

# 2023 Annual Report on Protected Disclosures for the Charities Regulator

## Introduction

Under [Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014](#) each public body and prescribed person are required to publish an annual report to the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform setting out the number of protected disclosures received in the preceding year and the action taken (if any). This report must not result in persons making disclosures being identifiable.

The Charities Regulator will provide this by 1<sup>st</sup> of March in each year, to include information in respect of the preceding calendar year.

The Charities Regulator will also publish the Annual Report by 31<sup>st</sup> of March each year.

## Charities Regulator's Protected Disclosures Policy

The Charities Regulator's current Protected Disclosures Policy is available on the [website's dedicated page on Protected Disclosures](#). This Policy updates the previous policy in line with the Protected Disclosures Amendment Act 2022.

## Implementation of the Policy

To support the implementation of the policy, staff are made aware of the [The Speak Up Helpline](#) 1800 844 866 for independent guidance on reporting a concern or making a protected disclosure. Annual training is provided to all staff.

## Charities Regulator as a 'prescribed person'

Under Statutory Instrument No.367 of 2020, the Chief Executive of the Charities Regulator has been specified as a 'prescribed person' for the purpose of receiving disclosures of relevant wrongdoings in respect of all matters relating to the regulation of charities pursuant to the Charities Act 2009.

The primary responsibility of the Chief Executive of the Charities Regulator as a Prescribed Person under the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 is to protect the identity of the Reporting Person<sup>1</sup> to the greatest extent possible and to examine the information provided in the disclosure in accordance with its normal procedures for discharging its statutory functions. The Charities Regulator's External

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<sup>1</sup> Reporting Person is the person who makes the protected disclosure in line with the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 as amended

Protected Disclosures Policy and Procedure – External Reporting Channels is available on the [website’s dedicated page on Protected Disclosures.](#)

**Table - Charities Regulator -2023 Annual Report on Protected Disclosures**

<b>Charities Regulator -2023 Annual Report on Protected Disclosures</b>	<b>Internal to the Charities Regulator</b>	<b>External Protected Disclosures - Charities Regulator as a ‘prescribed person’</b>
S.22.1(a) The number of reports made to the Charities Regulator in 2023	Nil	17
S.22.1(d) The number of reports transmitted to the Charities Regulator in 2023  under sections 7, 10B, 10C and 10D;	Nil	6
S.22.1 (e) in respect of each report referred to, as indicated in the (a) and (d) above, whether the relevant wrongdoing concerned was a breach;	Nil	Nil
S.22.1(f) the number of investigations and proceedings opened by the Charities Regulator or prescribed person in relation to the relevant wrongdoings concerned as a result of the reports referred to in paragraphs (a) and (d) above;	Nil	Nil
S.22.1(g) the number of investigations and proceedings that remained opened, from previous years, by the Charities Regulator or prescribed person in relation to the relevant wrongdoings concerned that remain open;	Nil	Nil
S.22.1(h) the number of investigations and proceedings closed by the Charities Regulator or prescribed person in relation to the relevant wrongdoings concerned as a	Nil	Nil

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result of the reports referred to in paragraphs (a) and (d) above;		
S.22.1 (i) in respect of each closed investigation or proceedings referred to in paragraph (h), the outcome of the investigation or proceedings and the decision taken by the public body, or prescribed person;	Nil	Nil
S.22.1 (j) where relevant and in so far as it can be ascertained, the estimated financial damage and the amounts recovered following any investigation and proceedings referred to in paragraph (h);	Nil	Nil

**ENDS**