18th November 2022

By email

Greater Norwich Local Plan – Gypsy and Traveller site allocations

Dear Inspectors,

Thank you for your letter dated 11th November.

We appreciate the clarity which the timetable set out in your letter provides and we look forward to liaising with the Programme Officer to confirm details. We also note and agree the criticality of the timetable being strictly adhered to for the timing of the modification stage and adoption of the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP).

Your letter asked whether the Partnership wishes to review its assessment of Traveller site needs in the light of the recent Lisa Smith v SSLUHC [2022] EWHC judgement regarding the interpretation of the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) and the application of that policy to gypsies and travellers who have ceased to pursue nomadic lifestyles.

The Partnership does intend to review its assessment of Traveller site needs in the light of the legal decision. It has commissioned legal advice and will produce an addendum to current evidence provided by the consultancy which produced the Greater Norwich Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment.

The addendum will be completed by early December to allow the updated evidence to contribute to the GNLP's examination. It will make clear how the needs of those who have ceased to travel for reasons of age or infirmity are to be dealt with.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries over this response.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Burrell

Greater Norwich Planning Policy Manager