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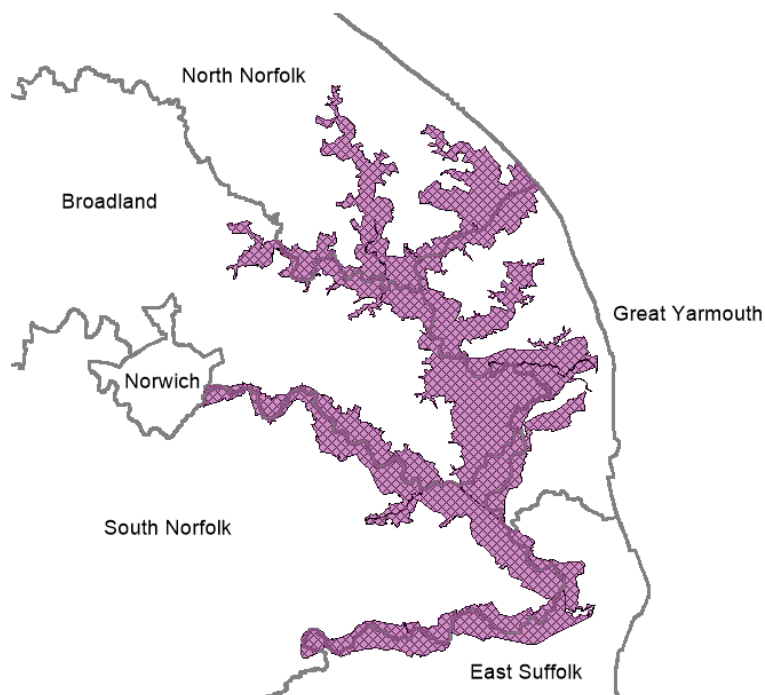
Dear Natalie

## **Broads Authority GTAA Review December 2024**

In response to the request from The Broads Authority for Opinion Research Services (ORS) to review the current situation regarding need for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation I can provide the following summary.

The Broads Authority is made up of parts of the following local authorities as shown in the map below:

- Broadland and South Norfolk.
- East Suffolk.
- Great Yarmouth.
- North Norfolk.
- Norwich.



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ORS have completed a comprehensive review of the current provision for Gypsies, Travellers, and Travelling Showpeople for the parts of each of these local authorities that fall within the Broads Authority. This has included a review of existing sites and yards, as well as records of unauthorised encampments since 2017. The outcomes are set out below.

### **Broadland and South Norfolk**

- There are no Gypsy and Traveller sites or Travelling Showpeople yards in the areas that make up The Broads Authority.
- There is one small public transit site with 5 pitches called Costessey Stopping Place.
- There have been two small encampments recorded since 2017 - both in 2021. These were both short-term and transient in nature.
- In conclusion, there is no current or future need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches or Travelling Showpeople plots, and no need for any additional transit provision as there is already a public transit site.

### **East Suffolk**

- There are no Gypsy and Traveller sites or Travelling Showpeople yards in the areas that make up The Broads Authority.
- There is no public transit provision.
- There have been 3 small encampments recorded since 2017 all of which were short-term and transient. One in 2017 (6 caravans for 6 days), one in 2018 (4 caravans for 5 days), and one in 2021 (4 caravans for 4 days).
- In conclusion, there is no current or future need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches or Travelling Showpeople plots, and no need for any transit provision given that the small number of recorded encampments were short-term and transient. Where unauthorised encampments are identified in Suffolk, the relevant Protocol for the Management of Unauthorised Encampments is applied.

### **Great Yarmouth**

- A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) was completed by ORS in 2024 that covered Great Yarmouth and the areas of Great Yarmouth that fall within The Boards Authority. The GTAA was published in September 2024.
- The GTAA identified a total of 9 small unauthorised sites within the areas of Great Yarmouth that make up The Broads Authority. These were located at Cobholm Island.
- For the full period covered by the GTAA to 2041/42 the total need identified for households that met the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller is for 24 pitches, and the 5-year need is for 20 pitches.
- For the full period covered by the GTAA to 2041/42 the total need identified for households that did not meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller is for 2 pitches, both of which are included in the 5-year need.
- There have been a small number of encampments but as there are public transit pitches available there was no recommendation for any additional transit provision.

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## North Norfolk

- There are no Gypsy and Traveller sites or Travelling Showpeople yards in the areas that make up The Broads Authority.
- There was one short term encampment recorded in 2022 comprising a single caravan.
- There is one public transit site with 9 pitches located at Holt Road, Cromer.
- In conclusion, there is no current or future need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches or Travelling Showpeople plots, and no need for any additional transit provision, given that there is already a public transit site.

## Norwich

- There are no Gypsy and Traveller sites or Travelling Showpeople yards in the areas that make up The Broads Authority.
- There are no public transit sites.
- There have been no recorded encampments since 2017.
- In conclusion, there is no current or future need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches or Travelling Showpeople plots, and no need for any additional transit provision, given that there is public transit provision in other local authorities in Norfolk.

## **PPTS 2023**

Changes were made to the planning definition of a Traveller in the PPTS in December 2023. These changes were made in response to the Lisa Smith Court of Appeal Judgement that was handed down in October 2022.

The implications of these changes are that households who have ceased to travel permanently now fall back under the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller.

My professional views on the implications of the changes that were made to the PPTS in 2023 in relation to GTAAAs are as follows:

- As a result of the Lisa Smith Judgement the PPTS was updated in December 2023 to revert back to the 2012 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller (now referred to as the 2023 PPTS) by reintroducing those who have ceased to travel permanently due to education, ill health, or old age into the definition.
- When the 2012 definition was issued the alternative planning definition in the 2004 Housing Act was also in place (now revoked by the Housing and Planning Act in 2016). This included anyone of a nomadic habit of life or those living in a caravan. So if a household did not meet the 2012 PPTS definition it was highly likely that they would meet the 2004 Housing Act definition if they were living in a caravan on a site or yard.
- Now that the Housing Act definition has been revoked, there will still be large numbers of households who will not meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition if they have never travelled or if they have never travelled for work – under case law you can only have ceased to travel

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(either temporarily or permanently) if you have previously travelled for work or for seeking work.

- Following the changes to the PPTS in 2023 ORS have completed a review of a large number of recent GTAAs that we have completed. These reviews have concluded that the vast majority of those who will now meet the planning definition (those who have previously travelled for work and have now ceased to travel permanently) are old or sick, have no children now living with them, and unless they are living on a temporary or unauthorised site do not generate much, if any, need.
- The reviews also concluded that whilst on average up to 25% of households may now move under the 2023 definition, they bring little or no need over with them. The majority of need from remaining non-2023 PPTS definition households is from teenagers and through new household formation from families with children who have never travelled or have never travelled for work.
- Therefore, in my professional view the changes to the PPTS in December 2023 will not change things as far as GTAAs are concerned other than an adjustment to potentially increase need slightly (if any is identified) from those who have legitimately ceased to travel permanently; that the target for 5-year supply should also not change very much, if at all; and that Paragraph 63 in the revised NPPF should still be used to address need from those who do not meet the 2023 planning definition alongside wider housing need.
- In conclusion, households who have never travelled, or have never travelled for work do not meet the 2023 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller.

### **Overall Conclusions on Need and Transit Provision**

In conclusion, other than the need identified in the Great Yarmouth GTAA for the unauthorised sites at Cobholm Island, there is no further need identified for Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople elsewhere in The Broads Authority, nor any requirements for any additional transit provision.

Regards



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