

**PE1488/S**

Midlothian Council Email of 15 April 2014

Dear Sirs

Your letter has been passed to me for response.

You have asked:

*How are elected members of local authorities involved in the local authority's whistleblowing policy?*

*I would be grateful if you could detail the ways in which the elected members of the council are involved in the development and oversight of the policy, and whether elected members have any role in whistleblowing procedures.*

I can confirm the following:

1. The Council has two "Whistleblowing" Policies, one for employees and one for members of the public. Both Policies were approved by the Audit Committee (elected members), the minutes of which were then approved by the full Council.
2. Whistleblowing cases, being operational matters, are Officer-led, however, any individual whistleblowing cases that involve a detailed investigation would normally be reported to the Audit Committee on an individual basis as and when completed. Members are usually asked to review the contents of the audit report; and endorse the audit recommendations for each investigation.

I hope that provides the information you require but if necessary please contact me with any queries

Regards

Ian Pilbeam  
Corporate HR Strategy Manager  
Midlothian Council