

The Assessment Criteria For Accreditation – London 2012 Olympic And Paralympic Games

Non conducive to the public good

Accreditation was not recommended where an individual's presence at the Games (or in the UK) would not be conducive to the public good, including on national security grounds.

Criminality

Having a criminal record was not an automatic disbar to being accredited.

Each offence was considered on its own merits, depending on the:

- seriousness (reflected by the type of offence and actual sentence or disposal imposed)
- frequency of offending
- when it occurred

The categorisation of offences

Offences in 14 categories were classified as either SERIOUS or SIGNIFICANT as follows:

Category 1	Violent/Abusive Behaviour	SERIOUS
Category 2	Espionage/Terrorism	SERIOUS
Category 3	Offensive Weapon	SERIOUS
Category 4	Firearms	SERIOUS
Category 5	Dishonesty (Theft & Fraud)	SERIOUS
Category 6	Proceeds of Crime	SERIOUS
Category 7	Abuse or Neglect of Children	SERIOUS
Category 8	Sexual Offences	SERIOUS
Category 9	Drug Offences	SIGNIFICANT/SERIOUS
Category 10	Criminal Damage	SIGNIFICANT
Category 11	Social Security Offences	SIGNIFICANT
Category 12	Private Security Industry Offences	SIGNIFICANT
Category 13	Licensing Act 2003	SIGNIFICANT
Category 14	Some Driving Offences ¹	SERIOUS

Sentence restrictions

'Sentence restriction' was defined as the period from the end of the sentence – also known as the Sentence Expiry Date. A person was deemed to be free of sentence restrictions, as follows:

Cautions (including conditional cautions), warnings, absolute/conditional discharge, admonishments, one day detentions and fines	The day after the sentence or disposal was imposed.
Community Orders and Disposals	At the end of the period of the order. If no date is given – 12 months after the date of the sentence.
Imprisonment	At the end of the sentence (including any license period). Not when sentenced, when released or when the

¹ Routine road traffic offences e.g. running a red light etc. for which a driver can expect to receive points on their licence or a spot fine, were not taken into consideration as part of the background check process

	offence(s) were committed.
Suspended sentences	At the end of the sentence period, not the period of suspension ² .

Reaching a decision

Only offences that were unspent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (ROA) 1974 were taken into consideration when applying for accreditation (except for those working in a security role, see 14 below). The ROA 1974 enables some criminal convictions to become 'spent' or ignored after a rehabilitation period. A rehabilitation period is a set length of time from the date of conviction.

The classification of an offence (SERIOUS or SIGNIFICANT) and when the applicant was deemed to be free of sentence restrictions was determined using the tables above. The assessment matrix (below) was then used to determine whether accreditation should be recommended or not recommended. This matrix takes into account the type of offence (serious or significant), the sentence or disposal type given for the offence and how recently the offence occurred.

NR = Not recommend
R = Recommend

SINGLE SERIOUS OFFENCE						
Time since sentence restriction ended	Actual sentence/ Disposal	Absolute and conditional discharges, referral orders ³	Fines	Community Orders	Suspended Sentence	Prison, including detention
0 to 24mths		NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
24mths to ≤5yrs		R	R	NR	NR	NR
>5		R	R	R	NR ⁴	NR ⁵
SINGLE SIGNIFICANT OFFENCE						
0 to 12mths		NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12mths to ≤ 24mths		R	R	NR	NR	NR
24mths to ≤ 5yrs		R	R	R	NR	NR
>5yrs		R	R	R	R	R

Simple cautions, warnings and reprimands are spent the day after they are issued and were therefore not considered. Applicants were not recommended for accreditation if they had a conditional caution for a SERIOUS offence committed within the three months prior to the application being assessed.

Criteria for multiple convictions

An applicant was not recommended for accreditation if they had two or more serious offences, where the sentence restrictions had ended in the previous ten years.

² For example, a six month sentence suspended for two years meant an individual would be considered free from 'sentence restrictions' after six months from the date of conviction and not after the whole two years suspension.

³ These were only considered if they were unspent.

⁴ Exceptions were made based on the offence type, time since conviction and applicant's role

⁵ Exceptions were made based on the offence type, time since conviction and applicant's role

An applicant was not recommended for accreditation if they had two or more significant offences, where the sentence restrictions had ended in the previous five years.

An applicant was not recommended for accreditation if they had two or more significant offences and one serious offence, where the sentence restrictions had ended in the previous ten years.

Offences committed whilst a juvenile (aged 17 and under when convicted)

A similar matrix existed for offences committed as a juvenile. The rehabilitation period for juveniles is approximately half that for adults therefore offences committed as a

juvenile become spent and were not taken into consideration much sooner than offences committed as an adult.

Time since sentence restriction ended	Actual sentence Disposal	Absolute and conditional discharges, Referral orders, Fine ⁶	Community Order or Disposal, Attendance Centre Order, Curfew Order, Drug Treatment and Testing Order, Action Plan, Community Rehabilitation Order, Supervision Order, Community Rehabilitation and Punishment Order.	Detention and Training Order	Section 90/91/226/228
0 to 12mths		NR	NR	NR	NR
12mths to ≤ 24mths		R	NR	NR	NR
24mths to ≤5yrs		R	R	NR	NR
>5≤ 10yrs		R	R	R	NR ⁷

Category 9 Drug Offences

Convictions which demonstrate a more serious offence (Possession with Intent to Supply, Supplying or Producing Controlled Drugs and Import/Export of Controlled Drugs), were 'serious' offences. 'Possession' offences were considered as 'significant'.

Individuals working in a security role

For those individuals working in a security role, the complete criminal record (unspent and spent convictions) was taken into consideration and assessed against the existing policy. Cautions, warnings, absolute/conditional discharges and admonishments were taken into consideration unless they were at least five years old.

Refusal based on inclusion on Violent and Sex Offenders Register (ViSOR)

Any applicant registered on ViSOR was not normally recommended for accreditation. If an applicant was registered on ViSOR a risk assessment was obtained from the relevant data owner. An individual who was a registered sex offender was not recommended for accreditation.

⁶ These were only considered if unspent

⁷ Exceptions were made based on the offence type, time since conviction and applicant's role

Adverse immigration policy

Where a Games Family Member had overstayed in the UK for less than 28 days on a single occasion and no other adverse information was known, they were recommended for accreditation. A significant history of overstaying – e.g. for over 28 days or on multiple occasions was likely, however, to lead to them not being recommended for accreditation.

Past adverse immigration history was not considered for UK nationals.

Refusal based on Travel Bans

In line with UK obligations under international law, those subject to EU/ UN travel bans were not allowed to enter the UK to attend the Olympics.

An applicant was not normally recommended for accreditation where they were the subject of a Deportation Order made on the ground of public policy, public security or health.

Applicants subject to an Exclusion Order were not recommended for accreditation without the agreement of the Secretary of State.

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