

Ref:

Called in

Yes/No

THE THANET DISTRICT COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION OF CABINET

Cabinet Member

Cllr Helen Whitehead

Relevant Portfolio:

Deputy Leader and Housing and Community Services Portfolio

Date of Decision:

17 September 2020

Subject:

Update on potential sites for a temporary stopping site

Key Decision

No

In Forward Plan

No

Brief summary of matter:

Over the last six months, especially considering the impact of the global pandemic there has been a significant amount of change and as part of this the Council is reviewing how it delivers services in the future and how it can maximise the benefits of revenue opportunity from existing assets, which include some potential sites previously identified for use.

There has been significant interest from stakeholders and local residents regarding a temporary tolerated site including commentary on suitability of sites, level of need and other locations. In order to capture this information and understand the views of all those with an interest in temporary stopping sites a robust engagement process is required.

The identification of possible temporary stopping sites has previously been restricted to land owned by Thanet District Council, a change in process has the potential to widen the scope for other sites to be identified.

The Local Plan has recently been adopted and is now subject to a review process. Part of this process has a defined consultation and the ability to place a general call to landowners to put forward sites for specific use.

Decision made:

Cabinet agreed the following:

1. That the identification of appropriate tolerated stopping sites becomes part of the Local Plan review;
2. That Officers continue with an officer and partner group, working with known groups of gypsies and travellers to address site access and behaviours.

Reasons for decision:

The recommendations provide the most appropriate way in which maximise the opportunity to seek appropriate sites and provide purposeful community consultation.

Alternatives considered and why rejected:

To continue to progress the two identified sites for suitability and consultation was rejected as the Local Plan Review process was deemed a more suitable response.

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

None

Author of Officer report:

Penny Button, Director of Neighbourhoods

Background papers

Update on potential sites for a temporary stopping site - Cabinet Report 17 Sept

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

None

Last date for call in: 25 September 2020