THE DIGITAL HUB

| Introduction |
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| Under section 22 (5) of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014, as amended, each public body is required to publish an annual report outlining the number of protected disclosures received in the previous year and the action taken (if any). This report must not result in the identification of persons making a protected disclosure. This report covers the period of 1 January to 31 December 2025. |

| Internal channel |
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| In line with the Protected Disclosures Act 2014, as amended, the Digital Hub Development Agency (DHDA) has an internal reporting channel and procedure for workers to make a protected disclosure. No protected disclosures were received internally in 2025 (see following page). |

# Protected Disclosures Act 2014

## Form PDA-1

### *Annual Report of Statistics - Internal Reports made under section 6 of the Act*

Section 22(1) of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 requires every public body to make an annual report, no later than **1 March** each year, to the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery & Reform on the number of protected disclosures made to the public body in respect of the immediately preceding calendar year.

**This table must be completed and returned to the Minister even if no protected disclosures have been made in the calendar year that is the subject of this report.**

The information provided in this table should cover **ONLY** reports made by workers connected to the public body using the **INTERNAL** reporting channels established under section 6(3) of the Act. For reports received under other sections of the Act, please use Form PDA-2.

Completed reports should be sent to: pdreporting@per.gov.ie by 1 March each year.

Detailed guidance on the completion of this form is set in Section 14 of the Statutory Guidance on the operation of the Protected Disclosures Act for public bodies and prescribed persons, published in November 2023 and available from: www.gov.ie/protected-disclosures.

**1 Identification**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | Name of Public Body: | Digital Hub Development Agency |
| 1.2 | Calendar year covered by this report: | 2025 |

**2 Reports received in calendar year**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2.1 | How many reports were received via internal reporting channels in the calendar year? | 0 |

**Instructions**:
"Reports" means reports that tend to show "relevant wrondoings" (as defined in section 5(3) of the Act). The term **does not refer** to reports or complaints about **penalisation against reporting persons**. All reports that trigger (or will trigger) an acknowledgement under the Act should be counted.

**3 Assessment of reports**

3.1 Of the total number of reports received in the calendar year, how many were:

| | | (a) Fully | (b) Partially |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3.1.1 | Awaiting completion of assessment at year end? | | |
| 3.1.2 | Assessed as warranting further follow-up? | | |
| 3.1.3 | Referred to another more relevant procedure? | | |
| 3.1.4 | Closed with no further action taken? | | |

**Instructions**:
Where there is a single outcome to an assessment, please enter under column (a), Fully. Where multiple outcomes arise (e.g. if a report contains a range of allegations, which require a range of responses, please enter all that apply under column (b), Partially.

**4 Follow-up of reports**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4.1 | How many follow-up procedures were opened in the calendar year? | 0 |
| 4.2 | How many open follow-up procedures were carried over from the previous year? | 0 |
| 4.3 | How many follow-up procedures were closed in the calendar year? | 0 |
| 4.4 | How many follow-up procedures remained open at the end of the calendar year? | 0 |
| 4.5 | Of the number of follow-up procedures reported as still open in response to Q4.4, how many are: | |
| 4.5.1 | Open less than 1 year? | |
| 4.5.2 | Open more than 1 year but less than 3 years? | |
| 4.5.3 | Open more than 3 years but less than 5 years? | |
| 4.5.4 | Open 5 or more years? | |
| 4.6 | What was the **average** length (in weeks) of the follow-up procedures closed in the calender year? | |
| 4.7 | What was the **median** length (in weeks) of the follow-up procedures closed in the calender year? | |

**Instructions**:
"Follow-up procedures" means any form of follow-up action to a report taken to establish the veracity of the information reported. This could include an investigation, audit, inspection, etc. The term **does not refer** to follow-up or investigation of claims of **penalisation against reporting persons**.

The response to Q.5.2 should also include all open follow-up procedures carried over that commenced prior to the commencement of the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022 (i.e. before 1 January 2023).

**5 Matters followed-up**

5.1 Of the follow-up procedures opened in calendar year reported in response to Q4.1, how many involved:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5.1.1 | Criminal offences? | |
| 5.1.2 | Breaches of a legal obligation? | |
| 5.1.3 | Miscarriage of justice? | |
| 5.1.4 | Endangerment of health and safety? | |
| 5.1.5 | Damage to the environment? | |
| 5.1.6 | Unlawful or improper use of public funds? | |

**Instructions**:
Where a follow-up procedure falls under more than one of the headings listed at 5.1.1 to 5.1.9, please report under each heading that applies. For example, if a follow-up procedure was opened during the year that concerned both a breach of a legal obligation and damage to the environment, this shoud be recorded under both headings 5.1.2 **and** 5.1.5.

If any follow-up procedures have been opened under heading 5.1.8 (breaches of EU law), please

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5.1.7 | Acts or ommissions that are oppresive, discriminatory or grossly negligent or constitute gross mismanagement? | | also complete Q6. Otherwise proceed to Q.7. |
| 5.1.8 | Breaches of the EU laws within the scope of Article 2 of Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (the Whistleblowing Directive)? | | |
| 5.1.9 | Concealment or destruction of information tending to show any matter falling within items 6.1.1 to 6.1.8? | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **6** | **Follow-up of matters related to breaches of EU law** | |
| 6.1 | Of the follow-up procedures reported as opened in response to Q5.1.8 (breaches of EU law), if any, how many involved breaches of: | |
| 6.1.1 | Public procurement? | |
| 6.1.2 | Financial services, products and markets, and prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing? | |
| 6.1.3 | Product safety and compliance? | |
| 6.1.4 | Transport safety? | |
| 6.1.5 | Protection of the environment? | |
| 6.1.6 | Radiation protection and nuclear safety? | |
| 6.1.7 | Food and feed safety and animal health and welfare? | |
| 6.1.8 | Public health? | |
| 6.1.9 | Consumer protection? | |
| 6.1.10 | Protection of privacy and personal data and security of network and information systems? | |
| 6.1.11 | The financial interests of the EU? | |
| 6.1.12 | The functioning of the EU Internal Market? | |

**Instructions**:
Complete this section **ONLY** if one or more follow-up prcedures have been opened in respect of breaches of the EU laws within the scope of Article 2 of Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (the Whistleblowing Directive).

| | | (a) Fully | (b) Partially |
|---|---|---|---|
| **7** | **Outcome of follow-up procedures** | | |
| 7.1 | Of the follow-up procedures reported as closed in response to Q4.3, how many were closed because no wrongdoing was found or insufficient evidence of wrongdoing could be found? | | |
| 7.2 | Of the follow-up procedures reported as closed in response to Q4.3 and the result of the follow-up procedure was that a wrongdoing was found to have occurred, how many resulted in: | | |
| 7.2.1 | Further proceedings or sanctions? | | |
| 7.2.2 | Referral or transmission to another body for further follow-up? | | |
| 7.2.3 | Changes to policies and/or procedures? | | |
| 7.2.4 | Recovery of lost funds? | | |
| 7.3 | Of the follow-up, procedures reported as closed in response to Q4.3, what (where relevant) is the estimated financial damage to the public body arising from the wrondoing reported? | | |
| 7.4 | Of the follow-up procedures reported as closed in response to Q4.3, what (where relevant) is the estimated amount of funds recovered by the public body arising from its follow-up? | | |

**Instructions**:
"Further proceedings or sanctions" means any further internal actions taken by the public body once it has been established a relevant wrongdoing has occured. This includes any disciplinary action taken against persons responsible for the wrongdoing.

"Referral or transmission to another body for further follow-up" means any further external action taken by the public body. It includes referral of a matter to An Garda Siochana for further follow-up or self-reporting of a wrongdoing to a relevant regulatory or supervisory authority.

"Financial damage" refers to damage caused by the relevant wrongdoing reported. The calculation of "financial damage" should include any fines, financial penalties or other damages imposed on the public body arising directly from the wrongdoing reported. It does **not** relate to any **fines or compensation awarded or paid to a reporting person** arising from a claim of penalisation or any **financial damage suffered by the reporting person due to penalisation**.

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| **8** | **Anonymous reports** | |
| 8.1 | Of the total number of reports received in response to Q2, how many were made anoymously? | |
| 8.2 | How many follow-up procedures were opened in response to anyonymous reports in the calendar year? | |
| 8.3 | How many anonymous reporting persons subsequently disclosed their identity to the Designated Person in the calendar year? | |