

**THE HIGHLAND AND WESTERN ISLES VALUATION JOINT BOARD
 QUARTERLY COMPLAINTS REPORT 1 DECEMBER 2024 – 28 FEBRUARY 2025**

The Highland & Western Isles Valuation Joint Board (HWIVJB) is committed to providing high quality customer services and we value complaints and use information from them to help us improve our services. In April 2021, the HWIVJB published its updated Model Complaints Procedure and under the requirements of the Scottish Public Sector Ombudsman quarterly reports on performance are circulated to the senior management team but also published on our website.

We regard a complaint as any expression of dissatisfaction about our action or lack of action, or about the standard of service provided by us or on our behalf.

Further information on our complaints handling procedure can be found on our website (see [HWIVJB Complaints Procedure](#)).

Key Performance Indicators

Indicator 1 – the total number of complaints received

Complaints received	
Total number of complaints received at stage 1 (including escalated complaints)	2
Total number of complaints received in the period at stage 2	1
Total number of complaints received in the period	3

Indicator 2 – the number and percentages of complaints at each stage that were closed in full within the set timescales of 5 and 20 working days

Complaints closed in full within set timescales	
Total number of complaints closed in the period	2
Number of complaints closed at stage 1 within 5 working days	1
Number of complaints closed at stage 2 within 20 working days	1
Number of complaints closed after escalation within 20 day working days	0

Indicator 3 – the average time in working days for a full response to complaints at each stage

Average time in working days for full response	
Average time in working days to respond to complaints at stage 1	4

Average time in working days to respond to complaints at stage 2	49
Average time in working days to respond to complaints after escalation	0

Indicator 4 – the outcome of complaints at each stage

Complaints Outcomes (upheld, partially upheld, not upheld or resolved) at stage 1 as a percentage of all complaints	
Number of complaints upheld at stage 1	0
Number of complaints partially upheld at stage 1	0
Number of complaints not upheld at stage 1	1
Number of complaints resolved at stage 1	0
Complaints Outcomes (upheld, partially upheld, not upheld or resolved) at Stage 2 as a percentage of all complaints	
Number of complaints upheld at stage 2	0
Number of complaints partially upheld at stage 2	0
Number of complaints not upheld at stage 2	2
Number of complaints resolved at stage 2	0
Complaints Outcomes (upheld, partially upheld, not upheld or resolved) after escalation as a percentage of all complaints	
Number of complaints upheld after escalation	0
Number of complaints partially upheld after escalation	0
Number of complaints not upheld after escalation	0
Number of complaints resolved after escalation	0

Lessons learnt from complaints handling

One complaint related to electoral registration who wished to query their name on the electoral register. After checks, it was noted that the elector name was correct on the register and had been for a number of years. The complaint was not upheld.

The other two complaints related to Valuation Roll and the audit of self-catering units. One complaint related to lack of evidence that correspondence had been received from the Assessor before property was transferred into Council Tax. The Assessor will review how correspondence

is sent in future. This complaint was responded to outwith the period of this report and was over the 20 days. It was not upheld.

The second complaint related to dispute over correspondence being received and Assessor staff being unhelpful. Due to changes in legislation evidence must be provided for a self-catering unit and staff were providing advice on this. This complaint was not upheld.