

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY
BRYAN SWEETLAND
Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste

DECISION NO.
 12/01920

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject: Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Allocation Policy

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste I endorse the review of the allocation policy, and approve the new policy, as set out in Annex 1 of the report presented to the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee on 4 July 2012.

Any Interest Declared when the Decision was Taken
 NONE

Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information
 KCC's objective in owning and managing sites for Gypsies and Travellers is to provide a high quality site pitch for those in need. Allocation of pitches must comply with relevant legislation and case law, in particular the Equality Act, 2010, the Human Rights Act 1998, and allocation decisions must be "reasonable" "fair" and "proportionate". The new policy endeavours to ensure that site pitches will be rented to those Gypsies and Travellers in greatest need, and to those who may have great difficulty in securing pitches on privately owned Traveller sites which are available for rent or which have the benefit of permanent planning consent.

The new policy will ensure an appropriate 'needs assessment' is completed, applying a points system. Each applicant would be given a point score based on the information they provide and supporting evidence. The Gypsy & Traveller Unit will treat all applicants and applications fairly. However, there are only a limited number of pitches, and it is not possible to provide a pitch for everyone who wants one.

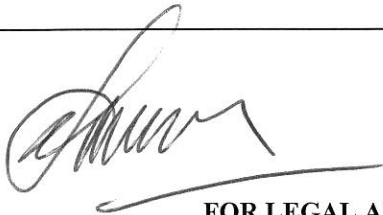
A detailed and wide-ranging consultation has helped to shape this new policy.

Members of the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee held on 4 July 2012 fully endorsed this decision.

Background Documents:

Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee report – 4 July 2012

signed



date: 30 July 2012

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published	