



Cabinet Office

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16 November 2015

Contact: Ann Anderson
Our ref: GP1a/URN13

Dear Consultee

Consultation – Draft Whistleblowing (Confidential Reporting) Policy and Guidance

The current Whistleblowing Policy, last updated in 2009, is now due for review. It is necessary, among other things, to clarify the whistleblowing procedures with particular reference to the offence of bribery, following the advent of the Bribery Act which came into effect in December 2013.

The Whistleblowing policy has therefore been revised to:

- i. Include an executive summary
- ii. update the text to reflect requirements of the new Anti-Bribery legislation
- iii. change the layout to separate the 'Policy' from the 'Guidance and Procedures'
- iv. clarify roles and responsibilities within the policy
- v. expand the guidance (with reference to 'Whistleblowing Arrangements Code of Practice' published by the British Standards Institution.)
- vi. update the list of Designated Officers

The aims, values and principles set out in the policy and guidance link directly with the 'Good Government' priority identified in the Chief Minister's 'Agenda for Change' document published in 2013. This priority recognises Government's commitment to supporting and promoting an environment of openness, integrity and accountability.

Anyone wishing to comment on the content of the attached document should send their views by post or e-mail to: Ann Anderson

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Please note that the Office of Human Resources will assume, unless you indicate otherwise, that you do not object to your response being made public. If you wish all or any part of your reply to be treated as confidential, then please indicate this clearly in your response.

The initial consultation period ends on 8 January 2016 and all final written views and comments should be submitted by 5.00 pm on that day.



Following consultation, the Office of Human Resources' proposed programme will be to:

- review all comments received from consultees;
- publish a document on its website summarising the main points made;
- amend the Whistleblowing Policy and Procedure if appropriate;
- submit the revised Policy and Guidance to the Council of Ministers for endorsement.

I look forward to receiving your views and comments on this draft document.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Callister', with a large, stylized initial 'C'.

Jon Callister
Executive Director of the Office of Human Resources, Cabinet Office

