

MEC APPEALS PROCESS

Policy Statement:

The purpose of this document is to outline the procedures to be followed when an appeal is brought against decisions made directly by MEC including applications for upgrade to professional level membership of the Society (Associate, Member or Fellow) and disciplinary issues

Definitions:

Unless otherwise stated 'CSFS' means The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences, 'MEC' means Membership and Ethics Committee.

Upgrade Application Process and Appeals:

All decisions made by MEC, including all applications for upgrade to professional level are received into the office and documentation and transmitted to the Membership and Ethics Committee (MEC) for review.

(1) If an application to upgrade is rejected the applicant will be contacted by the office to this effect and will have the opportunity to offer any additional information, they feel may assist their application.

If after further review by the Chair of MEC the application is still rejected the applicant will be contacted by the office again and at this point if they wish to appeal the decision further the matter will be put on the agenda for discussion at the next MEC meeting.

All such appeals will be discussed at MEC meeting and decision by vote will take place.

In this instance all decisions of the Membership and Ethics Committee (MEC) will be final.

(2) If MEC discusses potential disciplinary issues (in line with the Disciplinary Regulations) and decides under 4.3 the complaint is not trivial, frivolous or malicious but conclude that it does not initially warrant a full disciplinary process, MEC may decide under 4.10 that a Disciplinary committee is not required but may issue other sanctions not directly related to membership status.

The respondent may appeal against those sanctions and the decision made by MEC. The appeal and any additional supporting information will initially be passed back to MEC to reconsider. If MEC agree that suitable additional information is received, MEC may revoke their original decision. If, however, they feel they do not wish to revoke their decision then the respondent can request the issue is assessed by a suitably appointed Disciplinary committee.