

SPSO decision report

Case: 201300831, Scottish Prison Service
Sector: scottish government and devolved administration
Subject: policy/administration
Outcome: upheld, no recommendations

Summary

Mr C, who is a prisoner, complained that the prison failed to follow the correct process when reviewing his supervision level. In particular, he said the prison updated their computer record before the relevant manager considered his written representations and signed off the paperwork.

In relation to the assignment of a supervision level, the prison rules confirm that the governor must consider any representations made by the prisoner before making a decision. In Mr C's case, that did not happen and the prison acknowledged this. In light of the failing identified in Mr C's case, we upheld his complaint. The prison advised that they had reviewed their procedure and confirmed that all potential increases in supervision level would not be amended on the computer record until prisoners' written representations had been considered and the relevant paper signed off by the appropriate manager.