



SFO

serious
fraud
office



ANNUAL REPORT ON WHISTLEBLOWING DISCLOSURES

This report is made in accordance with the Prescribed Persons (Reports on Disclosures of Information) Regulations 2017.

The Serious Fraud Office (SFO) tackles the top tier of serious or complex fraud, bribery and corruption. We investigate and prosecute a small number of large economic crime cases and use our statutory powers to recover the proceeds of such crime. It is our aim to do so fairly and effectively and this includes treating victims, witnesses and whistleblowers with dignity and respect.

The Director of the SFO is a 'prescribed person' for the purpose of whistleblowing legislation and is required to publish an annual report concerning the number of whistleblowing disclosures made by workers about their employers. To qualify for inclusion in the report a disclosure must relate to serious or complex fraud (including bribery or corruption), civil recovery of the proceeds of crime, civil recovery investigations or disclosure orders in relation to confiscation investigations. In addition, the Director must reasonably believe that in the reasonable belief of the worker the disclosure is made in the public interest and tends to show a criminal offence or other relevant failing by the worker's employer.

During the period from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, the SFO's Intelligence Unit managed 102 whistleblowing disclosures that qualified for inclusion in this report. The SFO took further action in relation to 91 disclosures. This included requesting additional information from the whistleblower, conducting further enquiries and / or making contact with partner law enforcement and regulatory agencies.

Whistleblowers continue to provide a vital source of information to the SFO in the fight against economic crime.



The SFO treats all whistleblowing disclosures in confidence. Those who wish to report wrongdoing relating to matters falling within the SFO's remit may do so via our online [Secure Portal](#).



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