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The final piece of the jigsaw!

EXAMINATION INTO THE SOUNDNESS OF THE CITY OF YORK LOCAL PLAN

Inspectors: Simon Berkeley BA MA MRTPI and Paul Griffiths BSc (Hons) BArch IHBC

30 January 2024

YORK LOCAL PLAN PHASE 5 HEARING SESSIONS

As published on the examination webpage (link below) the Phase 5 Hearing will commence at 10.00am on Wednesday 6 March 2024, and will be held in The Citadel, Gillygate, York YO31 7EA. It is anticipated that it will last for just one day. The Inspectors have now published their Matters, Issues and Questions (MIQs) ([EX/INS/47](#)) and they are at the bottom of this letter. **The deadline for submission of hearing statements is 12 noon on Wednesday 28 February 2024.** All hearing statements must clearly indicate which question in the MIQs the response relates to.

The hearing relates to the Inspectors' email sent to the Council on 20 December 2023 ([EX/INS/45](#)) in relation to Policy H5: Gypsies and Travellers and the possible impact of the recent change to the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites. The latter may also have an effect on Policy H6: Travelling Showpeople.

The Inspectors would like to stress that the right to appear and be heard is limited to those persons defined in section 20 (6) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (i.e. in this instance, any person(s) that has made representations seeking a change to Policies H5 or H6).

In order to assist in drawing up the draft hearings programme I would be grateful if you would confirm whether or not you wish to take part in the hearings and present your representation orally. **Please respond to me no later than Friday 16 February 2024 if your intention is to participate in the examination hearing.** If I do not hear from you by that date, I will presume that you do NOT wish to be invited to participate at the hearings.

As this will be a public hearing, people may observe (but not participate) from the public gallery in The Citadel.

Updates and all documents relating to the preparation of the Plan and examination are available to download or view online at: <https://www.york.gov.uk/LocalPlanExamination>. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Carole Crookes (Programme Officer)

City of York Council

Examination of the City of York Local Plan 2017 – 2033

Schedule of Matters, Issues and Questions for the Examination

Phase 5 Hearings

Provision for Gypsies and Travellers

[Draft Policies H5 (and H6) as proposed to be modified]

Inspectors:

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When respondents answering the following questions identify a deficiency in the Local Plan, they should make clear how it should be changed.

In accordance with the Transitional Arrangements set out in paragraph 227 of Annex 1 to the National Planning Policy Framework 2023, where a plan is being examined that was submitted on or before 24 January 2019, the policies in the 2012 version of the Framework will continue to apply, as will any previous guidance which has been superseded. Accordingly, the Local Plan is being examined against the 2012 version of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Matter 1 – Provision for Gypsies and Travellers

- 1.1 How does the recent change to the planning definition of ‘Gypsies and Travellers’ affect the structure and precise wording of draft Policy H5?
- 1.2 Does draft Policy H5, and the Plan as a whole, make adequate provision for the future needs of Gypsies and Travellers?
- 1.3 Are the existing local authority sites, and specifically the site at Outgang Lane, Osbaldwick, suitable for the further expansion expected?
- 1.4 Is the approach of draft Policy H5 to the provision of pitches on strategic sites soundly based?
- 1.5 Specifically, is the sequential approach to provision of pitches on-site, off-site and the approach to financial contributions in lieu sufficiently robust to ensure that new pitches required to meet needs, come forward at appropriate times?
- 1.6 If provision of new pitches as part of the development of the Strategic Sites is to be provided off-site, directly, or through the vehicle of financial contributions, how are these pitches proposed to be provided, where will they be provided, and when?
- 1.7 Does the recent change to the planning definition referred to above affect draft Policy H6 and its supporting text too?

Paul Griffiths

INSPECTOR

31/01/24