

# Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD

Publication consultation draft



**Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council**

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council adopted a Borough Plan on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 which planned for new development in the borough until 2031. The Borough Plan plans, principally, for new commercial, employment, and residential uses. In terms of residential uses the Borough Plan must plan for all parts of the community and thus deals with provision for gypsies and other travellers.
  - 1.2 Policies DS4 – Overall development needs and H3 – Gypsies and Travellers set out the need for new pitches by 2031/2032 to be at least 39 residential and 5 transit pitches. Policy H3 does not set out where the new pitches would be provided but sets out the criteria that will be used to identify potential locations for residential and permanent pitches through the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). It is through this DPD that land would be identified and allocated for future traveller sites.
  - 1.3 The current Local Development Scheme (2020) sets out the timetable for the production of Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD which is as follows:
    - May 2021 – consultation on an Issues and Options document;
    - January 2022 – consultation on a publication document;
    - July 2022 – submission of the document to the Secretary of State;
    - January 2023 – receipt of Inspector’s report on the examination of the document; and
    - February 2023 – adoption of the document.
  - 1.4 This document is the Publication draft of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD; this is the formal document as required by Regulation 19 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. A consultation on the previous version of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD, the Issues and Options consultation draft, took place between 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021. This document was that required by Regulation 18 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. A consultation statement has been produced which sets out the responses received and how they have been considered in producing this next version of the DPD.
  - 1.5 The document is set out in five subsequent chapters addressing the vision and objectives of the DPD, followed by the need for new pitches, the locations of these new pitches, a monitoring schedule for the DPD, and a conclusion.
  - 1.6 To support this document the Council has commissioned a consultant to produce a new Gypsy, Traveller, and Travelling Showpersons
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Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) and this can be viewed alongside this document. The most recent study prior to this new GTAA dates from 2016 and it concluded that the evidence base is refreshed on a five-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and pitch provision remains appropriate. The DPD is also supported by a 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document, a Sustainability Appraisal Report, and an Appropriate Assessment, the contents of which have been considered in the production of this DPD. All supporting documents can be seen on the Borough Council's website alongside this DPD as part of the formal consultation.

## 2.0 Vision & Objectives

### Vision

- 2.1 The vision was contained within the Issues and Options consultation draft of the DPD. Since that document the vision has been amended so that reference to the environment is made thereby linking the vision more to objective 3.
- 2.2 The vision for this DPD is for the needs of the travelling community in and visiting the borough to be provided with sufficient pitches so that they can live, work, and rest in the borough. Pitches will be well located and integrated into the environment and the local community thereby providing good access to essential services.

### Objectives

- 2.3 The following objectives will help achieve the vision for the DPD. Three objectives were consulted upon and although no issues were raised by consultation responses on the content of the objectives, objective 3 has been amended. The intent of the objective remains the same, but the terminology has been changed so that it aligns better with the language used in the adopted Borough Plan.

Objective 1 - to provide sufficient pitches for the needs of the travelling community.

Objective 2 - to provide provision in sustainable locations with good access to local services.

Objective 3 - to provide provision in such a way that the local environment is protected and, where appropriate, enhanced.

These objectives are interrelated and in combination they will contribute to realising the vision for the DPD.

## 3.0 Need

### Introduction

- 3.1 The evidence base that supported the formation of the need for new pitches in the Borough Plan was the 2016 Gypsy, Traveller, and Travelling Showpersons Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). Since the 2016 GTAA was produced the 2016 Housing and Planning Act introduced the need to conduct a wider assessment of all caravan and houseboat accommodation needs, not just those from Gypsy and Traveller ethnicities. A new assessment of accommodation needs has been produced, dated from 2021. This assessment updates the need for new pitches to those published in the Borough Plan and addresses the implications of the 2016 Housing and Planning Act.
- 3.2 The Issues and Options consultation proposed four options for the number of pitches to provide ranging from that in the 2021 GTAA through to figures above those in the GTAA from 2016 (and published in the Borough Plan). After careful consideration it is considered that the figures from the 2021 GTAA should be used as the basis for the need. Even though representations on the DPD were low, the newer figures were clearly preferred over those that were now nearly six years old by respondents. Not only are these figures more recent, but the interview rate was also much higher giving greater confidence that the assessment of need is more robust and closer to that actually required. These four options were assessed in the accompanying sustainability appraisal to the issues and options document and these four options all came out the same, partly because all reasonable options considered would achieve the number of pitches set in the 2021 GTAA as a minimum (which is the most recent data source) but also because there were many unknowns of the likely impacts that would result from these different sets of figures for new pitch numbers.
- 3.3 Using the requirement for new pitches from the 2021 GTAA as a minimum rather than the higher figures in the extant Borough Plan means that this document will need to supersede the requirements for new pitches set out in Policies DS4 and H3 of the Borough Plan. The Borough Plan is being reviewed and these policies will be looked at, but this process is running behind this document so for an interim period the policy on need in this document will have to take precedence over that in the adopted Borough Plan.

## Gypsies and Travellers

3.4 The first part of the 2021 GTAA was to assess the current occupancy of pitches within the borough, then to assess how much capacity remains above this, so, how many pitches are unoccupied but are available, followed by calculating how many more pitches are needed to fulfil the need for new pitches within the borough. The new GTAA advises that with the current occupied and vacant pitches within the borough there is a need for 16 additional residential and no transit pitches to meet the needs of those who meet the definition of travellers as set out in the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, August 2015; this increases by four to a total of 20 additional residential pitches to meet a cultural need (that is, people who do not meet the definition of a traveller but nevertheless live on pitches). For travellers, this is change of 23 residential pitches and 5 transit pitches from those figures published in the Borough Plan (both decreasing). Table 1 below repeats the figures from Table 6.3 of the 2021 GTAA in which the need for new pitches is set out.

Table 1 - Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2021/22 to 2036/37.

Time period	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need
<b>5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Longer-term need</b>		
<i>Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (B)</i>	4	3
<i>Over period 2031/32 to 2036/37(C)</i>	8	7
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2036/37 (12 years) D=(B+C)</i>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2036/37 (A+D) (11 years)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>

PPTS = Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015) within which the definition of gypsies and travellers is provided.

3.5 The 2021 GTAA assumes that some of this provision for additional pitches can be found through turnover on the site at The Griff and by a combination of intensification and expansion of three existing sites to provide 11 pitches. Table 2 below repeats the figures from Table 6.4 of the 2021 GTAA which sets out these assumptions. Thus, the table shows that through the provision of 11 new additional pitches the need up to 2036/37 is met is and, therefore, this meets the need evidenced in the 2021 GTAA.

Table 2 - Addressing Gypsy and Traveller pitch need.

<b>Time period</b>	<b>Cultural need</b>	<b>Of which: PPTS need</b>
<b>5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)</b>	8	6
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (B)	7	7
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (C)	6	6
<b>Residual need 2021/22 to 2025/26 after turnover and potential intensification/expansion (D) = A-B-C</b>	<b>-5 Need met</b>	<b>-7 Need met</b>
<b>Longer-term need 2026/27 to 2036/37 (E)</b>	12	10
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (F)	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (G)	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Residual need 2025/26 to 2036/37 after turnover (H) = E-F-G</b>	<b>-8 Need met</b>	<b>-10 Need met</b>
<b>Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover and potential pitch development considered (I) = D+H</b>	<b>-13 Need Met</b>	<b>-17 Need met</b>
<b>Summary</b>	<b>Cultural need</b>	<b>Of which: PPTS NEED</b>
Plan period Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2036/37) (J = A+E)	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (K) = B+F	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (L)=C+G	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover (M=J-K-L)</b>	<b>-13 Need met</b>	<b>-17 Need met</b>

- 3.6 Although turnover has been considered and has the potential to meet need based on past trends, this cannot be wholly relied upon as the future level of turnover at The Griff is not guaranteed. Instead, turnover is one element of supply but there remains a need to take positive steps to increase the number of pitches available to households across the borough to meet the needs identified and to plan positively for the area. This is particularly important for the Council to achieve a 5-year land supply of new pitches. So, turnover can be relied upon to meet some of the forecast need but not to the exclusion of allocating new pitches. The GTAA of 2021 identified 11 pitches that could be found in the Borough and this should be used to form the basis of the minimum new pitches to provide, the remainder will be met by turnover.

### Travelling Showpeople

- 3.7 The GTAA from 2021 states that there is 1 occupied and 3 vacant pitches in the Borough for use by travelling showpeople. The 2016 GTAA set out that there were 4 private owned pitches, and plots on site/yards of which 4 were occupied and 0 were vacant. Therefore, plot numbers have remained the same but vacant plot numbers have increased. No additional provision is recommended by the current GTAA.

### Bargee Travellers

- 3.8 In the 2016 GTAA bargee travellers were accounted for by one family present in the borough. No change to bargee traveller numbers are contained within the updated GTAA.

### Future Need

- 3.9 In the 2021 GTAA it is recommended that the *"...evidence base is refreshed on a 5-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and pitch provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Nuneaton and Bedworth."* This is an important element of confirming that the need in this DPD remains as required. The update of the GTAA is referenced in Table 3 of Chapter 5.0 on Monitoring of this document. Should need be found to have changed beyond that set out in this DPD (or indeed for another reason such as undeliverability of a site or sites) then this should trigger a review of this DPD.

## Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need

The following levels of development will be planned for and provided within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough between 2021/22 and 2036/37:

- At least 6 permanent residential pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers by 2025/26; and
- At least a further 5 permanent residential pitches beyond those required by 2025/26 so that, in total, at least 11 permanent residential pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers by 2036/37.

## 4.0 Location of Pitches

### Introduction

- 4.1 Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough sits within the wider West Midlands Green Belt and Green Belt forms a large part of the borough. The Green Belt is mostly located to the south of Nuneaton, but also surrounds the main areas of Bedworth, Bulkington, and Ash Green. Nationally, the government attaches great importance to the Green Belt. The five key purposes of Green Belts are:
- to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;
  - to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;
  - to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
  - to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
  - to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.
- 4.2 Alterations to the Green Belt boundary are only approved in exceptional circumstances and must be done during the local plan making process. In reviewing land to be released from the Green Belt for development, the exceptional circumstances should be weighed up against any potential adverse effects on the overall integrity of the Green Belt, according to an assessment of the whole of the Green Belt based around the five purposes set out above. Traveller sites are inappropriate development in the Green Belt. Furthermore, subject to the best interests of the child, personal circumstances, and unmet need traveller sites in the Green Belt are unlikely to clearly outweigh harm to the Green Belt.
- 4.3 Notwithstanding the above, of all the occupied pitches, and plots on site/yards for gypsies and travellers all but one (that at Watling Street) are within the Green Belt including the local authority provision at Griff. The travelling showperson's yard is also outside of the Green Belt.
- 4.4 Beyond the issue of the Green Belt, which is a significant matter, there are other factors that may need consideration for the locating of new gypsy and traveller pitches. Sites should have good access to services, such as shops, schools, GP surgeries, and pharmacies, and this access should be capable of being done by modes of transport other than private car. Walking is the easiest and cheapest way to access services and thus is the focus for accessibility. However, many of the current sites are limited by their options for modes of travel.

- 4.5 Sites should also avoid locations that would impact upon land that has been designated for its interest, so, sites of ecological, heritage, or geological value. Similarly, contaminated land, land prone to flooding, and land in a sensitive landscape should also be avoided. These and other criteria for selecting new gypsy and traveller sites are set out in Policy H3 – Gypsies and Travellers of the current Borough Plan.

### Locational Strategy

- 4.6 The fundamental purpose of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD is to allocate land to provide for the number of pitches identified as the need by 2036/37. The Issues and Options consultation draft proposed four strategies for allocating new pitches. These were all assessed within the accompanying sustainability appraisal and two of the options were found to be the most sustainable, namely the following:
- A. Seek to allocate new pitches firstly within the permitted area of existing sites and/or adjacent to these sites, then based on walking distances to services, and then by existing Policy H3.
  - D. Seek to allocate new pitches firstly within the permitted site area of existing sites, then adjacent to these existing pitches, then based on walking distances to services. Use existing Policy H3 only once sites have been allocated by any of the other means and then only if insufficient has been allocated.
- 4.7 Respondents to the issues and options selected only options A and D – with an even split of numbers to these two options from respondents. Options A and D – the first difference is that option A uses extant Policy H3 to assess sites at the outset whilst option D only uses extant Policy H3 once insufficient sites have been found via other means. The second differences is that option D separates out the permitted areas of existing sites from land adjacent to existing sites whereas option A does not and treats them together. It is considered that option D should form the basis of the allocation of new pitches as it allows for the consideration of the permitted site area of existing sites first (and in isolation) and this has the potential for the least impact. However, in hindsight, the use of the word 'adjacent' could give rise to some ambiguity and the word 'adjoining' will be used instead to emphasise that there should be a physical relationship between the new and the existing. Also, another benefit of using option D is that Policy H3 is only used as a fallback if insufficient pitches have been found via other means rather than from the outset. It should be noted that should planning applications be made for new pitches on unallocated sites then the strategic policy in this DPD would be used as the starting point to assess their suitability.

- 4.8 In terms of walking distances to services a number of different ways in which this could be measured were suggested in the issues and options document and these ranged from 2-3 miles for school to 800 metres to a town centre. The intermediate distance was 1.6 kilometres to GPs (General Practitioners) and pharmacies. Given the above range of different ways to measure walking distances to specific services and that, ideally, access should be all of these, it seems a good compromise to use the intermediate distance, and this shall be used within the strategic policy.
- 4.9 Based on the above the strategy is a tiered approach whereby land that is being developed for new pitches will be assessed against the three priority land uses. In terms of allocations, land will be allocated in the order set out in the policy so that the priority will be to allocate land that meets priority one in the first instance. If insufficient pitches to meet the Borough's needs are found to be acceptable then land use priority two will be used and then land use priority three. If insufficient remains allocated, then Policy H3 will be used. In terms of planning applications these are standalone parcels of land that cannot be dealt with by the same process and, thus, any of the three priority land uses would be acceptable subject to all other matters of the proposal being found acceptable. Policy H3 of the extant Borough Plan is only utilised if there is insufficient provision to meet the identified need for new pitches.

### Strategic Policy GT2 – Strategy

Planning permission will be granted for new gypsy and traveller pitches subject to compliance with other policies of the development plan and in the following priority land uses:

- 1) within the permitted area of existing lawful, authorised gypsy and traveller sites;
- 2) then land adjoining the permitted area of existing lawful, authorised gypsy and traveller sites;
- 3) then land within 1.6 kilometres of appropriate services, such as schools, GP surgeries, shops, and these services being capable of being accessed safely by foot.

If there is insufficient provision to meet the minimum needs identified in Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need then extant Policy H3 – Gypsies and Travellers of the Borough Plan will be used to determine the acceptability of the new development.

### Allocation of Sites

- 4.10 Using the strategy above as the basis for allocating new pitches, the starting point is within existing sites. The 2021 GTAA identified two privately owned sites within the Borough which had the potential to accommodate new additional pitches within their existing approved extent. These are Winter Oak, Watling Street, Nuneaton and Sunrise Cottage, Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington. The GTAA indicated that these could accommodate up to 11 additional pitches. These have been independently assessed and it was concluded that they could accommodate 9 additional pitches without detriment to the existing occupiers. The sites have also been assessed by the Council, with input from key technical stakeholders, and there are no outright technical reasons why this form of development would be unacceptable in these locations (this can be viewed in the 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document).
- 4.11 The 2021 GTAA also identified another site that had the potential to accommodate new pitches but this through the physical expansion of the site. This was the privately owned site at Fella's Acre, Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington which it was considered could accommodate an additional two pitches. This was also independently assessed and following this the site was deemed to be unsuitable for expansion – mainly relating to deliverability. However, the landowner expressed an interest in developing another site for new pitches, namely The Old Nursery, Parrotts Grove, Coventry. This has been independently assessed and it was concluded that the site could be developed to provide five to six new pitches. The site has also been assessed by the Council, with input from key technical stakeholders, and there are no outright technical reasons why this form of development would be unacceptable in this location.
- 4.12 This site does not meet the three bullet points of Strategic Policy GT2 – Strategy but the policy allows for sites in other locations that accord with Policy H3 where the need set out in Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need has not been met. The other two sites would provide nine pitches, leaving a shortfall of two pitches to meet the identified need. An assessment of the site against Policy H3 has concluded that the site would be acceptable for allocation. The number of pitches provided by the three sites found acceptable for allocation would provide 14-15 pitches which would, firstly, meet the minimum 11 pitches required and, secondly, build in some resilience should the anticipated levels of turnover at The Griff not take place.
- 4.13 To support the production of this document the Council ran a call for sites between 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 which included gypsy

and traveller sites. No sites were put forward for this type of use as a result of this call for sites. Therefore, the three assessed independently for the Council remain the only sites for consideration.

- 4.14 Further to the independent assessment and the Council's 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document the sites (and the policies) were assessed in the Sustainability Appraisal Report and the Habitats Regulations Assessment. This latter document is a risk assessment to decide whether the full subsequent stage known as Appropriate Assessment is required. The Habitats Regulations Assessment concludes that due to the location of the allocated sites and the general absence of realistic linking impact pathways that there would be no likely significant effects on either Ensor's Pool Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or the River Mease SAC either alone or in combination.
- 4.15 The need for new gypsy and traveller pitches set out in Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need is for at least 11 permanent residential pitches to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers. The sites that have been found acceptable to allocate would provide up to 15 pitches at three locations and these are set out in Policy GT3 – Site Allocations. Below the policy an accompanying plan is provided showing the area to which the allocation relates. Two of the sites are within the Green Belt, namely Sunrise Cottage and The Old Nursery, and these have been found to meet the terms of exceptions and thus allowable development in the Green Belt. The extant proposals map will need to be updated to remove these two sites from the Green Belt.
- 4.16 As a result of the assessments of the sites a number of matters are considered important for any subsequent planning application to address and these have been set out as key development requirements in the relevant policy. The basis of these principles are the responses received during the informal consultation with key technical stakeholders on the three sites (the details of which can be viewed in the supporting 'Site Assessments and the Green Belt' document) and analysis of the site's context.
- 4.17 It is considered that to make additional use of the accesses at The Old Nursery and Sunrise Cottage sites some key development principles are required to ensure the use of the access is safe. Related to this is a requirement to ensure any new layout encompasses suitable bin storage to ensure these do not end up being stored outside the site. The sites have been assessed against the Wildlife Assessment Check tool as advised by the Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure SPD and in all cases a Preliminary

Ecological Assessment is required to ascertain if further ecological survey work is required. The sites of Winter Oak and The Old Nursery both have boundary hedgerows and these help in reducing the site's impact on the local landscape and, thus, any development of the site should not result in these being affected.

- 4.18 The 'Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites: good practice guide' of 2008, although withdrawn on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 and replaced by the 'Planning policy for traveller sites' document remains a useful guide setting out broad principles to consider in traveller and gypsy sites. With regard to communal recreation areas for children the good practice guide set out that it is considered that such areas should be provided where suitable provision is not available within walking distance on a safe route or using easily accessible public transport.
- 4.19 The independent assessment of the sites highlighted that the site at Sunrise Cottage already had provision of a small play area within the site. The Winter Oak site does not but on the other side of the A5 land is being developed for residential uses (reference 034076) which includes a play area, and this would be accessible nearby and thus provision within the site is not considered essential. However, the new site at The Old Nursery has no obvious communal play area in proximity to it and, thus, should be provided within the site – the independent assessment set out that there was sufficient space to accommodate it.
- 4.20 The matter of flooding is not addressed because at this time it is not considered to be relevant as sites are in flood zone 1 and there is no indication that they suffer inundation. However, areas prone to flooding change and should this then be the case extant Policy NE4 – Managing flood risk and water quality would be used. Similarly, sewage connection is not a key development requirement as this is already addressed by bullet point number 9 of extant H3 – Gypsies and Travellers.

### Policy GT3 – Site Allocations

Planning permission will be granted for new gypsy and traveller pitches at the following sites and as denoted with a solid red line on the accompanying site plans:

GTSA1 – Sunrise Cottage for three additional pitches within the existing site as shown as a solid red line on the accompanying plan.

GTSA2 – The Old Nursery for five to six new pitches within the site as shown as a solid red line on the accompanying plan.

GTSA3 – Winter Oak for six additional pitches within the existing site as shown as a solid red line on the accompanying plan.

#### Key Development Requirements

Planning applications at the allocated sites shall contain the details as set out below:

##### GTSA1 – Sunrise Cottage

- Provision of visibility splays of 160 metres.
- Suitable bin collection points should be provided within the site so that bins are not stored within the highway.
- Preliminary Ecological Assessment.

##### GTSA2 – The Old Nursery

- Closure of the northern access within the site.
- Access to be made in and out of the site from the southern access within the site.
- Configuration of an access that allows for sufficient manoeuvring room for any vehicles entering/exiting the site.
- Any gates within the access to be setback sufficient distance to allow any vehicle entering the site to exit the highway completely whilst the gates are opened or closed.
- Provision of visibility splays of 160 metres.
- Suitable bin collection points should be provided within the site so that bins are not stored within the highway.
- Landscaping of the site boundary to soften the appearance of the pitches from external views.
- Preliminary Ecological Assessment.
- Retention of existing boundary vegetation.
- Provision of communal play area within the site.

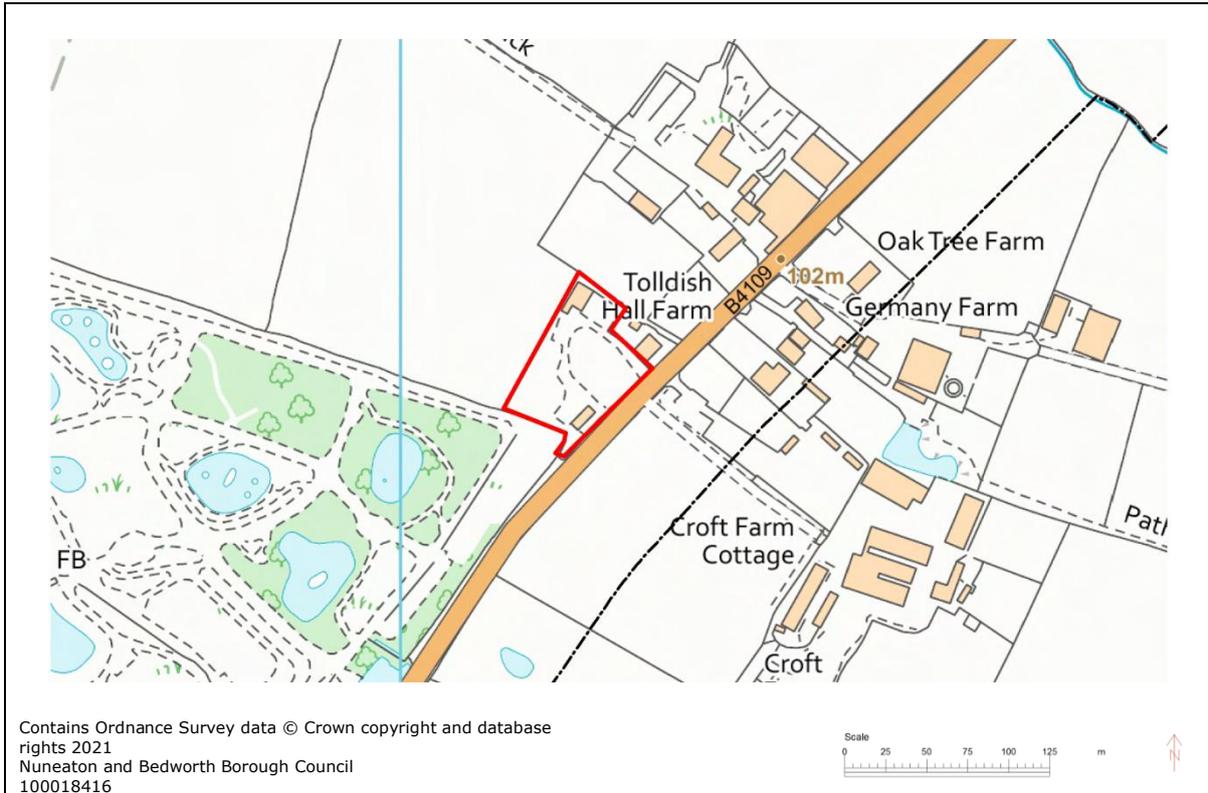
G TSA3 – Winter Oak

- Suitable bin collection points should be provided within the site so that bins are not stored within the highway.
- Preliminary Ecological Assessment.
- Retention of existing boundary vegetation.

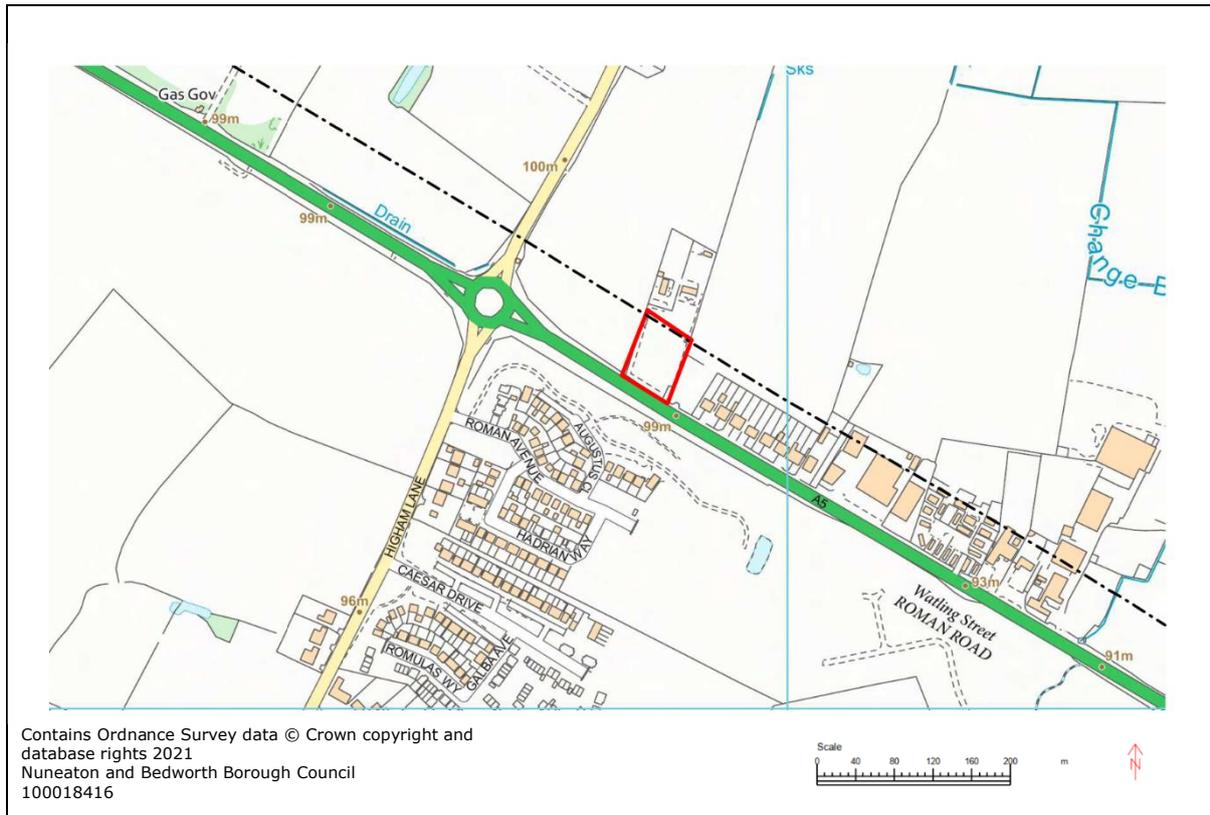
G TSA1 – Sunrise Cottage



G TSA2 – The Old Nursery



GTSA3 – Winter Oak



4.21 As well as the allocation of sites for new gypsy and traveller pitches the Council has considered the ongoing need for a travelling showperson’s yard within the Borough, currently at Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton. This is the only such type of accommodation in Warwickshire and thus has considerable importance to the County as an asset and also by ensuring continuity and availability of these plots within the Borough it contributes towards provision. The issues and options consultation document proposed the safeguarding of the site for its current use given its special status in the County. Comments were sparse on this matter, but no responses were received stating that safeguarding of this site for this purpose was incompatible with surrounding land uses or unacceptable. The Habitats Regulations Report and the Sustainability Appraisal Report both conclude that there would be no significant adverse impacts from the identified land continuing to be used for its current use.

Policy GT4 – Site Safeguarding

The travelling showpeople site at Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton as denoted on plan GTS4 with a solid red line will be safeguarded for use by travelling showpeople.

Alternative uses will be permitted if it is proven that either there is no longer a requirement for travelling showpeople accommodation or that an alternative site for travelling showpeople is available within Warwickshire.

GTS4 – Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton



## 5.0 Monitoring

- 5.1 The Council produces annually an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). Within the AMR the performance of the policies in the Borough Plan are reported as well as those in other DPDs (Development Plan Documents). Therefore, the AMR will need to report on the policies of the performance of this DPD once it has been adopted. Table 3 below sets out the indicators and targets that will be used to monitor the policies of this DPD.

Table 3 - Monitoring indicators and targets for the policies of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD).

Policy	Indicator	Target
Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need	Gypsy and traveller accommodation.	11 residential pitches provided.
	Monitor the continued need for additional pitches.	Within five years of adoption of this DPD undertake a new Gypsy, Traveller, and Showpeople Accommodation Assessment.
Strategic Policy GT2 – Strategy	Sites permitted in accordance with the policy.	100%.
Policy GT3 – Site Allocations	Monitor the supply and delivery of allocated sites and report annually through the Authority Monitoring Report	A minimum of six additional residential pitches permitted and available for use by 2025/26 and a minimum of 11 additional residential pitches permitted and available by 2036/37.
Policy GT4 – Site Safeguarding	Monitor the use of the safeguarded site.	The identified site at Spinney Lane/Whittleford Road, Nuneaton to remain used for travelling showpeople unless it was proven to be no longer required.

## 6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The issues and options document of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) was the first stage of producing this DPD. It set out the key issues for the locating of new traveller sites, namely how many and where and the reasonable options for approaching these issues. The document contained 10 questions that the answers to helped inform this next (publication) version of the DPD.
- 6.2 This document seeks to provide for a minimum of 11 residential pitches in the borough for gypsies and travellers by 2036/37. To achieve this three parcels of land have been identified and allocated to provide at least 14 residential pitches. Also, the existing travelling showpeople site in Nuneaton has been safeguarded from alternative uses.

## Appendix 1

Relationship between the policies in this DPD and the extant Borough Plan.

<b>Superseded Borough Plan policies</b>	<b>Superseding Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations DPD policies</b>
Policy DS4 – Overall development needs (third bullet point only).	Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need.
Policy H3 – Gypsies and Travellers (figures contained in first sentence).	Strategic Policy GT1 – Overall Need.