

hcpts

health & care
professions
tribunal service

The Health and Care Professions Tribunal Service

An introduction to HCPC's adjudication service

What is the HCPTS?

Purpose

The Health and Care Professions Tribunal Service (HCPTS) is the fitness to practise adjudication service of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Although it is part of the HCPC, the distinct identity of the HCPTS seeks to emphasise that hearings are conducted and managed by independent Panels which are at arm's length from the HCPC.

Structure

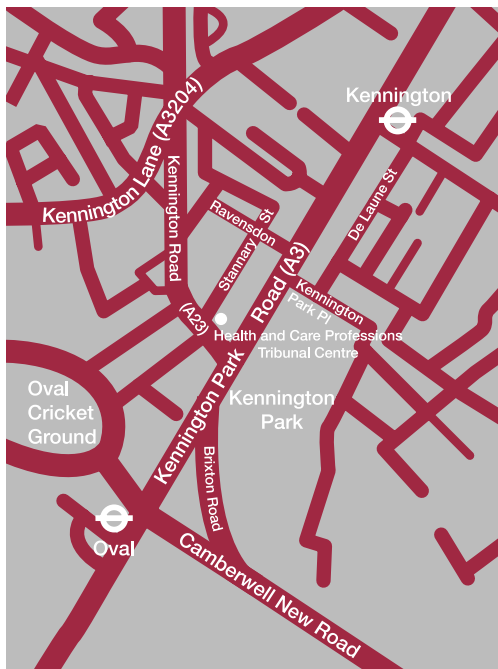
The HCPTS comprises of:

- The Health and Care Professions Tribunal – the Panels which hear and determine cases on behalf of the HCPC's three Practice Committees: the Conduct and Competence, Health and Investigating Committees; and
- The Tribunal Service team, which provides operational support to the Tribunal. The Tribunal Service scheduling team is responsible for listing all fitness to practise proceedings. The Tribunal Service hearings team is responsible for providing support to Panels and other participants at hearings and is also responsible for publishing Tribunal decisions.

The Tribunal Centre

The hearing venue

We have a legal obligation to hold hearings in all four of the UK countries, based upon the registered address of the registrant concerned. Although we may hold hearings in cities throughout the UK, the vast majority of our hearings are held in London. We have a dedicated Tribunal Centre in Kennington, South London. This is in walking distance from both Kennington and Oval tube stations.



Facilities and accessibility

Our Tribunal Centre is fully accessible and our hearing rooms have a range of resources that can facilitate the logistical and technical needs for our hearing participants. We have eight hearing rooms over two floors which include two separate witness waiting areas. Each hearing room has a corresponding private room for the registrant and their representative.

If you have any dietary requirements please let us know in advance of the hearing and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

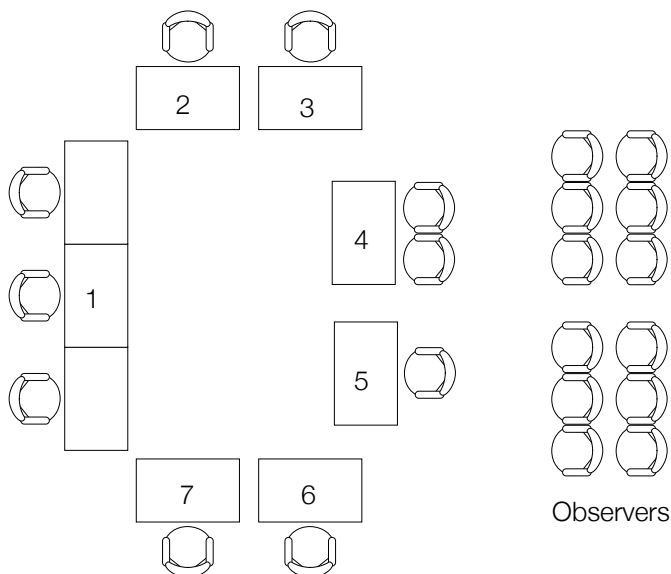
Attending remotely

Our hearings rooms are equipped with video conferencing and teleconferencing facilities. We also have a separate private video conferencing room that connects to the main hearing rooms, which help to facilitate the needs of our most vulnerable hearing participants.

If a Panel has agreed that you can give evidence via a video link, our Tribunal Service team will organise the link to the hearing room for you and will ensure that the necessary paperwork is sent to you in advance.

Floor plan / virtual tour

The picture below shows a typical set up for a hearing. As most of our hearings are held in public, members of the public or the media may be present. There may however be times where part or all of the hearing is conducted in private to protect the privacy of the parties concerned.



1. Panel
2. Witness
3. Transcription writer
4. Registrant and representative (if they are there)
5. Presenting officer
6. Hearings officer
7. Legal assessor

If you would like more information on our Tribunal Centre and its facilities, please refer to our website or view our virtual tour at www.hcpts-uk.org/attendingahearing/virtualtour

The Tribunal Advisory Committee

Composition

The Tribunal Advisory Committee (TAC) is a non-statutory committee of the HCPC. It reports directly to the Council. The Committee comprises six members; three of the Tribunal's Panel Chairs and three members who are independent of the Tribunal.

Responsibilities

The TAC's main role is to advise the Council on the recruitment, training and assessment of Tribunal panellists, panel chairs and legal assessors. The TAC is also responsible for issuing guidance to the Tribunal on practice and procedure. An important part of that function is the approval of the HCPTS Practice Notes.

Further information

To find out more about the members of the TAC and its meetings, please visit our website at www.hcpts-uk.org/aboutus/tac

Further information

We have produced a brochure for all witnesses that have been asked to attend a hearing at the HCPTS, which is available at www.hcpts-uk.org/information/witnesses

If you require a hard copy please email us at tsteam@hcpts-uk.org

The HCPC have produced a number of documents and brochures which provide further information about the fitness to practise process. These can all be found on the HCPC website at www.hcpc-uk.org/publications

If you would like to know more about the HCPTS and the hearings that we hold, please refer to our website at www.hcpts-uk.org

Feedback

We are continually striving to improve our services and value the feedback of all hearing participants. All feedback received is reviewed regularly and, when requested, we will respond directly to any specific enquiries or suggestions you may have.

Witness feedback forms are sent to witnesses at the end of each hearing and hard copies are available in the witness waiting area. All witness feedback can be sent to witnessfeedback@hcpts-uk.org or to the following address.

Health and Care Professions Tribunal Service
405 Kennington Road
London
SE11 4PT

Any other feedback or concerns relating to fitness to practise hearings can be sent to tsteam@hcpts-uk.org

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**To request this document in Welsh
or an alternative format,
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