



ANNUAL PROTECTED DISCLOSURES REPORT FOR 2020

1. Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act, 2014 requires each public body subject to the Act to publish an annual report setting out the number of protected disclosures received in the preceding year and the action taken (if any). It is important that such a report does not identify the individuals making the protected disclosures.
2. This Annual Protected Disclosures Report of the University of Limerick covers the period of January to December 2020.
 - 2.1 The University received three submissions under Section 6 of the Protected Disclosures Act, 2014 from an employee of the University in 2017. The consideration of the submissions was paused for a period in 2018 and then reactivated. The Protected Disclosures Group established in accordance with the University's Protected Disclosures Policy & Procedures commissioned an investigation into the allegations contained in the Protected Disclosures. The investigation findings were issued in November 2020. Following receipt of the investigator's report, the protected disclosures were deemed closed.
 - 2.2 In 2018 the University received a submission under Section 6 of the Protected Disclosures Act, 2014 from two employees of the University. A Protected Disclosures Group was established in accordance with the University's Protected Disclosures Policy & Procedures. Consideration of the submission from one employee was completed in 2019. Consideration of the submission from the other employee remains on-going as at the end of the period to which this Report relates.
 - 2.3 A protected disclosures submission was received in 2020 from an employee of the University. A significant number of allegations in the protected disclosure were referred to the Protected Disclosures Group established to consider allegations in the protected disclosures referred to in 2.1 above. This was due to the similarity of the allegations made. As a result of the findings of the investigator published in November 2020, this part of the protected disclosure was deemed closed in the period under review. A second Protected Disclosures Group was established to consider the remainder of the allegations in this Protected Disclosure and their consideration of matter remained ongoing during 2020.