

## SPSO decision report

**Case:** 201300339, Scottish Borders Council  
**Sector:** local government  
**Subject:** handling of application (complaints by applicants)  
**Outcome:** not upheld, no recommendations

### Summary

Mr C complained about the council's handling of his planning application. He said that the application had not been handled in accordance with the scheme of delegation which empowered council officers to make decisions. Mr C felt the application should have been determined at officer level rather than referred to a committee of council members.

Our investigation found that the council officer did have the delegated power to make a decision, but was not obliged to do so if he felt that a decision should instead be made by the committee. We found that the council had done nothing wrong in this respect.