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Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation in the East of England: Issues and Options – Consultation Response Form

- If possible, please submit your response using the online form at www.eera.gov.uk or download this form and email the completed version to planning@eera.gov.uk
- To enter text on this form, click in the grey box and type in your response, save it, and then send the form as an attachment to an email.
- Alternatively, please print the form and complete by hand. If you run out of space, please continue on a separate sheet making it clear which question you are referring to.
- Please return this form by **5.00 pm on Tuesday 31st July 2007**

Comments submitted by/on behalf of:	
Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss etc):	
Initials:	
Surname:	
Organisation (if applicable):	
Address:	
Post Code:	
E-mail:	
Tel:	
Fax:	

Agent Details (if applicable):	
Primary contact (agent/client):	Agent
Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss etc):	
Initials:	
Surname:	
Organisation:	
Address:	
Post Code:	
E-Mail:	
Tel:	
Fax:	

Please tick if you would like to be notified of further Government consultations on RSS policies on accommodation for Gypsy and Traveller Communities in the East of England?

Please return this form by 5.00 pm on Tuesday 31st July 2007 to: planning@eera.gov.uk or by post to

Planning and Housing, East of England Regional Assembly, Flempton House, Flempton, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 6EG

Data Protection Act 1998

All representations received will be taken into account by the Assembly when developing policies. This RSS single issue review is a public process and, if requested to do so, EERA will have to make **your full representation and address details available**.

A - THE APPROPRIATE SCALE OF PITCH PROVISION ACROSS THE REGION

1) Do you think 1,220 net additional residential pitches is a reasonable estimate of the level of unmet need for residential pitch provision taking into account how this may change over the period until 2011?

2) If you think 1,220 net additional residential pitches is not a reasonable estimate of need what alternative level do you would think is a more reasonable estimate of need at 2011? Please make clear why.

3) On the basis of information currently available is it helpful if the RSS revision seeks to establish policy on the level of need for transit pitches? And, if so, would it be more helpful to distinguish this provision from the need for residential pitch provision in policy?

4) Should this revision seek to establish policy on the level of pitch provision beyond 2011? If so, what assumptions should be used to do this and until what year should they be applied?

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B – DISTRIBUTION OF PROVISION

5) To what extent is it reasonable to seek to spread the distribution of pitches from the council areas where need is calculated to arise? Will a more dispersed distribution still meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers? Would a different pattern of dispersal seeking to redistribute provision from areas of greatest need into nearby council areas be more appropriate than option 2?

6) Is it reasonable to accept the principle that each local council area should seek to provide at least one additional site?

7) In the light of the above consideration of locational issues, is there any evidence to suggest that any council area within the East of England could not make provision for a level of pitches in the order of that shown in the two illustrative options without having an adverse impact on areas of recognised environmental importance? Are there any other environmental or policy constraints that may be so significant to influence the distribution of pitches between council areas?

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C – DELIVERY AND IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

8) To what extent is it reasonable to rely on the delivery of sites either by Gypsies and Travellers themselves or by the development industry?

9) In view of the potential scale of pitch provision needed in the East of England and constraints on public funding available is it reasonable to suggest that most of the need identified is likely to have to be met by provision on 'exception' or other sites that would not normally be granted planning permission for other forms of housing?

10) In view of the scale of potential need for new sites identified, is there a need to develop new means of developing Gypsy and Traveller sites, such as through the establishment of some form of specialist delivery organisation?

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D – TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE

11) In the light of the proposed draft Circular is it appropriate for the revision to seek to identify the number of pitches that should be provided in each local council area to meet the needs of Travelling Showpeople separately from those to be provided to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers? If so, what evidence is available to inform this and what other issues should be taken into consideration?

GENERAL COMMENTS

Please use this space to give general comments not covered in the questions above

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