

## **A Code of Conduct for Planning Panels**

### **Background**

- 1) At the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017, Members approved for consultation a draft code of conduct for Planning Panel Members. Initial and helpful feedback was received from the Communities and Equalities team who support the Ward Committees from which Planning Panels are drawn. Whilst supportive of the principles underpinning the code, they suggested that some changes to the wording could help the code being received more positively.
- 2) At the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Members approved the draft code with further suggested wording changes and made further revisions to the code. A recommendation was made that further consultation with Planning Panel members of the revised draft code be carried out by the Communities and Equalities team and that any further feedback be reported back to the Committee. This consultation has now been carried out and feedback has been received from the Communities and Equalities team.
- 3) The final, up to date version of the draft code, which contains the revisions made by Members and also the Planning Panel can be found at Annex One.
- 4) Questions asked by the Panel members centred around section 2.5 of the draft code, namely whether Panel members home addresses had been added to the register. They also sought clarification as to whether the registration would include their home address or other property interests they would have in their particular Ward.

### **Recommendations**

- 5) Members are recommended to approve the final draft code of conduct.

**Reason:** To ensure that Planning Panels can command public confidence.

**Contact Details**

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**Report Approved**

**Date**

**Wards Affected:** *List wards or tick box to indicate all*    **All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Annexes**

Annex One – Draft Code of Conduct for Planning Panel

**Background Papers:**

None