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Mrs Jean Radley
Programme

Tel No. 01323 415121

To: Val Tupling and Eastbourne Borough Council,
(Planning Policy Team)

2nd August, 2012

Dear Val,

Thank you for your letter of 1 August 2012 regarding traveller sites. Your letter indicates that the Council will participate in an assessment of the need for traveller sites beyond 2016 through joint working with other authorities and that the identified need for the entire Plan period is likely to be met by others, outside the area covered by Eastbourne Plan.

Your letter raises the following questions:

1. To what extent is the Council still relying on the East Sussex Traveller Strategy and is there any likelihood that this will address the need for sites up to 2016?
2. What is the timescale for the joint GTAA? (I note that the brief has not yet been agreed). Is the group led by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA)? Where does the responsibility lie for taking this forward?
3. Has the fact that the sites that Parker Dann identified as being potentially suitable for traveller sites all fall within the National Park been discussed with the SDNPA? Has the SDNPA agreed to accommodate the identified need?

Collaborative working with neighbouring authorities is encouraged by the Government and preparing a GTAA jointly with other local authorities is a positive step. However your suggested wording change to paragraph 4.6.1 indicates neither the timescale for its preparation nor who bears the responsibility for taking it forward.

I have seen nothing to confirm that the SDNPA has agreed to take on the delivery of traveller sites to meet Eastbourne's needs. Has an agreement been reached with SDNPA? Without this, or an

alternative mechanism to deliver traveller sites to meet the Borough's needs, Policy D6 cannot be effective.

I would be grateful if you could give this matter further thought. It should be possible, through a main modification, to identify a positive and effective mechanism for identifying and delivering this aspect of the Borough's housing need.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Turner
Inspector