

PE1488/V

Fife Council Email of 18 April 2014

Dear Ned,

Thanks again for agreeing to a short extension to allow me to respond on this matter on behalf of Fife Council.

In common with other local authorities, Fife Council's general policy is to enable employees to raise whistleblowing concerns confidentially, and with confidence that the concern will be dealt with effectively. I attach the Council's Whistle Blowing Guide for Employees, and you will see that section 4 specifically mentions that employees can, if they feel uncomfortable raising their concerns with an official, raise them with an elected member.

[Link to Fife Council Whistleblowing Guide for Employees](#)

I am also attaching separate advice issued to managers on how to deal with such a concern.

[Link to Guide to Managers on How to Deal with a Whistleblowing Concern](#)

Members' main involvement in whistleblowing matters is through the Standards and Audit Committee, the remit of which includes:

reviewing with management the adequacy and effectiveness of the following matters:-

- internal control systems;
- policies and practices to ensure compliance with relevant statutes, directions, guidance and policies;
- financial information presented to the Council;
- risk management arrangements and procedures;
- arrangements for delivering value for money (best value);
- anti-fraud arrangements;
- anti-corruption arrangements including the Council's whistle-blowing strategy.

I am also attaching the Standards and Audit Committee handbook, which again makes specific mention of whistle blowing.

[Link to Standards and Audit Committee Handbook](#)

I hope this is sufficient for your purposes, but if you have further queries please let me know.

Regards

Andrew Ferguson
Manager (Committee Services)
Fife Council