

Ref:

Called in

Yes/No

THE THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION OF CABINET

Cabinet Member

Cllr Whitehead

Relevant Portfolio:

Housing and Safer Neighbourhoods

Date of Decision:

16 December 2019

Subject:

Review of Unauthorised Traveller Encampment in Thanet - Report back by the Traveller Review Group

Key Decision

In Forward Plan

Brief summary of matter:

The O&S Panel commissioned a Review Group to develop an understanding and managing the impact of Traveller unauthorised encampments in the Thanet area; whilst ensuring that TDC continues to undertake its obligations to the Traveller community and Thanet residents. This Group reported back to the O&S Panel in November who agreed to pass recommendations to Cabinet.

Decision made:

To undertake further work to assess the feasibility and cost implications of three temporary tolerated sites in the District, at Potten Street, St Nicholas at Wade, Tivoli Brooks and Ramsgate Port, with a view to using them on a rotational basis.

Reasons for decision:

An extensive amount of work has already been undertaken to identify the three temporary tolerated sites in the district at Potten Street, St Nicholas at Wade, Tivoli Brooks and Ramsgate Port. The advantage with this type of sites is that it enables agencies to direct unauthorised encampments to these sites to be tolerated for an agreed amount of time. This will enable more effective enforcement on those unauthorised encampments which chose to ignore the direction and stay on other land.

Alternatives considered and why rejected:

That Cabinet adopt the Overview & Scrutiny Panel recommendation that further work be undertaken including extensive public consultation to assess the feasibility and cost implications of establishing temporary tolerated sites in the district.

These were rejected by Cabinet due to a significant amount of work that has already been undertaken by the working group in assessing sites.

Details of any conflict of interest declared by any executive Member who has been consulted and of any dispensation granted by the Standards Committee:

Author of Officer report:

Penny Button Head of Safer Neighbourhoods

Background papers

Report
Annex 1
Annex 2
Annex 3

Statement if decision is an urgent one and therefore not subject to call-in:

None

Last date for call in:

15 January 2020