

 GIG CYMRU NHS WALES	Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales	Name of Meeting People and Organisational Development Committee Date of Meeting 6 October 2022 Agenda item: 5.4
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Raising Concerns – Annual Report									
Executive lead:	Helen Bushell, Board Secretary and Head of Board Business Unit								
Author:	Liz Blayney, Deputy Board Secretary and Board Governance Manager								
Approval/Scrutiny route:	Helen Bushell, Board Secretary and Head of Board Business Unit								
Purpose The purpose of this report is to provide an annual update to the People and Organisational Development Committee on any Raising Concerns (also known as whistleblowing) received, for assurance that they are being managed in line with the All Wales Raising Concerns Policy.									
Recommendation: <table border="1"> <tr> <td>APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>CONSIDER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>RECOMMEND <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>ADOPT <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>ASSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>					APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/>	CONSIDER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMEND <input type="checkbox"/>	ADOPT <input type="checkbox"/>	ASSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/>
APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/>	CONSIDER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMEND <input type="checkbox"/>	ADOPT <input type="checkbox"/>	ASSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/>					
The Committee is asked to consider the report, and take assurance on the management of Raising Concerns (also known as whistleblowing) within the organisation.									

Link to Public Health Wales [Strategic Plan](#)

Public Health Wales has an agreed strategic plan, which has identified seven strategic priorities and well-being objectives.

This report contributes to the following:

Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective	All Strategic Priorities/Well-being Objectives
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Summary impact analysis

Equality and Health Impact Assessment	An Equality and Health Impact Assessment is not required in support of this report. A EHIA was completed as part of the approval of the Raising Concerns Policy
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Risk and Assurance	None
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Health and Care Standards	This report supports and/or takes into account the Health and Care Standards for NHS Wales Quality Themes Governance, Leadership and Accountability
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Financial implications	N/A
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People implications	N/A
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1. Purpose / situation

The purpose of this report is to provide an annual update to the People and Organisational Development Committee on any Raising Concerns (also known as whistleblowing) received, for assurance that they are being managed in line with the All Wales Raising Concerns Policy.

2. Background

The Committee approved a new All Wales Raising Concerns Policy on 16 February 2022.

The Board Secretary and Head of Board Business Unit is responsible for implementing the All Wales Raising Concerns (whistleblowing) policy and works with the People and Organisational Development team to decide whether concerns fall under whistleblowing or grievance policies.

Within the Audit Wales 'Quality Governance Report 2021/22', it was recommended that Public Health Wales should ensure annual reporting to the Committee on Raising Concerns, and also prioritise raising the profile of its Raising Concerns policy amongst staff. Information is available on the staff intranet about how to raise a concern, and we are reviewing the way in which we promote the policy. A copy of the policy and procedure is available here - <https://phw.nhs.wales/about-us/policies-and-procedures/policies-and-procedures-documents/corporate-governance-communications-and-finance-policies/procedure-for-nhs-staff-to-raise-concerns/>

An internal audit conducted in 2021/22 (Concerns and Grievance report), which received a reasonable assurance rating identified the following actions (summarised as follows)

- Supplementary guidance for managers
- Training for staff investigating concerns
- Logging of concerns
- Reporting of cases

The latter two have been actioned and completed, the first two are in development and will be implemented by the end of March 2023. A further report against the actions will be reported to the Committee, along with all other audit actions falling within the remit of the Committee later in 2022/23.

3. Raising Concerns Cases

During the period 1 September 2021 and 30 August 2022, there have been no Raising Concerns cases to report to the Committee.

4. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to **consider** the report, and **take assurance** on the management of Raising Concerns (also known as whistleblowing) within the organisation.