



## Consultation questions

1. Do you agree that the following individuals should be given access to an investigation by the SPSO in her role as INWO?

individuals in the primary care sector	Yes
individuals delivering services for independent providers, under contractual arrangements with NHSScotland	Yes

Do you have any comments on this proposal?

Agree

2. Do you agree that the SPSO may specify in the model Whistleblowing Procedure which individuals may qualify as whistleblowers and which types of concerns may qualify as whistleblowing matters for the purposes of the INWO investigation?

Yes

No

Do you have any comments on this proposal?

There is a concern should there be a difference of opinion on the definition. The definition must be agreed independently of the bodies that may be investigated. David Drew (Little Stories of Life and Death) raises instances of people speak who considered themselves to be whistleblowers but the NHS authorities decided not to recognise it as such and this undermined their case.

3. Do you agree that the SPSO in her role as INWO should be able to investigate and comment upon the treatment of the individual as outlined in the consultation?

Yes

No

Do you have any comments on this proposal?

Agree. We continue to see headlines regarding the poor treatment (bullying, harassment, loss of employment) of those who have taken steps to raise concerns regarding poor standards of care.

4. We propose that the SPSO in her role as INWO should be given powers to share proportionate information on practice issues with the following bodies (where it is directly linked to their role):

- Healthcare Improvement Scotland
- National Education Services
- Mental Welfare Commission
- National Services Scotland (namely Counter Fraud Services and Information Services Division)

Are there any other bodies that you think the INWO should be able to share this type of information with?

Yes

No

If yes, which other bodies do you think the SPSO, in her role as INWO should be able to share this type of information with?

5. Do you have any other comments on our proposals for establishing the INWO?

Following the publication of the Francis report ( which although written for England, is no less relevant to Scotland) and best intentions of Government, there continue to be frustrations for those charged with managing whistleblowers' concerns eg NHS Tayside, NHS Grampian. It is hoped that this move to create an independent body would change the current culture and move things forward to improve standards.

**Questions about you or your organisation**

6. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

**Organisation**

Individual

If you are responding for an organisation:

What is the name of the organisation?

Dental Faculty of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow

What is your role?

Honorary Secretary

7. If you are responding as an individual:

Do you work / have you recently worked in the NHS?

Yes

No

If yes, what is/ was your role in the NHS?

If not, what is your experience in relation to the health service?

8. We may wish to publish your consultation responses in full or in part. The Scottish Government would like your permission to do so. Please indicate your publishing preference.

**Publish response with name**

Publish response without your name – for individuals only

Do not publish response

Please provide your name:

Please provide your email address:

**Information for individuals**

If you choose the option 'Do not publish response' we will still reflect your comments in our analysis but will not include any of the free text comments in any report of the consultation.

**Information for organisations**

If you choose the option 'Do not publish response', your organisation name may still be listed as having responded to the consultation in, for example, the analysis report.

**9.** We will analyse all responses and may publish a report. We may wish to contact you for further information. Are you content for the Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

No

Yes

If yes, please provide your name and email address

**Thank you**

We welcome all comments and contributions, and will use this feedback to inform any amendments to the draft order.