

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Regulation 19 Consultation - Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan
Committee : Planning & Development
Date : 23 September 2024
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1. Report Summary:

- 1.1. Wiltshire Council is conducting a Regulation 19 Consultation on their draft Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan.
- 1.2. Wiltshire's draft Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document and supporting documents, set out their strategic planning policies for meeting the accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers, and travelling showpeople.
- 1.3. The consultation runs from 9am Tuesday 20 August to 5pm on Friday 4 October 2024.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The Wiltshire Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan aims to address the accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers, and travelling showpeople through sustainable development. It seeks to identify suitable land, assess accommodation needs until 2038, manage unauthorised sites, and reduce tensions with settled communities.
- 2.2 The plan is based on evidence from the Wiltshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment and aligns with local and national policies. It is currently in its final public consultation phase before submission in 2025.

3. Regulation 19:

- 3.1. It is important for Councillors to note the scope and limitations of the Regulation 19 consultation and this is explained below.
- 3.2. Regulation 19 is part of the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uk/2012/1212). It says that, before submitting a draft Local Plan to the Government's Planning Inspectorate for independent examination, it must be published, and comments (known as 'representations') formally invited. A Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan forms part of a Local Plan, so the same applies.
- 3.3. The purpose of the independent examination is to consider whether the plan complies with the relevant legal requirements, including the duty to co-operate, and is sound. The focus for this consultation is, therefore, related to receiving representations on:
 - 3.3.1. **legal Compliance** - does the plan meet the legal requirements made under various statutes?
 - 3.3.2. **soundness** - has the plan been positively prepared, is it justified, effective, and consistent with national policy?
 - 3.3.3. **meets the Duty to Cooperate** - has the council engaged and worked effectively with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies?

- 3.4. Comments can be made on the plan as a whole, or parts of the plan such as on specific sites. So, for example, people wishing to comment on a particular site may consider the evidence informing the plan to understand why the site was selected and then set out their own views or judgements on the suitability of a site. They may relate to issues such as (but not limited to) highways, flooding, ecology, landscape or archaeology, or access to schools or health services; and have an impact on the justification of the policy - one of the tests of soundness.
- 3.5. Some site issues are less relevant to plan-making and would be assessed when a planning application is submitted following adoption of the Plan. For instance, detailed site layouts or how any new tree planting is arranged tend to be matters for the later planning application stage when people would be given a further opportunity to comment. Also, matters such as whether sites would affect the value of people's properties is not a relevant planning consideration.

4. Recommendations

4.1. It is recommended that the Committee:

- 4.1.1. Confirm if Salisbury City Council would like to make representations in regard to the consultation.
- 4.1.2. If representations are to be made, to confirm specific comments that are to be made and which sections of the plan the comments should be attributed to.

1. **Wards Affected:** All

2. **Background Papers:** Full details about the plan can be found here [Wiltshire's Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document - Wiltshire Council](#) and Councillors are invited to read in advance.

3. **Implications:**

3.1. **Financial:** Nil in relation to this report.

3.2. **Personnel:** Nil in relation to this report.

3.3. **Environmental Impact:** Nil in relation to this report.

3.4. **Equalities Impact Statement:** As outlined in the supporting documentation.