Annex A

Scrutiny Topic Registration

Name of person proposing topic:	Date:
Cllr Christian Vassie	25.04.2004
Contact: 01904 449 206	

Suggested title of topic: Planning Guidance For Sustainable Development

What is the issue that scrutiny needs to address?

Sustainable development is an important aim for City of York Council and this topic would provide the opportunity to feed into the development of supplementary planning guidance so that achieving sustainable development is embedded as a key principle.

By identifying the current nature of planning guidance in relation to sustainable development, its strengths and weaknesses and examples of good practice from elsewhere, the board would be well placed to inform appropriate developments to supplementary planning guidance.

What do you feel could be achieved by a scrutiny review?

The topic would involve looking at what policies the council has in its existing framework in relation to sustainable buildings. The board would also look at how the planning process works and how this relates to achieving sustainable development, the aim would be to take a broad overview of current procedures rather than placing too much emphasis on specific planning applications. This would help the Council work towards a robust LDF and response to Climate Change.

When a thorough understanding of existing procedures is in place the board could look at examples from other local authorities to identify how sustainable development ties in to their planning guidance. They could also work with other groups with special knowledge in the field, such as developers, to identify best practice and innovative ways to develop planning guidance accordingly.

Urgency

Is the topic urgent?	Υ
If so, please consider which of the following might apply:	
Is there a strict time constraint?	Υ
Is there currently high media coverage?	Υ
Is there high public pressure to respond?	Υ

Issues

Please consider whether the following might apply:

Does it involve a high risk to the council?

Is the topic important to the people of York?	Υ
Does the topic involve a poorly performing service or high public dissatisfaction with a service?	N
Is it related to the City of York Council's corporate objectives?	Υ
Has there been media interest in the topic?	Υ
Can scrutiny help in the development of council policy?	Υ