

Gofynner am/ Information Governance Please ask for:

and Compliance

Tel: 01443232000

E-bost/E-mail: DataProtection@southwales-fire.gov.uk

*Our ref:* IG000805

Dyddiad/Date: 31.3.21

## **RE: Request for Information held by SWFRS**

Your request ref: IG000805 has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

## You asked us:

1. How many reports did you receive from whistleblowers in 2019 and in 2020?

- 2. How many people do you have in your organisation that are trained/permitted to take reports from whistleblowers?
  - 12 Senior Management Team
- 3. What training have the people in question number 2 received in whistleblowing? Internal auditors & Legal Advisors
- 4. What cost, if any, was there for this training?
- 5. Which organisation delivered each course? TIAA, Berry Smith
- 6. What is the name of the person that arranged this training and what is their email address? With regard to your request for direct contact details, SWFRS operates a single point of contact policy. All callers are requested to contact the Service via HQ Reception on 01443 232000. The call will be directed to the most appropriate department/individual to deal with your call.

This is the same for email correspondence. Please direct all emails enquiries to <a href="mailto:swfs@southwales-fire.gov.uk">swfs@southwales-fire.gov.uk</a> so that your request can be directed as appropriate.

This policy is in operation to ensure that calls/emails are dealt with more efficiently – as structures/posts can change, this prevents emails being sent to individuals whose role may have changed. It also prevents individuals from receiving unwarranted calls/correspondence.

Pencadlys Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru, Parc Busnes Forest View, Llantrisant, Pont-y-clun, CF72 8LX.

**Ffôn** 01443 232000 • **Ffacs** 01443 232180 www.decymru-tan.gov.uk

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y gymraeg a'r saesneg - byddwn yn ymateb yn gyfartal i'r ddau ac yn ateb yn eich dewis iaith heb oedi.

CODI YMWYBYDDIAETH - LLEIHAU PERYGL

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, Pontyclun, CF72 8LX.

**Telephone** 01443 232000 • **Fax** 01443 232180 www.southwales-fire.gov.uk

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English - we will respond equally to both and will reply in your language of choice without delay.

**RAISING AWARENESS - REDUCING RISK** 



This stance is supported by guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office

## which states that:

"The presumption is in favour of protecting privacy, so the release of personal information will only be fair if there is a genuine reason to disclose. This involves a three-stage test. A public authority will generally have to satisfy itself that:

- there is a legitimate interest in disclosure;
- the legitimate interest can only be met, or fully met, by the disclosure of information which identifies individuals (i.e. the disclosure is necessary to that purpose); and,
- the disclosure would not involve unwarranted detriment to the individual's privacy or other rights and legitimate interests.

In this instance you have not provided any indications a legitimate interest in disclosure of such information – or demonstrated that the release of such information is vital to that interest.

- 7. What methods do you have for whistleblowers to contact a person that is authorised to take their report and what are the specific details of these, i.e., email addresses, telephone numbers etc?

  Electronic forms/email to managers or senior managers
- 8. What are the email addresses for the people authorised to receive whistleblower reports? As above
- 9. How many whistleblowers have left the organisation within 12 months of making a report? 0
- 10. How many whistleblowers have made an allegation of 'detriment' against your organisation?
  0

If you have any queries regarding your Freedom of Information request, please contact us at <a href="mailto:Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk">Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk</a> quoting the reference number above in any future communication.

If you are dissatisfied with the way that your information request has been handled, you can request an internal review by emailing <a href="mailto:Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk">Dataprotection@southwales-fire.gov.uk</a>

If you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office-Wales, 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub **De Cymru** 



There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours Faithfully **Information Governance and Compliance** 

## **UPDATE COVID-19: Information Requests**

We are kindly asking that any data protection correspondence come to Information Governance & Compliance via email, as due to Government advice many of our support staff are working flexibly and we may not be in receipt of physical post as normal. SWFRS anticipates that it may take us longer than 20 working days to complete Freedom of Information Requests and Subject Access Requests. The Information Commissioner recognises that there might be delays as our services and resources may be being utilised in slightly different ways, under the current unprecedented circumstances. At current, we are no longer accepting physical postal cheques, however we can accept BACs payments for items that carry a fee (such as IRS Reports and Interviews, where appropriate following standard procedure and charges).

We would like to thank you for your patience at this time.

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