

## Gypsy and Traveller Stratford Road Preferred Options Site Response Form 2014

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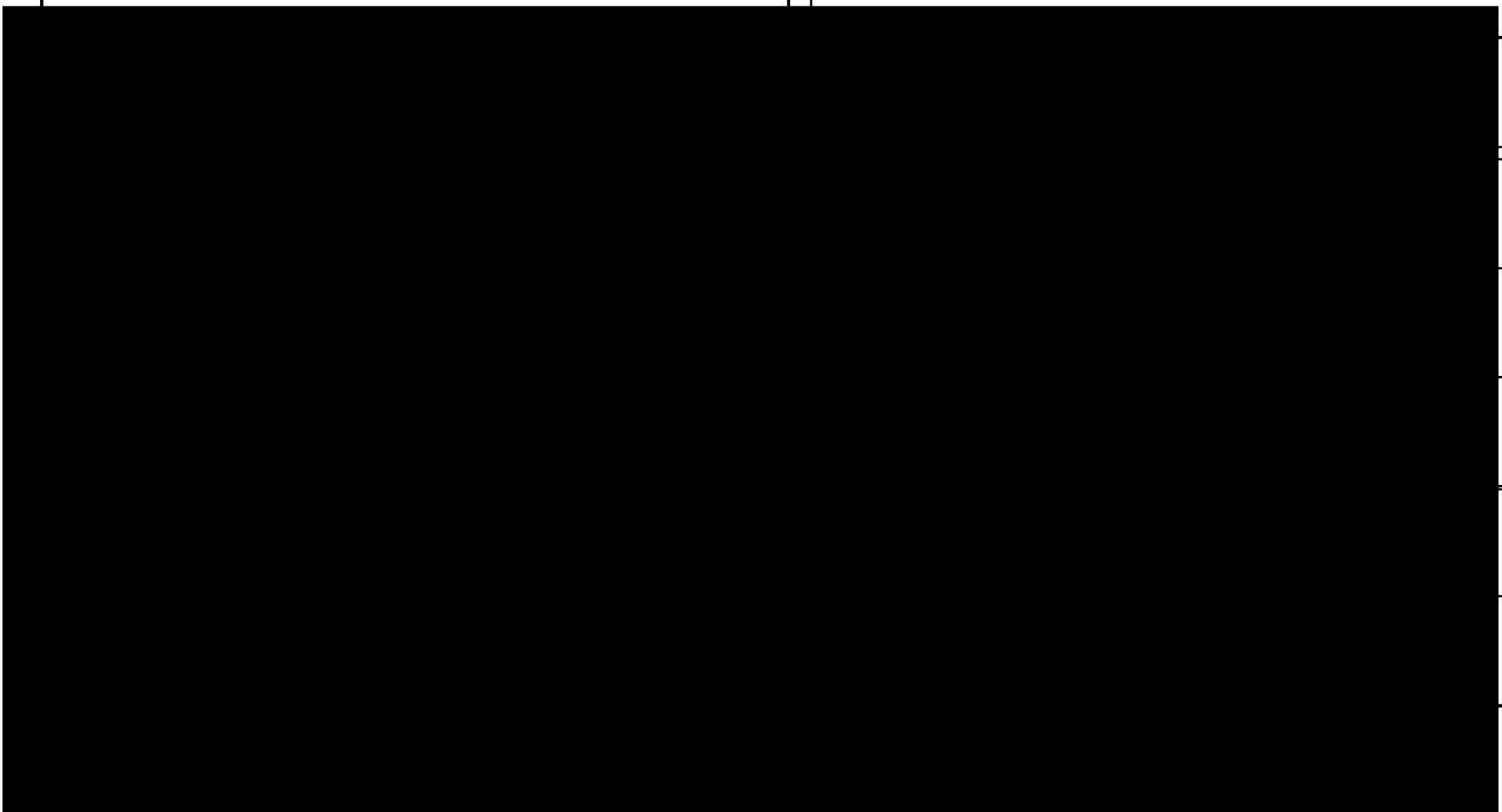
Ref:

Rep. Ref.

Please use this form if you wish to comment on the Stratford Road Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Options Site.

This form may be photocopied or, alternatively, extra forms can be obtained from the Council's offices or places where the consultation documents have been made available (see back page). You can also respond online using the LDF Consultation System, visit: [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan) or by letter (address on back page)

### Part A - Personal Details

	1. Personal Details	2. Agent's Details (if applicable)
Title	Mr.	
First Name	Graham	
Last Name	Hatch	
Job Title (where relevant)		
Organisation (where relevant)		
Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
Address Line 4		
Postcode		
Telephone number		
Email address		

Would you like to be made aware of further information?

About You: Gender

Ethnic Origin

Age

Where did you hear about this consultation e.g. radio, newspaper, word of mouth, drop-in sessions.

Word of mouth

## Part B - Commenting on the Stratford Road Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Site

The policy in the Draft Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged for suitability and sustainability. These are the criteria:

- a) the site is within reasonable distance of schools, GP surgeries, dentists, hospitals, shops and community facilities;
- b) the site has good access to the major road network;
- c) the site is of a suitable size to accommodate between 5 and 15 pitches for permanent sites or 12 pitches for transit sites;
- d) it can be demonstrated that infrastructure requirements can be adequately met;  
and
- e) there is potential for the site to be adequately screened.

What is the nature of your representation?  Support  Object  Comment

Please set out full details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

Point A/D: Impact on local healthcare – the GP surgery will require additional funding to cope with extra demand. Assuming a family of three lives in each caravan, we could potentially be looking at 45 travellers on the site. This is based on the assumption there will only be one unit per pitch. If there are more units per pitch the number increases further still. Impact on education – Budbrooke School is already in special measures and the inclusion of traveller children will cause further disruption. Other local schools have very few places available. My objection is based on the fact there is inadequate local infrastructure in place.

Point D: The current narrow farm track leading to the proposed site from Longbridge is totally inadequate as a means of access. The Government's own guidelines on planning Gypsy and Traveller sites set strict guidelines around access, particularly for emergency vehicles and more than one access route is recommended. My objection is on the grounds that access to the site cannot meet government guidelines.

Point C/D: The suggested site allows for the siting of 15 pitches with associated access road and open space. The additional open space mentioned means the use of such a vast area provides potential for further illegal encampments. Occupancy on the pitches cannot be regulated or controlled. There is a concern if the site is approved for a given number of pitches, the gypsy & travelling community will breach planning policy as was the case with Dale Farm. <http://www.basildon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3976&faqdetailid=4003&inplace=true>  
In addition, there is a potential risk an overflow of gypsies and travelers from the allocated 15 pitches may migrate to Chase Meadow and surrounding areas resulting in antisocial behavior further impacting on local residents. Note: an illegal traveler encampment set up on Tapping Way last summer.  
Therefore, I object to the application on the grounds the size of the community cannot be controlled in line with planning permission.

Point D: Planning application for housing on this site would not be granted so to approve for caravans is a case of double standards on the part of Warwick District Council.

Point D: Air, Water and Soil Quality - The Council's own Sustainability Assessment identified this as an area of significant concern (flagged as red) with a 'potential major negative effect' and therefore is not suitable for a permanent residential development, particularly one where children will live. The government's own guidelines on planning Gypsy and Traveler sites state that: 'It is essential to ensure that the location of a site will provide a safe environment for the residents. Sites should not be situated near refuse sites, industrial processes or other hazardous places, as this will obviously have a detrimental effect on the general health and well-being of the residents.'

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Point D: Noise pollution – The environmental noise assessment for planning purposes document, July / August 2014 (Ref: rdbst3620) conducted on behalf of Warwick District Council states on page 14 the noise in decibels exceeds 80 for prolonged periods. This will have an impact on the residents. The Health & Safety executive <http://www.hse.gov.uk/noise/regulations.htm> states 'The level at which employers must provide hearing protection and hearing protection zones is now 85 decibels (daily or weekly average exposure) and the level at which employers must assess the risk to workers' health and provide them with information and training is now 80 decibels' Applying this rationale to the proposed site would suggest there is a potential for damage to the resident's hearing, making the site unsuitable.

Point D: Flood Risk - the Council's own 'Sustainability Agreement' identified this as an area of concern (flagged as yellow) indicating a 'minor negative effect'. Nevertheless they have confirmed that the site is on a designated flood plain within flood zones 2 and 3. The government's own guidelines on planning Gypsy and Traveller sites states that 'Caravan sites for permanent residence are considered "highly vulnerable" and should not be permitted in areas where there is a high probability that flooding will occur (Zone 3 areas)'.

Point D: Effect on the local Economy - In the Council's own Sustainability Assessment this section is graded as '?' and the supporting commentary states that 'the effect on the economy is uncertain at this stage'. Furthermore the Consultation Documentation makes no mention of the potential effect of the site on the local economy and this is being raised as a legitimate area of real concern.

## Guidance on Making Representations

- Please use this response form as it will help the Council to keep accurate and consistent records of all the comments, alternatively complete online at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan)
- You may withdraw your objection at any time by writing to Warwick District Council, address below
- It is important that you include your name and address as anonymous forms cannot be accepted. If your address details change, please inform us in writing
- All forms should be received by **4.45pm on Friday 12 December 2014**
- Copies of all the objections and supporting representations will be made available for others to see at the Council's offices at Riverside House and online via the Council's e-consultation system. Please note that all comments are in the public domain and the Council cannot accept confidential objections. The information will be held on a database and used to assist with the preparation of the new plan for Gypsy and Traveller sites and with consideration of planning applications in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998
- To return this form, please drop off at one of the locations below, or post to: **Development Policy Manager, Development Services, Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa, CV32 5QH** or [email: newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk)

## Where to see copies of the Stratford Road Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Options Site

Copies are available for inspection on the Council's web site at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan) and at the following locations:

Location	Opening Times
<b>Warwick District Council Offices</b> Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – 8.45am – 5.15pm Thurs Fri 8.45am – 4.45pm
<b>Leamington Town Hall</b> Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – 8.45am – 5.15pm Thurs Fri 8.45am – 4.45pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Whitnash</b> Whitnash Library, Franklin Road, Whitnash	Mon – Tues 10.30am – 5.00pm Wed 1.30pm – 5.00pm Thurs Closed Fri 10.30am – 4.00pm Sat 10.30am – 1.30pm
<b>Leamington Spa Library</b> The Pump Rooms, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – Weds 9.30am – 6.00pm Thurs 10.00am – 7.00pm Fri 9.30am – 6.00pm Sat 9.30am – 4.30pm Sun 12.00pm – 4.00pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Warwick Shire</b> Hall, Market Square, Warwick	Mon – Thurs 8.00am – 5.30pm Fri 8.00am – 5.00pm Sat 9.00am – 4.00pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Kenilworth</b> Kenilworth Library, Smalley Place, Kenilworth	Mon – 9.00am – 5.30pm Tues Wed 10.30am – 5.30pm Thurs – 9.00am – 5.30pm Fri Sat 9.00am – 1.00pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Lillington</b> Lillington Library, Valley Road, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon 9.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 6.00pm Tues and 9.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 5.30pm Fri Weds Closed Thurs 9.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 7.00pm Sat 9.30am – 12.30pm
<b>Brunswick Healthy Living Centre</b> 98-100 Shrubland Street, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – Fri 9.00am – 5.00pm

**Where possible, information can be made available in other formats, including large print, CD and other languages if required. To obtain one of these alternatives, please contact 01926 410410.**