

North West Plan Partial Review

Gypsy and Traveller Dialogue Meeting Notes

Date 23rd February 2009
 Sub Region Greater Manchester
 Venue Manchester Cathedral Visitors Centre

Agenda for the day

Welcome and context
 The allocations (How and Why)
 The numbers
 Next steps
 Feedback

The Allocations

	GTAA	Interim Draft		1 st Draft	
		Permanent	Transit	Permanent	Transit.
Bolton	42	60	10	45	10
Bury	45	60	10	45	10
Wigan	39	45	10	40	10
Salford	39	45	10	40	10
Manchester	66	60	15	60	14
Oldham	26	45	10	45	10
Rochdale	51	45	10	30	10
Tameside	17	30	10	20	10
Stockport	35	35	10	30	10
Trafford	22	25	10	30	10

Points notes about the context

- Gypsies and Irish Travellers are protected under Race Relations legislation from discrimination
- An 'ideal site' is 10 to 15 pitches

Points noted about the process

- LAs can influence the figure – this is the purpose of the consultation stage.

Issues Raised

The figures



- Why is there a difference between the 4NW figures and the AGMA figures?
- Can the figures be reconsidered?
- What is the evidence for this change?
- How have the district figures been arrived at and why is there a big variation?
- Why has an additional transit figure been included?
- Why have these particular multiples been used?
- Has there been any undercounting – particularly of hidden households?
- Has loss *from* bricks and mortar been used in the calculations?
- The numbers must be accurate and the rational must be clear.



*The figures have been based on the evidence, Options Consultation (summer 2008) which showed greatest support for a more equitable distribution, GTAA's, on line forum responses, other consultation responses and 4NW officers' professional judgement. 4NW will produce and circulate a briefing note to outline the process (See **Technical Note on how the Interim Draft Policy Figures for Gypsies and Travellers, and Travelling Showpeople (North West Regional Spatial Strategy Partial Review) were derived (February 2009) – available at <http://www.northwestplanpartialreview.org.uk/>).***

4NW acknowledged the quality of the GTAA in Greater Manchester and delegates felt that with the additional surveys they included to get to the GTAA figures the need had to be thoroughly researched in the sub region. Therefore the preference calculation applied across the region, may not be applicable in Greater Manchester.

4NW acknowledged that the transit figure is in the GTAA, but stated that it needed to be made clearer.

Transit figures can be rounded up at the expense of a 'few' permanent pitches.

All acknowledge that the figures that emerged from the research carried out by members of the Gypsy and Traveller community were very robust, and that these figures accounted for preference.

The future

- How can we deliver this in terms of supply and resources?
There are funds that can be drawn down to support site development
- Can 4NW help address the political implications of the distributions between sub regions and districts?
- Is there any flexibility in terms of supply?
There is an expectation for 4NW, that once policy is set the figures will be delivered at a local level
- Can authorities work across boundaries together to provide sites?
The draft policy can accommodate proposals / solutions between districts and sub regions subject to arrangements being set out formally in Local Development Schemes.
- Who will undertake the co-ordinated regional review?
- What happens after 2016?
Figures are subject to a 3% increase

The process

- Is there any flexibility in the timescales?
These are set by central government – see next steps on web site
- How can we discuss figures we haven't yet seen?

The current process is designed to discuss the figure, get views from all stakeholders. It is these views that will help shape the final figure – so the current figures are the ones to comment on. 4NW needs to hear all your comments.

Actions from the meeting

For 4NW and the consultation team

- 4NW to develop technical note to outline what evidence has been used to support the changes in the numbers (See **Technical Note on how the Interim Draft Policy Figures for Gypsies and Travellers, and Travelling Showpeople (North West Regional Spatial Strategy Partial Review) were derived (February 2009) – available at <http://www.northwestplanpartialreview.org.uk/>).**
- 4NW to develop technical note to outline what evidence has been used to support the changes in the numbers
- Revised figures will be produced at the end of the consultation process, based on what people say in this process
- Note of this meeting will be produced by CAG Consultants

For local authorities

- 4NW need more info about the ARC4 paper
- 4NW need formal responses on the figures on what the districts are 'comfortable with' by 27th March 2009

