

25<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## **Non-executive Whistleblowing Champion Member appointed to Fife NHS Board**

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care, Humza Yousaf MSP, today confirmed the appointment of Kirstie MacDonald as Non-executive Whistleblowing Champion Member of Fife NHS Board.

### **MEMBER**

**Kirstie MacDonald** has a professional background in International Investment Banking and has worked in the UK and USA. She holds an Executive MBA from the University of Nottingham where she specialised in Corporate Social Responsibility; she undertook studies in Ethics, Governance and Risk in private and public sector organisations and a management project on the effectiveness of Whistleblowing arrangements in the English NHS. Kirstie has worked in one of England's' largest acute hospital Trusts as their first Freedom to Speak Up Guardian; working with the Board and Staff to implement national whistleblowing guidelines aimed at creating an open, supportive and responsive culture.

### **APPOINTMENT**

The appointment will be for four years and runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

The appointment is regulated by the Ethical Standards Commissioner.

### **REMUNERATION**

This appointment is part-time and attracts a remuneration of £8,842 per annum for a time commitment of one day per week.

### **OTHER MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS**

Kirstie MacDonald does not hold any other public appointments.

### **POLITICAL ACTIVITY**

All appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity within the last five years (if there is any to be declared) to be made public.

Kirstie MacDonald has had no political activity within the last five years.

## **BACKGROUND**

NHS Fife is responsible for meeting the health needs of around 370,000 people and provides a comprehensive range of primary, community-based and acute hospital services to the community it serves.

The NHS is one of the most valued organisations in the country and whistleblowing should be welcomed as it allows the organisation to put right anything that may compromise patient safety or the integrity of the Board.

The Whistleblowing Champion will promote a culture of openness and transparency in the Board where all staff feel confident to raise any concerns they may have in the knowledge that they will be supported and their concerns properly investigated. Being able to provide assurance that staff are able to raise concerns in an open, honest, and supportive workplace is a hugely worthwhile role.