

**Planning**

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Please ask for Joanna Gray/Alison Gibson

Date 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Ms Baker

**Examination into the Soundness of the Gedling Borough Council – Local Planning Document, Local Plan Part 2**

Further to the hearing session on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at which the issue of Gypsies and Travellers was discussed, we have given further consideration to the inclusion of a policy in the Local Planning Document.

We would like to put forward the attached policy and supporting text as a proposed modification to the plan and reference will be made to the additions in the schedule of changes that will be provided to you in due course and discussed at the hearing session on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017.

Given the limited time available since the issue was raised at the hearing session, we have only had an opportunity to commence initial discussions with adjoining local planning authorities at officer level. However, there is clear interest from some authorities in progressing a collaborative approach to the provision of gypsy and traveller sites.

In addition to the enclosed policy and supporting text, I thought it would be helpful to provide you with a possible work programme which sets out the likely steps in broad terms. Clearly, a more detailed work programme would need to be developed and agreed by any working group set up to progress the collaborative approach. Appropriate timescales will need to be established and will respond to the stage of policy preparation of the participating authorities.

1. Identify detailed site selection criteria (jointly with other Greater Nottingham authorities, as appropriate, and with input from gypsy and traveller liaison officers), to include
  - Absolute constraints (Green Belt, Ancient Woodland, LNRs, Local Wildlife Sites, SSSI, pSPA, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens).

- Other constraints (flood zones, landscape, conservation areas, listed buildings, archaeology, agricultural land, greenfield/brownfield, minerals, public open space).
  - Site characteristics (proximity to facilities/services, compatibility with neighbouring uses, accessibility, amenity etc).
2. Identify sites for consideration, to include:-
    - The scope to extend existing sites within other Greater Nottingham authorities;
    - The potential to regularise any existing unauthorised development to provide permanent pitches;
    - Review Council owned land;
    - Review local information, to include previous planning applications; and
    - Review land allocated for housing sites and sites under the threshold for allocation.
  3. Undertake public consultation on site/alternative site(s), including with the gypsy and traveller community.
  4. Identify a preferred site.
  5. Identify potential site managers in conjunction with the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups, to include known housing associations specialising in this form of provision.

Please let me know if you need any further information at this stage.

Yours sincerely,



Joanna Gray  
Planning Policy Manager (J/S Wed – Fri)

Encs.