

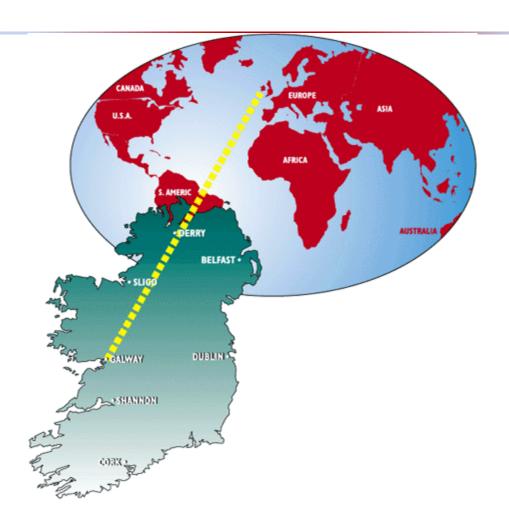
'One single door for complaints'

11th World Conference International Ombudsman Institute

Jacqui Mc Crum

Director General, Office of the Ombudsman IRELAND





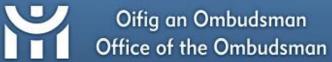












Stage 1

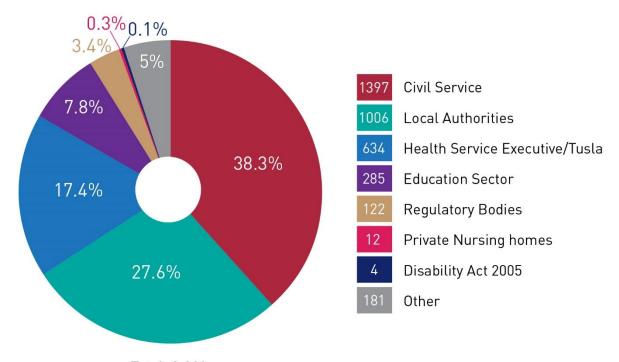
SINGLE MODEL COMPLAINTS PROCESS Stage 2

SINGLE CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS PORTAL Stage 3

SINGLE COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT **SYSTEM**

Ombudsman's Office – Our experience

Complaints Received by Sector



Total: 3,641

THE CASE FOR CHANGE - OUR FEEDBACK

- Current system can be confusing
- When complaints are handled badly, the public's confidence and trust in services are eroded
- Uneven complaints handling practice & performance
- Multi stage processes very daunting

IS IT CLEAR TO THE CITIZEN?





"Investigate once and investigate well"

Stage 1 SINGLE MODEL **COMPLAINTS PROCESS**

Stage 2
SINGLE CUSTOMER
COMPLAINTS
PORTAL

Stage 3
SINGLE
COMPLAINTS
MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM



Why a standard complaints process?

1

 Potential to lead to greatly improved complaint handling

2.

 Resolves issues raised in a timely & cost effective way – standardised training

3.

 Provides valuable information that can lead to service improvement

4.

Improves the reputation of and strengthens confidence in organisation/department/body

HOW?

Build on work to date

Common principles for the effective handling of concerns and complaints

SINGLE MODEL COMPLAINTS PROCESS



RULE 1
GET IT RIGHT



RULE 2
BE CUSTOMER
ORIENTED



RULE 3
BE OPEN AND
ACCOUNTABLE



RULE 4
ACT FAIRLY AND
PROPORTIONATELY

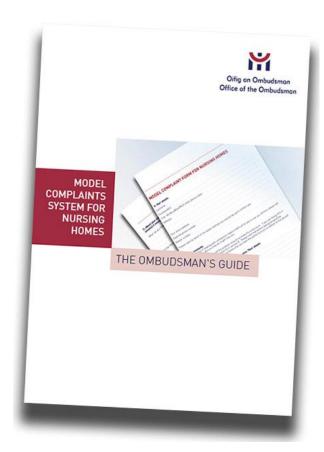


RULE 5
DEAL WITH ERRORS
EFFECTIVELY



RULE 6
SEEK CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT





HOW?

Common principles for the effective handling of concerns and complaints

NEXT STEP.....

 Establish standard complaints process across all public service providers

Stage 1
SINGLE MODEL
COMPLAINTS
PROCESS

Stage 2
SINGLE
CUSTOMER
COMPLAINTS
PORTAL

Stage 3
SINGLE COMPLAINTS
MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM





- Makes it easy for people to access and navigate
- Convenient, language & medium they prefer
- Clarity about how to complain & what will happen to a complaint
- Streamlined process which is less frustrating & results in the complainant obtaining a quicker 'final' response to their complaint

VISIONPubliccomplaints.ie

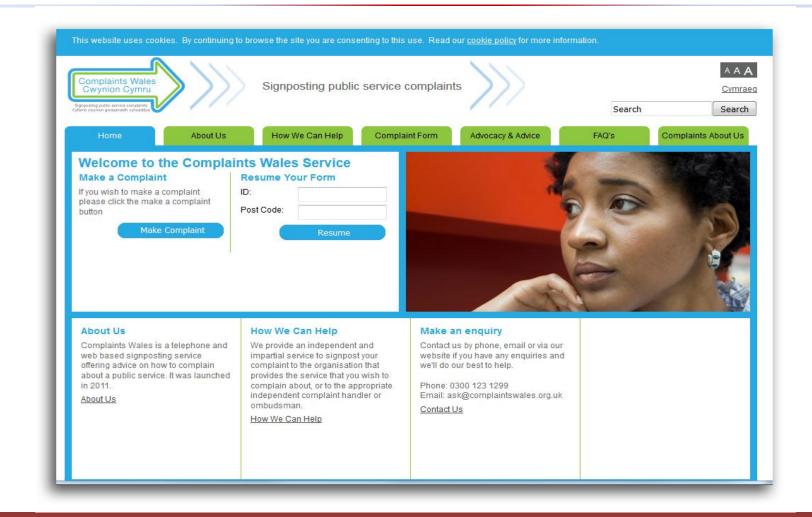


➤ Single portal

> One 'single door'

Ownership of complaint remains with area

WALES



Complaints Wales

- Service provided by the Public Services
 Ombudsman for Wales
- 'Signposting service' directs people to the organisation they wish to complain about, or the relevant appeal body for that organisation
- Complaints Wales assist complaints to submit a complaint, but cannot intervene in an organisation's complaints process or support the complainant during that process

Stage 1
SINGLE MODEL
COMPLAINTS
PROCESS

Stage 3
SINGLE CUSTOMER
COMPLAINTS
PORTAL

Stage 2 **SINGLE COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**



- ✓ 'Investigate Once and Investigate Well
- ✓ Single investigation to address complaints across multiple providers
- ✓ Multiple stage processes eliminated which create work & delay
- ✓ Positive approach for public
- ✓ Consistent capture of data
- ✓ Best practice, training

Stage 1
SINGLE
MODEL
COMPLAINTS

PROCESS

Stage 2
SINGLE
CUSTOMER
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Stage 3
SINGLE
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THE BENEFITS OF CHANGE

- Improvements for the public, less complex, easily accessible system
- Complaints dealt with quicker and locally
- Improved consistency & coordination across public service providers, potential for duplication removed
- Standard complaints handling procedures
- Economies of scale training /shared experiences
- Data capture on complaints handling

THE BENEFITS OF CHANGE - OVERALL

Good complaint handling will enhance confidence in services and public image







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