

## SPSO decision report

**Case:** 201804338, Fife Council  
**Sector:** local government  
**Subject:** handling of application (complaints by opponents)  
**Decision:** not upheld, no recommendations

### Summary

Mrs C complained that the council had handled a planning application unreasonably. She noted that there were a number of admitted errors, which she said materially affected the conclusion reached by the planning officer.

We took independent planning advice and found that although the council had acknowledged these errors, they were not sufficient to consider the council acted inappropriately or unreasonably. The council had provided detailed explanations for their decision and had been able to demonstrate that they were made on appropriate planning grounds. In addition we found some of the issues being raised by Mrs C, such as a boundary dispute with the developer, were in fact civil matters and could not be decided through the planning process. We did not uphold the complaint.