

PARISH LIAISON MEETING – 16TH OCTOBER 2013

Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) Update

1. The purpose of this briefing note is set out a short update on the Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD.
2. Following consultation and call for sites in 2012 27 additional sites were suggested for consideration by the Council.
3. As Reported to Cabinet in June 2013 work is continuing to assess the suitability of these sites - specialist work, including archaeological assessment and land contamination investigations, is on-going. Once site assessment work is complete the Council will have a comprehensive understanding of which sites are suitable, any constraints, and also the potential cost to develop individual sites.
4. Other work on the DPD is also progressing and key issues being addressed are summarised below:
 - a. Co-operation with adjoining authorities to ensure a joint strategic approach to provision has been undertaken;
 - b. Assessing the contribution that major development sites can make towards accommodating travelling communities;
 - c. Investigating the scope to regularise existing Travelling Showpeople accommodation;
5. Working with adjoining authorities is required through the Duty to Co-operate. Inevitably the progressing this work is influenced by processes/timetables in the adjoining authorities e.g. progress is dependent on assessments of need being completed in Bristol and South Gloucestershire. This work is on-going.
6. The programme for the remaining stages of DPD preparation was set out in the June 2013 Cabinet Report (see below). This programme may need to be reviewed given the issues referred to above and as a result of delays in the Core Strategy process.

STAGE	DATE
Undertaking outstanding tasks	to December 2013
Prepare Draft Plan	Dec. to March 2014
Public consultation on Draft Plan	Spring 2014
Revise and submit Plan for Examination	Summer 2014
Examination in Public hearings	Autumn 2014
Consider Inspector's recommendations and Adopt	Winter 2014

