



Dorset-wide Gypsy and Traveller (including
Travelling Showpeople)
Site Allocations
Joint Development Plan Document (DPD)

Sustainability appraisal

Scoping Report

June 2010



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1 Scoping Consultation

Dorset-wide Gypsy and Traveller (including Travelling Showpeople) Site Allocation Joint Development Plan Document Sustainability Appraisal

- 1.1 This is the initial written report for the sustainability appraisal (SA) of a Dorset-wide Development Plan Document (DPD). The DPD is being prepared with the purpose of identifying and allocating pitch sites for Gypsy and Traveller communities, including Travelling Showpeople. The DPD is being produced jointly by the eight Dorset local authorities (including the unitary authorities of Bournemouth and Poole) and Dorset County Council.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to set out the range of information that it is proposed to take into account in the SA of the DPD. However, as a consultation document the scope of information is not yet set and the input of respondents is welcomed to ensure full coverage of sustainability issues.
- 1.3 The scoping report builds on work already completed for the SA of the Dorset-wide Minerals and Waste Development Framework, which was put out to consultation in March 2010. This document used a series of topic papers to address the sustainability issues relevant to minerals planning and the same approach is taken here, but tailored matters relevant to allocation of Gypsy and Traveller sites and related policy. The aim is to keep the scope focused on those issues this DPD could influence and be influenced by.
- 1.4 One of the main outputs of this scoping process will be a set of sustainability objectives. These objectives form a definition of sustainability that provide a consistent basis to the appraisal of the emerging DPD, the site selection criteria and the policy principles, these are set out in section 5.
- 1.5 The sustainability framework is developed from a review of the policy and the objectives of other plans and strategies relevant to the topic. Also, the scoping stage includes gathering social, economic and environmental information to identify what the main issues may be for sustainable development in the area specially related to delivering Gypsy and Traveller pitch sites.

Consultation

- 1.6 Publication of this draft scoping report provides an opportunity for consultees and other stakeholders to comment on the proposed scope of the sustainability appraisal. This consultation stage is a requirement of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, with statutory five week response time.
- 1.7 Within the context of the DPD we are seeking comments on the scope of the SA as set out in the scoping report. For instance:
 - Have we identified the right baseline issues?
 - Are there any other plans and programmes relevant to the DPD and the SA we should consider?
 - Do you think we identified the right sustainability issues?

- Do you agree with the proposed sustainability framework?

1.8 This consultation will run for five weeks starting on 10th September 2010 and finishing on **15th October 2010**. If you have any queries or would like to submit a response please write to the email address: travellersites@bakerassocs.com

2 Background

The DPD

- 2.1 The purpose of the DPD is to allocated sites for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole. Each Council is required by government to allocate sites for to meet these needs so that the Gypsy and Traveller communities can have a secure place to live, without the threat of eviction.
- 2.2 Government Circular 01/2006 *Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites* set out the requirement for local authorities to find sites for Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- 2.3 To begin the process of setting a requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Dorset a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment in 2006 was completed (see topic paper section 8). As specified in the Circular this assessment was used to inform the pitch requirement figure in the draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the South West (July 2008). The requirement set out at this stage was for 271 residential pitches and 154 transit pitches. In response to the Proposed Changes a slightly reviewed figure has been put forward, see table 2.1.
- 2.4 The RSS has now be revoked and therefore no longer sets out the requirements. Instead, following the Circular's advice the Accommodation Assessment will remain the basis for pitch requirements and the Dorset Council's will need to determine their Gypsy and Traveller pitch need independently. It has been decided that the response figures to the Proposed Changes accurately reflect the need in the County. Therefore, the DPD will find sufficient sites to meet these needs.
- 2.5 The DPD will also contain policies to help in the delivery of the allocated sites. These policies may include specific controls on certain sites to make sure their impact on the receiving environment is reduced or to make sure the sites provide a good quality place to live for future residents.
- 2.6 The DPD will be prepared by consultants Baker Associates working with officers from the eight local authorities and Dorset County Council.
- 2.7 Essential in preparing a successful DPD will be consultation with local interest groups and specialists to ensure it takes into account a wide variety of views in selecting sites. Groups that will be involved in consultation will include Gypsy and Traveller Communities, representatives from settled communities and environmental bodies.
- 2.8 An engagement strategy is being prepared for the preparation of the DPD and the SA alongside it. This includes a range of meetings and stakeholder events, in addition to the publication of consultation versions of the DPD and the SA. Section 6 shows the timetable for preparation of the DPD. In addition, to the consultation events which will be happening soon consultation drafts of the DPD are expected in summer 2011 and spring 2010.

Table 2.1: Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement

Authority	2006 GTAA Residential and Transit	RSS Sec of State's Proposed Modifications July 2008 (Table 4.3)		Dorset Authorities Response (Joint Committee Oct 2008)	
		Residential	Transit	Residential	Transit
Bournemouth	48-51	28	12	13	12
Christchurch	48-51	33	16	12	16
East Dorset	88-92	50	30	13	20
North Dorset	165-168	37	20	20	20(*)
Poole	48-50	35	8	13	8
Purbeck	79-83	44	21	20	21
West Dorset	80-84	44	22	20	22
Weymouth and Portland	29-30	0	25	0	25
Dorset	585-609	271	154	111	144(*)

(*) Plus 100 pitches for Steam Fair

After 2011, a compound growth of 3% per annum on residential pitches has been proposed

Place in the planning system

2.9 The area covered by the DPD includes all the local authorities of Dorset including Bournemouth and Poole unitary authorities. These are:

- Borough of Christchurch
- East Dorset District
- North Dorset District
- Purbeck District
- West Dorset District
- Weymouth and Portland District
- Bournemouth Borough
- Borough of Poole.

2.10 For each of the eight local authority areas there are separate policy frameworks as part of their development plan. In addition, there is the county-wide Dorset Structure Plan (not covering Bournemouth and Poole) and minerals and waste plans. At the time of writing only one of the eight authorities has a Core Strategy adopted under the 2004 Planning Act the rest are relying on saved policies from Local Plans and the Structure Plan to guide development delivery. The local plans are:

- Bournemouth District Wide Local Plan (February 2002)
- Poole Core Strategy (February 2009) and Poole Local Plan First Alteration (March 2004)
- Borough of Christchurch Adopted Local Plan (March 2001)
- East Dorset District Council Adopted Local Plan (January 2002)
- North Dorset District Council Adopted Local Plan (January 2003)
- Purbeck District Local Plan – Final Edition (*not formally adopted*)
- West Dorset District Council Adopted Local Plan (2006)
- Weymouth and Portland Adopted Local Plan (December 2005)

2.11 Other plans are:

- Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals and Waste Plan (1999)
- Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Waste Local Plan (2006)
- Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole Structure Plan (2001).

2.12 The context of these local plans was to be set through Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) policy. The RSS was to set the overall development pattern and level of growth for the South West, this included the Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements. However, following a letter sent by the Department of Communities and Local Government to Chief Planners on 6th July 2010 the RSS has been revoked. Therefore, now planning policy is set only through national and local policy.

2.13 The revocation of the RSS also leaves a policy vacuum for other matters, such as protection of the environment or providing accessible and sustainable development. The removal of these policies now mean decisions on the suitability of sites will need to be determined by existing local policies, some of which may be beginning to out-of-date, awaiting finalisation of individual Core Strategies. National policy also provides a policy context, although this may be replaced in due course by a new more concise policy document.

2.14 Part of the development of the DPD will include reviewing the policies of these document to identify the gaps on Gypsy and Traveller site provision and the policy already in place to guide the identification of sites.

Sustainability appraisal requirement

2.15 The requirement for sustainability appraisal come through the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. This was part of an overhaul of the development planning system, including the change away from preparing separate Structure Plans and Local Plans to a single plan for each authority (or group of authorities) that covers strategic and specific issues, this is Local Development Framework (LDF).

2.16 Each LDF is made up of a number of separate statutory policy Development Plan Documents and other non-binding Supplementary Planning Documents. The local authorities of Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole have decided to jointly prepare the Gypsy and Traveller DPD, that will be part of their individual LDFs. Each DPD is

required to undergo an appraisal to identify its impact on achieving more sustainable development.

- 2.17 SA is a systematic process undertaken during the preparation of a plan or strategy. Its role is to assess the extent to which the emerging policies and proposals will help to achieve relevant environmental, social and economic objectives. In doing so, the SA provides an opportunity help guide plan preparation, making sure the strategy, policies or site allocations help mitigate or avoid adverse impacts and maximise benefits.

Strategic Environmental Assessment requirements

- 2.18 The requirement for SA is further strengthened through the need for plans to comply with the European Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC). This specifically requires environmental assessment of plans and programmes – including DPDs. Unlike SA the requirements for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) are prescriptive, with specific stages, consultation and reporting tasks to complete to ensure compliance with the Directives and the ratified Regulations.
- 2.19 To avoid carrying out two similar assessments the SA and SEA requirements are combined into a single process, known jointly as an SA. This therefore adds the layer of prescriptive stages to the SA. Part of the regulatory requirement include this scoping stage, which involves getting the input of a key set of stakeholders to the process. For SEA these consultees are:
- Natural England
 - Environment Agency, and
 - English Heritage.
- 2.20 The SA will also be made available for public consultation available on the Gypsy and Traveller DPD pages of dorsetforyou.com.

Other types of assessment

- 2.21 In addition to the SA, the DPD is also undergoing other types of appraisal. These are the Habitats Regulations Assessment required under the Habitats Directive and an Equalities Impact Assessment recommended for completion by Dorset County Council.
- 2.22 The SA will also include elements of a Health Impact Assessment. The sustainability appraisal will be used to demonstrate how the DPD is contributing to making a healthy place to live, creating opportunities for more healthy lifestyles. The sustainability objectives, in section 6, contain an objective on health and safety. The sustainability objectives also cover topics related to health, such as air quality, flood risk and accessibility of services.
- 2.23 The EU Habitats Directive Article 6 (4) and (5) requires an ‘appropriate assessment’ of some plans. Assessment is required where there is the chance a land use plan may have an adverse impact on the integrity of the Natura 2000 protected nature conservation site network. The Natura 2000 network provides ecological infrastructure for the protection of sites that are of exceptional importance for rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habits and species within the EU. Appropriate

assessment of plans is intended to ensure that protection of the integrity of European sites is part of the planning process and a plan and project level. Appropriate assessment of the Natura 2000 network will be integrated in to plan making. An initial stage of the of the assessment will be screening to determine the likelihood of adverse impacts from Gypsy and Traveller DPD on Natura 2000. This will be used to determine if further detailed assessment of impacts is required.

- 2.24 An Equalities Impact Assessment will also be completed of the DPD preparation process and outcomes. This is recommended by Dorset County Council as a way of making sure the needs of diverse groups are taken into account in preparing the plan. The assessment will be based on the Dorset toolkit methodology.
- 2.25 In Dorset there is an expectation that plans, programmes and services prepared by the councils will include an assessment of equalities. The purpose of this systematically assess what the impacts of implementing the plan would be on different groups in the community, to help deliver equitable development.
- 2.26 The Equalities Impact Assessment is concerned with anticipating and identifying the discriminatory or negative consequences for a particular group or sector of the community on the grounds of race, gender, disability, faith, sexuality or age. This DPD is aimed at meeting the needs of a particular communities (Gypsy, Traveller and showpeople) who have often faced discrimination in the past. Therefore, the equalities assessment in this case has a specific role in checking that the DPD properly addresses the needs of these communities.
- 2.27 This Equalities Impact Assessment will be completed for the emerging DPD, drawing on information gathered in for the SA. It will inform preparation of the document and help make sure equalities issues are fully taken into account.

Stages of SA and DPD preparation

- 2.28 The SA will be fully integrated into plan making. The appraisal stages will take place alongside the plan preparation and for several principle tasks the two processes will work together. Tasks will include:
- **Scoping:** This is the current stage of the SA with the purpose of establishing the basis for appraisal through identifying the current issues and sustainability objectives for delivering Gypsy and Traveller sites
 - **Selection of site assessment criteria:** In identifying suitable sites to be allocated for Gypsy and Traveller sites it is necessary to develop a set of site selection criteria. The SA will play an essential role in selecting these criteria, with plan making and SA combined in the selection of sites.
 - **SA of the options for site delivery:** The DPD will need to make decisions about how the sites for Gypsy and Traveller pitches are delivered. This may include decisions on the quantities of social rented to private pitches, or many smaller sites versus fewer larger sites. The SA will need to assess any option to identify relative sustainability implications or each.
 - **SA of policy:** The DPD will contain policies to help deliver the site allocations. The SA will assess these policies to make sure they are maximising benefits for sustainable development, as well as avoiding adverse effects.

- 2.29 Reporting of the SA will be at various stages to follow DPD preparation. This will include consultation of this scoping report, as well as preparation of an SA of the draft DPD at preferred options and publication stages. The precise methodology will be tailored to meet the needs of the various stages of DPD preparation.
- 2.30 The process of consultation for the SA will take place at the same time as consultation for the DPD (see timetable in section 6).

3 The scoping report

Structure

- 3.1 The intention is to keep this scoping report focused on those issues of greatest relevance to the allocation and delivery of Gypsy and Traveller sites. This scope is also set within the parameters of what can be achieved through a planning document of this type. This means that some sustainability issues, for instance direct provision of education, cannot be covered through the appraisal beyond physical access to schools.

Topic papers

- 3.2 The approach taken in preparing this scoping report follows the guidance on sustainability appraisal (SA) from the ODPM (2005). In addition, it follows the approach taken in the SA of the Minerals and Waste scoping report, to ensure consistency in the way area-wide SA is presented for Dorset.
- 3.3 The scoping report and appendices include:
- A review of relevant plans and programmes relevant to the DPD
 - Collection of baseline information relevant to the DPD
 - Identification of the main sustainability issues related to the DPD
- 3.4 As a foundation to the sustainability appraisal it is necessary to identify what the current sustainability issues are in the county related to delivering Gypsy and Traveller sites. This **baseline information** is essential in providing an understanding of relevant matters to be addressed through the DPD and the basis for monitoring change.
- 3.5 The topic papers include a review of **plan, policies and programmes** that will influence the preparation of the DPD and must be taken into account in assessing sustainable development. Review of relevant plans, policies and programmes also is required by the SEA Directive. The requirement is to take into account the environmental protection objectives established at an international, national and local level. This is an important part of the process as it ensure the work is consistent with up-to-date policy and contributes to identifying the objectives for the sustainability appraisal. The review of these other plans is kept intentionally succinct focusing on the main issues relevant to Gypsy and Traveller development.
- 3.6 One of the main purposes of completing these stages is to develop the sustainability framework for the SA. This framework consists of sustainability objectives that help define sustainable development for the SA of the DPD.
- 3.7 In keeping with the method of the Minerals and Waste DPD the information is set out in topic papers on the main these of sustainable development related to the delivery of Gypsy and Traveller sites. The topic papers are based on the assessment issues set out in the SEA Directive, shown in Section 5 of this scoping report. The collated topic papers are included in Appendix 1. These are:

- Climate change
- Air quality, contaminated land and noise
- Biodiversity
- Water quality and supply – including flooding
- Historic environment
- Transport
- Landscape
- Population and human health
- Economic Development and Employment

4 Sustainability issues

- 4.1 The investigation of background material in the topic papers (appendix 1) identifies the issues that the DPD may need to address to deliver more sustainable Gypsy and Traveller pitch sites. These issues set the context for developing a set of sustainability objectives for the SA of the DPD.
- 4.2 This section of the scoping report lists the main issues identified for each topic area listed in paragraph 3.7.

Climate change

- Identify climate change as a cross-cutting issue integrated into all other aspects of delivering sustainability
- Deliver new sites that help in mitigating against climate change
- Ensure new sites are not at risk from the impacts of climate change and are adaptable to a changing climate, including heatwave and flood risk.

Air quality, noise and contaminated land

- Protect new residents of Gypsy and Traveller sites from unacceptable or inequitable noise and air quality impacts
- Avoid locating new Gypsy and Traveller sites in locations with Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)
- Help make sure that new Gypsy and Traveller sites do not exacerbate existing poor air quality, especially in the current AQMAs.
- Ensure new Gypsy and Traveller sites in areas of higher radon risk are compatible with good practice guides for reducing risks.
- Ensure new Gypsy and Traveller sites do not put residents at risk from contaminated land.

Biodiversity and geodiversity

- Avoid direct disturbance to internationally, nationally or locally important nature conservation assets
- Avoid indirect disturbance on nearby protected areas from recreational pressure or impacts on certain species from domestic animals
- Consider how new Gypsy and Traveller sites can contribute to improving local biodiversity, such as enhancing priority habitats
- Avoid impacts related to water use, for example indirect and cumulative impacts on biodiversity from changes in water quality and availability
- Avoid In-combination effects leading to incremental loss of biodiversity or fragmentation of habitats and loss of links, such as hedgerows or access to stream banks.

Water and Flooding

- Ensure Gypsy and Traveller sites are not permitted in locations with an unacceptable risk of flood.
- Ensure Gypsy and Traveller sites do not put surface or ground water quality at risk of contamination.
- Ensure the design of Gypsy and Traveller sites achieves greenfield water run-off rates through sustainable drainage systems
- Identify sites that can be connected to mains sewerage systems where possible
- Ensure the design and location of Gypsy and Traveller sites avoids run-off from site to surface water bodies.

Historic environment

- The location of Gypsy and Traveller should not cause harm to designated historic environment features
- Gypsy and Traveller sites need to ensure they take into account the potential for buried archaeology prior to any development on site
- The location of new Gypsy and Traveller sites needs to respect the setting of historically or architecturally designated sites and buildings.

Traffic and transport

- Help ensure new Gypsy and Traveller sites have good access to services through alternatives to car use
- Avoid locating new Gypsy and Traveller sites where there would be adverse air quality or safety impacts.

Landscape and soils

- Conserve highly valued designated landscapes through choosing appropriate sites for Gypsy and Traveller pitches and where suitable specifying controls to development to protect the landscape
- Use landscape character approach to assess the value and identify features of importance in landscapes both outside, and within, designated areas.
- Protect loss of higher quality soils where other sites are available of otherwise equal suitability.

Population and Gypsy and Traveller needs

- Insufficient allocation of long-term sites for Gypsy and Travellers can have an adverse impact on health and wellbeing of these groups, this includes having an address to use when accessing services, disruption from frequent eviction and unauthorised sites being potentially unsafe
- Gypsy and Traveller sites must have good access to health and education services
- Unauthorised sites can have an adverse impacts on local communities and the wellbeing of nearby settled residents.

The Economy and Employment

- Support a high level of employment in Gypsy and Traveller communities by helping make sure sites have access to employment areas
- Support physical access to skills training for adults in the Gypsy and Traveller communities through the location of new sites
- Consider how employment needs for Gypsy and Traveller communities can be met at or near the place where they live.
- Help make sure locations of Gypsy and Traveller pitches do not adversely impact on businesses and economic growth.

Sustainable development and Gypsy and Traveller sites

4.3 In reviewing these sustainability issues for the SA of the DPD it is apparent that there are two main themes for delivering sustainable sites. This is to:

- make sure chosen sites do not harm the receiving environment. Impacts could include a range of considerations, such as on biodiversity, landscape, historic character, other communities, and
- make sure sites are a good place to live, supporting healthy and inclusive communities. This would include sites having good access to services such as schools and doctors and suitable employment locations, sites should be a healthy and safe place to live, away from high risk flood area, poor air quality, land contamination and harmful noise levels.

5 Sustainability appraisal framework

- 5.1 The purpose of establishing a Sustainability Framework is to define and clarify the elements of sustainable development the DPD should recognise in order to achieve more sustainable development. The objectives developed as part of this framework can then be used as part of a structured appraisal in the SA of the LDF.

Sustainable Development

- 5.2 In order to undertake the SA and to assist in explaining its findings, it is necessary to establish what is meant by sustainable development. The Sustainability Framework defines sustainable development in relation to spatial planning, and the SA of the Dorset-wide Gypsy and Traveller DPD.
- 5.3 The essence of 'sustainable development' is development which meets peoples' needs now whilst ensuring this does not prevent people in the future from meeting their needs.
- 5.4 Some principles of sustainable development are worth dwelling upon. Integral to the concept is the principle of 'intergenerational equity'; or fairness between generations in access and availability of the planet's resources, this should be no less in the future than it is for the present population. Implicit too in the idea of sustainable development is a concern for equity (or 'intragenerational equity'); that is, that availability of personal well-being, and a high quality environment to some, should not deny the same benefits to others.
- 5.5 Sustainable development is often perceived as a 'human-centred' concept, but this is to neglect the overriding importance of the planet's continuing ability to support all forms of life. It is a complex goal embracing economic, environmental and social concerns, and matters that vary from local to global in their extent. In addition a concern for sustainability means taking a very long term perspective, with sustainability the long term vision rather than necessarily an achievable state.
- 5.6 The UK Government, in its strategy for sustainable development, 'A Better Quality of Life' (May 1999), explained sustainable development in terms of four objectives. These were:
- social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
 - effective protection of the environment
 - prudent use of natural resources
 - maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.
- 5.7 These remain the themes of the most current guidance on delivering sustainable development through spatial planning as contained in PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development.
- 5.8 The more recent UK strategy for sustainable development 'Securing the Future' was produced in conjunction with the UK shared strategy framework 'One future – different paths' (March 2005). This framework gives the purpose of sustainable development as a goal that:

‘...will be pursued in an integrated way through a sustainable, innovative and productive economy that delivers high levels of employment, and a just society that promotes social inclusion, sustainable communities and personal well-being. This will be done in ways that protect and enhance the physical and natural environment, and use resources and energy as efficiently as possible’.

5.9 ‘Securing the Future’ the new Sustainable Development Strategy sets out five guiding principles to define sustainable development, these are:

- living within environmental limits
- ensuring a strong and healthy and just society
- achieving a sustainable economy
- promoting good governance
- using sound science responsibly

5.10 In compiling the Sustainability Framework specific objectives have been developed for key ‘headline’ issues related to sustainable development. The main objectives are supported by sub-objectives that add a layer of detail, the list of sub-objectives is not intended to be exhaustive . In moving forward with the SA and the DPD specific indicators, or means of recording and monitoring the impact, could be developed in keeping with monitoring arrangements for the DPD.

The proposed Sustainability Framework

5.11 The Sustainability Framework, as shown in table 5.1, consists of fourteen headline and one cross-cutting sustainability objectives. These cover the environmental matters as required by the Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, as well as social and economic matters relating to the wider sustainability agenda.

5.12 The framework in this scoping report is open for comment and adjustment to make sure it is suitable for the SA of the Gypsy and Traveller DPD.

Table 5.1: Sustainability Framework

Cross-cutting objective for Climate Change		
Ensure development responds to the impacts and causes of climate change by integrating mitigation and adaptation approaches in new development		
Headline	Objective	Sub-objectives
Community	Support and promote the distinctive character of Gypsy and Traveller communities as well as fostering cohesion with settled communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • allow the settled and Gypsy and Traveller communities to be involved in the planning decisions that effect them • help support Gypsy and Traveller communities and retain family groups • help in creating development of the type and design that can help avoid adverse impact on the community, such as development that deters anti-social behaviour • help support cultural events related to the Gypsy and Traveller and showpeople communities.

Accessibility*	Allow equitable access for all to jobs, services and facilities they need, in a way that reduces reliance on car use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce disparities in access to services through a combined approach of suitable facility and service provision and public transport links • ensure that Gypsy and Traveller sites have good access to health and education services • <i>reduce reliance on car use to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions</i>
A place to live	Provide a range of types and tenures of pitch sites that allows Gypsy and Traveller communities to meet their housing needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure there are sufficient pitch sites to meet the needs of permanent and transient Gypsy and Traveller communities • provide a range of pitch sites to meet the diverse needs different communities and family groups, • build new public permanent pitch sites following good practice guidelines with input from future resident groups
Employment	Help residents of new Gypsy and Traveller sites get access to suitable jobs and skills training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote local employment to reduce people's need to travel to find work • help provide accessible skills training to aid access to work
Air*	To reduce all forms of air pollution in the interests of local air quality and the integrity of the atmosphere to protect from climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help reduce reliance on car travel by making sure there are real viable alternatives available for all people • help to reduce energy use in new development • <i>help reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reducing car travel, waste management and reduce energy demand from non-renewable resources</i>
Health, safety and security*	To improve health and wellbeing by encouraging more healthy lifestyles, and protecting people from risk that may impact on their health and/or safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect people from the negative health impacts of polluted air and water • ensure equitable access to health services • ensure that new sites are designed in such a way as to reduce crime and fear of crime • protect people from the risks of unstable or contaminated land • ensure new sites are not in areas at known risk of flood • avoid locating development in areas adversely impacted by noise (existing or planned), especially at night • enhance opportunities for healthy living and help support more healthy lifestyles through access to open space and prioritised cycling and walking routes • <i>protect people from the negative impacts of climate change, such as increased summer temperatures, adverse weather and flooding, through the design and location of new development.</i> • <i>ensure that appropriate flood risk protection measures are in place to protect residents well-being</i>

Biodiversity*	Protect, value, manage and enhance healthy functioning ecosystems, habitats and natural species diversity, valuing nature conservation interests wherever they are found.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a strong level of protection to sites designated for the national or international importance for nature conservation • site development should lead to no net loss in biodiversity • statutory and non-statutory designated nature conservation sites should be afforded a level of protection appropriate to their status • ensure the location and design of sites does not cause the further fragmentation of habitats and protect and enhance network routes for flora and fauna movement • support landscaping that makes use of species that will support native biodiversity • <i>protect habitats that provide migration routes for species in response to a changing climate</i>
Landscape*	To maintain and enhance the quality and character of the landscape, including its contribution to the setting and character of settlements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help protect and enhance the rural and coastal landscapes, including the AONB, Heritage Coast and the setting of the Dorset Jurassic Coast • the location and design of sites should help protect areas of identified high landscape quality • protect the setting of towns and villages in the landscape and including the transition of urban to rural • help in the positive management of landscapes to protect and enhance their character • <i>ensure that new landscaping planting can adapt to a changing climate, including increased summer temperatures and storm events and fewer frosts.</i>
Soil	To use land efficiently and protect higher grade agricultural soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect greenfield land from development where development would be more suitability located on brownfield land • use suitable density standards that ensure the best use of developable land in appropriate locations • avoid building on higher quality agricultural soils, which are scarce in Dorset
Built environment*	To maintain and enhance the built environment for both its visual character and distinctiveness and to create a better living environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure new development is designed so as to create places that support people making good quality places to live • ensure that the design of any permanent buildings on site adds to the character of the area • <i>ensure new development is designed to be able to adapt to the impacts of climate change, including increased summer heating, storm events and flooding</i>

Historic heritage	Understand, value, protect and restore, where necessary, the historic cultural heritage of the area, including features of the built and semi-natural environment and the setting of buildings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure new sites take into account any historic environment features and their setting/context • ensure buried archaeological assets are protected from harmful impacts of development, or other appropriate management where suitable • ensure that the features of historic landscape are respected in new development
Water quality and supply*	To maintain and improve the quality of ground, surface and coastal waters and maintain the quantity of water available including potable water supplies, and ground water and river levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure new development has sufficient sewerage and waste water treatment to avoid harm to water quality • ensure contaminated land is suitability remediated to avoid water quality impacts • implemented suitable SUDS to avoid run-off of potential polluted water to water courses or aquifers • reduce diffuse pollution • help to meet objectives of achieving good ecological status for surface waters; good status for groundwaters; and no deterioration across all water bodies • <i>ensure new development makes the best use of potable water, incorporating re-use of grey water in new development</i>
Flood risk*	Ensure that new development is designed and located to avoid the risk of flooding, and ensure the risk of flooding is not increased elsewhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ensure that new development is located so as to avoid the risks of fluvial and tidal flooding</i> • <i>aim for greenfield water run-off rates from new development</i> • <i>make use of SUDS to maintain greenfield run-off rates to rivers</i>
Energy*	To secure energy efficiency and renewable energy where beneficial on site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>promote energy generation from renewable resources, including micro-generation as part of the energy requirements of new development</i> • <i>ensure that energy is used more efficiently, including in the design of new permanent structures on-site</i>

* climate change related objective

Italics: climate change related supporting sub-objective

Interrelationships between SA objectives, SEA Directive Issues and the district SA objectives

5.13 In order to make sure these sustainability objectives are comprehensive in their coverage of issues facing the county, Bournemouth and Poole they have been cross-checked with those for each of the local authorities. Appendix 2 shows the 15 Gypsy and Traveller sustainability appraisal objectives and their relationship with the Core Strategy or Local Development Framework SA objectives in each of the eight areas (Christchurch and East Dorset prepared a joint report).

5.14 The analysis of relationships show that this set of sustainability objectives is comprehensive in its coverage, although there are several gaps. However, these

gaps relate to issues that are beyond the control of the Gypsy and Traveller DPD such as economic growth (the DPD has not employment land allocation role) and tourism. However, the community objective includes the need to ensure participation in cultural events, such as the Steam Fair, and this is an important event in the wider Dorset and Gypsy and Traveller cultural calendar.

- 5.15 The SEA Directive requires under Article 5(1) and Annex 1 that the Environmental Report prepared as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment includes information on the likely significant effects on the environment. In order to check the sustainability appraisal will do this Table 5.2 summarises which SA objective relates to which SEA issue as identified by the Directive. The comparison shows that the sustainability objectives are compatible with the SEA regulatory required coverage of issues.

Table 5.2: Comparison of issues required to be covered by the SEA Directive and the sustainability objectives for the SA

SEA Directive Issue	Sustainability Appraisal Objectives
Biodiversity	Biodiversity
Population	Community, Accessibility
Human Health	Health, safety and security; Air; Flood
Fauna	Biodiversity
Flora	Biodiversity
Soil	Soil; Health, Safety and Security
Water	Water quality and supply
Air	Air; Climate Change; Energy
Climatic Factors	Climate change
Material Assets	Built heritage
Cultural Heritage	Built heritage; Historic environment
Landscape	Landscape

6 Next steps

- 6.1 When the consultation period ends on the scoping report the responses will be analysed and taken into account in moving forward with the SA. This will include updating of the topic papers, where necessary.
- 6.2 The sustainability objectives will be used in assessing the sustainability of the emerging Gypsy and Traveller (and travelling showpeople) site allocation Joint DPD. The initial appraisal stage will involve using the sustainability objectives to help generate site selection criteria. These criteria will be used in selecting preferred sites for Gypsy and Traveller pitches that will help deliver sustainable development.
- 6.3 The timetable for preparation of the Gypsy and Traveller Joint DPD is currently expected to run as follows:
- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| June - August 2010 | Request for Sites Consultation
Consultation and engagement events |
| May - July 2011 | Preferred Options Consultation on the DPD |
| March - April 2012 | Formal Publication and Consultation on the DPD |
| September 2012 | Submission of the final DPD followed by examination |
| Summer 2013 | DPD is adopted |
- 6.4 An SA report will be prepared for each stage of DPD publication. The report will set out the appraisal process completed for that stage and any sustainability issues that need to be addressed at subsequent stages.