Meeting Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs in Pembrokeshire: Progress Update March 2012

Pembrokeshire County Council is committed to meeting the identified need for Gypsy Traveller Accommodation. It is currently working on the following areas which together form a coherent work programme to achieve this end:

1. LDP
   - Identification of Site Allocations within the LDP;
   - Criteria based policy to enable assessment of additional sites brought forward;

2. Budget:
   - Welsh Government Gypsy Traveller Site Refurbishment Grant: Preparing funding bids (planning consent must be in place prior to grant approval);
   - A sum of £1m has been provided in the approved County Council Capital Budget for 2012/13 for gypsy traveller sites based on a funding partnership between the Council and the Welsh Government.

3. Delivering the Site extension at Kingsmoor Common
   - Preparation / submission of Planning Application (to coincide with extinguishment of Rights of Common);
   - Extinguishment of Rights of Common (Under the Dyfed Act), notice of proposed resolution published Feb 8 2012, report to 22 03 2012 Council seeking formal Resolution;
     Next steps:
     - consideration of objections prior to consideration as to formal resolution by Council;
     - Resolution to be forwarded to the Welsh Ministers, for decision whether or not to confirm;
   - Scoping the Works Programme:
     - Detailed layout for the proposed extension is being developed;
     - Discussions with key stakeholders taking place;

4. Delivering the Site Extension at Catshole Quarry
   - Preparation / submission of Planning Application (Spring / Summer 2012);
   - Scoping the Works Programme:
     - Detailed layout for the proposed extension has been completed, subject to outcome of current groundwork investigations;
     - key stakeholders consulted;

5. Identification of additional suitable sites within the identified area of need
• Desk top assessment of all ostensibly suitable zones taking into account various constraints and requirements derived from WG guidance;
• Desk top assessment of suitable sites within the zones, concentrating on publicly owned land and particularly on PCC sites (as the most likely to be delivered);
• Private Site Search - targeted correspondence to Gypsy/Travellers and local agents, and a public notice, seeking expressions of interest from land owners interested in providing Gypsy/Traveller sites on their land April 2012;
• Analysis, replying to and clarifying of responses to written approaches June 2012;
• Sieving of all potential sites (both private and publicly owned) through detailed consideration of all impacts, constraints, policy criteria and requirements, including consultation with external bodies. July to December 2012;
• Cabinet prioritisation of preferred potential sites February 2013.