

## ANNUAL REPORT PROTECTED DISCLOSURES 2024

## Beaumont Hospital Annual Report

## **Protected Disclosures 2024**

The Protected Disclosures Act 2014 (as amended by the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022) allows workers to disclose relevant information about alleged wrongdoing in a work related context by ensuring those who speak up are protected from penalisation.

A protected disclosure is a disclosure of information which, in the reasonable belief of the worker, tends to show one or more relevant wrongdoings; came to the attention of the worker in a work-related context; and is disclosed in the manner set out in the Act.

Beaumont Hospital confirms that it has internal and external reporting channels and comprehensive procedures in place for the receipt and management of protected disclosures.

While disclosers in most cases are not fully clear about the relevant wrongdoing heading under which their concern relates, in general terms they tend to fall within the following areas:

- 1. That the health or safety of any individual has been, is being or is likely to be endangered;
- 2. That an unlawful or otherwise improper use of funds or resources of a public body, or of other public money, has occurred, is occurring or is likely to occur;
- 3. That an act or omission by or on behalf of a public body is oppressive, discriminatory or grossly negligent or constitutes gross mismanagement;
- 4. A combination of the above. In a small number of cases the communication received may not appear to fall within the framework for Protected Disclosures.

Section 22 of the Protected Disclosure Act 2014 (as amended by the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022) requires the publication of a report each year, not later than 31<sup>st</sup> March, relating to the number of Protected Disclosures made in the preceding year and also for the publication of information with regard to actions taken in response to any Protected Disclosures made. This report must not result in persons making disclosures being identifiable.

In 2024, there was one anonymous protected disclosure made. An investigation was carried out, which found that the report was unsubstantiated, with no wrongdoing deemed to have occurred. The matter was closed in 2024.

There were no Protected Disclosures carried over from previous years.



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