

Ref: NSGRTS- GNLP-02

Date: 01/12/2022

Title: Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) Gypsy and Traveller Site search with engagement from the Norfolk and Suffolk Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Service

Introduction:

1.1 The Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) is being prepared by Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk councils, working in partnership with Norfolk County Council. The GNLP was submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination in July 2021 and that examination process is ongoing. The GNLP needs to demonstrate allocation and deliverability of Gypsy and Traveller community sites. This demonstration is best evidenced by meaningful face-to-face engagement with the Gypsy and Traveller community.

1.2 The Norfolk & Suffolk Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Service (NSGRTS) was commissioned by the GNLP partnership to engage with the local Gypsy and Traveller community to identify any sites within a set geographical area which can be considered for inclusion in the GNLP. This entailed identifying landowners willing to bring forward their land for development as a Gypsy and Traveller site, to have discussions with willing landowners with the aim of providing the necessary proformas and maps to identify and assess sites through the plan-making process.

Results:

1.3 NSGRTS carried-out the GNLP tasking during the month of November 2022. Research by NSGRTS was carried-out and supported by the district councils within the greater Norwich geographical area. From the results obtained the following engagement was undertaken with the Gypsy and Traveller community:

- Research of NSGRTS community databases identifying Gypsy and Traveller community members within the geographical area. Contacting and enquiring if they have land and if they wanted this land to be considered for the GNLP.
- Contacting Gypsy and Traveller community members outside of the geographical area who are known to have lived or have historical ties locally, enquiring if they had land for development and therefore consideration.
- 14 private Gypsy and Traveller sites were identified across the 3 district areas that consist of the greater Norwich area- Norwich City, Broadland and South Norfolk.
- All 14 identified sites were visited.
- 8 sites had meaningful face-to-face engagement relating to the GNLP.

- 6 sites were no reply- therefore, a letter explaining the GNLP and the process for consideration was left.
- As of the 1st of December 2022, 3 landowners have land put forward for consideration supporting the GNLP.

Observations:

1.4 The engagement undertaken by NSGRTS on behalf of the GNLP Partnership has identified potential development supporting the objectives of the project. Also, the engagement has made members of the Gypsy and Traveller community aware of the support mechanisms in place regarding the potential development of owned land in the future- thereby promoting fairness and equality.

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