



Who We Are

The Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments in Scotland, also known as OCPAS, regulates appointments to the boards of many of Scotland's public bodies.

We are wholly independent of the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government.

What We Do

Every one of us living in Scotland benefits from the essential services provided by our public bodies. Their boards play a vital role in guiding and shaping these services.

Our job at OCPAS is to make sure that the people who serve on these boards are appointed on merit, using methods that are fair and open. Whilst we regulate the process used to make appointments, it is run by civil servants on behalf of the Scottish Government. A representative of OCPAS, known as an OCPAS Assessor, oversees every regulated appointment round.

Our website has a list of the bodies that we regulate and also has useful information on applying for a public appointment.

This leaflet is sent to everyone who applies for a regulated public appointment in Scotland so that they know that the process is regulated and what to do if things go wrong.



Making a complaint about a public appointment

Anyone who believes that an appointment has not been made appropriately or who has concerns about the appointment process itself can make a complaint.

If you have a complaint about a public appointment you first have to complain to the Scottish Government and give the people there a chance to respond. If you are unhappy with the Scottish Government's response to your complaint you can then ask OCPAS to investigate the matter for you.

If you are in any doubt about whether we can deal with your complaint, or if you want advice before raising a formal complaint, please contact us using the details provided below. You can read in more detail about the way we deal with complaints by downloading our complaints leaflet from our website. We can send you the leaflet in another format if you would prefer.

Our complaints leaflet also tells you what to do if you want to make a complaint about us.

Contact details

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Public Appointments in Scotland

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