

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job title: Casework Officer

Grade: 2

Reporting to: Casework Manager

Staff managed: None Finance managed: None

Job Purpose

To progress casework arising from passengers' appeals following dissatisfaction with the transport operator's customer complaint response, to achieve the best outcome for the appellant.

Key Tasks and Responsibilities

- 1. Log enquiries from appellants onto the complaints database, and acknowledge receipt.
- 2. Undertake initial enquiries to verify that the complaint is within the remit of London TravelWatch, and re-direct it if not.
- 3. Investigate the complaints appeals to establish the facts and the history, and determine the outcomes achievable in the particular case.
- 4. Analyse the critical issues to determine the action needed to pursue the case.
- 5. Take the action needed to resolve the case and get the best outcome for the appellant, acting as the passenger's advocate with transport operating companies, and maintaining accurate records of transactions to provide an audit trail.
- 6. Consult colleagues in the Investigation Team about unusual aspects of casework, or those likely to create precedent or raise policy issues, to obtain their expert input on the specific case, and keep them abreast of developing issues and trends in complaints.

Job Objectives

To be agreed annually, clarifying the emphasis to be placed on specific areas of job responsibility.

Skills and Competencies

Knowledge	 Knowledge of consumer issues, complaints handling, and who is responsible for what within different parts of the transport industry in London
	 Knowledge of passengers' rights and responsibilities, and an understanding of what constitutes good customer service
	 Knowledge of transport issues and developments within the industry
Analytical skills	Working out the key issues in cases
	 Establishing costs and benefits of different actions
	Prioritising your own work
	Problem solving and working out ways of dealing with situations
Communication	 Listening effectively and analysing correspondence to get to the heart of the issue
	 Setting out ideas and arguments in clear, concise ways appropriate to the audience both in writing or orally
Influencing skills	Putting a case persuasively
	 Negotiating with transport operators, challenging and changing their attitudes
	Winning concessions for the appellant
Relationship building	 Knowing who does what and who knows what, in other transport organisations, and building good relationships with those who can affect the way complaints are dealt with
	 Maintaining effective working relationships with colleagues in London TravelWatch and stakeholder organisations
Initiative	 Operating autonomously and having a sense of what really should be viewed or handled by more senior or more specialist London TravelWatch staff
	 Taking cases forward without having to check basics with the manager
Team work	Collaborating with colleagues
Managing pressure	 Working to target deadlines (average of 30-38 appeals cases at a time to agreed performance standards) and coping well under pressure of time and multi-tasking
	 Keeping patient and professional when people are disappointed and angry with what they see as lack of action or support for their case