

Martin Elliot  
Planning Policy Manager  
01924 331594  
martin.elliott@yhassembly.gov.uk

Our ref: Planning Conformity\020- North Lincolnshire\Local Development Frameworks\Final Responses\April 08 - March 09

18 September 2008

Chris Barwell  
Spatial Planning Manager  
North Lincolnshire Council

By E-Mail

Dear Chris

**North Lincolnshire LDF – Housing and Employment Land Allocations DPD  
– Additional Issues and Options Consultation on Gypsy and Traveller  
Sites**

The Yorkshire and Humber Assembly welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Allocations Issues and Options document for Gypsy and Travellers for North Lincolnshire Council and to continue its involvement in the development of a coherent spatial planning framework for the region. The comments offered in this letter are intended to be within the spirit of continued and productive joint working.

At this stage, the Assembly's response to the consultation document is a set of officer comments. The aim is to highlight where issues related to general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy might arise. When the DPD is submitted to the Secretary of State a formal Assembly view on its general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy will need to be given.

The following officer comments are made in relation to The Yorkshire and Humber Plan (The Regional Spatial Strategy to 2026) published in May 2008.

Government guidance (paragraph 4.33 in PPS12) states that in devising its strategy, the local planning authority should be consistent with national policy and in general conformity with the regional spatial strategy. When the Allocations DPD is published a formal Assembly view on its general conformity with the Yorkshire and Humber Plan will need to be given.

The Yorkshire and Humber Plan aims to achieve a more sustainable pattern and form of development, investment and activity across the region, putting a greater emphasis on matching needs across the region with opportunities and managing the environment as a key resource. There is a particular emphasis on achieving the regeneration and renaissance of the region's city and town centres by making them the focus for housing, employment, shopping, leisure, education, health and cultural activities and facilities in the region.

## **Comments**

The Assembly supports and welcomes the current consultation on Gypsy and Traveller Sites as being in line with RSS Policy H6.

Policy H6 notes that the Humber sub-region needs meet the shortfall in pitch provision of 34 pitches by 2010. The Assembly recognises that subsequent Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments will supplement these figures as a more up to date, locally evidenced target.

We also welcome inclusion of Travelling Showpeople within the consultation document and the recognition that the locational needs of this community are different from those of the Gypsy and Traveller Community.

In relation to devising criteria for the location of pitches and plots I would encourage you to ensure that RSS Policies YH4 and YH6 are addressed. Policy YH4 notes that Sub-Regional Cities should be the focus for housing. This is to ensure a more sustainable pattern of development and maximize accessibility between homes, services and jobs. It also seeks to ensure that we foster wide ranging inclusion. Policy YH6 seeks to meet locally generated needs for both market and affordable housing. In other words, to ensure that the emerging DPD is fully in line with RSS as a whole there will be a need to demonstrate if and why the location of G&T development requires different criteria to that of the settled community and express this through your evidence base.

If you require and further information or wish to discuss these points then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Mat - Elliot

Martin Elliot  
Planning Policy Manager