

Protected Disclosures

National Transport Authority
Section 22(5) Report for 2023

March 2024



Annual Report of the National Transport Authority, required under Section 22 of The Protected Disclosures Act 2014 as amended by Section 30 of the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022 ('the Act').

Under Section 22(5) of The Act, each public body and prescribed person shall prepare and publish on their website not later than 31 March each year a report in respect of the immediately preceding calendar year. Per Section 22(5) of the Act, this includes:

- The National Transport Authority as a public body and a prescribed person has established internal reporting channels and procedures in accordance with the Act;
- The National Transport Authority as a prescribed person, has established external reporting channels and procedures in accordance with the Act; and
- The information provided to the Minister for Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform in the relevant reporting templates are included in Form PDA-1 for internal reporting channels and Form PDA-2 for external reporting channels.

Pursuant to this requirement, the National Transport Authority hereby confirms that it received no protected disclosure during 2023 through internal reporting channels and one Protected Disclosure (incorporated in three communications) was received by the Authority as a Prescribed Body. The Protected Disclosure was closed in accordance with the Acts in 2023.

Protected Disclosures are processed in accordance with the National Transport Authority's Protected Disclosures Policy.

NTA Governance Department

March 2024

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:

1.2 Calendar year covered by this report:

2 Reports received in calendar year

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

Instructions:
"Reports" means reports that tend to show "relevant wrongdoings" (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?	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>
3.1.2 Assessed as warranting further follow-up?	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>
3.1.3 Referred to another more relevant procedure?	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>
3.1.4 Closed with no further action taken?	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>

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?

4.2 How many open follow-up procedures were carried over from the previous year?

4.3 How many follow-up procedures were closed in the calendar year?

4.4 How many follow-up procedures remained open at the end of the calendar year?

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?	<input type="text"/>
4.5.2 Open more than 1 year but less than 3 years?	<input type="text"/>
4.5.3 Open more than 3 years but less than 5 years?	<input type="text"/>
4.5.4 Open 5 or more years?	<input type="text"/>
4.6 What was the average length (in weeks) of the follow-up procedures closed in the calendar year?	<input type="text"/>
4.7 What was the median length (in weeks) of the follow-up procedures closed in the calendar year?	<input type="text"/>

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?	<input type="text" value="0"/>
5.1.2 Breaches of a legal obligation?	<input type="text" value="0"/>
5.1.3 Miscarriage of justice?	<input type="text" value="0"/>
5.1.4 Endangerment of health and safety?	<input type="text" value="0"/>
5.1.5 Damage to the environment?	<input type="text" value="0"/>
5.1.6 Unlawful or improper use of public funds?	<input type="text" value="0"/>

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 should 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 report under heading 5.1.8 **and** 5.1.6.

Protected Disclosures Act 2014

Form PDA-2

Annual Report of Statistics - External Reports made or transmitted under sections 7, 7A, 10C and 10D 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 received or are on hand in the calendar year that is the subject of this report.

The information provided in this table should cover **ONLY** reports made by workers to prescribed persons using the **EXTERNAL** reporting channels established under section 7(2A) of the Act or transmitted under sections 7A(1)(b)(vi), 10C(1)(b) and 10D(1)(b)(ii) of the Act. For internal reports received under section 6 of the Act, please use Form PDA-1.

Completed reports should be sent to: [INSERT EMAIL ADDRESS] by 1 March each year.

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

1 Identification

1.1	Name of Prescribed Person:	The National Transport Authority
1.2	Calendar year covered by this report:	2023

2 Reports received in calendar year

2.1	Of the reports received in the calendar year that is the subject of this report, how many were:		Instructions: "Reports" means reports that tend to show "relevant wrongdoings" (as defined in section 5(3) of the Act). The term does not refer to reports or complaints about penalisation against reporting persons .
2.1.1	Received via the external reporting channel established under section 7(2B) of the Act?	1	All reports that trigger an acknowledgement under the Act (or would have triggered an acknowledgement but the reporting person requested otherwise) should be counted.
2.1.2	Transmitted by another prescribed person under section 7A(1)(b)(vi) of the Act?	0	Where the same relevant wrongdoing is reported by the same person and reported both directly to the body and transmitted to the body by another prescribed person or the Protected Disclosures Commissioner, it should be counted as a single report under heading 3.1.1.
2.1.3	Transmitted by the Protected Disclosures Commissioner under section 10C(1)(b) of the Act?	0	
2.1.4	Transmitted by the Protected Disclosures Commissioner under section 10D(1)(b)(ii) of the Act?	0	
2.1.5	Total number of reports received	1	

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?	0		Instructions: Where there is a single outcome to an assessment, please enter under column (a), Fully. Where multiple outcomes of an assessment 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.
3.1.2	Assessed as warranting further follow-up?	1		
3.1.3	Transmitted to another prescribed person or the Protected Disclosures Commissioner?	0		
3.1.4	Closed because the report was clearly minor?	0		
3.1.5	Closed because it was a repetitive report containing no meaningful new information?	0		
3.1.6	Referred to another more relevant procedure?	0		
3.1.7	Assessed as warranting no further follow-up?	0		

4 Investigation of reports

4.1	How many investigations were opened in the calendar year?	1	Instructions: "Investigation", for the purposes of this exercise, refers to any form of follow-up action to a report taken to establish the veracity of the information reported. The term does not refer to investigations of claims of penalisation against reporting persons .
4.2	How many open investigations were carried over from the previous year?	0	
4.3	How many investigations were closed in the calendar year?	1	Examples of investigations include but are not limited to: setting up of investigative committees or commissions, inspections, audits, etc.
4.4	How many investigations remained open at the end of the calendar year?	0	The response to Q5.2 should also include all open investigations carried over that commenced prior to the commencement of the Protected Disclosures (Amendment) Act 2022 (i.e. before 1 January 2023).
4.5	Of the number of investigations reported as still open in response to Q5.4, how many are:		
4.5.1	Open less than 1 year?	0	
4.5.2	Open more than 1 year but less than 3 years?	0	
4.5.3	Open more than 3 years but less than 5 years?	0	
4.5.4	Open 5 or more years?	0	
4.6	What was the average length of the investigations closed in the calendar year?	14	
4.7	What was the median length of the investigations closed in the calendar year?	14	

5	Matters investigated	
5.1	Of the investigations opened in calendar year reported in response to Q4.1, how many involved:	Instructions: Where an investigation 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 one investigation was opened during the year that concerned both a breach of a legal obligation and damage to the environment, enter '1' under both headings 5.1.2 and 5.1.5.
5.1.1	Criminal offences?	0
5.1.2	Breaches of a legal obligation?	0
5.1.3	Miscarriage of justice?	0
5.1.4	Endangerment of health and safety?	0
5.1.5	Damage to the environment?	0
5.1.6	Unlawful or improper use of public funds?	0
5.1.7	Acts or omissions that are oppressive, discriminatory or grossly negligent or constitute gross mismanagement?	0
5.1.8	Breaches of the EU laws within the scope of Article 2 of Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (the Whistleblowing Directive)?	1
5.1.9	Concealment or destruction of information tending to show any matter falling within items 5.1.1 to 5.1.8?	0

6	Matters investigated - Breaches of EU laws	
6.1	Of the investigations reported as opened in response to Q6.1.8 (breaches of EU law), how many involved breaches of:	Instructions: Complete this section ONLY if one or more investigations 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).
6.1.1	Public procurement?	0
6.1.2	Financial services, products and markets, and prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing?	0
6.1.3	Product safety and compliance?	0
6.1.4	Transport safety?	1
6.1.5	Protection of the environment?	0
6.1.6	Radiation protection and nuclear safety?	0
6.1.7	Food and feed safety and animal health and welfare?	0
6.1.8	Public health?	0
6.1.9	Consumer protection?	0
6.1.10	Protection of privacy and personal data and security of network and information systems?	0
6.1.11	The financial interests of the EU?	0
6.1.12	The functioning of the EU Internal Market?	0

7	Proceedings initiated	
7.1	How many proceedings were initiated on foot of investigations in the calendar year?	Instructions: "Proceedings" covers all types of formal enforcement action taken by a prescribed person triggered wholly or mainly by a report of a relevant wrongdoing. Examples include: warning/improvement notices; fines or other financial penalties; and any judicial proceedings taken (civil or criminal). It does not include any proceedings concerning penalisation of a reporting person .
7.2	How many cases were referred to another body to initiate proceedings in the calendar year?	0
7.3	What was the average length (in weeks) of the proceedings that concluded in the calendar year?	0
7.4	What was the median length (in weeks) of the proceedings that concluded in the calendar year?	0

8	Subject of proceedings initiated	
8.1	Of the proceedings initiated or referred to another body in the calendar year reported in response to Q7.1, how many involved:	Instructions: Where proceedings fall under more than one of the headings listed at 8.1.1 to 8.1.9, please include under each heading that applies. For example, if one set of proceedings was opened during the year that concerned both a breach of a legal obligation and damage to the environment, enter '1' under both headings 8.1.2 and 8.1.5.
8.1.1	Criminal offences?	0
8.1.2	Breaches of a legal obligation?	0
8.1.3	Miscarriage of justice?	0
8.1.4	Endangerment of health and safety?	0
8.1.5	Damage to the environment?	0
8.1.6	Unlawful or improper use of public funds?	0
8.1.7	Acts or omissions that are oppressive, discriminatory or grossly negligent or constitute gross mismanagement?	0
8.1.8	Breaches of the EU laws within the scope of Article 2 of Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (the Whistleblowing Directive)?	0
8.1.9	Concealment or destruction of evidence of any of the above wrongdoing?	0

9 Subject of proceedings initiated - Breaches of EU laws		
9.1	Of the proceedings reported as initiated in response to Q8.1.8 (breaches of EU law), how many involved breaches of:	Instructions: Complete this section ONLY if one or more proceedings have been initiated in respect of breaches of the EU laws within the scope of Article 2 of Directive (EU) 2019/1937 (the Whistleblowing Directive).
9.1.1	Public procurement?	0
9.1.2	Financial services, products and markets, and prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing?	0
9.1.3	Product safety and compliance?	0
9.1.4	Transport safety?	0
9.1.5	Protection of the environment?	0
9.1.6	Radiation protection and nuclear safety?	0
9.1.7	Food and feed safety and animal health and welfare?	0
9.1.8	Public health?	0
9.1.9	Consumer protection?	0
9.1.10	Protection of privacy and personal data and security of network and information systems?	0
9.1.11	The financial interests of the EU?	0
9.1.12	The functioning of the EU Internal Market?	0
10 Outcome of proceedings		Instructions:
10.1	Of the proceedings reported as initiated how many resulted in:	"Other enforcement action" refers to any other action taken to address the relevant wrongdoing other than those listed under Qs 10.1.1 to 10.1.4. It could include: formal warnings, improvement notices, confiscation of offending items/materials, closure orders, cease and desist orders etc.
10.1.1	Criminal prosecution?	0
10.1.2	Fines or other financial penalties?	0
10.1.3	Recovery of lost funds?	0
10.1.4	Award of damages?	0
10.1.5	Other enforcement action?	0
10.1.6	No outcome?	0
10.2	Of the proceedings reported as initiated, what (where relevant) is the estimated financial damage arising from the wrongdoing reported?	€ -
10.3	Of the proceedings reported as initiated, what (where relevant) is the total value of fines and/or other financial penalties imposed as a result of these proceedings?	€ -
10.4	Of the proceedings reported as initiated, what (where relevant) is the estimated amount of funds recovered as a result of proceedings?	€ -
11 Anonymous reports		
11.1	Of the total number of reports received in response to Q2, how many were made anonymously?	0
11.2	How many investigations were opened in response to anonymous reports in the calendar year?	0
11.3	How many proceedings were opened in response to anonymous reports in the calendar year?	0
11.4	How many anonymous reporting persons subsequently disclosed their identity in the calendar year?	0

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