

**CITY OF YORK LOCAL PLAN**

**PHASE 3 HEARINGS**

**MATTER 9: GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS**

**STATEMENT BY FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**JULY 2022**

**Q9.3 Will Policy H5 be effective in meeting the needs of Gypsies and Travellers?**

- 1 FPC supports appropriate provision for gypsies and travellers. However it is concerned that Policy H5 does not reflect national policy and also does not include sufficient safeguards to protect settled communities from potentially harmful developments.
- 2 Part b) of Policy H5 should be deleted. There is no provision in national policy that links general housing proposals for the settled community with pitches for gypsy and traveller caravans nor is there any local factor that would justify such a link.
- 3 If Part b) is retained for whatever reason, the second bullet point should be deleted which allows landowners/developers to provide the required number of pitches on other land in their control (potentially in the Green Belt-see below). The effect would be to enable landowners/developers to offload the associated visual, environmental and other disbenefits of such provision from their developments onto existing settled communities potentially some distance away, just to increase profitability.
- 4 Part c) should be amended so that it is more consistent with national policy. In particular:
  - In line with the 2015 national policy statement, criterion i) should be amended to make clear that traveller/gypsy developments are inappropriate anywhere in the Green Belt and will only be allowed in very special circumstances. The present wording gives the opposite impression and is thereby contrary to national policy.
  - Criterion iv) should be clarified and strengthened in line with NPPF paragraph 154 so that it states:

Ensure that the developments does not harm the amenity of nearby existing residents and businesses, including by loss of outlook or the creation of unacceptable levels of traffic, noise, disturbance, pollution, or air quality.

A further criterion should be added requiring that future occupants of the development are not subject to significant adverse environmental impacts through noise, air quality or outlook.

- Criteria ix) and x) should be moved from the second paragraph of Part c) to the first paragraph as these are matters concerned with the principle of whether development is acceptable rather than layout.

**Q9.5 Will Policy H6 be effective in meeting the needs of Travelling Showpeople?**

- 5 Policy H6 is almost the mirror image of Policy H5 except it is for travelling showpeople. We have the same comments on it.