

# **Police Appeals Tribunal – Conditions of Entry**

### Introduction

Police Appeals Tribunals (PATs) hear appeals against the findings of gross (serious) misconduct brought by police officers or special constables. PATs are currently governed by Police Appeals Tribunal Rules 2020.

Any member of the public or press wishing to attend the PAT may do so however due to limitations on space and capacity, attendance at the hearing will be administered and booked by application through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (OPCC). The OPCC can be contacted at <a href="mailto:opcc@hampshire.police.uk">opcc@hampshire.police.uk</a> regarding attending the PAT. The regulations state that the Chair may also impose further conditions of entry in addition to those set out in this document. If this arises the further conditions will be published on the website prior to the hearing.

# **Procedures of a Public Hearing**

Notice of a public hearing will be made not less than 5 working days prior to the hearing. Should the hearing, or part of the hearing be in private, reasons will be given and published. Upon the conclusion of the hearing, the Chair will decide whether to publish a notice which may contain:

- Name of the officer concerned
- Alleged conduct of the officer
- Finding of the misconduct panel
- Outcome of the misconduct panel
- Decision of the Police Appeals Tribunal

**Please note:** If you are a witness to a hearing, you will not be eligible for a public seat.

There may be occasions when a hearing is cancelled at short notice

If the Chair decides that the evidence to be given by a witness or any other person should not be disclosed in public, an explanation will be given, and the public will be excused whilst they give the evidence.

### **Start Times**

You are advised to check the OPCC website the evening before to confirm the start time for the PAT. We request that members of the public should arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the commencement of proceedings to allow time to be signed in.

Entry will not be permitted once the hearing is in session.



# **Adjournments**

During the hearing, it may be necessary for the hearing to be adjourned. The Chair will announce the reason for this and the time at which the hearing will recommence. During adjournments (apart from for lunch), members of the public should remain in the hearing room.

#### Lunch

The hearing will stop for lunch at a convenient point decided by the Chair who will announce a return time to re-commence proceedings. As per the start, entry will not be permitted once the hearing is back in session if you are late.

### **Finish**

The PAT will normally conclude around 5pm.

#### **Conduct within the PAT**

Members of the public are requested to remain silent whilst the hearing is in session.

If there is any interruption of the hearing, or anyone behaves in a disorderly or abusive manner, or acts inappropriately in the view of the Chair, they will be asked to leave and will not be allowed access to the remainder of the hearing.

### Mobile phones and cameras

Mobile phones and other devices can be retained during the hearing but must be switched off. The taking of pictures is forbidden within the hearing room and should not be taken of any persons entering or leaving the tribunal.

### **Conclusion of the PAT**

At the conclusion of a hearing, the result will be published on the PCC's website for a minimum period of 28 days.

### The Venue

A range of venues within Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are used by the OPCC for PAT hearings. Confirmation will be given of the venue for each hearing once an application to attend is received.

## **Photographic ID**

All members of the public will be required to produce photographic ID to the OPCC prior to admission to the hearing.

### **Disabled access**

Wherever possible, our venues will have access and facilities for the disabled but this can't be guaranteed. Let us know in advance what your requirements are and we'll try to make arrangements for you, or let you know if we can't.



# Parking and travel

There is usually parking available at the venues for PAT hearings. We will confirm details once an application to attend is received.

Please note: Travel and attendance will be in your own time and at your own expense.

### Refreshments

Members of the public will be required to make their own arrangements for lunch and refreshments. It is not permitted to eat or drink during the hearings.

#### Restrictions

With exception of guide or assistant dogs, pets, or children (under the age of 18) will not be permitted.