

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting of the Standards Committee on 9th February 2026

Whistleblowing Policy- Annual Report

Report of the Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Jim Fieldsend, Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

To provide an annual update to Members on use of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 Whistleblowing is a report from an employee, member, or other person about suspected wrongdoing within the organisation. The Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 requires employers to refrain from dismissing workers and employees or subjecting them to any other detriment because they have made a protected disclosure.
- 1.2 Whistleblowing policies should foster a climate of openness and transparency in which individuals in the workplace do not feel that they will be victimised, harassed, or suffer any reprisals if they raise concerns about wrongdoing within the organisation. The Government expects all public bodies to have adequate whistleblowing procedures in place.

2. Details of Proposal or Information

- 2.1 The Whistleblowing Policy shown in Appendix 1 was last reviewed by Standards Committee on 10th November 2025.
- 2.2 In accordance with the Whistleblowing Policy, the Monitoring Officer has overall responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the Policy and will maintain a record of concerns raised and the outcomes. The Monitoring Officer is also required to report as necessary to the Council on instances of whistleblowing.

2.3 There have been two instances of whistleblowing in 2025 which are shown on the Whistleblowing Register at Appendix 2. Due to the need to maintain confidentiality these whistleblowing complaints have been anonymised and detailed so as not to reveal the identity of the complainant and member of staff complained about.

2.4 These instances will be reported to Council in accordance with the Whistleblowing Policy.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 To report the 2025 instances of whistleblowing to Members.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 There are no alternative options.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That the Committee note the instances of whistleblowing that have been made during 2025 which will be reported to Council.

IMPLICATIONS:

<u>Finance and Risk</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details:		
On behalf of the Section 151 Officer		
<u>Legal (including Data Protection)</u> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Details:		
The legal implications in relation to whistleblowing are contained within the policy and no further implications arise from this report.		
On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council		
<u>Staffing</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details:		
On behalf of the Head of Paid Service		
<u>Equality and Diversity, and Consultation</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Details:		
<u>Environment</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment		
Details:		

DECISION INFORMATION:

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies:</p> <p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.</p> <p>Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.</p> <p>District Wards Significantly Affected: <i>(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)</i> Please state below which wards are affected or tick All if all wards are affected:</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>All <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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<p>If Yes, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? <i>(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)</i></p> <p>Consultation carried out: <i>(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)</i></p> <p>Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing
Customers

DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title
1	Whistleblowing Policy
2	Whistleblowing Register 2025

Background Papers

(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).

DECEMBER 2024