

## **PATENTS ACT 1977**

IN THE MATTER OF  
Patent application GB 9900559.7  
in the name of Gareth Collins

### **DECISION**

1. Patent Application No. GB 9900559.7 entitled "Landscape biodiversity units" was filed on 12 January 1999 in the name of Gareth Collins. A request for preliminary examination and search was made on 13 December 1999.
2. On 13 June 2000 the examiner issued a report under Section 18(3) of the Patents Act 1977 stating that it was the examiner's opinion that the application should be refused as it merely described a method of doing business. Such a method of doing business is not an invention for the purposes of the Act as stated in Section 1(2)(c). The report specified a period of six months in which the applicant should make observations on why he believed the application was patentable.
3. As no reply was received within the specified period a further Official Letter was issued on 12 January 2001 offering a final opportunity to submit observations on the matter. The letter gave a period of one month for filing the observations and stated that if no such observations were filed then the application would be refused.
4. As no reply was received a further Official Letter was issued on 27 March 2001 stating that the application would be refused unless the applicant requested to be heard on the matter by 10 April 2001.
5. As neither observations nor a request to be heard on this matter have been received I therefore refuse the application under Section 18(3) of the Act.
6. As this is not a matter of procedure, an appeal may be made to the Patents Court within 6 weeks of the date of the decision.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 2001

**D J JERREAT**

Deputy Director, acting for the Comptroller

**THE PATENT OFFICE**