

# **PHASE 5 HEARING STATEMENT**

## **ON BEHALF OF MR & MRS PEEL**

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### **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 This Statement follows previous representations made by Janet Montgomery of Brimble, Lea & Partners (aka Brimble Lea) on behalf of Mr & Mrs Peel which have supported the Council's safeguarding of Mr & Mrs Peel's land at The Stables, Elvington as an Existing Travelling Showman Yard and its proposed allocation of 3 plots for Travelling Showpeople in the emerging Draft Local Plan (Policy H6, SP1).
- 1.2 For the avoidance of doubt, Mr & Mrs Peel are travelling showpeople, as defined in the Planning Policy for Travelling Sites ("PPTS") dated August 2015 and December 2023.
- 1.3 The Inspectors' published Schedule of Matters, Issues and Questions for the Phase 5 Examination Hearing are primarily concerned with the provision for Gypsies and Travellers in the Local Plan through Draft Policy H5. However, Matter 1, question 1.7, asks whether the recent change to the planning definition affects draft Policy H6 (Travelling Showpeople) and its supporting text.
- 1.4 A brief statement is therefore considered necessary to confirm Mr & Mrs Peel's position in response to the matter and question in respect of Policy H6.

## 2.0 STATEMENT

- 2.1 Mr & Mrs Peel own and occupy The Stables at Elvington and the proposed safeguarding and allocation of their land through draft Policy H6 is to fulfil their current and future needs which meet the 2015 PPTS planning definition, as confirmed in the Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment dated June 2022 (paras. 6.35 and 6.36 – document reference EX/CYC/88).
- 2.2 The GTAA did not identify a need for additional plots for travelling showpeople who did not meet the 2015 PPTS planning definition and the recent change to the planning definition does not affect draft Policy H6 and its supporting text. No issues therefore arise with the provision for Travelling Showpeople in the Local Plan through Draft Policy H6.
- 2.3 The Stables has been developed for travelling showpeople with the benefit of temporary planning permission and a current application seeking permanent planning permission is being held in abeyance pending the examination process. When this application progresses to determination, it will be primarily assessed against Policy H6.
- 2.4 The tailpiece of Policy H6 states that *“Any permission granted for a Travelling Showpeople development will be subject to a condition limiting occupation to Travelling Showpeople, as appropriate.”*
- 2.5 In light of the recent change to the planning definition, the Inspectors are respectfully requested to recommend that the Council modifies Draft Policy H6 to ensure it meets the soundness test of complying with national policy, as follows:
- “Any permission granted for a Travelling Showpeople development will be subject to a condition limiting occupation to Travelling Showpeople, as ~~appropriate~~ defined by the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.”*
- 2.6 The Programme Officer Ms Crookes has already been advised that neither I nor Mr & Mrs Peel wish to take part in the hearing session to present this representation.

## END OF STATEMENT