of this report.

5. Links to ACHSCP Strategic Plan

- 5.1.** The report is linked to all the strategic aims of the Partnership's Strategic Plan.

6. Management of Risk

- 6.1.** Identified risks(s): The update provided links to the Strategic Risk Register, specifically around reputational damage.
- 6.2. Link to risks on strategic or operational risk register:**



Risk 6- There is a risk of reputational damage to the IJB and its partner organisations resulting from complexity of function, delegation and delivery of services across health and social care.



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6.3. How might the content of this report impact or mitigate these risks:

Reporting on Whistleblowing incidents to the RAPC provides transparent reporting of any whistleblowing incidents.

Approvals	
	Sandra Macleod (Chief Officer)
	Alex Stephen (Chief Finance Officer)