

Report on WDC's consultations with neighbouring DC's

1. Executive summary

District Councils have a statutory obligation to cooperate and consider production of joint development plans.

Having obtained answers to Freedom of Information requests, it is clear that Warwick District Council did not comply with this obligation in any way in regard to Rugby District Council and not in any meaningful way in regard to Coventry, Solihull and Stratford Council's.

WDC has demonstrably failed in its statutory duty to co-operate.

2. Introduction and background

The author whilst researching WDC's proposals for the provision of Gypsy & Traveller accommodation as part of its New Local Plan met at a public meeting two WDC Planning Officers. A senior employee of Rugby District Council was also present who commented to the author that verbal answers to questions to the two officers were "probably wholly incorrect".

The author further researched WDC's actual co-operation by calling the various other councils but reached a 'brick wall' very quickly in all cases. In speaking to other groups concerned aspects of the New Local Plan and the Gypsy & Traveller accommodation, the author gained further input that there had not been meaningful communication or co-operation.

It was therefore decided to research the matter more formally

3. Dept of Communities and Local Government requirement

The requirement for co-operation and collaboration is contained in a DCLG document "Planning Policy for Traveller sites" March 2012 which states :

"ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites

9. Local planning authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:

(c) consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints across its area (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries) "

4. Freedom of Information requests

a. The requests

The author sent on 20th May 2014 Freedom of Information requests to :

- Rugby District Council
- Coventry City Council
- Solihull
- Stratford District Council

In each case the request was identical –“I would like to know if in the past 24 months there have been any formal consultations with Warwick District Council regarding provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers. If so I would like to know dates and attendees and a copy of the minutes of all the meeting(s)”

All requests were properly acknowledged.

b. The Replies

In summary the replies were as follows (please see appendices 1 -4 for verbatim copies of replies :

a) Rugby District – reply dated 22/5/14

Rugby stated that the only consultation was a response from Rugby saying that their Planning Department had “no issues with the proposals”.

There has been no consultation on how / if they could work collaboratively, share sites and / or jointly assess need for Gypsy & Travellers.

There is no evidence of any contact from WDC requesting meetings to discuss co-operation

In short nothing was done to meet DCLG requirements.

b) Coventry – reply dated 13/6/14

“The Council can confirm that the only formal consultation that has taken place with Warwick District Council in relation to Gypsy and Traveller sites was part of an officer response to Warwick District Council’s consultation document ‘Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Site Options Consultation’, which was made available by Warwick District Council for comment between June 14th and July 29th 2013.”

The response from Coventry reads

Representation ID search

SUPPORT Coventry City Council (Mr Jim Newton)

Representation ID: 56438

Gypsy and Traveller Site Options - 5. Policy Background

Summary:

The approach being taken, to seek to accommodate the entire projected need for permanent and transit sites, is welcomed as the most responsible way forward. It is not clear to us whether it is intended that a 6-8 pitch, or 12 pitches, be provided on transit site/s. No comments to make with respect to the specific sites that you are considering.

[More details about Rep ID: 56438](#)

c) Solihull – reply dated 6/6/14

There has been a letter in each direction:

- 25 Jan 2013 – Letter from Warwick DC to Solihull regarding the Duty to co- operate
- 7 February 2013 – SMBC response to WDC letter of Jan 2013 which states that in 2012 WDC was not in position to work with them to produce a joint GTAA so they did their own published in March 2012.
- 17 March 2014 – internal email notification (within SMBC) of [Warwick District Council: Sites for Gypsies and Travellers – Preferred Options](#)

It is apparent that WDC did not go back to SMBC and discuss with them that they were in breach of the statutory duty.

Further the statement in the SMBC letter to WDC on 7/2/13 which says

“ In March 2012, Solihull published its updated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). In order to address potential cross boundary issues, the Council explored joint working with neighbouring authorities, including Warwick District Council, to update the GTAA. At the time, Warwick was not in a position to undertake this work and the differing timescales and priorities of each authority resulted in Solihull undertaking an independent update of its Gypsy and Traveller evidence base”

Makes no sense as WDC had its own GTAA commissioned in 2011 and this was published in November 2012. Both Councils could clearly have co-operated at this level but chose not to.

There is nothing else in the correspondence which indicates any degree of co-operation , indeed there is a clear expression of a wish not to do so.

d) Stratford – reply dated 18/6/14

- i. Stratford on Avon District Council (SDC) made a representation to Warwick District Council (WDC) in response to its Site Options Paper which was consulted on from 14 June to 29 July 2013;
- ii. Officers met in February 2014 to discuss progress on both Local Plans ;
- iii. An officer from SDC attended an event organised by WDC in Harbury on Monday 24 March 2014;
- iv. SDC consulted WDC when scoping the coverage of the SDC Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan (14 February to 28 March 2014), but no response was received; and
- v. SDC made a representation to WDC on its Preferred Options for Sites which was consulted on from 17 March to 5 May 2014 .

“There have been no other formal communications between SDC and WDC on this subject.”

Comments regarding the above:

- a) The representation referred to in (i) above was simply on site issues and is largely critical of WDC’s proposals
- b) The meeting in Feb 14 was discussing WDC’s process and progress and input for Stratford’s proposed process. There was no discussion on a shared assessment of need , sharing sites or a common strategy as is required by DCLG
- c) The officer referred to in (iii) who attended the meeting in Harbury met with the author there and said he was only there to “see how the process was going” . He said there had been only a “five minute unminuted discussion between SDC and WDC officers”
- d) The fact that WDC did not respond to SDC’s attempt to consult (see (iv) above) confirms the view that WDC have demonstrated an intent NOT to seek co-operation with all and any neighbouring councils
- e) SDC’s representation in 2014 recommended changes to WDC’s policy PO3 “Policy PO3 should be amended to recognise the need to consider the potential for cumulative effects on the settled community when determining future planning applications “ – further sign of SDC’s unease at WDC’s proposals and again demonstrates no attempt at meaningful co-operation

5. Summary and Conclusion

It is absolutely clear that from the Freedom of Information requests that WDC have not fulfilled their statutory duty to co-operate. Further there is nothing in the WDC Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment or any other document issued by WDC relating to Gypsy & Travellers which indicates that there have been any discussions with neighbouring councils to share assessments of need.

As is explained in a separate document by the author analysing the WDC GTAA, the failure to co-operate has led each Council to come with its own needs analysis. Unsurprisingly as they were done in isolation, each Council has over-estimated need. When added together, the 5 authorities are planning to develop over the next five years more pitches than would be required to accommodate the TOTAL EXISTING POPULATION OF GYPSY AND TRAVELLERS within all 5 districts.

Logically this makes no sense and has to be a huge over-estimate. Had WDC co-operated as required by DCLG, this stupidity would surely have been addressed.

Geoff Butcher

26th June 1014

APPENDIX 1 - REPLY FROM RUGBY

Please ask for Sue Birch

Direct Line	(01788) 533864	
Fax		(01788) 533866
E-mail Address	sue.birch@rugby.gov.uk	
DX	DX 11681 Rugby	
Our ref	138041	
Your ref		
Date		22 May 2014

Dear Mr Butcher

**SERVICE REQUEST REF 138041
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

Thank you for your recent communication where you have requested specific information concerning consultation with Warwick District Council regarding provision of site for gypsies and travelers. This request is considered to come under the provisions of the 'Freedom of Information Act 2000'.

Please find the information requested below.

I would like to know if in the past 24 months there have been any formal consultations with Warwick District Council regarding provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers. If so I would like to know dates and attendees and a copy of the minutes of all the meeting(s)

The only consultation Rugby Borough Council has been involved with relating to the Warwick District Gypsy and Traveller Allocations Document is as part of the statutory consultation periods that have been undertaken. It has not been necessary for us to have meetings with Warwick District colleagues on this specific matter. Our consultation responses have reported that the Planning Department has no issues with the proposals. These responses will be on the public record and available from Warwick District Council.

I do hope the above information is of assistance. If you wish to discuss the above response please do not hesitate to contact Sue Birch, Information and Consultation Officer on Rugby 01788 533864.

If you are not completely satisfied with the outcome of your request you have the right to complain under the Customer Feedback Scheme. Complaints should be sent to Customer Feedback, Town Hall, Evreux Way, Rugby CV21 2RR, emailed: to CustomerFeedback@rugby.gov.uk or alternatively, you can telephone the Customer Feedback line on 01788 533727. If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you can apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow , Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Deaves
Communications, Consultation and Information Manager

APPENDIX 2 – REPLY FROM COVENTRY

Dear Mr Butcher

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information about the provision of sites for gypsies and travellers. The Council received your request on 20 May 2014 and has considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("The Act").

You have specifically requested:

In the past 24 months has there been any formal consultation with Warwick District Council regarding the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers. I would like to know the dates and attendees and copy of the minutes of all the meetings.

The Council can confirm that the only formal consultation that has taken place with Warwick District Council in relation to Gypsy and Traveller sites was part of an officer response to Warwick District Council's consultation document 'Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Site Options Consultation', which was made available by Warwick District Council for comment between June 14th and July 29th 2013.

As the response to this consultation has recently been made publicly available, the information you requested is being withheld as it falls under the exemption in Section 21 of the Act, which relate to the information already publicly available and easily accessible in another format.

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing:

<http://warwickdc.jdi-consult.net/ldf/viewreps.php?action=submitsearch&repid=56438&searchtype=Respondent>

Please note, under the Re-Use of Public Sector Information 2005 Regulations you are free to use this information for your own use or for the purposes of news reporting.

However, any other type of re-use under the Regulations, for example; publication of the information or circulation to the public, will require permission of the copyright owner and may be subject to terms and conditions. For documents where the copyright does not belong to Coventry City Council you will need to apply separately to the copyright holder.

If you wish to apply to reuse the information you have requested or have any other issues relating to this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy with the outcome or handling of your request you should write to us within 40 working days of the date of this letter:

Information Governance
Council House, Room 21a

Lower Ground Floor
Earl Street, Coventry.
CV1 5RR
info@coventry.gov.uk

If having done that you are still dissatisfied, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Bernie Robinson
Business Support Officer

APPENDIX 3 – REPLY FROM SOLIHULL

Dear Mr Butcher

Freedom of Information request - Reference Number 5578

I am writing in response to your enclosed request for information. We have checked our records and here are the details of Warwick DC's formal consultation with us, regarding planning for gypsy and traveller sites (over the last 24 months):

- 17 March 2014 – Email notification of [Warwick District Council: Sites for Gypsies and Travellers – Preferred Options](#) (attached)
- 7 February 2013 – SMBC response to Warwick DC letter of Jan 2013 (attached)
- 25 Jan 2013 – Letter from Warwick DC re: Duty to co-operate and G&Ts (attached)

I hope this information is of interest and assistance. You may copy, distribute, transmit, adapt or otherwise exploit any information disclosed to you providing that you do so in accordance with the conditions which can be found on the Council's website
<http://www.solihull.gov.uk/about/copyright.htm>.

If however you are dissatisfied with the response you have received and wish to request a review of our decision or make a complaint about how your request has been handled you should write to the Corporate Information Governance Manager, Corporate Performance, Policy and Information, Business Transformation Directorate, Council House, Manor Walk, Solihull, West Midlands B91 3QB or email infogov@solihull.gov.uk.

Your request for an internal review should be submitted to us within 40 days of receipt by you of this response. Any requests received after this time will be considered at the discretion of the Corporate Information Governance Manager.

If having exhausted the review process you are not content that your request or review has been dealt with correctly, you have a further right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO will not make a decision until you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the council. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone: 01625 545 700, website: <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Alison McCallum

Corporate Performance, Policy and Information Support Officer

Corporate Performance, Policy and Information

Business Transformation Directorate

Tel: 0121 704 6076

Fax: 0121 704 8311

email: amccallum@solihull.gov.uk

www.solihull.gov.uk



**Development Services
Tracy Darke – Head of Service**

PO Box 2178, Warwick District Council, Riverside House
Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa, CV32 5QH

direct line: 01926 456065
switchboard: 01926 410410
fax: 01926

email: tracy.darke@warwickdc.gov.uk
web: www.warwickdc.gov.uk

Dave Simpson
Planning Policy Manager
Solihull Borough Council
Library Square
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 9RG

our ref: TD/DB/JB
your ref:

18 January 2013

Dear Dave

Duty to Cooperate – Gypsies and Travellers

As you know we are currently preparing our submission draft Local Plan. One of these issues we are finding particularly hard to resolve is providing sites for Gypsies and Travellers. Our recent Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Assessment has identified a requirement for 31 permanent pitches over the Plan period (2011 to 2029), including 25 in the first 5 years.

At present we do not have any authorised pitches within the District. We are working hard to address this and hope to allocate sites within the Local Plan. However, given the environmental constraints within the District (for instance the extent of the green belt which covers around 80% of our area), I have some concerns that we may not be able to provide for fully for the 5 year requirement within the District.

I appreciate this is a difficult issue for all local authorities and recognise that provision in your area may not be straight forward either. So, I am therefore seeking to engage with you to discuss the following:

- Is there any spare capacity within the existing sites in your area which could contribute to the requirements for Warwick District?
- Are there any suitable sites close to our border which could help to contribute to the requirements of both authorities?



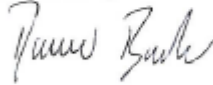
INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



- Given the varied nature of accommodation requirements of Gypsy and Travellers communities, is there scope for us to "share" our provision to offer a wider choice of sites?
- Are there any other approaches we could take to jointly addressing the needs of Gypsies and Travellers to the mutual benefit of our communities?

I would be grateful if you could give these matters some thought and hope we can arrange to meet up shortly to discuss these matters.

Yours sincerely



pp Tracy Darke
Head of Development Services

Ms Tracy Darke
Development Services
PO Box 2178
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Leamington Spa
CV32 5QH

PLACES DIRECTORATE

Council House, Manor Square
Solihull, West Midlands B91 3QB
Tel: 0121-704 6428 Fax: 0121-704 6575
Email: etinsley@solihull.gov.uk
www.solihull.gov.uk

Please ask for Emma Tinsley

7th February 2013

Your ref: TD/DB/JB

Our ref: ET/WDC

Dear Ms Darke

Duty to Cooperate – Gypsies and Travellers

I write with reference to your letter dated 18 January 2013 regarding the above.

We are aware that Warwick District Council is currently in the process of preparing a new Local Plan and that a 'call for sites' is being undertaken for potential Gypsy and Traveller sites within the District to be identified, and ultimately allocated within the Local Plan.

Although I appreciate the difficulties Warwick District may face in identifying sites for Gypsies and Travellers, Solihull is in a similar position with regard to the number of pitches required and the environmental constraints of the Borough.

In March 2012, Solihull published its updated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). In order to address potential cross boundary issues, the Council explored joint working with neighbouring authorities, including Warwick District Council, to update the GTAA. At the time, Warwick was not in a position to undertake this work and the differing timescales and priorities of each authority resulted in Solihull undertaking an independent update of its Gypsy and Traveller evidence base.

As outlined in our 2012 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment, Solihull has an identified need of 38 pitches over the plan period (2012 – 2027) including 26 in the first five years, and 67% of the Borough is also green belt. However, Solihull is planning to meet this need within its own boundary through the preparation of a Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). Policy P6 of the Solihull Draft Local Plan (currently the subject of Independent Examination) provides the framework for the DPD, sets pitch targets for the Borough and establishes criteria to guide land supply allocations and determine planning applications, in accordance with 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites'.

As part of the DPD and Local Plan process, we have also reviewed all tolerated Gypsy and Traveller sites without planning permission and have subsequently granted planning permission for some pitches. The Council itself has also brought forward some pitches and is working with a Registered Social Landlord to meet the need for social rented pitches.

The preparation of our Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD is now well underway and consultation on both 'Options' and 'Preferred Options', which included the identification of preferred sites, has taken place. A draft Submission DPD will be considered by our Cabinet in March 2013 and published shortly thereafter. Full submission to the Secretary of State is programmed for July 2013 with adoption before the end of the year.

It has been a lengthy and challenging process to identify sites for our own need and we are unable to identify any sites which could contribute meet the requirements of both authorities. In addition, Solihull does not have any spare capacity on our existing sites to accommodate need arising in Warwick District.

Unfortunately, Solihull is therefore unable to help address the difficulties Warwick District has in meeting the accommodation needs of its Gypsy and Traveller population. However, Solihull will continue to consult and engage with Warwick, and we are happy to share information and explore how we work with the Gypsy and Traveller Community to better understand their needs.

Yours sincerely



Emma Tinsley
Principal Planning Officer
Policy and Spatial Planning



McCallum, Alison (Business Transformation Directorate - Solihull MBC)

From: Simpson, David (Places Directorate - Solihull MBC)
Sent: 01 April 2014 14:03
To: James, Sarah (Places Directorate - Solihull MBC)
Subject: FW: Preferred Options Sites for Gypsy and Travellers Consultation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: 21 April 2014 09:30
Flag Status: Flagged

Sarah,
Have you seen this
Dave

From: newlocalplan [<mailto:newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk>]
Sent: 17 March 2014 15:28
To: newlocalplan
Subject: Preferred Options Sites for Gypsy and Travellers Consultation

Dear Sir or Madam

[Warwick District Council: Sites for Gypsies and Travellers – Preferred Options](#)

We are writing to let you know about the above consultation which started today.

The consultation runs until 5 May 2014. We want to know what you think about:

The Preferred Option sites
Any alternative sites

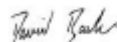
Further information and the relevant documents are available on our [website](#).

How to comment

All the details of this consultation can be found at:
http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/info/20416/evidence_base/733/gypsy_and_traveller_site_allocations

The deadline for responses is 5 May 2014.

Yours faithfully



Dave Barber
Development Policy Manager

What's on - www.warwickdc.gov.uk/events

APPENDIX 4 – REPLY FROM STRATFORD

Dear Mr Butcher

Further to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as set out below, I can confirm that:

- Stratford on Avon District Council (SDC) made a representation to Warwick District Council (WDC) in response to its Site Options Paper which was consulted on from 14 June to 29 July 2013 (copy attached);
- Officers met in February 2014 to discuss progress on both Local Plans (note of meeting attached);
- An officer from SDC attended an event organised by WDC in Harbury on Monday 24 March 2014;
- SDC consulted WDC when scoping the coverage of the SDC Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan (14 February to 28 March 2014), but no response was received; and
- SDC made a representation to WDC on its Preferred Options for Sites which was consulted on from 17 March to 5 May 2014 (copy attached).

There have been no other formal communications between SDC and WDC on this subject.

Yours sincerely

Dave Nash

Policy Manager (Planning and Housing)

Stratford on Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6HX

Switchboard +44 (0)1789 267575, Direct +44 (0)1789 260399, Fax +44 (0)1789 260330
email dave.nash@stratford-dc.gov.uk, web www.stratford.gov.uk

Text of response to the Warwick District on site options 2013

SDC understands that this document is effectively a scoping consultation to provide a steer to Warwick District Council in order to assist them in identifying suitable specific sites for Gypsies and Travellers to meet their needs over the 15 year plan period. Following this consultation, Warwick District Council will further consult on its Preferred Options (i.e. sites). SDC draws Warwick District Council's attention to best practice and Government guidance, particularly in respect of optimum site size, use of strategic sites and the requirement for co-existence between the settled and traveller communities.

SDC supports the inclusion of a criteria-based policy for bringing forward suitable sites for Gypsy and Traveller pitches through a DPD. This should also apply to proposals brought forward via a planning application. However, SDC considers that this policy might be strengthened through the inclusion of further criteria, for example:

- * The site will not be located on unstable or contaminated land that cannot be mitigated
- * The site will have a good residential environment and be of good quality design
- * The site will not adversely impact on neighbouring residential amenity
- * Arrangements are put in place to ensure the proper management and retention of the site

The latter three criteria are particularly important given the close proximity of the broad locations to Stratford-on-Avon District. SDC considers that mechanisms should be put in place to ensure that the site identification approach takes account of the likely impacts on the wider locality, irrespective of administrative boundaries, and those residents in Stratford District affected by the proposals are engaged and consulted to the same degree as residents of Warwick District.

In respect of the broad locations, it is unclear how they have been identified since no assessment is provided and the benefits of these particular locations are not shown. This begs the question as to why these particular locations have been selected rather than, say, an adjacent parcel of land. Notwithstanding this, it is acknowledged that any Gypsy and Traveller site would only form a small parcel of land within any one broad location, and there would be only one site per broad location. SDC endorses this approach. However, some of the identified broad locations are in very close proximity with each other. SDC considers that some broad locations should be treated as mutually exclusive and the identification of actual sites in close proximity, albeit in separate broad locations, should be avoided. The following broad locations ought to be considered as mutually exclusive:

- * sites GT03 and GT04
- * sites GT05, GT09 and GT10
- * sites GT05, GT06, GT09 and GT15
- * sites GT12 and GT16

SDC is concerned at the proximity of many proposed sites where such a relatively high density of traveller facilities may create a disproportionately high concentration of caravan and temporary buildings that may impact adversely upon the openness and character of the landscape and otherwise impact on the balance between the settled and traveller communities. SDC note that many of the sites are for 12-15 pitches, which could result in 30 caravans plus facilities per site. Optimum site size is generally considered to be 5 pitches.

SDC is also aware that Warwick District Council is proposing two strategic allocations: the first to the south of Warwick and Witnash around the Europa Way and Harbury Lane junction, and the second to the south of Witnash, east of the railway. Apart from broad location 15 which appears to abut the first on the A452, no broad locations are related to either strategic allocation. SDC considers that these options should be explored further given that locations in more rural areas may potentially be further away from services and facilities.

Until specific sites are identified as part of the Preferred Options consultation SDC, SDC does not consider it is in a position to provide specific comments on the suitability or otherwise of the broad locations. Notwithstanding this SDC would welcome the opportunity to work with Warwick District Council as part of the plan-making process. Finally, I draw your attention to a factual error. To avoid confusion, Site GT02 should be re-titled to read 'Land abutting the Fosse Way at its junction with the A425', not the B425 which is in Solihull.

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Representation received successfully, thank you.

You can print this page out to keep a copy for your records and you will also receive an email confirming your representation once it is submitted..

Representation ID:	64083
Support / Object / Comment:	Comment
Section:	PO3 Criteria for assessing sites
Representation:	<p>Given the distribution and size of sites proposed by Warwick District Council significant cumulative effects on the settled community in Stratford-on-Avon District are considered to be unlikely. However it is suggested that Policy PO3 is amended to recognise the need to consider the potential for cumulative effects on the settled community when determining future planning applications.</p> <p>This is consistent with "Planning Policy for Traveller Sites" (DCLG, March 2012). This states in part that: "local planning authorities should ensure that their policies: a) promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and local community and f) avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services".</p> <p>Whilst the anticipated impacts of the preferred sites on Stratford-on-Avon are likely to be minor, the Council's position may change should the next version of the document bring forward a greater number of sites that cumulatively would have a more significant impact on the settled community in Stratford-on-Avon District.</p>
Summary:	Policy PO3 should be amended to recognise the need to consider the potential for cumulative effects on the settled community when determining future planning applications.
Attached Files:	None

[Continue](#)

Note of meeting with Lorna Coldicott, Warwick District Council, 24th Feb at Warwick DC offices

Key points

- RSS – interim statement on need – reliability questioned (find)
- LGA Seminar/Westminster briefing useful but covered same ground – so do one if you can. Richard Bennett and Rick Pallister (former councillors) are good and will do one off events (subsidised by government). Salford University will also do one off events;
- We agreed to stay in touch re wording for a policy on sites at affordable rents and how secure in the long term as such;
- Kites Nest Lane – 2 appeals, second was recent – lost on appeal even though under provision in the district – was determined by Secretary of State (copy obtained);
- Lorna contacted utilities and other landowners, little response;
- Held an event in Harbury – meet a Gypsy, invited audience of 15 people in the Rectory lasted three hours. Follow up event likely end of March/early April. Agreed SDC should be represented if possible (follow up with DN);
- Exhibition material – roll up banner with basic detail, FAQ and some hard copies of document – encourage people to go on line;
- WDC has a set of Frequently Asked Questions that we could adapt;
- We discussed producing a memorandum of understanding that could then be adapted with other authorities, e.g. it should mention provision of Emergency Stopping Places. Lorna will have a look at other examples (I said I'd not found any);

Sean Nicholson