

The Institute of Trichologist

WHISTLEBLOWING STATEMENT

Whistleblowing is the term used when a person within an organisation provides information to that organisation relating to wrongdoing.

This will usually, though not always, relate to something they have witnessed. This is also known as 'making a disclosure'. To be protected by law, a disclosure must be a 'qualifying' disclosure. This means the person making the disclosure believes that doing so is in the public interest and it relates to one of the following categories:

- Criminal offence
- Breach of a legal obligation
- Miscarriage of justice
- Endangering health and safety
- Damage to the environment
- Covering up wrongdoing in any of these categories

Everyone has the right not to be subjected to any detriment as a consequence of making a disclosure. To qualify for protection when making a disclosure to a prescribed person, there must have a reasonable belief that the matter falls within the prescribed person's remit and that the information disclosed is substantially true. Meeting these criteria is referred to as making a 'protected disclosure'.

It is advisable to seek independent advice to help you consider whether you might meet the criteria for making a protected disclosure. This can be obtained from the following organisations:

Public Concern at Work

Helpline: 0207 404 6609

E-mail: whistle@pcaw.co.uk

Website: www.pcaw.co.uk

Speak Up

Helpline: [08000 724 725](tel:08000724725)

Website: <https://speakup.direct/>

or a legal representative.

Prescribed persons are required to report in writing annually on whistleblowing disclosures made to them as a prescribed person (without identifying those concerned).