

Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD

2021 - 2037



Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council adopted a Borough Plan on 11th June 2019 which planned for new development in the borough until 2031. The Borough Plan plans, principally, for new commercial, employment, and residential uses. In terms of residential uses the Borough Plan must plan for all parts of the community and thus deals with provision for gypsies and other travellers.
- 1.2 Policies DS4 – Overall development needs and H3 – Gypsies and Travellers set out the need for new pitches by 2031/2032 to be at least 39 residential and 5 transit pitches. Policy H3 does not set out where the new pitches would be provided but sets out the criteria that will be used to identify potential locations for residential and permanent pitches through the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). It is through this DPD that land is identified and allocated for future traveller sites. Policy H3 of the current adopted Borough Plan (2011-2031) is superseded entirely by the DPD and in the emerging Borough Plan Policy H3 will purely refer to the DPD for Policies relating to Gypsy, Travellers and Showperson pitches and plots.
- 1.3 The current Local Development Scheme (2020) sets out the timetable for the production of Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD which is as follows:
 - May 2021 – consultation on an Issues and Options document;
 - January 2022 – consultation on a publication document;
 - July 2022 – submission of the document to the Secretary of State;
 - January 2023 – receipt of Inspector’s report on the examination of the document; and
 - February 2023 – adoption of the document.
- 1.4 This adopted DPD was preceded by the Publication version of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD; which was the formal document required by Regulation 19 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. This was consulted on between 28th January 2022 and 25th March 2022. A consultation on the previous version of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD, the Issues and Options consultation draft, took place between 11th June 2021 and 6th August 2021. This document was that required by Regulation 18 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. A consultation statement has been produced which sets out the responses received and how they were considered in producing the DPD.

- 1.5 The document is set out in four subsequent chapters addressing the vision and objectives of the DPD, followed by the need for new pitches, the locations of these new pitches and a monitoring schedule for the DPD.
- 1.6 To support this document the Council has commissioned a consultant to produce a new Gypsy, Traveller, and Travelling Showpersons Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) and this can be viewed alongside this document. The most recent study prior to this new GTAA dates from 2016 and it concluded that the evidence base is refreshed on a five-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and pitch provision remains appropriate. The DPD is also supported by a 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document, a Sustainability Appraisal Report, and an Appropriate Assessment, the contents of which have been considered in the production of this DPD. All supporting documents can be seen on the Borough Council's website alongside this DPD as part of the formal consultation.

2.0 Vision & Objectives

Vision

- 2.1 The vision was contained within the Issues and Options consultation draft of the DPD. Since that document the vision has been amended so that reference to the environment is made thereby linking the vision more to objective 3.

- 2.2 The vision for this DPD is for the needs of the travelling community in and visiting the borough to be provided with sufficient pitches so that they can live, work, and rest in the borough. Pitches will be well located and integrated into the environment and the local community thereby providing good access to essential services.

Objectives

- 2.3 The following objectives will help achieve the vision for the DPD. Three objectives were consulted upon and although no issues were raised by consultation responses on the content of the objectives, objective 3 has been amended. The intent of the objective remains the same, but the terminology has been changed so that it aligns better with the language used in the adopted Borough Plan.

Objective 1 - to provide sufficient pitches for the needs of the travelling community.

Objective 2 - to provide provision in sustainable locations with good access to local services.

Objective 3 - to provide provision in such a way that the local environment is protected and, where appropriate, enhanced.

These objectives are interrelated and in combination they will contribute to realising the vision for the DPD.

3.0 Need

Introduction

- 3.1 The evidence base that supported the formation of the need for new pitches in the Borough Plan was the 2016 Gypsy, Traveller, and Travelling Showpersons Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). Since the 2016 GTAA was produced the 2016 Housing and Planning Act introduced the need to conduct a wider assessment of all caravan and houseboat accommodation needs, not just those from Gypsy and Traveller ethnicities. A new assessment of accommodation needs has been produced, dated from 2021. This assessment updates the need for new pitches to those published in the Borough Plan and addresses the implications of the 2016 Housing and Planning Act.
- 3.2 The Issues and Options consultation proposed four options for the number of pitches to provide ranging from that in the 2021 GTAA through to figures above those in the GTAA from 2016 (and published in the Borough Plan). After careful consideration it is considered that the figures from the 2021 GTAA should be used as the basis for the need. Even though representations on the DPD were low, the newer figures were clearly preferred over those that were now nearly six years old by respondents. Not only are these figures more recent, but the interview rate was also much higher giving greater confidence that the assessment of need is more robust and closer to that actually required. These four options were assessed in the accompanying sustainability appraisal to the issues and options document and these four options all came out the same, partly because all reasonable options considered would achieve the number of pitches set in the 2021 GTAA as a minimum (which is the most recent data source) but also because there were many unknowns of the likely impacts that would result from these different sets of figures for new pitch numbers.
- 3.3 Using the requirement for new pitches from the 2021 GTAA as a minimum rather than the higher figures in the extant Borough Plan means that this document will need to supersede the requirements for new pitches set out in Policies DS4 and H3 of the Borough Plan.

Gypsies and Travellers

- 3.4 The first part of the 2021 GTAA was to assess the current occupancy of pitches within the borough, then to assess how much capacity remains above this, so, how many pitches are unoccupied but are available, followed by calculating how many more pitches are needed to fulfil the need for new pitches within the borough. The new GTAA advises that with the current

occupied and vacant pitches within the borough there is a need for 16 additional residential and no transit pitches to meet the needs of those who meet the definition of travellers as set out in the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, August 2015; this increases by four to a total of 20 additional residential pitches to meet a cultural need (that is, people who do not meet the definition of a traveller but nevertheless live on pitches). For travellers, this is change of 23 residential pitches and 5 transit pitches from those figures published in the Borough Plan (both decreasing). Table 1 below repeats the figures from Table 6.3 of the 2021 GTAA in which the need for new pitches is set out.

Table 1 - Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2021/22 to 2036/37.

Time period	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	8	6
Longer-term need		
<i>Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (B)</i>	4	3
<i>Over period 2031/32 to 2036/37(C)</i>	8	7
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2036/37 (12 years) D=(B+C)</i>	12	10
NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2036/37 (A+D) (11 years)	20	16

PPTS = Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015) within which the definition of gypsies and travellers is provided.

- 3.5 The 2021 GTAA assumes that some of this provision for additional pitches can be found through turnover on the site at The Griff and by a combination of intensification and expansion of three existing sites to provide 11 pitches. Table 2 below repeats the figures from Table 6.4 of the 2021 GTAA which sets out these assumptions. Thus, the table shows that through the provision of 11 new additional pitches the need up to 2036/37 is met is and, therefore, this meets the need evidenced in the 2021 GTAA.

Table 2 - Addressing Gypsy and Traveller pitch need.

Time period	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	8	6

Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (B)	7	7
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (C)	6	6
Residual need 2021/22 to 2025/26 after turnover and potential intensification/expansion (D) = A-B-C	-5 Need met	-7 Need met
Longer-term need 2026/27 to 2036/37 (E)	12	10
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (F)	15	15
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (G)	5	5
Residual need 2025/26 to 2036/37 after turnover (H) = E-F-G	-8 Need met	-10 Need met
Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover and potential pitch development considered (I) = D+H	-13 Need Met	-17 Need met
Summary	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS NEED
Plan period Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2036/37) (J = A+E)	20	16
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (K) = B+F	22	22
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (L)=C+G	11	11
Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover (M=J-K-L)	-13 Need met	-17 Need met

- 3.6 Although turnover has been considered and has the potential to meet need based on past trends, this cannot be wholly relied upon as the future level of turnover at The Griff is not guaranteed. Instead, turnover is one element of supply but there remains a need to take positive steps to increase the number of pitches available to households across the borough to meet the needs identified and to plan positively for the area. This is particularly important for the Council to achieve a 5-year land supply of new pitches. So, turnover can be relied upon to meet some of the forecast need but not to the exclusion of allocating new pitches. The GTAA of 2021 identified 11 pitches that could be found in the Borough and this should be used to form

the basis of the minimum new pitches to provide, the remainder will be met by turnover.

Travelling Showpeople

- 3.7 The GTAA from 2021 states that there is 1 occupied and 3 vacant pitches in the Borough for use by travelling showpeople. The 2016 GTAA set out that there were 4 private owned pitches, and plots on site/yards of which 4 were occupied and 0 were vacant. Therefore, plot numbers have remained the same but vacant plot numbers have increased. No additional provision is recommended by the current GTAA.

Bargee Travellers

- 3.8 In the 2016 GTAA bargee travellers were accounted for by one family present in the borough. No change to bargee traveller numbers are contained within the updated GTAA.

Future Need

- 3.9 In the 2021 GTAA it is recommended that the *"...evidence base is refreshed on a 5-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and pitch provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Nuneaton and Bedworth."* This is an important element of confirming that the need in this DPD remains as required. It is therefore the Council's intention that the number of new pitches will be assessed each year at the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) stage and landowners contacted to encourage the sites to come forwards. The DPD will be reviewed five years after adoption and subsequently five years thereafter on an ongoing basis, to ensure the document meets the current needs. The update of the GTAA is referenced in Table 3 of Chapter 5.0 on Monitoring of this document. Should need be found to have changed beyond that set out in this DPD (or indeed for another reason such as undeliverability of a site or sites) then this should trigger a review of this DPD.

Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need

The following levels of development will be planned for and provided within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough between 2021 and 2037:

- At least 6 permanent residential pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers by 2025 and
- At least a further 5 permanent residential pitches beyond those required by 2025 so that, in total, at least 11 permanent residential pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers by 2037.

This Policy supersedes the third bullet point of DS4 of the adopted Borough Plan (2011-31).

4.0 Location of Pitches

Green Belt

- 4.1 Two of the sites to receive new pitches are within the Green Belt, namely Sunrise Cottage and The Old Nursery. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough sits within the wider West Midlands Green Belt and Green Belt forms a large part of the borough. The Green Belt is mostly located to the south of Nuneaton, but also surrounds the main areas of Bedworth, Bulkington, and Ash Green. Nationally, the government attaches great importance to the Green Belt. The five key purposes of Green Belts are:
- to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;
 - to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;
 - to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
 - to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
 - to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.
- 4.2 Alterations to the Green Belt boundary are only approved in exceptional circumstances and must be done during the local plan making process. In reviewing land to be released from the Green Belt for development, the exceptional circumstances should be weighed up against any potential adverse effects on the overall integrity of the Green Belt, according to an assessment of the whole of the Green Belt based around the five purposes set out above. Traveller sites are inappropriate development in the Green Belt. Furthermore, subject to the best interests of the child, personal circumstances, and unmet need traveller sites in the Green Belt are unlikely to clearly outweigh harm to the Green Belt.
- 4.3 Sunrise Cottage and The Old Nursery are not currently being considered for the removal of their Green Belt status. The removal of the two sites from the Green Belt would not be consistent with Policy DS7 of the current Borough Plan (and would be noncompliant with Regulation 8(4) of the 2012 Regulations) which is the Part 1 plan. Notwithstanding this, the Borough Plan is currently being reviewed and the Green Belt status of these two sites may be revisited, if necessary, when the Borough Plan is updated as part of a wider review of the Green Belt. However, the Site Assessments and the Green Belt document explains how the Green Belt sites may be considered suitable for development subject to meeting national policy for the Green Belt.
- 4.4 If future planning applications on these sites are considered to be inappropriate development in the Green Belt, then it would be necessary to demonstrate 'very special circumstances' in accordance with the

Framework. In this regard, the allocation of these sites for new gypsy and traveller pitches in this DPD will be an important consideration in any such assessment.

Sustainability

- 4.5 Beyond the issue of the Green Belt, which is a significant matter, there are other factors that may need consideration for the locating of new gypsy and traveller pitches. Sites should have reasonable access to services, such as shops, schools, GP surgeries, and pharmacies, and this access should be capable of being done by modes of transport other than private car. Walking is the easiest and cheapest way to access services and thus is the focus for accessibility. However, many of the current sites are limited by their options for modes of travel.
- 4.6 Sites should also avoid locations that would impact upon land that has been designated for its interest, so, sites of ecological, heritage, or geological value. Similarly, contaminated land, land prone to flooding, and land in a sensitive landscape should also be avoided. These and other criteria for selecting new gypsy and traveller sites are set out in Policy GT2 – Strategy.

Locational Strategy

- 4.7 The fundamental purpose of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD is to allocate land to provide for the number of pitches identified for the required need to 2037. The Issues and Options consultation draft proposed four strategies for allocating new pitches. These were all assessed within the accompanying sustainability appraisal and two of the options were found to be the most sustainable, namely the following:
 - A. Seek to allocate new pitches firstly within the permitted area of existing sites and/or adjacent to these sites, then based on walking distances to services, and then by existing Policy H3.
 - D. Seek to allocate new pitches firstly within the permitted site area of existing sites, then adjacent to these existing pitches, then based on the criteria set out in the latter part of the policy.
- 4.8 Respondents to the issues and options selected only options A and D – with an even split of numbers to these two options from respondents. Options A and D – the first difference is that option A uses extant Policy H3 to assess sites at the outset whilst option D only uses extant Policy H3 once insufficient sites have been found via other means. The second difference is that option D separates out the permitted areas of existing sites from land adjacent to existing sites whereas option A does not and treats them together. It is considered that option D should form the basis of the

allocation of new pitches as it allows for the consideration of the permitted site area of existing sites first (and in isolation) and this has the potential for the least impact. However, in hindsight, the use of the word 'adjacent' could give rise to some ambiguity and the word 'adjoining' will be used instead to emphasise that there should be a physical relationship between the new and the existing. It should be noted that should planning applications be made for new pitches on unallocated sites then the strategic policy in this DPD would be used as the starting point to assess their suitability.

- 4.9 Policy GT2 identifies that new gypsy and traveller pitches will generally be supported within the sites allocated within GT3 or within the permitted area of existing lawful, authorised gypsy and traveller sites. In addition, to ensure that consideration is given to sustainability, any new sites that come forwards within the urban area (as shown within the settlement boundary of Policy DS2 of the Borough Plan). In addition, land adjoining the permitted area of existing lawful, authorised gypsy and traveller sites will be considered as long as these are in proportion appropriate to the scale of the existing site. The intention is to supersede entirely Policy H3 in the current adopted Plan (2011 – 2031). Within the emerging Borough Plan (2024 – 2039) emerging Policy H3 will simply signpost to the adopted DPD for guidance on any new pitches or plots.

Strategic Policy GT2 – Strategy

Planning permission will be granted for new gypsy and traveller pitches subject to compliance with other policies of the development plan and with national policy, including in relation to Green Belt, on the following land:

- a) Sites allocated in Policy GT3 or within the permitted area of existing lawful, authorised gypsy and traveller sites;
- b) Sites within the urban area (as shown within the settlement boundary of Policy DS2 of the Borough Plan);
- c) Extensions adjoining the permitted area of existing lawful, authorised gypsy and traveller sites that are proportionate in scale to the existing site.

Any proposed sites considered must comply with all of the following:

- a) The site should have reasonable access to essential services including health and education facilities and access to local shops;
- b) The number of pitches or plots is in proportion to the size and scale of the site;
- c) The number of pitches or plots is in proportion to the size and density of the nearest settled community;
- d) The site is not located in areas of high flood risk;

- e) The site avoids adverse impact on historic and important open spaces, landscape or local nature conservation designations, ecology and biodiversity assets;
- f) The site is located where the privacy, visual and residential amenity for both site residents and neighbouring land uses are protected;
- g) The site has suitable access to the highway network;
- h) The site is located where air or noise pollution will not significantly affect the health and well-being of site residents; and
- i) The site has suitable connection to the foul sewage system or can demonstrate that connection is unviable and alternative arrangements can be made.

This Policy supersedes Policy H3 of the adopted Borough Plan (2011-31).

- 4.10 Where alternative methods for foul water treatment such as septic tanks or cesspits are required; consent will be required from the Environment Agency for an Environmental Permit (Regulations 2016). This is to enable the discharge of polluting substances (including sewage effluent) into surface waters or the ground. It is the Applicants responsibility to make the appropriate enquiries regarding any Environmental Permit requirements. (Environmental Permitting Guidance can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/environmental-permit-check-if-you-need-one>)

Allocation of Sites

- 4.11 Using the strategy above as the basis for allocating new pitches, the starting point is within existing sites. The 2021 GTAA identified two privately owned sites within the Borough which had the potential to accommodate new additional pitches within their existing approved extent. These are Winter Oak, Watling Street, Nuneaton and Sunrise Cottage, Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington. The GTAA indicated that these could accommodate up to 11 additional pitches. These have been independently assessed and it was concluded that they could accommodate 9 additional pitches without detriment to the existing occupiers. The sites have also been assessed by the Council, with input from key technical stakeholders, and there are no outright technical reasons why this form of development would be unacceptable in these locations (this can be viewed in the 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document).
- 4.12 The 2021 GTAA also identified another site that had the potential to accommodate new pitches through the physical expansion of the site. This was the privately owned site at Fella's Acre, Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington which it was considered could accommodate an additional two pitches. This was also independently assessed and following this the site was deemed to be unsuitable for expansion – mainly relating to deliverability. However, the

landowner expressed an interest in developing another site for new pitches, namely The Old Nursery, Parrotts Grove, Coventry. This has been independently assessed and it was concluded that the site could be developed to provide five to six new pitches. The site has also been assessed by the Council, with input from key technical stakeholders, and there are no outright technical reasons why this form of development would be unacceptable in this location.

- 4.13 The number of pitches provided by the three sites found acceptable for allocation would provide 14-15 pitches which would, firstly, meet the minimum 11 pitches required and, secondly, build in some resilience should the anticipated levels of turnover at The Griff not take place.
- 4.14 To support the production of this document the Council ran a call for sites between 17th September 2021 and 22nd October 2021 which included gypsy and traveller sites. No sites were put forward for this type of use as a result of this call for sites. Therefore, the three assessed independently for the Council remain the only sites for consideration.
- 4.15 Further to the independent assessment and the Council's 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document the sites (and the policies) were assessed in the Sustainability Appraisal Report and the Habitats Regulations Assessment. This latter document is a risk assessment to decide whether the full subsequent stage known as Appropriate Assessment is required. The Habitats Regulations Assessment concludes that due to the location of the allocated sites and the general absence of realistic linking impact pathways that there would be no likely significant effects on either Ensor's Pool Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or the River Mease SAC either alone or in combination.
- 4.16 The need for new gypsy and traveller pitches set out in Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need is for at least 11 permanent residential pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers. The sites that have been found acceptable to allocate would provide up to 15 pitches at three locations and these are set out in Policy GT3 – Site Allocations. Below the policy an accompanying plan is provided showing the area to which the allocation relates.
- 4.17 As a result of the assessments of the sites a number of matters are considered important for any subsequent planning application to address, and these have been set out as key development requirements in the relevant policy. The basis of these principles are the responses received

during the informal consultation with key technical stakeholders on the three sites (the details of which can be viewed in the supporting 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document) and analysis of the site's context.

- 4.18 It is considered that to make additional use of the accesses at The Old Nursery and Sunrise Cottage sites some key development principles are required to ensure the use of the access is safe. Related to this is a requirement to ensure any new layout encompasses suitable bin storage to ensure these do not end up being stored outside the site. The sites have been assessed against the Wildlife Assessment Check tool as advised by the Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure SPD and in all cases a Preliminary Ecological Assessment is required to ascertain if further ecological survey work is required. The sites of Winter Oak and The Old Nursery both have boundary hedgerows and these help in reducing the site's impact on the local landscape and, thus, any development of the site should not result in these being affected.
- 4.19 The 'Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites: good practice guide' of 2008, although withdrawn on 1st September 2015 and replaced by the 'Planning policy for traveller sites' document remains a useful guide setting out broad principles to consider in traveller and gypsy sites. With regard to communal recreation areas for children the good practice guide set out that it is considered that such areas should be provided where suitable provision is not available within walking distance on a safe route or using easily accessible public transport.
- 4.20 The independent assessment of the sites highlighted that the site at Sunrise Cottage already had provision of a small play area within the site. The Winter Oak site does not but on the other side of the A5 land is being developed for residential uses (reference 034076) which includes a play area, and this would be accessible nearby and thus provision within the site is not considered essential. However, the new site at The Old Nursery has no obvious communal play area in proximity to it and, thus, should be provided within the site – the independent assessment set out that there was sufficient space to accommodate it.
- 4.21 The matter of flooding is not addressed because at this time it is not considered to be relevant as sites are in flood zone 1 and there is no indication that they suffer inundation. However, climate change means that this could change and should this be the case then extant Policy NE4 – Managing flood risk and water quality (Borough Plan) would be used.

Policy GT3 – Site Allocations

Planning permission will be granted for new gypsy and traveller pitches at the following sites and as denoted with a solid red line on the accompanying site plans:

GTSA1 – Sunrise Cottage for three additional pitches within the existing site as shown as a solid red line on the accompanying plan.

GTSA2 – The Old Nursery for five to six new pitches within the site as shown as a solid red line on the accompanying plan.

GTSA3 - Winter Oak for six additional pitches within the existing site as shown as a solid red line on the accompanying plan.

Key Development Requirements

Planning applications at the allocated sites shall contain the details as set out below:

GTSA1 – Sunrise Cottage

- Provision of visibility splays of 160 metres.
- Suitable bin collection points should be provided within the site so that bins are not stored within the highway.
- Preliminary Ecological Assessment.
- Where possible foul sewage for new pitches/plots should connect to existing foul mains drainage. Where connection to mains drainage is not possible, the potential impact on the water environment will need to be considered.

GTSA2 – The Old Nursery

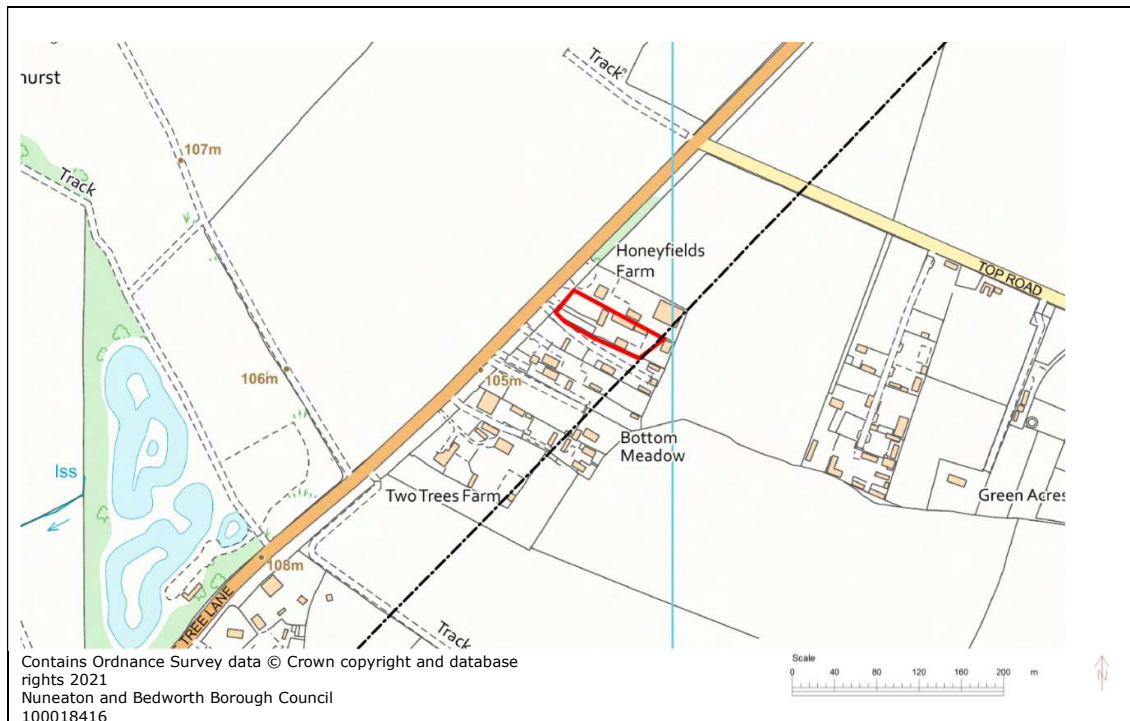
- Closure of the northern access within the site.
- Access to be made in and out of the site from the southern access within the site.
- Configuration of an access that allows for sufficient manoeuvring room for any vehicles entering/exiting the site.
- Any gates within the access to be setback sufficient distance to allow any vehicle entering the site to exit the highway completely whilst the gates are opened or closed.
- Provision of visibility splays of 160 metres.
- Suitable bin collection points should be provided within the site so that bins are not stored within the highway.
- Landscaping of the site boundary to soften the appearance of the pitches from external views.

- Preliminary Ecological Assessment.
- Retention of existing boundary vegetation.
- Provision of communal play area within the site.
- Address any contamination on the site.
- Where possible foul sewage for new pitches/plots should connect to existing foul mains drainage. Where connection to mains drainage is not possible, the potential impact on the water environment will need to be considered.

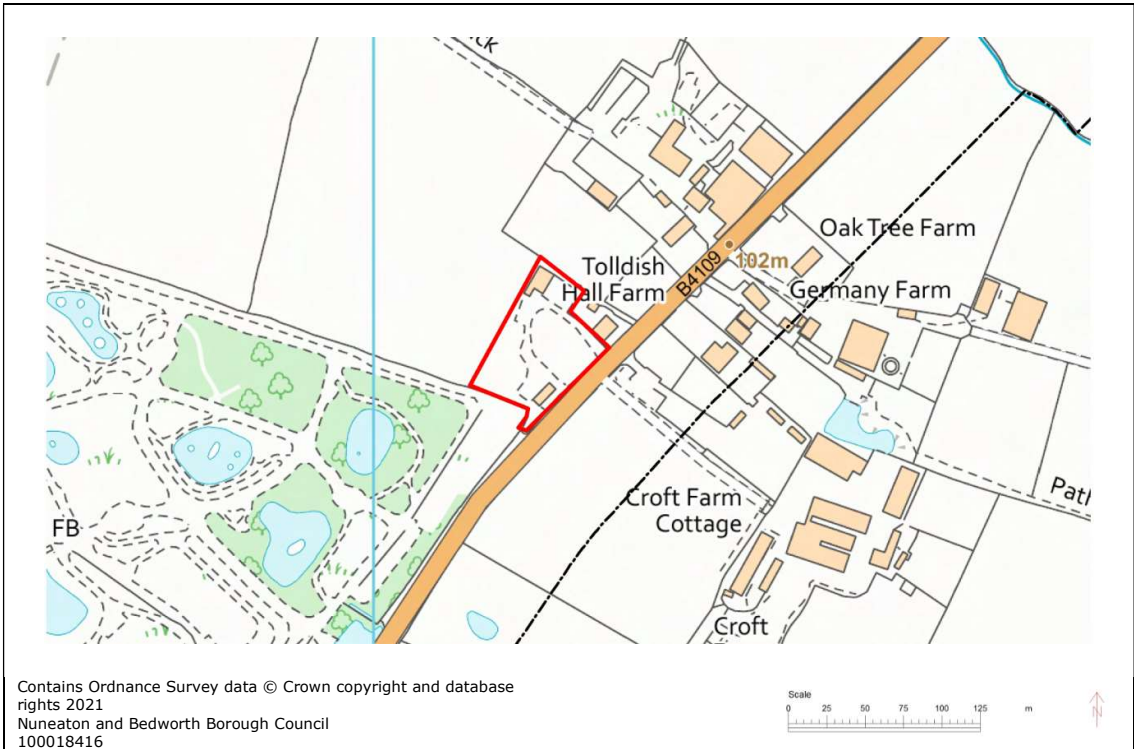
G TSA3 – Winter Oak

- Suitable bin collection points should be provided within the site so that bins are not stored within the highway.
- Preliminary Ecological Assessment.
- Retention of existing boundary vegetation.
- Provision of communal play area within the site.
- Ensure air and noise quality to future residents of the site is acceptable.
- Where possible foul sewage for new pitches/plots should connect to existing foul mains drainage. Where connection to mains drainage is not possible, the potential impact on the water quality will need to be considered.

G TSA1 – Sunrise Cottage



G TSA2 – The Old Nursery



G TSA3 – Winter Oak



4.22 For site G TSA3 – Winter Oak, it is suggested that prior to any submission of a planning application, that the Applicant contacts National Highways to discuss the access and the information they may require to be submitted for any formal submission. In addition, for this particular site, an Air Quality Exposure Assessment and Noise Assessment may be required to determine any formal planning application to inform of any mitigation required.

Policy GT4 – Site Safeguarding

The travelling showpeople site at Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton as denoted on plan GTSA4 with a solid red line will be safeguarded for use by travelling showpeople.

Alternative uses will only be permitted if it is clearly demonstrated that the site is no longer required for travelling showpeople accommodation.

GTSA4 – Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton



4.23 As well as the allocation of sites for new gypsy and traveller pitches the Council has considered the ongoing need for a travelling showperson’s yard within the Borough, currently at Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton. This is the only such type of accommodation in Warwickshire and thus has considerable importance to the County as an asset and also by ensuring continuity and availability of these plots within the Borough it contributes towards provision. The issues and options consultation document proposed the safeguarding of the site for its current use given its special status in the County. Comments were sparse on this matter, but no responses were received stating that safeguarding of this site for this purpose was

incompatible with surrounding land uses or unacceptable. The Habitats Regulations Report and the Sustainability Appraisal Report both conclude that there would be no significant adverse impacts from the identified land continuing to be used for its current use.

5.0 Monitoring

- 5.1 The Council produces annually an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). Within the AMR the performance of the policies in the Borough Plan are reported as well as those in other DPDs (Development Plan Documents). Therefore, the AMR will need to report on the policies of the performance of this DPD once it has been adopted. Table 3 below sets out the indicators and targets that will be used to monitor the policies of this DPD.

Table 3 - Monitoring indicators and targets for the policies of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD).

Policy	Indicator	Target
Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need	Monitor the continued need for additional pitches.	Within five years of adoption of this DPD undertake a new Gypsy, Traveller, and Showpeople Accommodation Assessment.
Strategic Policy GT2 – Strategy	Sites permitted in accordance with the criteria mentioned in policy GT2.	100%. Timescales as below.
Policy GT3 – Site Allocations	Monitor the supply and delivery of allocated sites and report annually through the Authority Monitoring Report. Contact the proposed sites on a yearly basis after the AMR to encourage the sites to come forwards and answer any concerns the owners may have on bringing the sites forwards at that time.	A minimum of six additional residential pitches permitted and available for use by 2025 and a minimum of 11 additional residential pitches permitted and available by 2037.
Policy GT4 – Site Safeguarding	Monitor the use of the safeguarded site.	The identified site at Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton to remain used for travelling showpeople unless it is clearly demonstrated that the site is no longer required for travelling showpeople accommodation.

Appendix 1

Relationship between the policies in this DPD and the extant Borough Plan.

Existing Borough Plan policies	Effect of Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD policies
Policy DS4 – Overall development needs (third bullet point only).	Superseded by Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need.
Policy H3 – Gypsies and Travellers.	Superseded by Strategic Policy GT2– Strategy.

For reference Policy DS4 Overall development needs should now read:

The following levels of housing and employment development will be planned for and provided within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough between 2011 and 2031:

- *At least 14,060 homes*
- *At least 107.8 ha of employment land*
- ~~*At least 39 residential pitches and 5 transit pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers*~~