


Our ref: MG/mm

Ask for: Marilyn Morgan

Your ref: P-04-510

 01656 641152

Date: 19 December 2013

 Marilyn.morgan@ombudsman-wales.org.uk

Mr William Powell AM
Chair
Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Dear Mr Powell

Thank you for your letter of 6 December 2013.

As you may be aware my office thoroughly investigated Mr and Mrs Breckman's complaint against Carmarthenshire County Council and I attach a full copy of the report issued on 5 July 2012 by my predecessor, Mr Peter Tyndall for the information of the Committee.

Mr Tyndall wrote to the Council on 10 December 2012 confirming that he was satisfied that the Council had provided satisfactory action to implement the recommendations in paragraphs 441, 443, 444 and 446. He was satisfied too that the recommendation set out in paragraph 442 had also been complied with.

Having received confirmation that the Council's Planning Committee considered a report on the enforcement issues arising from the haulage related uses on the site on 31 January 2013, Mr Tyndall also confirmed on 30 April 2013 that he was satisfied with the action the Council had taken in relation to recommendation 440.

In relation to the recommendation at paragraph 445, that the Council should make a fulsome apology to Mr and Mrs Breckman; Mr Tyndall was disappointed with the scope of the apology given. However, given that he had previously exchanged correspondence on this issue and had referred the Council to guidance issued by the Scottish Ombudsman on giving a meaningful apology, he told the Council on 30 April 2013 that although he remained dissatisfied on this issue he did not propose to expend further resources in pursuing the matter further.

Mr Tyndall also informed Mrs Breckman that whilst he was disappointed with the scope of the apology actually tendered, it was nevertheless an apology and he did not consider that it would be appropriate to pursue the matter further, particularly given that the Council had, by that time in April, taken action to implement the other recommendations.

I hope this is helpful but please let me know if you need anything else.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. M. Griffiths', written over a horizontal line.

Prof Margaret Griffiths
Acting Ombudsman