

Report of the Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Programme Committee

Special Scrutiny Programme Committee – 4 February 2016

SCRUTINY OF GYPSY TRAVELLER SITE SEARCH PROCESS – FINAL REPORT

Purpose	To present the final report for the scrutiny review into the Gypsy Traveller Site Search Process for agreement.
Content	The final report is attached which concludes the scrutiny review.
Councillors are being asked to	Agree the report for submission to Cabinet.
Lead Councillor and Report Author	Councillor Robert Smith, Vice-Chair of Scrutiny Programme Committee
Lead Officer	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Coordinator Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk

1. Details

- 1.1 Since February 2014 a series of special meetings of the Scrutiny Programme Committee have been held to review the process adopted to date in the search for further Gypsy Traveller site provision.

The purpose of the scrutiny review was to:

- review the process adopted to date and seek assurance on quality
- identify any learning points as appropriate and recommend any changes for the future

- 1.2 The final report arising from the Scrutiny Review into the Gypsy Traveller Site Search Process is presented to the Committee for agreement.

The attached report presents the key findings and learning points arising from the review that sought to answer the following question:

Was the process, leading up to the report to Council on 21 October 2013, robust?

- 1.3 The report is structured in the following way:

- Why We Produced This Report
 - Overview
 - Aim of the Scrutiny Review
 - Intended Contribution
- The Evidence Collected
- Background to the Process

- Specific Demands for Additional Appropriate Accommodation
- Policy Drivers for Additional Appropriate Accommodation
- The Process
 - Assessing Need
 - Role of Cabinet and the Task & Finish Group
 - The Site Selection Process
 - Consultation with Gypsy Traveller Community
- The Importance of Community Cohesion
- Independent Scrutiny and Assurance
- Was this a robust process?
- Summary of Learning Points
- Acknowledgements
- About the Committee

1.4 The Scrutiny Programme Committee is asked to agree the report for submission to Cabinet for response.

2. Legal Implications

2.1 There are no specific legal implications at this stage.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 There are no financial implications to this report. Any potential implications would need to be outlined in the Cabinet response.

4. Equality and Engagement Implications

4.1 The Cabinet Member will need to ensure that implications are considered via application of the corporate Equality Impact Assessment process when considering the response to the report.

Background Papers: *Scrutiny Programme Committee Evidence Pack – Scrutiny Review of Gypsy Traveller Site Search Process.*
 (<http://swansea.gov.uk/article/23464/Review-of-Gypsy-Traveller-Site-Search-Process-Evidence-Pack>)

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Final Report - Scrutiny Review: Gypsy Traveller Site Search Process

Legal Officer: *Debbie Smith*

Finance Officer: *Carl Billingsley*

Access to Services: *Sherill Hopkins*