## **Cabinet Member Decision Session 13.3.2013**

E-Planning Update (to be read in conjunction with the report)

Clarification of recommendations:-

- i) Agreed
- ii) Agreed
- iii) Agreed
- iv) Delegate to Head of Facilities, Commissioning, Design and Facilities pending publication of the West Offices room use and availability protocol and the Head of Libraries, Information, and Archives to continue working with Parish Councils to find low cost accommodation solution.
- v) Agreed
- vi) Agreed but also in the meantime pursue in-house solution
- vii) Agreed
- viii) Agreed
- ix)As (iv above)
- x) Agreed
- xi) Agreed
- xii) Not agreed see below

## **Planning Panels**

Recommendation (xii) stated "That the Monitoring Officer investigate the Constitutional status of Planning Panels and report back to Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee by the end of the 2012/13 municipal year on:

## What authority, if any, the Council has in relation to Planning Panels"

Planning Panels have no constitutional status. They do however have Terms of Reference as produced by the Communities and Neighbourhoods Directorate. Copy of the current Terms attached



## "What support, if any, City of York Council should give to Planning Panels"

The Council has supported Planning Panels through the provision of training on planning matters to facilitate the submission of comments based on material planning matters. The Council does not provide financial support for panels other than to pay reasonable and legitimate expenses to members who have incurred costs as a result of participation on the panels. It is recommended that this arrangement continues.

"If Planning Panels do remain, then to look at ways they can work in a more transparent and accountable way (e.g. published membership, transparent and public meetings, public agendas and minutes and declarations of interest."

The Terms of Reference as mentioned set out how the Panels should operate. The Panels have no constituted status; however, in order to address the issues raised around transparency and accountability, **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that additional provisions be included in the panel clerk 'job description' section (amendments set out in bold italics in the attached draft)



**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the planning panels be consulted on the amended Terms of Reference prior to adoption, and thereafter circulated to Ward Members.

Subject to the above it is not considered necessary to report back to the Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee.