

## City of York Core Strategy Examination

Mr Martin Grainger  
Head of Integrated Strategy  
9 St Leonard's Place  
York  
YO1 7ET

Robert Lancaster  
Examination Programme Officer  
City of York Core Strategy  
c/o Integrated Strategy  
9 St Leonard's Place  
York YO1 7ET

Email: bob.lancaster@york.gov.uk  
Tel: 07523 968351

Inspector: David Vickery DipT&CP  
MRTPI

Date: 25 May 2012

Dear Mr Grainger,

### **The way forward for the Examination**

Since I wrote my letter to the Council of 18 May 2012 about its intention to grant planning permission for the Monks Cross development (Ref: 11/02581/OUTM), I have agreed to its request not to place that letter on the web site whilst it obtained a legal opinion on the way forward for the Examination. I agreed to a delay until today, Friday 25 May 2012, so that representors would be fully informed about the Examination by being able to see both my letter and the Council's legal opinion at the same time.

You have now asked me to delay publication until Monday 28 May 2012 whilst the Council considers the legal opinion it received today (which I have not yet seen). Whilst I am agreeable to this additional delay because of its shortness, I do wish to make it clear that I will not agree to any further delays in the publication of my 18 May letter. My letter should be placed on the Examination web site by the latest at the end of the working day on Monday 28 May, with or without the legal opinion obtained by the Council. You will understand my concern that representors should be kept fully informed about the Examination and that all communications from me should be publicly available in the interests of fairness and openness.

I repeat that neither my letter of 18 May, nor this letter, should be interpreted as being an attempt to interfere in local decision making, nor should it be understood as dictating to the Council the way forward for the Examination. I am merely pointing out the difficulties the decision on the planning application has created for the Examination and requesting the views of the Council as to how it now wishes to proceed. I am not stipulating any particular course of action, and certainly not the withdrawal of the Core Strategy, because the decision on the way forward for the plan's policies and its Examination is one that only the Council can make bearing in mind the circumstances and possible soundness outcomes that I have outlined.

Please place this latest communication from me on the web site at the same time as my 18 May 2012 letter is placed there.

Yours sincerely,

*David Vickery*

Inspector