Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board Protected Disclosures Act 2014

The Protected Disclosures Act 2014 came into effect on 15 July 2014. This Act provides a framework within which workers can raise concerns regarding potential wrongdoing that has come to their attention in the workplace in the knowledge that they can avail of significant and other protections if they are penalised by their employer or suffer any detriment for doing so.

Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board (LOETB) has put in place a policy which, in tandem with the legislation, will encourage workers to report potential wrongdoing in the knowledge that their concerns will be taken seriously and investigated, where appropriate, and that their confidentiality will be respected.

The policy highlights that it is always appropriate to raise concerns when they are based on a reasonable belief, irrespective of whether any wrongdoing is in fact subsequently identified. The policy also provides workers with guidance on how to raise concerns.

The policy applies to all LOETB 'workers' including former workers i.e. LOETB employees at all levels, to include contractors, trainees, agency staff, interns, volunteers and persons on paid and unpaid work experience. The policy is also fully extended to cover the members of LOETB.

In accordance with the provisions of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 (as amended), LOETB has appointed Frank Walsh to receive protected disclosures. The designated officer can be contacted by telephone at 05793 49400, by email at protecteddisclosure@loetb.ie or by post at Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board, 1st Floor, Castle Buildings, Tara Street, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, R35 E9K8.

Protected Disclosures Annual Report 2023

Annual report of LOETB as required by section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 (as amended). LOETB confirms that no protected disclosures were received up to the end of 2023. Consequently, no action was required to be taken by LOETB in relation to Protected Disclosures.