



What happens if a complaint goes to the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC)?



Make sure you

- Inform your employer and supervisor as soon as possible
- Seek legal advice
- Keep a record of any steps you and your employer take to address the issues raised
- Cooperate fully with any investigation or review
- Get some support.

The PCC will investigate the complaint or notice of conviction.

This involves speaking to the complainant and anyone else involved.

About the PCC

The SWRB convene the PCC which consists of two social workers and one layperson (all external to the SWRB).

Meeting times are flexible, and the meetings are informal and conversational in format.

Can I respond to the complaint?

The PCC will give you three **1 2 3** opportunities to provide information in response to the complaint.

- 1 When the investigation begins, the PCC will reach out to you and invite you to provide more information if you wish.

During the investigation

The PCC will give you an opportunity to meet with them in person or via audio-visual link to share your responses to the investigation findings.

2

At the end of the investigation

The PCC will issue their proposed written decision and give you all of the information they have collated.

- 3 You will have the opportunity to give feedback on the decision before it is finalised.

Note: The SWRB's processes as regulator run separately from the court system. The standards of proof for court and the SWRB are different. Even if charges do not result in a conviction, the SWRB may still investigate your fitness to practise.



PCC decisions

The PCC will make one of the following decisions:

- No further action.
- Request the Board to review your competence or fitness to practice.
- Recommend the Board censure you, tell you to apologise, or attend relevant training.
- Send the case to the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Tribunal can take more serious disciplinary actions like cancelling registration.



PCC decisions are confidential and are not released to the public.