

SPSO decision report

Case: 201404706, Argyll and Bute Council
Sector: local government
Subject: handling of application (complaints by opponents)
Outcome: not upheld, no recommendations

Summary

Ms C complained that the council had not followed appropriate and mandatory procedures when they approved a planning application, which removed a condition that local slate had to be used on a new visitor centre. When Ms C complained to the council her complaint was not upheld, but she said there had been bias towards the developer and appropriate checking of information was not carried out.

Our investigation considered all correspondence between Ms C and the council, the detailed planning reports and planning committee meetings, as well as planning legislation and local plans. We found that the council had followed appropriate procedures when they amended the condition and had reasonably considered the slate options for the visitor centre. Although strong differences of opinion were expressed, the final decision of the planning committee to use a different slate was one they were entitled to take.