Local Government and Communities Committee

Planning (Scotland) Bill

Submission from Dorothy Menzies Holden

I would like to raise these points to be rectified in the planning revue.

1. If a planning application is rejected by a local planning committee, I do not think that one person (the Reporter) in an office often hundreds of miles away, should be allowed to overturn local expertise used to make a planning decision. Local Councils know their area and what needs to be done there.

2. If a planning application is approved either by a local council planning department or the Scottish government reporter, there is no right of appeal to that approval, I would expect an equal right of appeal to exist for those who oppose the granting of permission as with the applicant.

3. I also feel that the notification process falls well short, when the application is on a site that has a designation of national importance. These applications need a wider, national notification procedure and it should not be restricted to just the current local residents. National newspapers and media should have to carry advertisements/news bulletins.

4. Greater protection should be given to nationally (internationally) important historical sites such as Culloden Battlefield. Battlefields should be regarded in the same way as the WW1 and WW2 cemeteries in France and other countries are.