

28 July 2025

## **Whistleblowing Complaints at Belfast Health and Social Care Trust**

I request detailed information regarding Whistleblowing Complaints received by Belfast Health and Social Care Trust in the most recent full year (e.g. April 2024 - March 2025) and previous full years from March 2021. Specifically, please provide:

- Total number of Whistleblowing Complaints received in each year.
- Number rejected without investigation.
- Number progressed to formal investigation.
- Number completed (i.e., investigated and closed).
- Number upheld (substantiated concerns).
- Number still open or under consideration as of year-end.

If any figures are withheld due to exemptions, please:

1. Identify the specific exemption applied.
2. Explain why it applies.
3. Advise if an aggregate or anonymised version of the data is available.

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*The table below details the number of Whistleblows recorded by calendar year, commencing Jan 2021 which is how the data is held.*

Calendar Year (January – December)	Whistleblows Received	Closed without Investigation	Progressed to Formal Investigation	Investigated and Closed	Substantiated	Ongoing at year end
2021	35	14  4 referred to Fraud 6 appropriate to HR 2 anonymous - lack of info 2 appropriate to Adult Safeguarding	15	6	8 + 1 partially	6
2022	35	16  2 referred to Fraud 6 appropriate to HR 1 appropriate to Complaints Department 1 appropriate to Information Governance 4 not Whistleblowing as already issues known 2 RQIA led	10	3	7 + 1 partially	9
2023	37	15  5 referred to Fraud 2 appropriate to HR 2 progressed under joint protocol	13	9	2	9

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		2 anonymous – lack of information 2 RQIA led 2 appropriate to Complaints Department				
2024	40*	17  5 referred to Fraud 4 appropriate to HR 1 appropriate to Information Governance 2 appropriate to Complaints Department 1 RQIA led 2 anonymous – lack of information 2 led by another Trust	17	4	4	15
2025 up to 30 June	15		Data not yet available			

\*NB: 40 Whistleblows have been recorded for 2024, however 2 of those Whistleblowers raised multiple Whistleblows (which relate to interlinked matters) within the period which are not captured within the 40 recorded above.