

My Ref

Your Ref

24 March 2020

Mr Mark Dakeyne
Planning Inspector
c/o Programme Officer
Moorlands House
Leek
Staffordshire
ST13 6HQ

Dear Mr Dakeyne,

Re. Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan Examination

Thank you for your correspondence addressed to Dai Larnar dated 27th February which sets out your post hearing advice and recommendations. For your records, please note that Mr Larnar has now retired.

In terms of your suggested next steps, a revised schedule of main modifications will be submitted to you for consideration shortly. The schedule will reflect your post hearing advice. I would be grateful if you could please confirm if the schedule reflects your intentions or if any further update to the Sustainability Appraisal is required before you issue your final report.

In response to your query regarding the outstanding need for travellers accommodation, it remains our view that in light of the planning consent at Checkley, the residual requirement is for three residential pitches.

During the preparation of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2015 (EL18.2), the Council forwarded the details of a January 2015 temporary (three year) consent at Land adjacent Rose Cottage, Checkley¹. The assessment could not consider temporary pitch consents as part of authorised supply to off-set need. However, the scheme was recorded as providing three temporary pitches as part of assessment of pitch requirements as set out in Table 6.3 on page 57 of the report as a component of need in part 1. At the time of the fieldwork two out of the three available temporary pitches at Checkley were occupied.

The temporary permission was subsequently made permanent in 2018 (ref. SMD/2017/0820)². Hence, it is the view of the Council that the pitch requirement has now reduced by three pitches.

Whilst one of the three Checkley pitches was vacant at the time of the study fieldwork visit undertaken during the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation

¹ <http://publicaccess.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=63514>

² <http://publicaccess.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/portal/servlets/ApplicationSearchServlet?PKID=119096>

Assessment, Table 5.3 (page 36) of the document further confirms the view that the temporary permission on the Checkley site accommodated a total of three pitches.

With reference to your recommendations regarding the proposed Local Green Space at Ox Pasture, Cheddleton, please be assured that the Council has notified the Inspector responsible for the current planning appeal of your conclusions.

I trust that this letter will provide you with all of the information that you need in order to conclude your consideration of the Local Plan and I look forward to receiving your final report in due course.

Yours sincerely

Neil Rodgers
Executive Director - Place
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council