

Derby, Derbyshire, Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2014

Position Statement

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) require local planning authorities (LPAs) to carry out assessments of the future accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. These are called Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAA), which can be used to inform the preparation of policy and site allocations for Gypsies and Travellers at Housing Market Area (HMA) or Local Plan level, as appropriate.

In accordance with the NPPF and the Duty to Cooperate set out in the Localism Act 2011, a GTAA covering Derbyshire and East Staffordshire was jointly commissioned in August 2013 by the following partners to update the previous ones published in 2008 for Derbyshire and 2013 for East Staffordshire:

- Derbyshire County, Derby City and eight District and Borough Councils in Derbyshire;
- The Peak District National Park Authority;
- East Staffordshire Borough Council; and
- The Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group.

RRR Consultancy Limited completed a final version of the GTAA 2014 on 26 June 2015. The GTAA has a base date of 2014 and provides a snapshot in time based largely on survey evidence collected between October 2013 and February 2014. The GTAA represents a piece of evidence which provides a starting point for considering pitch and plot requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area for the period 2014/15 to 2034/35. This is a similar approach to the assessment of future needs for market and affordable housing, set out in the NPPF and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). Local authority partners will be able to use the GTAA to guide pitch and plot requirements in their administrative areas or as the basis for further bespoke studies of their own, supplemented by other local survey and monitoring evidence, to provide a more locally specific indication of need. It is also recognised by the commissioning partners that such findings drawn primarily from snapshot data may be reviewed by individual local authorities over time.

The findings of the GTAA have been agreed by all partners with the exception of East Staffordshire Borough Council. Whilst the Council has not accepted some aspects of the GTAA concerning the Borough, it has agreed to the publication of the GTAA. The Derbyshire Traveller Issues Working Group (TIWG) and East Staffordshire Borough Council will take forward the recommendations of the GTAA, including further more detailed work to consider the need for transit sites and pitches across the study area. This issue will be considered at the next meeting of the TIWG, which is scheduled for 13 October 2015.

The GTAA 2014 does not identify specific sites to accommodate future pitch and plot requirements in the study area. This will be the responsibility of the individual City, District and Borough LPAs through the preparation and review of their Local Plans.

Study Partners

Amber Valley Borough Council
Bolsover District Council
Chesterfield Borough Council
Derby City Council
Derbyshire County Council
Derbyshire Dales District Council
Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group.
East Staffordshire Borough Council
Erewash Borough Council
High Peak Borough Council
North East Derbyshire District Council
Peak District National Park Authority
South Derbyshire District Council

8 September 2015