Herefordshire Gypsy and Travellers’ Development Plan Document

Draft Pre-submission Publication

Summary Document

November 2017
Herefordshire Local Plan- Travellers Sites Development Plan Document

This leaflet provides an outline of the policies and proposals in the Draft Traveller sites Development Plan Document (DPD). We are now at the Pre-Submission Publication stage. You are invited to make representations about whether you think the DPD meets the government’s ‘tests of soundness’ (see below) and if it meets the legal requirements.

After this publication stage closes, the DPD, representations and other required documents are submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. (The planning inspectorate is a government agency that makes decisions about planning issues).

The inspectorate will arrange for the DPD to be examined by an independent planning inspector. The inspector will read all the documents and representations and will invite people to meetings to discuss some of the issues in more detail. This will help the inspector decide whether the plan is sound and meets its legal requirements. To be considered sound, the following issues are considered:

Is the DPD:

• **Positively prepared** – including does it meet the development requirements and will they be sustainable?

• **Justified** – has it taken the right approach and is it based on reliable evidence?

• **Effective** – are the proposals deliverable?

• **Consistent** - are the policies in line with national planning policy?

At this stage anybody making comments on the plan are asked to relate them to these points. Please see the full definition of the tests of soundness on the representation form at the following link: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/traveller-sites-consultation
Summary

Once adopted the Travellers Sites Development will be part of the Herefordshire Local Plan 2011 – 2031. This means it will be used to guide decisions on applications for new Gypsy and Traveller pitches.

The full DPD includes policies about new pitches and identifies where new pitches can be built. The information below provides a brief outline of these but please refer to the full DPD for more information. If you wish to make a representation please refer to the following link: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/traveller-sites-consultation

TS1 Residential Traveller Pitches and Sites (See page 15-16 of the DPD to comment on this policy)

This policy sets out the requirements for traveller sites that will be used to assess planning applications. The policy includes details of what should be included on a pitch, guidance regarding landscaping, environmental and highway issues.

TS2 Travelling Showpeople (See page 16-17 of the DPD to comment on this policy)

This policy seeks to encourage more plots for travelling show people to meet the identified need. It includes consideration of a number of issues including landscape, highways and requires plots to be large enough for space for living accommodation and for the storage of fairground equipment.

TS3 Temporary Stopping Places (See page 18-19 of the DPD to comment on this policy)

There is a need for a temporary stopping place in Herefordshire for those groups of travellers moving through the county and require locations to stay for a few days.

Proposed Sites:

The following sites have been identified as suitable for providing extra pitches. In the DPD there is a separate policy for each site to explain the particular requirements of developing that site. Please look at these policies before making any comments on the sites.
Policy TS3 Land to the west of A49 Leominster – Temporary Stopping Place
(See page 18-19 in the main document)

Policy TS4 Additional 1 pitch within existing boundary on Romany Close, Grafton, Hereford
(See page 20-21 in the main document)
Policy TS5 Additional 2 pitches on an extension to Orchard Caravan Park, Watery Lane, Lower Bullingham
(See page 22-23 in the main document)

Policy TS6 Additional 2 pitches within existing boundaries at Open fields, Bromyard
(See page 24-25 in the main document)
Policy TS7 Additional 4 pitches as extension to Pembridge Site
(See page 26-27 in the main document)

All details can be found at: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/traveller-sites-consultation