

Kirklees Local Plan Examination

Stage 4 hearings Other Site Allocations

GENERAL MATTERS (Matter 28)

MATTERS, ISSUES AND QUESTIONS (MIQs)

Matter 28 – Traveller sites

- 1.1 This statement sets out the council's responses in relation to the Inspector's matters and issues Matter 28. All the documents referred to in this statement are referenced within the main body of the statement.
- 1.2 The modifications proposed in this document have been provided to assist with the discussions at the hearings for this matter and have not been subject to sustainability appraisal testing or public consultation. Should it be necessary to make any of the modifications these will be added to the full schedule of modifications to the Local Plan which will be made available for comment and subject to sustainability appraisal at a later stage of the Examination in Public, subject to the delegated powers agreed by the council's Cabinet.

Issue – Are the proposed traveller site allocations justified, effective, developable/deliverable and consistent with national policy?

GTTS1957 – land to the south of Ridings Road, Dewsbury (4 Travelling Showpeople plots)

- a) **What size is the proposed extension to the existing Travelling Showpeople site?**
- 1.3 The existing planning permission for the winter quarters (91/03838), extends to 0.87ha, the proposed site includes this land and a more appropriate boundary delineation and extension to the south eastern extent of the site resulting in a site area of 2.63ha.
- b) **Does tree coverage on the site affect the developable area, and does the net area need adjusting to reflect this?**
- 1.4 The trees to the north and south east of the site are not protected, and as such do not affect the developable area. They provide the opportunity to design a site with appropriate landscaping and layout to screen the site.
- c) **Is the requirement for a Low Emission Travel Plan justified and effective?**
- 1.5 There was a clerical error referencing the requirement for a Low Emission Travel Plan with regard to GTTS1957. The requirement in the site allocation text box, reports required, for a Low Emissions Travel Plan is to be deleted. (SD2, page 162, GTTS1957, Reports Required).
- d) **Is the requirement for a Flood Risk Assessment justified?**
- 1.6 The site is to be comprehensively planned and as such NPPF para 103 (footnote 20) that "A site-specific flood risk assessment is required for proposals of 1 hectare or greater in Flood

Zone 1". If a smaller site was to be considered at the time of a planning application, this would be taken into account alongside this requirement.

e) When is the site anticipated to come forward for development? How will it contribute to a five year supply of sites? Will the scheme be delivered by the Council?

- 1.7 The allocation is owned by Kirklees Council therefore at the time of a planning application consideration can be given to a range of delivery mechanisms in consultation with the local community. It is anticipated that the site will come forward within 5 years of the local plan being adopted; the site will meet the five year supply of sites upon it being delivered.

GTTS2487 – land south of Bankwood Way, Birstall (12 permanent and 8 transit Gypsy and Traveller pitches)

a) What mitigation may be required to deal with the pylons and power lines which cross the site? Are there implications for indicative site capacity?

- 1.8 The pylon is located in the north west corner of the site, an appropriate access strategy would need to be agreed with the National Grid at the time of a planning application, guidance set out in *Development near overhead lines – planning and amenity aspects of high voltage electricity transmission lines and substations (National Grid)*¹ will be used to inform a design site layout. In this case it is therefore not considered appropriate to reduce the gross site area of 1.55ha.

- 1.9 In this instance the gross site area 1.55ha is not directly related to the indicative site capacity.

b) Is the site likely to contain significant areas of undeveloped land which are not required for the provision of pitches or mitigation purposes? If so, what are the long term plans for this area?

- 1.10 The site is within the urban area and it is considered appropriate to allocate the full extent of the land to create a well landscaped and managed site, including additional infrastructure associated with the management of the site. The extent of the allocation provides the opportunity to develop a site that subdivides the transit element of the site from those that will reside on the site more permanently.

c) When is the site anticipated to come forward for development? How will it contribute to a five year supply of sites? Will the scheme be delivered by the Council?

- 1.11 The allocation is owned by Kirklees Council therefore at the time of a planning application consideration can be given to a range of delivery mechanisms in consultation with the local community. It is anticipated that the site will come forward within 5 years of the local plan being adopted; the site will meet the five year supply of sites upon it being delivered.

¹ https://www.nationalgrid.com/sites/default/files/documents/Development%20near%20overhead%20lines_0.pdf