

**PLANNING SUMMER SCHOOL – YORK 2010**

**Lead Officer: Tony Pomfret – Development Control Manager**

**To confirm attendance by two elected Members at this year's Planning Summer School to be held 3 – 7 September 2010 at the University of York**

**Recommendation:** That two Members be nominated to attend this year's Summer School.

**Resource Implications:** Within existing budget for Member conferences.

**1.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

1.1 Under the auspices of the Royal Town Planning Institute the Planning Summer School represents the national town planning conference for both elected Members and Officers.

1.2 For many years the Council has been represented at the Elected Members' School by two delegates. Nominations are now sought for attendance at this year's school to be held at the University of York. Details of the study tours are attached.

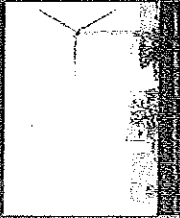
1.3 In time honoured tradition, the delegates will subsequently present a report to the Panel.

**Contact Officer:** Tony Pomfret – Development Control Manager

**Appendix:** Elected Members Summer School Study Tour details

# Study Tours

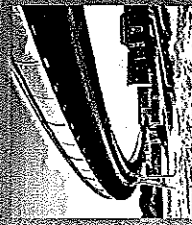
**Green Energy District Tour:** Selby District has been tagged the 'powerhouse' of the region through its association with coal mining and coal fired power generation. Following the closure of the Selby coalfield in the 1990's attention has switched to the development of greener technologies. The Tour will visit Selby Renewable Energy Park, which when fully operational, will produce enough electricity to supply over 10,000 homes through a process involving the anaerobic digestion of food waste. This will be followed by a tour of the largest coal fired power station in the UK at Drax to learn about current issues associated with the continued use of the plant, including the use of biomass for co-firing and proposals to build a stand alone 290MW biomass-fired electricity generating facility alongside the existing plant.



**Doncaster: Coalfield Regeneration:** Woodlands Model Village dates from the early 1900's and was intended to provide decent homes for miners working at Brodsworth Colliery. The Village is a Conservation Area and is now part of a multi million pound Green Corridor Housing Regeneration project, a long term partnership between Wakefield, Barnsley and Doncaster Councils to improve life in their former mining communities. Brodsworth Country Park is a very good example of the restoration of an ugly pit tip directly adjacent to the A1M. From the summit of the Country Park there are splendid views of the Doncaster area including the reclamation of several other colliery sites as well as town centre regeneration schemes, such as Doncaster Interchange and Doncaster University College.



**Castleford - The Big Town Plan:** The tour will examine the regeneration efforts in the West Yorkshire coalfield including Castleford town centre and other sites that were part of Channel 4's Big Town Plan programme. These regeneration initiatives will demonstrate success and good practice through involvement of community champions to constructively challenge professional judgements and maintain connection with community aspirations. It will look at the use of internationally renowned designers, quality of finished products and innovative ideas but also key messages in terms of raising aspirations of the Castleford community and also the involvement of community champions to constructively challenge professional judgements and maintain connection with community aspirations.



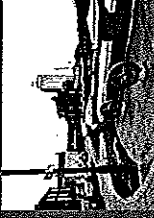
**York: the legacy of Rowntrees:** The tour, by coach, looks at aspects of the Rowntree legacy in York including the Foundation and the Housing Trust. It will visit New Earswick (1835 - 1925), one of England's first garden suburbs including its Folk Hall. It will then visit Harrigg Oaks (1999) a pioneering community development for older people, Derwenthorpe, a proposed 21st century garden suburb being developed with the Council as a model urban extension, Nestle South, the former Rowntrees site where a mixed use redevelopment is currently being planned and Rowntree Park, constructed as a memorial to Cocoa Works staff who died in WW1 and recently refurbished with an HLF grant.



**Inner East Leeds & Clarence Dock:** The tour will take students around Saxtons Gardens and Clarence Dock. It will start with the Urban Splash development of 410 apartments. The tour will follow on to the Gateway, the 'new mixed-development' in Leeds, moving on to Clarence Dock and finishing at the Rose Wharf. The tour highlights the impact of regeneration in Leeds and gives good examples of mixed-use developments.



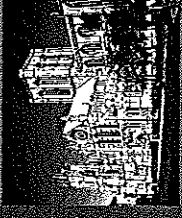
**Selby / York Flood Management Tour:** This Tour will provide an opportunity to study flood management measures in both urban and rural environments, and to hear first hand from Local Authority Planners and Environment Agency staff about their experience of planning in a high flood risk area. In York the Tour will visit the Foss Flood Barrier and Waterfront to see examples of flood mitigation work and flood proofing techniques. The second part of the Tour will visit Selby, located on the River Ouse ten miles downstream of York, and will hear about the planning, conservation and construction challenges associated with the new flood defences and will include a walk of part of the defences. On the return journey the Tour will investigate a woodland management initiative aimed at increasing water retention in the River Ouse Catchment.



**Harrogate Villages:** Rural development and conservation in the Harrogate District: if you are interested in village growth and conservation, then this is the tour for you. The Borough Council has an adopted Core Strategy which identifies 15 of its 150 villages for growth. We will visit two or three of these villages and see how the local planning authority has engaged with the local community and proposed the conservation and growth of their village. Working closely with the local community, the Borough Council has nearly completed Conservation Area Appraisals for its 52 town and village conservation areas. This year, the Council will work with the local community to identify sites where village growth can take place. Come and see how things are developing.



**York Walking Tour:** A key need in planning for York, with its many listed buildings, archaeological sites and other heritage assets, is balancing innovative and contemporary development. The Council has been innovative for many years and led the way with pedestrianisation in the 1980s. It is now reviewing and expanding the scheme, and looking at further traffic calming in the city centre to create more civilized streets. The City Centre Area Action Plan, under preparation, will focus on improving city spaces and streets, links between them and accessibility and movement throughout the centre. The tour will also look at Hurgate - a new mixed use urban quarter now being constructed. It was led by a community planning approach and was an RTP award finalist in 2008.



## Get Help To Attend Summer School:

**Travelling Scholarships** As well as a chance to travel and study an area of planning that you are interested in, you can win a free place to the Planners' School and the opportunity to present your findings at one of the evening sessions.

**Special Awards** The Summer School is also able to help planners who may have difficulty attending the School due to disabilities, family commitments, unemployment or other compelling reasons. You can seek **Special Fund** assistance if you can't get funding from your employer and you have not attended Planning Summer School before.

**For further information email [admin@planningsummerschool.org](mailto:admin@planningsummerschool.org)**

Planning Summer School provides invaluable CPD, an excellent forum for dissemination of good practice and continues to attract high quality and relevant speakers. Exeter 2009 was very well organised as usual.  
*David Dewar, Wycombe District Council (2009 Summer School)*