

From: Peter Duppa-Miller

To: Cabinet

Reference: G3200.

Date: 9 May 2012.

GYPSIES, TRAVELLERS and TRAVELLING SHOW PEOPLE.

- 1. I am Peter Duppa-Miller, the Secretary of the B&NES Local Councils Association and also the Clerk to Combe Hay Parish Council.**
- 2. Taking into account the detailed caravan counts in B&NES between July 2009 and January 2012, it is recommended that the West of England Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Assessment 2007 be reviewed forthwith, in order to establish a more reliable basis for the current process of preparing the B&NES Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People Site Allocations Development Plan Document.**
- 3. It is also recommended that further suitable land (particularly land to the far south of the District and thus not in the Bristol/Bath Green Belt) should be identified and assessed.**
- 4. These two actions, taken together, might very well do away with the need to put forward sites in the Green Belt, which not only contravenes paragraph 14 of DCLG's "Planning Policy for Traveller Sites" dated March 2012 but also for which the "very special circumstances" argument is, inevitably, weak - if not specious.**
- 5. Turning to site GT.7 (the land between the Former Fullers Earth Works and the (soon to be expanded) Park and Ride site - which is in Combe Hay Parish, not in Bath) – please amend both the assessment and the reason for rejection to include "because it is heavily undermined and hence unstable and also because it was used for landfill for many years and hence is very severely contaminated, this land is NOT SUITABLE for development as a Gypsy, Traveller or Travelling Show People site".**