

**General Dental Council: Information released under the Freedom of Information Act**

**Date released:** 04.01.2022

**Request:**

Please could you disclose:

1. Policies, procedures, guidance, and other documents which show how you determine whether a concern (such as a fitness to practise concern) received by you is a worker's disclosure, for the purposes of meeting your obligations under the Prescribed Persons (Reports on Disclosures of Information) Regulations 2017 SI 2017/507.
2. Information showing how you determined whether a concern (such as a fitness to practise concern) received by you was a disclosure for the purposes of producing the 2021 "Whistleblowing disclosures report" and reporting within it on the number of disclosures of information received.

**Response:**

I write further to my email of 15 December 2021 acknowledging your request for information regarding external whistleblowing.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOI Act) and I can confirm we hold the data requested.

Please see the enclosed extract from an internal policy document which provides the information requested.

*Whether an individual is considered an external whistle-blower is discussed and agreed at the Initial Assessment Decision-making Group (IADG) with the lawyer present and it is recorded on a case-by-case basis. The Initial Assessment Team manager decides on this with advice from our lawyers. As you are aware we produce an [annual report](#) jointly with other healthcare regulators and the data is checked as part of that process to ensure the correct selection has been made.*