

Case management during hearings

Reference: CMT-9 Last Updated: 26/11/2018

It is important that our hearings are conducted in a way that maintains the public confidence in us as a regulator.

How the panel manages the case

One of the roles of the panel is to manage the case, the people appearing before it, and to make sure the hearing runs smoothly, by managing when the hearing will be in session and deciding what time people need to attend each day.

The panel will also make the decision as to whether all, or part of the hearing should be held in **public or private**, and which part of their reasons should be **published**.

What the panel does as it hears the evidence

The panel can question the witness on their evidence and considers what questions to ask the witness, in order to clarify their evidence and help decide whether the charges are proved.

If a new issue comes up after the witness has finished giving their evidence, the panel should think very carefully about whether the witness needs to be called back to give further evidence, or whether the panel can explore the issue with those who remain in session, other witnesses who haven't yet given evidence, or by considering the evidence they have already heard.

If the panel considers that we may need to carry out further investigation, it should consider carefully whether to adjourn the hearing to allow us to do this

When making these decisions, the panel should always strike a balance between the nurse, midwife or nursing associate's right to a fair hearing and our overarching objective of protecting the public in a fair and proportionate manner.