

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Working Group

Introduction

The North Wales Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA) has identified unmet need for residential sites in Denbighshire and transit sites across the region; the recommendation for the latter being that this need be met by cross County collaboration.

It is proposed Denbighshire County Council, in accordance with GTANA recommendation, establish an internal working group to better co-ordinate the response and approach on Gypsy and Traveller issues and avoid potential duplication of work.

Purpose

The purpose of establishing a Denbighshire Gypsy and Traveller Working Group is;

- To ensure the Council meets its full legal obligations in addressing the needs of Gypsies and Travellers
- To look at how the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers can best be met within the County.
- To consider the potential impact of establishing accommodation (site provision) on the Council's resources, local communities and the local economy and how this can be most effectively managed through a fully coordinated approach.
- To determine how unmet accommodation need be met by consideration of a range of options including site provision owned and managed by Gypsies and / or Travellers; or owned and managed by the Council; or owned by the Council but managed by an appointed agent, or owned and managed by an RSL.

Membership

It is recommended that the Group be lead by Housing Services (Care and Support Manager) with a broad based membership to facilitate a fully coordinated approach. The following represents the core membership of the group who could invite on other stakeholders or advisors as deemed appropriate;

- Lead Member for Housing
- Homelessness Champion

- Legal Services representative
- Planning Services representative
- Homelessness and Housing Options Officer
- Education Services representative
- Countryside services representative
- Supporting People representative

It is proposed that any recommendations from the steering group are reported back to full council for consideration.