

## Principles which apply to Case Manager (Appeals) decisions

### Introduction

- 1** All doctors who practise medicine in the UK must be registered with us and hold a licence to practise. It is important that patients trust doctors and have confidence that they are competent in their field and abide by high ethical standards. Our duty is to protect this public interest by maintaining the integrity of the medical register. We do this by:
  - Ensuring that only those doctors who are suitably qualified and fit to practise can gain entry to the medical register and obtain a licence to practise.
  - Managing the revalidation process, whereby all licensed doctors are regularly required to demonstrate that they are up to date and fit to practise medicine.
- 2** This guidance should be read in conjunction with the [principles which apply to decision-making across all our registration and revalidation functions](#).

### The role of Case Manager (Appeals)

- 3** The Case Manager:
  - decides if a registration appeal panel requires further information from the parties before it considers an appeal
  - can direct that the parties provide further information to the panel
  - considers any requests by the GMC or the applicant to postpone the appeal
  - can decide themselves to postpone the appeal
  - considers any request by the GMC or can decide themselves whether an appeal should be struck out.

## Factors to consider

- 4 Case Managers decisions should be formulated and agreed in a way that is fair, consistent and transparent, in accordance with principles which apply to decision-making across all our registration and revalidation functions.
- 5 The check list below includes factors that Case Managers should consider when making a decision under the relevant rules\*.

Check list	
1	<p>When making a decision if additional information should be requested from the parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Have you considered the need to secure the just, effective and expedited conduct of the appeal proceedings?</li><li>■ Have you taken into account the individual circumstances of the case?</li></ul>
2	<p>When making a decision to postpone the appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Have you taken into account representations from the parties? Including the individual circumstances of the applicant.</li><li>■ If you have decided to postpone the appeal, have you considered the need to secure the just, effective and expedited conduct of the appeal proceedings?</li></ul>
3	<p>When making a decision to strike out an appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Has the applicant not provided the information they were directed to within the specified time limits, or has the time limit expired?</li><li>■ Have there been any other circumstances which should be taken into account?</li></ul>

## Approved May 2020

\* The case manager exercises these functions under delegated authority by virtue of [The General Medical Council \(Registration Appeals Panels Procedure\) Rules Order of Council 2010](#).