

<b>STRONG AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Agenda Item No. 6</b>
<b>14 SEPTEMBER 2016</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

<b>Report of the Service Director for Adult Services and Communities</b>		
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## **ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TASK AND FINISH GROUP TO REVIEW EMERGENCY STOPPING PLACE PROVISION FOR TRAVELLERS WITHIN PETERBOROUGH**

### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Committee to consider and agree the Terms of Reference and membership of a Task and Finish Group to review emergency stopping place provision for travellers within Peterborough.

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Committee:
- a) approves the Terms of Reference for the Task and Finish Group
  - b) approves the Membership of the Task and Finish Group

### **3. LINKS TO THE CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND RELEVANT CABINET PORTFOLIO**

- 3.1 This report most closely links to the Council's corporate priority to keep all our communities safe, cohesive and healthy.
- 3.2 The issues associated with unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments falls under the remit of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Environment Capital.

### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 At its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016 the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a task and finish group to look into the provision of Emergency Stopping Places for Gypsies and Travellers in Peterborough.

### **5. KEY ISSUES**

- 5.1 Members are asked to review, comment on and agree the following terms of reference:
- i. To review the use of the existing Emergency Stopping Place provision in Peterborough
  - ii. To consider this and any other alternative solutions with a view to making a clear recommendation for the future
  - iii. To identify a list of potentially suitable locations to temporarily accommodate Gypsies and Travellers based on the agreed characteristics determined through the previous task and finish group into this subject
  - iv. To examine each potential site in order to agree advantages and disadvantages, and identify current ownership

- v. To make recommendations for appropriate solutions based on actions (i) to (iv) above
- vi. To review usage terms and conditions that Gypsies and Travellers will need to agree to before making use of formal alternative provision
- vii. To review the current partnership protocol for the management of unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments, identifying the roles of all partners and the use of relevant legislation available
- viii. To review the support mechanisms required across various disciplines that ensure Gypsy and Traveller provision is managed effectively, e.g. legal, financial, environmental, policing, communications, media etc

5.2 The following Councillors have been nominated to the group:

Cllr June Bull - Conservative  
 Cllr John Fox - Werrington First  
 Cllr Stuart Martin - Labour  
 Cllr Bella Saltmarsh - Liberal  
 Cllr Asif Shaheed - Lib Dem  
 Cllr John Whitby - UKIP

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 It is anticipated that the outcomes of the Task and Finish Group will help to significantly improve the impacts on communities caused by unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments. The management of these rests with the new Prevention and Enforcement Service.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

7.1 Consultation requirements will be determined by the outcomes and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group.

## **8. NEXT STEPS**

8.1 The first meeting of the Task and Finish Group, if approved, will be held shortly after this Committee meeting.

8.2 It is anticipated that the Task and Finish Group will be in a position to share its findings with the Scrutiny Committee at the January 2017 meeting.

## **9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

9.1 None

## **10. APPENDICES**

10.1 None