

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Mike Hill, Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services

DECISION NO:

23/00040

For publication

Key decision: Yes

Subject: Gypsy and Traveller Site Pitch Allocation Policy

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Community and Regulatory Services, I agree to adopt the revised Gypsy and Traveller Site Pitch Allocation Policy and Application Form and delegate to the Director Growth & Communities any further decisions that may be appropriate to deliver the policy.

Reason(s) for decision:

Kent County Council owns and manages seven sites across the County which are used to accommodate Gypsy, Roma, Traveller communities. The Gypsy and Traveller Site Pitch Allocation Policy was last updated in 2012 and it sets out how the County Council will establish an applicant's need for a pitch on any KCC owned site, and how vacant plots will be allocated. This policy is pivotal to the good management of sites and ensuring that our sites provide a safe environment for Gypsy Roma Traveller communities. Our policy requires this review to reflect learnings from subsequent and recent enforcement and compliance actions, as well as good practice adopted by other Local Authority Gypsy and Traveller teams.

The draft revised Policy was consulted upon from 30th November 2022 to 7th February 2023, following the consultation endorsement by the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee in November 2022. The results of the consultation have been received and incorporated into the revised Policy as appropriate, and the Gypsy and Traveller Site Pitch Allocation Policy is now considered ready for adoption.

The purpose of this decision is to adopt the new Policy.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The draft version of the policy was reported to the Growth, Economic Development and Communities Cabinet Committee and endorsed for public consultation in November 2022. The updated revised policy was considered and endorsed Members at their meeting on 16th May.

Any alternatives considered:

The option of not revising the policy was considered but rejected due to the significance of this Policy in effective Site management and the need to ensure that council owned sites provide a safe environment for Gypsy Roma Traveller communities.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken, and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None



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signed

2 June 2023

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date

Name: Michael Hill, OBE

