



**NEWARK & SHERWOOD ALLOCATIONS &  
DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT DPD**

**MATTER 8 – GYPSY AND TRAVELLER  
PROVISION**

(Issue: 36)

**Statement on behalf of Newark &  
Sherwood District Council**

**November 2012**

**Issue 36: Is the Council's approach to Gypsies and Travellers set out in paragraphs 18 and 19 of Appendix B effective. Should it be clearer in setting out timescales/ where the sites are with planning permission and how likely they are to be delivered. How will this be monitored?**

- 36.1 Appendix B sets out the methodology in site selection which was used as part of the development of the Plan. It is there as an indication as to how the work was undertaken. It was not updated as part of the submission, because in all other respects the process has not changed. In terms of the District Council's most up to date position on Gypsy and Traveller pitch provision, this has been set out in the proposed amendment to the Plan which is discussed in Paragraph 8.5 of Matter 3 - Issue 8.
- 36.2 The current provision situation is set out in Appendix A of this matter and the requirement for and use of sites are monitored as part of the Annual Monitoring Report. In monitoring the permissions secured over the past 6 years the Council has identified that all of these are in use. This is monitored on a bi-annual basis at the same time as the DCLG caravan count, but crucially looking at use of the sites, not just caravan numbers.
- 36.3 The Council is developing a new evidence base on this matter alongside other Local Authorities with a view to producing a new DPD in 2013. This will look to set policy and allocate sites to deliver a 5 year supply. The interim solution to pitch provision was approved by Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2012 and gave authority to buy an existing site which has planning permission, but is not in use, to create additional capacity. Cabinet has resolved that if necessary, Compulsory Purchase Order powers can be used for this purpose.
- 36.4 Having reviewed the comments of the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group [Representor 2] the District Council proposes to amend Appendix B of the DPD to make clear that this refers to the situation at the time and explain what the current situation is (as detailed in the Schedule of Further Proposed Modifications FPM8). It is proposed that the amended paragraphs will read:
- “Core Strategy Core Policy 4 states that the Council will identify and, where necessary, allocate 84 pitches to meet identified need through the A&DM DPD. The situation at the time the Options report was published was as followed: taking into account the 44 pitches granted planning permission since the Needs Assessment was published in 2007, a further 40 pitches are required. The policy states that, given the location of current permissions for pitch provision, it is likely that these allocations will be located in and around Newark Urban Area.

Following the Options Report, the situation regarding supply numbers changed and the current requirement for Gypsy and Traveller provision has now been met and exceeded with 93 pitches having been secured. This requirement covers the period to the end of 2012. Projecting forward based on the existing Needs Study it is anticipated that an additional 21 pitches will be required over the next 5 years. Currently the District Council is in negotiation to buy an existing site which has planning permission, but is not in use, to create additional capacity which should meet such a target. Cabinet has resolved that if necessary, Compulsory Purchase Order powers can be used for this purpose. More fundamentally, the District Council is updating its evidence base, in partnership with other Local Authorities, to reflect the substantial increase in pitch numbers that has occurred and will seek to secure any further allocations based on this information through a Gypsy & Traveller DPD.”

**Appendix A Current Pitch Provision**

<b>Core Strategy – Additional Pitch Requirement 2007- 2012</b>	<b>84 pitches</b>
<b>Changes in baseline pitch provision:</b>	
<b>Additional pitches in use</b>	<b>40 pitches</b>
<b>Pitches no longer in use</b>	<b>21 pitches</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss</b>	<b>+ 19 pitches</b>
<b>Planning Permissions between 2007 and 2012</b>	<b>74 pitches</b>
<b>Total additional Pitch Provision</b>	<b>93 Pitches</b>

Regular reviews are carried out of the use of Gypsy and Traveller sites, this information has been used to develop Figure 22, which is accurate at July 2012 and identified that all pitches provided from 2007 to 2012 planning permissions are now in use.