

Derby City Council

Derby City Local Plan Part 1 – Core Strategy

Statement of Common Ground between the National  
Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups, Derbyshire County  
Council and Derby City Council

Re: s.124 of the Housing and Planning Bill 2016



Derby City Council

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This Statement of common ground relates to the potential implications of section 124 of the Housing and Planning Bill 2016 (H&PB) on the current Examination of the Derby City Local Plan Part 1 - Core Strategy.
- 1.2 The Inspector examining the soundness of the Core Strategy has asked for comments as to any implications for the Core Strategy raised by the enactment of this specific provision, particularly on policy CP8 - Gypsies and Travellers. Accordingly, this statement of common ground has been prepared by Derby City Council and is submitted jointly with the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups and Derbyshire County Council representing those parties who have previously commented on Core Strategy policy CP8.
- 1.3 Section 124 of the bill, which came onto force on 12 July 2016, removes duty on local authorities, under the Housing Act 2004, to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in their area as a distinct category. Instead, it specifies that local housing authorities should consider the needs of people "residing in or resorting to their district with respect to the provision of sites on which caravans can be stationed, or places on inland waterways where houseboats can be moored". In support of this, the Department for Communities and Local Government published draft guidance on how it expects local authorities to interpret this provision in March 2016.

## **2.0 Areas of Common Ground**

- 2.1 The parties agree that the enactment of section 124 has minimal bearing on the Core Strategy and policy CP8 in particular. Whilst it removes the duty on local authorities to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in their area as a 'distinct category', the draft guidance issued by DCLG still highlights Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople as groups who reside in caravan accommodation and who's needs should be assessed.
- 2.2 In this regard the parties are satisfied that the existing evidence base on Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, in the form of the GTAA 2014 (EB043), is both up to date and meets the general requirements of the draft guidance; therefore providing the evidence the City Council need to make sufficient provision for those people who reside in caravans in the City.

2.3 It is already common ground between the City Council and the Federation that DCLP Part II Plan will set out both pitch numbers and sites to meet the needs identified (see SoCG submitted as an appendix to the MIQ response to Matter II).

### 3.0 Further Information

3.1 Section 214 of the H&PB 2016 also requires local authorities to assess the needs for provision of houseboat moorings. I can confirm that it is the City Council's intention to scope out the need for further evidence to address this requirement as part of the DCLP Part II Plan.

### 4.0 Conclusion

4.1 Derby City Council, the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups and Derbyshire County Council agree that the enactment of section 124 of the H&PB 2016 has no implications on the Core Strategy that require either further work or modifications to the plan.

Signed:	
	Roger Yarwood Planning Officer On behalf of The National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups
	Steve Buffery Principal Planner On behalf of Derbyshire County Council
	Andrew Waterhouse Spatial Planning Group Leader On behalf of Derby City Council
Date: 28 July 2016	