



Costs Decision

Site visit made on 31 July 2025

by Jonathan Edwards BSc(Hons) DipTP MRTPI

an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State

Decision date: 6th August 2025

Costs application in relation to Appeal Ref: APP/T5720/W/25/3358470 107 Sherwood Park Road, Mitcham CR4 1NG

- The application is made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, sections 78, 322 and Schedule 6, and the Local Government Act 1972, section 250(5).
 - The application is made by Ms Helena Pinto for a full award of costs against the Council of the London Borough of Merton.
 - The appeal was against the refusal of planning permission for demolition of the existing garage and the construction of a detached two storey, one bedroom house.
-

Decision

1. The application for an award of costs is refused.

Preliminary Matter

2. The application consists of a short letter that simply confirms the applicant's desire to apply for costs and that sets out the costs incurred to prepare and submit the appeal. My decision is made on the basis the application seeks a full award of costs, although this is not clearly stated in the letter.

Reasons

3. Parties in planning appeals normally meet their own expenses. However, costs may be awarded against a party who has behaved unreasonably and so caused the party applying for costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense in the appeal process. The letter from the applicant includes no indication as to how they consider the Council has acted unreasonably. Therefore, I find no unreasonable behaviour by the Council that has resulted in unnecessary or wasted expense to the applicant. Accordingly, I conclude an award of costs is not justified

Jonathan Edwards

INSPECTOR