

**THE HIGHLAND AND WESTERN ISLES VALUATION JOINT BOARD
 QUARTERLY COMPLAINTS REPORT 1 MARCH 2025 TO 31 MAY 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	2
Number of complaints closed at stage 2 within 20 working days	0
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	3.5

Average time in working days to respond to complaints at stage 2	0
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	2
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	0
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. The elector felt that ERO staff had not processed their postal vote application form correctly. Elector was advised that there is now two different ways to apply for a postal vote for UK and Scottish elections. Application was received for both election types but processed on different days which created a confirmation letter for one election type but not the other. This was resolved as soon as the second application was processed. This complaint was not upheld.

The last two complaints related to Valuation. One related to the length of time to process a valuation roll change. This was processed and an explanation given for the delay. This complaint was not upheld.

The final complaint related to the Self-catering Unit audit. This complaint was received on 27 May and is being treated as a stage 2 complaint. Due to timing, this was not completed in the date range for this report but will be included in the June to August report.