

Broxtowe Borough Council

Response to Matter 10:

Gypsies and Travellers

November 2018

BROXTOWE LOCAL PLAN PART 2 EXAMINATION

MATTERS, ISSUES AND QUESTIONS

Matter 10 Gypsies and Travellers

ISSUE: Whether the approach to Gypsy, Traveller and Traveling Showpeople's provision is justified, effective, and consistent with national policy in both the NPPF and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites

1. Does the Plan make appropriate provision for Gypsy and Traveller Sites having regard to the need identified in the South Nottinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment?

1.1. Yes, it does. Apart from referring to a different number of pitches, Policy 16 is worded identically to the policy that was recently endorsed in the Inspector's Report (RD/09) for Gedling's 'Local Planning Document (Part 2 Local Plan)'. The inspector considered the matter in detail, including cross-boundary issues. The agreed approach commits to provision being made by next year and it would be appropriate for a consistent approach to be taken by all the authorities in South Nottinghamshire, whose needs were assessed together in the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2014-2019 (GT/01). In endorsing this approach Gedling's inspector (in paragraph 196 of her report) commented that "the approach proposed by the Council would be a pragmatic solution to meeting the identified needs in the short term". The same approach would therefore be appropriate in Broxtowe's case. As stated in paragraph 16.1 of the Plan, the Council intends to be pro-active to ensure that provision is made.

2. What work has been undertaken to date to identify appropriate sites? The Policy states that provision will be made by 2019. Is this realistic?

- 2.1. To date, discussions have taken place with officers at neighbouring authorities, including Gedling and Nottingham City, about a potential methodology for identifying sites. Provisionally, an appropriate methodology appears likely to be based on a combination of Gedling's, as included in their <u>draft consultants' brief (GT/02)</u>, and Lichfield's, as included in their <u>Methodology Paper (GT/03)</u>, and so it is likely to involve an identification of data sources followed by an initial filter of sites, detailed site assessments and the establishing of a final schedule of sites. Initial informal consideration of some site options within the borough has also taken place. We consider that it is realistic for this process to be completed by the end of 2019, in accordance with the policy.
- 2.2. Work has also commenced, in liaison with Nottingham City, to review future needs; this may involve a slight fall in Broxtowe's needs, due to the government's revised definition of 'travellers', which no longer includes travellers who now live in 'bricks and mortar' accommodation.
- 2.3. No objections were made to this policy following the Plan's publication.

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