

## Position Statement on Travelling Showpeople

This short note is produced in reference to the Inspector's request regarding sites for Travelling Showpeople in the District.

It is noted in Paragraph 15.46 of the adopted Core Strategy that

*"Evidence suggests that there is a single Travelling Showperson's site in the District and there is no identified need for additional pitches".*

This evidence derives from the Partial Review of the South East Plan which dealt specifically with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. The reference to one pitch in the District came from evidence presented during the Examination in Public to the Partial Review and was submitted by the Travelling Showmen's Guild. Figures were presented for each district and borough within the South East Plan area by the Guild. The figures were questioned at the time by the District Council but taken in good faith. No information was presented at those hearings as to the location of the single pitch within the District. Therefore the location of this pitch is not known and/or if it is still currently occupied.

The District Council cannot find any further evidence relating to its location.

Two documents are appended to this Position Statement to set out the District Council's assertion that they have consistently not been able to identify the location to the 1 existing pitch for Traveling Showpeople within the District. These documents relate to the evidence base gathering for The South East Plan Partial Review and the District Council's Statement to Matter 2b The South East Plan Partial Review Examination in Public.

The Panel Report to the Partial Review was published but in an unfinished form. The South East Plan was revoked on 25 March 2013.

15 May 2019