

I have reviewed the Council's main modifications and given further thought to the fact that the plan, as submitted, is unable to provide for a 5 year supply of travelling showpersons pitches. At the recent hearing sessions the Council explained that they are in the process of preparing a new Local Plan. I would like the Council to formulate a main modification that would commit it to reviewing the position in relation to travelling showpeople pitch provision as part of this new Local Plan, in the event that there is still a shortfall in pitch provision, despite the criteria based policy.

I am keen that the above matter is resolved promptly, I therefore request a response by close of play on Friday 28 September 2018. If you have any queries regarding the above then I can be contacted via the Programme Officer. A copy of this note and the Council's response should be placed on the examination website.

Yours sincerely

Louise Crosby

Examining Inspector

WCC Response :

The Council has commenced preparation of a new local plan for the Winchester District. The purpose of the update is primarily to review its housing requirement in light of revised Government guidance and in particular introduction of the standardised methodology for calculating housing need. However, this also presents an opportunity to update and refresh other policies in the local plan and identify additional sites for allocation for development, which could include for Travelling Showpeople, given the acknowledged shortfall in the Traveller DPD.

Monitoring of the Traveller DPD will allow the Council to assess the effectiveness of its policies, it is therefore suggested that the section on 'Implementation and Monitoring' is amended to reflect this position.

Proposed additional Main Modification to read:

Implementation and Monitoring

4.25 The monitoring framework at Appendix F, sets out how each policy will be monitored reflecting the objectives expressed in both the Council strategy and the environmental objectives in the SA/SEA.

~~4.26 The introduction of the revised definition of travellers in the PPTS is in the process of being challenged through the high court, the outcome of this may impact on the GTAA results and require the need for a review of this DPD to be initiated.~~
The Council will monitor implementation of the DPD and will continue to explore opportunities to meet the identified needs of Travelling Showpeople, including as part of the review of Local Plans part 1 and 2 which has recently commenced.