

From: Southall, Denis <denis.southall@york.gov.uk>
Sent: 21 February 2023 13:52
To: Waltham, Louise; Douglas, Ann-Marie
Subject: FW: Osbaldwick Traveller Site

Hi,

For info and discussion as needed. Do we need to start thinking about a dedicated Traveller team with appropriate mgt support. One of Lou's objectives is an improvement plan for sites so it's an opportunity to think big and put those ideas in to the mix I feel. Needs to dovetail with wider contribution / offer across the council.

Regards

Denis Southall
Head of Housing Management and Housing Options

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e: denis.southall@york.gov.uk | [Colin profile](#)

I work flexibly and sometimes send emails early or late in the day. I don't expect anyone else to do the same.

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From: Ferris, Neil <Neil.Ferris@york.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 February 2023 18:29
To: Carter, Tracey <Tracey.Carter@york.gov.uk>; Jones, Michael <Michael.Jones@york.gov.uk>; Gilchrist, James

<James.Gilchrist@york.gov.uk>; Southall, Denis <denis.southall@york.gov.uk>; Boxall, Matthew <Matthew.Boxall@york.gov.uk>; Cooke, Alison(City Development) <Alison.Cooke2@york.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Osbaldwick Traveller Site

Hi Tracey

As per our discussion this morning I recognise the significant improvements that are happening across the housing function with a renewed enthusiasm from yourself and the Housing Team management. The role out of the IT System, the review of the homelessness pathway, the review of our asset management approach and the proactive addressing of performance. Added to this is the exemplary work being undertaken by the Housing Delivery programme.

This then is not the basis for my disappointment as to the state of the situation at Osbaldwick G&T site which I publicly recognised at both Local Plan working Group and Executive and our need as a Directorate to grasp not only the new provision within the Local Plan but the poor existing condition of our G&T facilities and our ongoing resourcing of support for the G&T provision from expanded revenues as the City grows.

As per my e mail to you after Exec, I believe we will be strongly recommending to Executive to receive a report to establish a G&T pitch delivery programme and Capital funding and resourcing for this programme which for clarity will need to include major maintenance proposals for existing sites.

The constant improvement journey and pace of delivery of the Housing, Planning and Regeneration teams (for developer Sites) gives me a high degree of confidence that we will make the G&T provision in the City fitter for purpose than it has ever been and at pace and we all recognise the scale of that challenge we have.

I am however immediately very concerned about the pollution situation you report on the site as both the Cement works and the waste facility are regulated processes and should not be impacting on anyone's health, employees neighbours or passers by and I am glad to see today Matt Boxall and Mike have today confirmed they will be reviewing the facts on site re regulatory regime and next steps for this area to meet our expectations of all regulated processes across the City no matter where they are.

I trust this confirms my commitment to ensure we will seek to secure both the resources and support to deliver a better outcome for our G&T community and my confidence and trust in our Directorate to deliver.

Regards

Neil

From: Carter, Tracey <Tracey.Carter@york.gov.uk>

Sent: 17 February 2023 15:23

To: Ferris, Neil <Neil.Ferris@york.gov.uk>; Jones, Michael <Michael.Jones@york.gov.uk>; Gilchrist, James <James.Gilchrist@york.gov.uk>; Southall, Denis <denis.southall@york.gov.uk>; Boxall, Matthew <Matthew.Boxall@york.gov.uk>; Cooke, Alison(City Development) <Alison.Cooke2@york.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Osbaldwick Traveller Site

Having been to the site today I was profoundly shocked by the environment surrounding a housing settlement – the place was filthy with dust, inhospitable in the extreme, difficult if not unsafe to access, badly maintained road with no pedestrian access or lighting bordered by high metal fences and razor wire, and full of billowing dust - not in my view an acceptable location for anybody to live. I would strongly recommend that you all visit this site and that E Health undertake their own survey work on air pollution from the surrounding heavy industrial site – I had not appreciated the nature of the surrounding business area – Sorry but this has just deepened my unease with the suitability of any growth on this site. Please look at the pictures and consider whether this is equivalent to any other housing provision that we would permit anywhere in the city?

Tracey



The access road



The site



The adjacent neighbours



Video of the amount of dust being created today

[Download Attachment](#)

[Available until 19 Mar 2023](#)

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From: Gilchrist, James <James.Gilchrist@york.gov.uk>

Sent: 17 February 2023 11:07

To: Jones, Michael <Michael.Jones@york.gov.uk>; Boxall, Matthew <Matthew.Boxall@york.gov.uk>

Cc: Ferris, Neil <Neil.Ferris@york.gov.uk>; Carter, Tracey <Tracey.Carter@york.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Osbaldwick Traveller Site

I see Neil has passed to Matt, not aware of any specific monitoring by teams nor any complaints, but Matt will pick up

James

James Gilchrist | Director of Transport, Environment and Planning

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From: Jones, Michael <Michael.Jones@york.gov.uk>
Sent: 17 February 2023 09:55
To: Gilchrist, James <James.Gilchrist@york.gov.uk>
Cc: Ferris, Neil <Neil.Ferris@york.gov.uk>; Carter, Tracey <Tracey.Carter@york.gov.uk>
Subject: Osbaldwick Traveller Site

Hi James,

I have been involved in a few meetings in the last couple of months where the issue of air quality at the Osbaldwick Travellers site was mentioned. There was specific mention of dust related to the adjacent brick company but also things blowing in from the skip and waste storage site next door.

In the meetings that I have been involved in there were comments like 'I think that has been resolved now'. Hopefully this is the case but no one seemed to quite know who had done what in response to concerns being raised. I suspect it is just a case of the lead person not being in the room but I am just flagging this in case you want to double check with your teams.

We learnt yesterday in a meeting with the Travellers Trust that the University of York are working on the site and regularly monitoring air quality.

Regards,
Michael

Michael Jones | Head of Housing Delivery and Asset Management
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