

Public Concern at Work

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For immediate release

[New Chief Executive for Public Concern at Work](#) [The whistleblowing advice line](#)

The trustees of Public Concern at Work are delighted to announce the appointment of Cathy James as the organisation's new Chief Executive. Cathy has worked at the charity since 2005 and has been Acting Director since May 2010. Established in 1993, Public Concern at Work's confidential legal advice line has advised over 11,000 people concerned about malpractice, wrongdoing or risk in the workplace.

Michael Smyth chairman of Public Concern at Work said 'We are delighted to have secured Cathy as our new Chief Executive. Cathy has unrivalled expertise in the field and the right skills to lead the charity to its next phase. With a strong team, good financials and an excellent reputation, the charity is well placed to make a real difference to the lives of those who speak truth to power.'

Commenting on the appointment Cathy said 'I feel really privileged to be asked to lead such an expert team and to be able to help those who may be facing the most difficult decision of their working lives. Any one of us could find ourselves in a whistleblowing dilemma at any time and we rely on those who do to speak up to protect the public interest. Be it a care worker for the elderly, a doctor in an operating theatre or a trader in a bank. Providing a listening ear and independent advice can make all the difference to someone who wants to blow the whistle.'

Our advice is most effective at an early stage and we have much to do in raising our profile so that we reach workers at the crucial time and help them speak up. I relish the challenge ahead.'

Note to editors:

Public Concern at Work, the whistleblowing advice line, is an independent charity set up in 1993. We give free, confidential advice to those concerned about malpractice or wrongdoing in the workplace. We also help organisations to address risk responsibly. The charity was instrumental in getting the whistleblowing legislation, the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998, on the statute books. Cathy James was previously a partner at Kennedys. The Senior Management Team at PCaW includes a barrister and two solicitors. Previous Chairs of the charity include Lord Borrie, Sir Ross Cranston, Micheal Brindle QC and the current Chairman is Michael Smyth CBE, who for many years was a partner at Clifford Chance. For more information please visit www.pcaw.org.uk.

To arrange an interview with Cathy about what's next for the charity or for further comment and information, please contact:

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making **whistleblowing** work