



Grievance Procedure

About this procedure

Most grievances can be resolved quickly and informally through discussion with the Clerk, relevant Warden or Master; if this does not resolve the problem you should initiate the formal procedure set out below. This procedure applies to all employees or Freemen regardless of length of service. It does not apply to agency workers or self-employed contractors.

This procedure does not form part of any employee's contract of employment. It may be amended at any time and we may depart from it depending on the circumstances of any case.

Step 1: Written Grievance

You should put your grievance in writing and submit it to the Clerk. If your grievance concerns a Member of the Court you may submit it to the Master.

The written grievance should set out the nature of the complaint, including any relevant facts, dates, and names of individuals involved so that we can investigate it.

Step 2: Meeting

We will arrange a grievance meeting, normally within one week of receiving your written grievance. You should make every effort to attend.

You may bring a companion to the grievance meeting if you make a reasonable request in advance and tell us the name of your chosen companion. The companion may be either a fellow Freeman or someone else agreed by the Clerk, but not a legal representative.

If you or your companion cannot attend at the time specified you should let us know as soon as possible and we will try, within reason, to agree an alternative time.

We may adjourn the meeting if we need to carry out further investigations, after which the meeting will usually be reconvened.

We will write to you, usually within one week of the last grievance meeting, to confirm our decision and notify you of any further action that we intend to take to resolve the grievance. We will also advise you of your right of appeal.



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Step 3: Appeals

If the grievance has not been resolved to your satisfaction you may appeal in writing to the Clerk, stating your full grounds of appeal, within one week of the date on which the decision was sent or given to you. We will hold an appeal meeting, normally within two weeks of receiving the appeal. This will be dealt with impartially by a more senior Freeman or Warden, where possible, who has not previously been involved in the case. You will have a right to bring a companion (see above).

We will confirm our final decision in writing, usually within one week of the appeal hearing.

There is no further right of appeal.