

PE1605/P

NHS Fife letter of 17 October 2016

NHS Fife has appointed one of its non-executive board members as the Whistleblowing Champion, Mrs Christina Cooper. The Board is taking forward, in partnership with staff side, a re-launch of the Whistleblowing Policy to raise awareness amongst staff. There are also plans to re-launch the Dignity at Work and Employee Concerns policies which will include additional training for managers and staff representatives.

There has been very low use of the current helpline reported to the Board in the regular reports. This is shared with the Area Partnership Forum and the Staff Governance Committee. There has been no evidence of any instances where locally there has been a blocking of investigation into alleged mismanagement or malpractice. NHS Fife works closely with its staff side partners and would be unsupportive of another process that made no reference to the current arrangements. Potentially this could lead to a more cumbersome investigative process with long timescales. Currently where mismanagement or malpractice are alleged there is the option and often requirement to include other existing external bodies such as HIS, NMC, GMC or CFS.

We hope this information is helpful.