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Dear Mark

## **Horsham GTAA Review July 2024**

Following your recent enquiry in relation to the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) that ORS prepared by the Council in November 2023 I can provide the following update regarding need from Gypsy and Traveller households in response to changes made by the Government to the PPTS Annex 1 Planning Definition of a Traveller in December 2023.

## **PPTS 2023**

Changes were made to the planning definition of a Traveller in the PPTS in December 2023. These changes were made in response to the Lisa Smith Court of Appeal Judgement that was handed down in October 2022. The implications of these changes is that households who have ceased to travel permanently now fall under the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller.

Firstly, my views on the implications of the changes that were made to the PPTS in 2023 in relation to GTAAs are as follows:

- As a result of the Lisa Smith Judgement the PPTS was updated in December 2023 to revert back to the 2012 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller by reintroducing those who have ceased to travel permanently due to education, ill health, or old age into the definition (now referred to as the 2023 PPTS).
- When the 2012 definition was issued the alternative planning definition in the 2004 Housing Act was also in place (now revoked by the Housing and Planning Act in 2016). This included anyone of a nomadic habit of life or those living in a caravan. So if a household did not meet the 2012 PPTS definition it was highly likely that they would meet the 2004 Housing Act definition if they were living in a caravan on a site.
- Now that the Housing Act definition has been revoked, there will still be large numbers of households who will not meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition if they have never travelled

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or have never travelled for work – i.e. under case law you can only have ceased to travel (either temporarily or permanently) if you have previously travelled for work or for seeking work.

- Having reviewed several recent GTAA's that have been completed by ORS the vast majority of those who will now meet the planning definition who have previously travelled for work and have now ceased to travel permanently are old or sick, have no children now living with them, and (unless they are living on a temporary or unauthorised site) do not generate much, if any, need.
- These reviews concluded that whilst on average up to 25% of households may now move under the 2023 definition, they bring little or no need over with them. The majority of need from remaining non 2023 PPTS definition households is from teenagers and through new household formation from families with children who do not travel, or do not travel for work.
- Therefore, in my professional view the changes to the PPTS in December will not change things as far as our GTAA's are concerned other than an adjustment to potentially increase need slightly (if any is identified) from those who have legitimately ceased to travel permanently; that the target for 5-year supply should also not change very much, if at all; and that Para 63 in the revised NPPF should still be used to address need from those who do not meet the revised planning definition and that this 5-year need should continue to be considered alongside wider housing need.

In conclusion, households who have never travelled, or have never travelled for work do not meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller.

### **Revised GTAA Need – July 2024**

ORS have reviewed the outcomes of the 2023 GTAA for Horsham in light of the changes to the PPTS in 2023. The 2023 GTAA identified a total of 36 households that did not meet the 2015 PPTS definition of a Traveller that generated a need for 31 pitches.

The review in July 2024 has identified that 8 of these households (22%) have ceased to travel for work permanently and now meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller. These 8 households carry across a current need from 1 unauthorised pitch (at Green Acres); a current need from 1 doubled-up single adult (on a pitch at Adversane); and no future need from new household formation as there are no children in these households.

Following the review of the implications of the 2023 PPTS ORS have revised to need figures that were identified in the 2023 GTAA for Horsham. Comparative figures for 2023 are also set out below. This review only addresses need from Gypsies and Travellers as there were no changes to Travelling Showmen's sites as all met the 2015 planning definition so also meet the 2023 definition.

## **Revised GTAA Need Summary**

There were 81 Gypsy or Traveller households identified in Horsham that met the 2023 PPTS planning definition (up from 73 in 2023); 28 households that did not meet the planning definition (down from 36 in 2023); and 15 undetermined households that may meet the planning definition (the same as for 2023).

There is a **need for 79 pitches for households that met the 2023 PPTS planning definition** over the whole plan period up to 2040. This is made up of 15 households on unauthorised developments; 17 concealed or doubled-up households or single adults; 16 teenagers who will need a pitch of their own in the next 5 years; 5 households from in-migration/roadside; and 29 from new household formation, using a rate of 1.90% derived from the household demographics. This is netted off against a supply from 3 vacant pitches on public sites.

There is a **need for up to 20 pitches for undetermined households**. This is made up of 7 unauthorised pitches; a modelled need for 4 for concealed or doubled-up households or single adults; a modelled need of 4 for teenagers who will need a pitches of their own in the next 5 years; and 5 from new household formation using the ORS national formation rate of 1.50%. If the locally derived proportion of households that met the planning definition (74%) were applied, this could result in a need for 15 pitches. If the ORS national average of 30% of households that met the planning definition were applied, this would also result in a need for 6 pitches.

Whilst not now a requirement to include in a GTAA, there is a **need for 29 pitches for households that did not meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition**. This is made up of 4 unauthorised pitches; 2 concealed or doubled-up households or single adults; 9 teenagers who will need a pitch of their own in the next 5 years; and 14 from new household formation, using a rate of 2.00% derived from the household demographics.

### **Revised Need for Gypsy and Traveller households in Horsham (2023-2040)**

Status	2024 Need	2023 Need
Meet Planning Definition	79	77
Undetermined	0-20	0-20
Do not meet Planning Definition	29	31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>128</b>

### **Revised need for Gypsy and Traveller households in Horsham that met the 2023 Planning Definition by year periods**

Year Period	Dates	2024 Need	2023 Need
0 – 5	2023 – 27	50	48
6 – 10	2028 – 32	10	10
11 – 15	2033 – 37	12	12
16 – 18	2038 – 40	7	7
<b>0 – 18</b>	<b>2023 – 40</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>77</b>

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## Conclusions

I can confirm that in my professional view the implications of the changes to the PPTS in 2023 have resulted in a slight increase of total current need identified in Horsham for Gypsies and Travellers that now meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller of 2 pitches for the period to 2040, and a reduction of total need for households not meeting the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller of 2 pitches.

In terms of the current 5-year requirements, these would now be:

- Meet 2023 PPTS planning definition = 50 pitches
- Plus 74% of undetermined need = 11 pitches
- **SUB-TOTAL = 61 pitches**
- Do not meet 2023 PPTS definition = 15 pitches
- Plus 26% of undetermined need = 4 pitches
- **SUB-TOTAL = 19 pitches**
- **TOTAL = 80 pitches**

There are no changes to the need figures for Travelling Showpeople.

Regards



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