Winchester District Council Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople Development Plan Document – Traveller DPD Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) & Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

Note to Accompany Submission Traveller DPD & SA/SEA/HRA Report

- 1. The Publication (Pre-Submission) version of the Winchester District Traveller DPD was published for statutory Regulation 19 consultation between 15 January and 26 February 2018. The Traveller DPD was accompanied by the Publication (Pre-Submission) Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report, incorporating SEA and HRA (November 2017). The SA/HRA Report comprises part of the supporting evidence base for the DPD. The SA/HRA was undertaken in accordance with planning, SA, SEA and HRA legislation and guidance; the appraisal integrated the requirements for SEA as set out in the SEA Regulations (2004).
- Only one representation regarding the SA/HRA Report was received from Natural England who advised that the HRA Regulations (2010) had been recently amended to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) and that the SA/HRA Report should cite the correct updated reference. The other statutory environmental bodies, Environment Agency and Historic England, did not have any comments at this stage.
- 3. As a result of the Pre-Submission consultation, minor amendments have been proposed for the Traveller DPD to accompany it on submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination. These minor amendments do not change policy but rather they update matters, correct any errors or provide clarification. For such minor changes, no further consultation is required in advance of submission.
- 4. Any proposed modifications that might give rise to significant sustainability effects need to be subject to SA/SEA. The proposed changes were screened for their significance with regard to SA using professional judgment – do the changes, corrections, deletions and/or additions significantly affect the findings of the SA/HRA Report (November 2017) and/or do they give rise to significant environmental effects?
- 5. Most changes are minor text changes that provide clarification and updating and therefore, are not significant with regard to the SA. Other changes are as follows:
 - Site W017 Ourlands, East of Mayles Lane, Knowle has been deleted from Policy TR2 as this now has planning permission so will now be safeguarded under Policy TR1.
 - Site WO14 Land at the Piggeries, Firgrove Lane, North Boarhunt now includes an additional bullet point to ensure appropriate access to the

site to accommodate the proposed uses. This confirms the effectiveness of other policy mitigation measures through site-specific requirements to avoid/minimise any potential negative effects.

- Policy TR6 in the general section includes additional text "including a foul drainage assessment" and this will confirm the effectiveness of mitigation measures to ensure that there are no negative effects with regard to water management objectives.
- 6. The minor modifications to the Traveller DPD do not significantly affect the findings of the SA/SEA as presented in the SA Report (November 2017). The minor additions set out site-specific requirements that confirm the effectiveness of mitigation measures. Under Regulation 9(1) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, it remains that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.



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