

Appendix 10 - Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

10.1 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople have particular accommodation needs that require additional consideration. To ensure that members of these communities are able to access decent and appropriate housing with access to services including health and education, the Council must make provision for accommodation to meet identified needs.

10.2 The Council will seek to meet identified needs on suitable sites in sustainable locations and to maintain a five year supply of deliverable pitches/plots taking into account the findings of the Council's Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2024) and any subsequent updates. All the identified Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Sites within the District will be 'safeguarded' to ensure that the permitted use as a traveller site is not lost through the grant of any subsequent planning permission whilst there remains a need for sites.

Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

- 1) When allocating sites or considering planning applications for sites for Gypsies and Travellers or Travelling Showpeople, a criteria based approach will be used. The following criteria will be taken into account:
 - a) Avoid areas at risk from all sources of flooding
 - b) Avoid causing an adverse impact on areas of recognised wildlife, heritage or landscape importance, and on the openness of the Green Belt;
 - c) Be in or near existing settlements with access by foot and/ or public transport to local services, including shops, schools and healthcare;
 - d) Be well located to the highway network, with safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access to the site;
 - e) Provide adequate on-site facilities for parking, storage, play and residential amenity;
 - f) Provide adequate levels of privacy and residential amenities for occupiers and not be detrimental to the amenities of nearby occupiers; and
 - g) The circumstances of the applicant and their need for pitches on the application site.

- 2) Existing Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites will be safeguarded unless there is robust and justified evidence that there is no longer a need for their retention.