

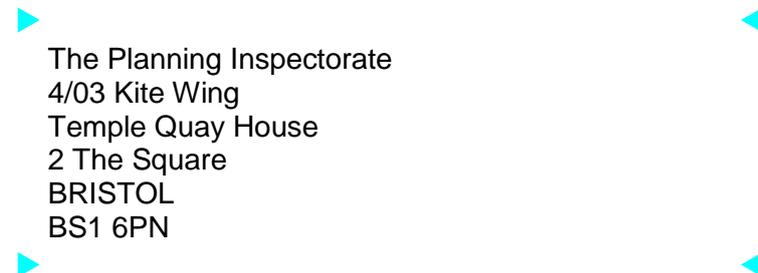
Date: 12 March 2014

Your ref: PINS/F2360/429/2 Our ref:

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FAO Susan Heywood
Senior Housing and Planning Inspector

Dear Ms Heywood,

Re: Site Allocations DPD, Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Work

Thank you for your letter dated 4 March 2014. As requested the Council have evidence in the form of a supplementary Duty to Co-Operate document in relation to Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople matters. This document has been enclosed – attached to the email. We welcome any comments you may have on the documents contents.

In regards to matters relating to the wording of the main modifications, the Council agree to the amended wording as suggested within your letter (dated 4 March 2014), which now reads as follows –

'Working with Preston and Chorley Councils a Central Lancashire Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Assessment (GTAA) was commissioned in July 2013. The overall purpose of the study was to assess overall accommodation need and distribution for each participating local authority, undertaken in a manner which conforms to national policy. The study was finalised in December 2013 and the final report was sent to the Inspector for her consideration. The Council then received letters (dated 6 February 2014 and 5 March 2014) from the Inspector highlighting various issues and matters in relation to the GTAA.

In light of this the Council now commits to undertake further work on the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) within 12 months (from February 2014), with a view to resolving the outstanding concerns as highlighted in the annex to the Inspector's letters. The Council also makes the commitment to produce, jointly with the neighbouring authorities of Chorley and Preston, a separate Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation Development Plan Document (DPD), to include transit site provision, in line with the outcomes of the further GTAA work. The timescales for this work are documented within the updated Local Development Scheme (LDS).

In carrying out this work, and in the assessment of any future planning applications which may come forward, the Council recognises the need to ensure fair and equal treatment for the gypsy and traveller and travelling showpeople community and the need to facilitate the

traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.

The Council recognises that the gypsy and traveller and travelling showpeople population can be hard to reach when undertaking GTAA's and that there may be a need resulting from overcrowding on existing sites, concealed households or those living in bricks and mortar which the current GTAA has been unable to identify.

Any future planning applications submitted to the Council relating to gypsy and traveller and travelling show people sites will be assessed on the basis of the Central Lancashire Core Strategy Policy 8 and the national 'Planning policy for traveller sites', or any subsequent national policy.'

We also note your comments on the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and the Performance Monitoring Framework Plan. The LDS will be updated on the basis of the timescales within table 2 (Appendix 1) as detailed within the Council's letter dated 24 February 2014.

We also note your request for a performance indicator regarding the further GTAA work and DPD timescales as contained within the LDS. The Performance Monitoring Framework Plan will be updated as detailed within Appendix 1 of this letter.

The amended Local Development Scheme (LDS) and Performance Monitoring Framework Plan will be published when the Council consult on the main modifications from 7 April 2014. All consultees will be notified of the updated documents.

We welcome your comments on any of the above and if you have any further questions or require additional information please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

Helen Hockenhill
Planning Manager

Appendix 1

Performance Indicator	Data Source	Frequency of Collection	Policy/Policies this contributes to	Baseline year	Target/year	Trigger for contingency action	Contingency action
The Council will monitor the production of further work on the GTAA and subsequent Central Lancashire DPD on Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople to ensure all milestones are met	Local Development Scheme	Continuously monitored, but reported on annually in the Annual Monitoring Report.	LDS/ main modifications text to replace paragraph 7.9 of the Partial Version Site Allocations DPD.	2014	GTAA completion Nov 2014. DPD completion March 2016.	Milestones not met	Discussions would be held with the Central Lancashire authorities in relation to issues and appropriate action will be taken at that time.