

SPSO decision report

Case: 201204334, University of Stirling
Sector: further and higher education
Subject: academic appeal/exam results/degree classification
Outcome: not upheld, no recommendations

Summary

Mr C complained about the university's handling of his appeal. Mr C was withdrawn from his post-graduate research because of unsatisfactory progress. He considered the decision had been made hastily and unfairly. He appealed, and the university upheld his appeal taking into consideration some difficult circumstances he had faced. The decision, however, required him to participate in a review procedure that he had complained about in his appeal, saying it was not being properly conducted. He, therefore, did not accept the offer of resuming his post-graduate studies and brought his complaints to us. He also complained in his appeal that procedures had not been followed when he was withdrawn and so he had lost time by having to appeal that decision. Our investigation found, however, that the university had reasonably carried out the review process and followed procedures in withdrawing Mr C and we did not uphold his complaints.