

From: Waltham, Louise <louise.waltham@york.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 March 2023 10:00
To: Bartle, Laura
Cc: Cooke, Alison(City Development)
Subject: RE: YTT - CYC engagement

Hi

Did you ever get the briefing note prepared? If so it would be useful to see it please.

I've had a little look at the consultation docs online re. the local plan, as I wanted to see what is actually proposed re. Gypsies and Travellers and we didn't get much time to discuss the detail the other day, aside from the pitches proposed at Osbaldwick.

I was a bit perturbed to see that the wording has been changed so that instead of new sites being 'in accordance with' best practice they only need to 'have regard to' best practice. Can I ask the reasoning behind that change? It looks on the face of it like it leaves the door open to sites which are unsuitable for the long term e.g. too many pitches, individual pitches too small/close together or lacking in some of the facilities we would want to see on a new development. I'm hoping that there's some other reason for that change that you'll be able to help me out with.

Can I also ask what counts as a 'strategic site' there's evidently a change from 'sites of 5 ha' to 'strategic sites' in terms of where pitches for G&T will be expected. Apologies if a strategic site is defined elsewhere, I couldn't find it when I was looking through last night.

The last question I have is how would a developer show that it isn't feasible to put pitches for G&Ts on their strategic site? Realistically we have to accept that developers are likely to do all they can to avoid it, so what would count as a valid reason? E.g. if they show that budget wise they can't afford the lower income that a pitch would bring in compared to housing on the same footprint would that be classed as valid? I understand that with affordable housing that's often the route developers go down in order to pay the commuted sum instead, and as we discussed the other day commuted sums aren't much use to us for G&T as we wouldn't be able to develop on the greenbelt and wouldn't be able to afford anything within the greenbelt.

I'd really like to understand more about this, as I said the other day I am very concerned that Osbaldwick is the wrong place to put 13 new pitches (best practice is sites shouldn't be bigger than 15 pitches as we discussed) but if developers manage to wangle out of putting pitches on strategic sites then there will presumably be pressure to put even more pitches at Osbaldwick.

Happy to set up a meeting to discuss if that's better, I'm conscious the consultation period is not that long, and having finally had chance to read the local plan I am really worried about how it will affect gypsies and travellers (and our service) for the years to come.

Thanks

Lou

From: Bartle, Laura <Laura.Bartle@york.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 February 2023 18:52
To: Waltham, Louise <louise.waltham@york.gov.uk>
Cc: Cooke, Alison(City Development) <Alison.Cooke2@york.gov.uk>
Subject: YTT - CYC engagement

Hi Louise

Thanks for the discussion earlier today. I hope the meeting with YTT didn't stray too much into Local Plan issues.

I said I would send on some additional background info to you, but having thought about that some more I think it best I share the briefing note that I've been asked to prepare for circulation to CYC colleagues attending the meeting on the 16th. That will draw things together in a simpler format and hopefully be easier to digest.

I hope to get that finalised tomorrow so you'll have it ahead of your meeting with the trust on the 13th.

Best wishes
Laura

Laura Bartle | Principal Strategic Planning Policy Officer
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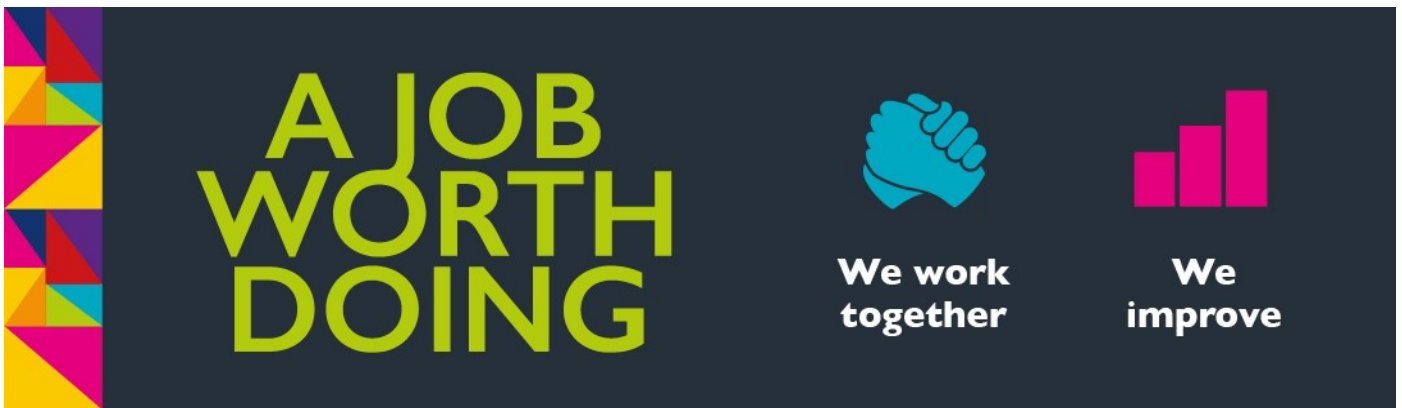
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From: Bartle, Laura
Sent: 08 February 2023 11:37
To: Waltham, Louise <louise.waltham@york.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Meeting availability

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From: Bartle, Laura
Sent: 06 February 2023 16:34
To: Abbie North <abbie@mhplanning.org>
Cc: Cooke, Alison(City Development) <Alison.Cooke2@york.gov.uk>; Ferris, Neil <Neil.Ferris@york.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Meeting availability

Hi Abbie,

Thanks for coordinating YTT's availability next week.

We are looking forward to progressing discussions on how we bring forward new pitches in the context of the Local Plan policy that the Council is advancing through the Main Modifications process.

Given where we are in the Examination process, I should stress that it is not appropriate for the Council to open up the debate on the policy approach to gypsy and traveller pitch provision. The Council considers the policies and Plan as a whole (with modifications agreed by Executive) sound and is preparing for consultation on that basis.

We understand the Trust is deeply concerned with the approach the Council has moved to and is dissatisfied that the Green Belt exception sites policy modification was withdrawn. As you know, this was a decision informed by legal opinion and the Inspectors have not encouraged us to reconsider it either during or following the hearing sessions. Consequently, we anticipate that there will not be significant changes at this stage when the Inspectors formally confirm the schedule of Main Modifications to us.

I would, however, invite you to reiterate the points you've raised recently and those submitted during the hearings in your response to the consultation on the main modifications. Your response will be reviewed by the Inspectors as they draw together the final report and conclude on the soundness of the Plan.

With that in mind, the meeting with you next week must focus on delivery matters and how we can develop the Supplementary Planning Document to best support the gypsy and traveller community.

Unfortunately I'm on leave Monday and Alison is unavailable to attend, but we are available Thursday 16th 1.30pm.

Best wishes
Laura

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From: Abbie North <abbie@mhplanning.org>

Sent: 06 February 2023 13:17

To: Bartle, Laura <Laura.Bartle@york.gov.uk>; Cooke, Alison(City Development) <Alison.Cooke2@york.gov.uk>; Ferris, Neil <Neil.Ferris@york.gov.uk>

Subject: Meeting availability

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Good afternoon,

I have now confirmed our availability to meet with yourselves in the Planning department in the week of the 13th.

We can be available in the 14th, 16th or 17th,

Could you let me know which of these dates we can book in please?

As I have indicated elsewhere, I'm also meeting with Louise Waltham in the 13th - I'd be very grateful if one of you could join us then as well.

Many thanks

Abbie