

## Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Plan – Schedule of Main Modifications (July 2014) Response Form Guidance Note

Main Modifications to the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD – Submission Document (July 2013) are proposed by Solihull Council to address issues of ‘soundness’ which have been identified as part of the examination of the plan.

The consultation provides those with an interest in the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Plan to make representations, stating whether the changes proposed address matters of ‘legal compliance’ or ‘soundness’. Any representations made will be considered by the Planning Inspector conducting the examination.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD ONLY RELATE TO THE MAIN MODIFICATIONS. THIS CONSULTATION IS NOT AN OPPORTUNITY TO REPEAT MATTERS RAISED THROUGH THE EXAMINATION PROCESS OR RAISE NEW REPRESENTATIONS ABOUT THE PUBLISHED PLAN.**

Legal compliance – If you are seeking to make representations on the way in the Council prepared the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Plan, it is likely that your comments will relate to a matter of legal compliance.

Soundness – If it is the actual content on which you wish to make a comment on or object to, it is likely that your representation will relate to ‘soundness’, based on the tests of soundness: positively prepared; justified; effective and consistent with national policy.

### Legal compliance

The Inspector will check that the plan meets the legal requirements under s20(5)(a) of the 2004 Act before moving on to test for soundness.

- The plan should be within the current Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS should be on the LPA’s website and available at their main offices.
- The process of community involvement for the plan should be in general accordance with the Local Planning Authority’s (LPA) Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out the LPA’s strategy for involving the community in the preparation and revision of documents in the Local Development Framework.
- The Plan should comply with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. On publication, the LPA must publish the documents prescribed in the Regulations, and make them available at their principal offices and on their website. The LPA must also notify the Local Plan consultation bodies (as set out in the Regulations) and any persons who have requested to be notified.
- The LPA is required to provide a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report. This should identify the process by which the SA has been carried out, and the baseline information used to inform the process and the outcomes of that process. SA is a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect

social, environmental and economic factors.

- The plan should have regard to national policy and any Sustainable Community Strategy for its area.

### **Soundness**

To be sound the plan should be:

- Positively Prepared

This means that the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development;

- Justified

This means that the plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence;

- Effective

This means that the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities; and

- Consistent with National Policy

This means that the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.

### **General Advice**

**Please note that representations should only relate to the Main Modifications. This consultation is not an opportunity to repeat matters raised through the examination process or raise new representations about the published plan.**

If you wish to make a representation on any of the Main Modifications you should make clear in what way it is not 'legally compliant' or 'sound' having regard to information above. You should try and support your representation by evidence and it will be helpful if you also say precisely what changes should be made. Representations should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested change, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further submissions.

All representations must be received at the email or postal address given below:

Email: [psp@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:psp@solihull.gov.uk)

Post: **Policy and Spatial Planning  
Solihull Council  
Manor Square  
Solihull  
B91 3QB**

Please ensure that representations are received **no later than 5:00pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2014.**

The Council has also prepared a Schedule of Additional Modifications to the plan. These are minor changes to provide factual updates or address typographical issues. These Additional Modifications are not subject to consultation as they do not affect the soundness or legal compliance of the plan.

However, they are also available to view for information on the Council's website at:

<http://www.solihull.gov.uk/ldf/gypsyandtraveller>