
REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 9
DATE OF MEETING:	20th AUGUST 2015	CATEGORY:
REPORT FROM:	DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND PLANNING	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	NICOLA SWOROWSKI (EXT. 5983) nicola.sworowski@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	LOCAL PLAN PART 1 – EVIDENCE BASE	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	DISTRICT	TERMS OF REFERENCE: *see below

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 Note the content of the report

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To update Members on work that has been ongoing with the Local Plan evidence base around the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment and the Open Space, Sport & Community Facilities Strategy.

3.0 Detail

3.1 The Local Plan requires justification for its policies and allocations that it sets and that is in the form of an evidence base that covers many different areas.

3.2 The present Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) was produced in March 2008 and therefore a refresh of the data was required. The 2008 GTAA is a county-wide document and similarly the refreshed GTAA has been undertaken as a county-wide study, however this time East Staffordshire has also been included. The County had intended to publish the study on their website on the 7th August but this has now been delayed.

3.3 The methodology for producing the latest GTAA has been based on previous government guidance and good practice. It incorporated a wide range of research methods including interviews with key stakeholders. The accommodation needs figures were based on extensive consultation with Gypsy, Traveller, and Showpeople families and the model used to determine accommodation needs was based on Communities and Local Government Guidance (2007). As the GTAA states, “the main drivers of need are from newly forming families on authorised sites, families

living on unauthorised encampments, families living on unauthorised developments, and overcrowding.”

3.4 Whilst the study has been undertaken county-wide, each authority has had its need assessed separately except for the transit pitches which are currently given across Derbyshire and East Staffordshire as two figures. Once published then further information can be provided to Members.

3.8 Also as part of the evidence base is an up to date Open Space, Sport & Community Facilities Strategy that will help to shape and contribute to the delivery of a Sport, Physical Activity and Health Strategy. The framework will set the ambition and underpinning principles for three areas: Built Sports/Community Facilities, Playing Pitches and Open Space and Play

3.9 In order to meet the future sporting and physical activity needs of an active and healthy population we need to ensure that there are sufficient facilities in terms of their quantity, quality, and spatial distribution. In order to address this, work will build up a portfolio of Built Facility, Playing Pitch, and Open Space Strategies.

3.10 The work will be used for several areas of work including:

- Informing Planning Policy and the Local Plan
- Influencing community use of Education sites (including proposed new developments)
- Identifying priority projects for funding through the Community Infrastructure Levy
- Identifying priority projects for pursuing through funding bids (detailed feasibility studies to be undertaken at a later stage)
- Determining strategic decisions on planning applications (detailed application specific assessment studies will be undertaken at a later stage).

3.11 The current timetable is for completion in November 2015. The study will involve consultation and the appointed consultants and Officers involved are keen that as many Parishes and local sports/leisure clubs are involved in this process as possible. A further report will be taken to the Housing Committee and again to this Committee before the end of the process.

3.12 Work is continual on the Local Plan evidence base as some areas of work require refreshing or new areas of work are considered necessary.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are financial implications around the cost of both studies but in the case of the Open Space, Sport & Facility framework there is the potential for a loss of section 106 monies (or CIL potentially later) if the evidence base is not kept up to date.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 This report is essential to the Local Plan and also Development Management to help bring forward the Local Plan and also contribute to the planning applications process.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 An adopted Local Plan and therefore an up to date evidence base will ensure that development across the District is achieved in as sustainable manner as possible and in a way that provides the infrastructure of community facilities for both the new and existing residents.

7.0 Background Papers

7.1 None