

EMPLOYMENT & INCENTIVES

FCA launches new whistleblowing campaign – In confidence, with confidence

March 2021

The FCA has launched a new campaign aimed at encouraging individuals working in the financial services sector to report wrongdoing.

Whistleblowing continues to be a priority for the FCA as part of its focus on culture and governance. Firms are already required to have in place effective arrangements for individuals to raise concerns. These include the appointment of a whistleblowing champion with oversight over the integrity, independence and effectiveness of whistleblowing arrangements.

Firms are obliged to notify UK employees that they can raise concerns directly with the FCA, without having to first notify their employer. Now the FCA has taken this one step further with its own campaign designed to reassure individuals that disclosures will be taken seriously and will be treated confidentially.

The campaign entitled “**In confidence, with confidence**” seeks to encourage individuals working within the financial services sector to come forward with information about wrongdoing. It lays down expectations for individuals that their identity will be kept confidential and as to the way in which information they provide will be handled.

The campaign emphasises the value that the FCA places on whistleblowers and the importance of the information they provide in keeping consumers, markets and firms safe.

A [new webpage](#) has been created to provide more information for potential whistleblowers.

In confidence

The whistleblower’s identity will be protected.

Personal details about the whistleblower will be stored securely and only shared with the FCA’s dedicated whistleblowing team.

Disclosures can be made anonymously.

The FCA will prevent it from becoming known that the whistleblower has contacted them.

There is no requirement to prove information – whistleblowers can share what they know.

With confidence

All information will be handled by a dedicated team.

Information will be held on a secure database with access limited to the dedicated whistleblowing team.

Whistleblowers will be given a dedicated FCA case manager.

Whistleblowers can receive regular updates throughout the investigation.

Reports and investigations produced by the FCA will focus on the concern, not the person who reported them.

Reports will be shared with other teams within the FCA who need information to determine next steps.

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