

## Designated Stopping Place FAQs

**What is a Designated Stopping Place?** – It is a site which has approval to be used as a temporary stopping place for members of the Gypsy & Traveller community who are travelling through North East Lincolnshire.

**Why do we need to provide one?** – The Council has to assess the housing needs of people in North East Lincolnshire which includes the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople under the Housing Act 2004, the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012. The Council commissioned Opinion Research Services to undertake a Gypsy, Traveller (and Travelling Showpeople) Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) to provide an evidence of need. Need for a Designated Stopping Site was identified.

**What is the benefit of providing a DSP?** - Provision of a DSP helps the Council to work with the Police, enabling them to exercise their powers of move on (s.61 & s.62 of the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994), moving Gypsies & Travellers from illegal encampments on unsuitable public land to the approved DSP. Also the Council is able to provide services on a DSP and manage disruption in the community.

**When is a decision likely to be made?** A public call for sites will be open from 12 December 2017 to 19 January 2018. The suggested sites will then be assessed against the site criteria (please downloadable document for more information about the criteria). A public consultation is drafted to take place from 8 May 2018 to 22 June 2018 regarding the public's preference of the suitable sites.

**What is the site going to be and what will be on it?** – This will be either one site which will accommodate up to 15 pitches (30 caravans) or more than one site accommodating between approximately 5 or 10 pitches (10 or 20 caravans) each. The size and capacity of the DSP will be influenced by the shape of the site.

The Site should;

- be between approximately 0.14Ha and 2.5Ha in size
- be a level site - no steep slopes
- preferably not be in a flood risk area; if none available, sites in a flood risk area will be considered (Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk , annex D)
- have road access route suitable for caravans , emergency vehicles, waste disposal trucks etc
- have a surface suitable for the movement of caravans and large service vehicles
- have reasonable access to connect to a mains water supply
- provide sewage disposal on site
- provide adequate parking on site for towing and associated vehicles
- meet Caravan Health & Safety requirements.
- not be located on contaminated land, beneath pylons, near to heavy industry, waterways, railway lines, etc paying particular consideration of the health and safety of children who are part of the travelling group
- take into account use of neighbouring land and the impact to and from neighbours
- have reasonable access to medical services, shops, public transport etc.

The DSP will be designed to include;

- stand pipe/hydrant & tap
- toilet facilities
- wheelie bins for household waste
- skip for commercial waste
- fencing/screening to contain the site and provide privacy where necessary
- gates to secure the site when it is not in use

Visitors can stay on the site up to a maximum of 14 days and there will be charge applied at a daily rate.

**Who decided the criteria?** - The site will be provided to an agreed specification which is based upon:

- NEL Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2014
- Gypsy & Traveller Site best practice guide
- Gypsy & Traveller trend data held by NELC
- Health & Safety for Caravan Sites
- Environment Agency guidance
- Consultation with the 'Traveller Voice Project' based in Doncaster.