

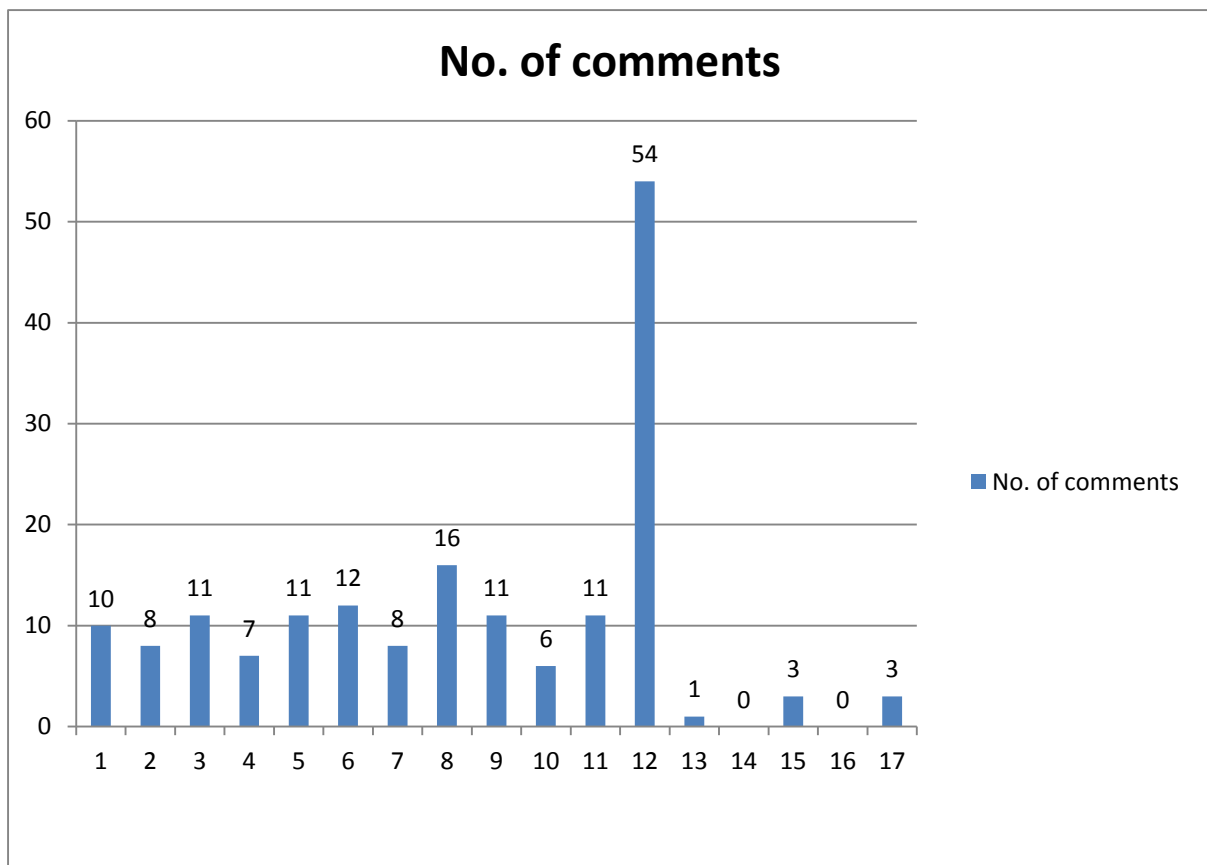
## GYPSY AND TRAVELLER ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION

UPDATE :

January 2015

As of Wednesday 14th January 64 people have made 174 comments on the Gypsy and Traveller Issues and Options Consultation. Two of which are statutory consultees (Braintree District Council and Clavering Parish Council).

The chart below shows the number of responses against questions 1-17 of the consultation.



**Question 1: Do you agree with the suggested vision and objectives for Gypsy and Traveller sites? If no why?**

10 comments have been received, 8 of which stated no they did not agree.

**Question 2: Do you agree there is no need for Travelling Showpeople households up to the year 2033?**

8 comments have been received, all of which agree there is no need for Travelling Showpeople households up to the year 2033.

**Question 3: There are no key traveller routes in the Uttlesford District. Do you agree that it is more appropriate to provide transit sites on key traveller routes?**

11 comments have been received. All 11 responses are in agreement with this statement.

**Question 4: The Council has identified a need for 26 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers. If you don't agree what evidence can you provide to justify your view?**

7 comments have been received, 6 of which do not agree there is a need for 26 pitches.

**Question 5: Do you agree that the Council should identify sites to meet its own needs within the District boundary?**

11 comments have been received. 9 comments agree that the Council should meet its own needs.

**Question 6: Do you support the methodology to consultants have used to assess the sites in order to include them in this consultation? If no what different methodology would you suggest for selecting sites?**

12 comments have been received. 11 representations do not agree with the methodology, a number of these suggesting distances to services should be taken into account when selecting sites.

**Question 7: Gypsy and Traveller sites should be small with up to 5 pitches**

**Gypsy and Traveller sites should be between 6-15 pitches**

**Gypsy and Traveller sites containing more than 15 pitches could be appropriate**

**Do you have alternative suggestions on the site of sites the Council should be considering?**

8 comments have been received. 5 responses state that sites should be small – up to 5 pitches. 1 representation states that sites containing more than 15 pitches could be appropriate the other 2 responses suggest that the size of sites should be determined by their location, taking into account the surrounding environment and level of services available

**Question 8: If the Council identify more than enough suitable and available sites to need needs, how should the Council give priority in choosing which sites to allocate? (Please list in order of priority)**

**Sites within and adjacent to existing settlement's**

**Sites within those areas where the travelling communities currently live and travel through**

**Sites which are close to or which have easy access to local services**

**Sites which have some other reason to be chosen rather than others**

16 comments have been received. 7 representations stated that priority should be sites within and adjacent to existing settlement's. 9 representations states priority should be given to sites within areas the travelling community currently live and travel through.

**Question 9: Which local facility is the most important to be close to when identifying sites? (please list in order of priority)**

**Health care**

**Shop**

**Primary school**

**Other (please specify)**

11 comments have been received. 2 representations stated health care as a priority, 1 stated primary school, 2 stated shop and 6 stated other. These 6 suggested that public transport and services should be the priority, some suggested that it should be up to the Gypsy and Traveller community what their priority is.

**Question 10: How should the Council plan for sites beyond the first five years?**

**1) Identify specific developable sites**

**2) 2) identify broad locations for growth across the district**

6 comments have been received. 5 of which stated that broad locations should be identified.

**Question 11: Please indicate the best ways of delivering Gypsy and Traveller sites**

**Granting permission to existing sites which currently do not have permission**

**Extending or putting more pitches on existing sites**

**Identify new sites for Gypsy and Travellers**

**Other**

11 comments have been received. 8 of these representations stated their preference to be extending or putting more pitches on existing sites. 2 stated their preference as granting permission to existing sites which currently don't have permission. 1 suggested safeguarding existing sites.

**Question 12. The Council need to determine whether these sites are available, suitable and achievable for Gypsy and Traveller provision. Do you have any evidence or information to justify you view?**

The majority of comments, 54, have been received for this question. All 54 comments were objections to either the site at Star Green Radwinter End (UTT014), Land south of the B1256 opposite Taylors Farm (UTT026) or 5 Acres Wicken Bonhunt (UTT022). Out of the 54 comments 47 of these related to the site 5 Acres (UTT922). Below is a summary of the main points raised about the sites:

**5 Acres:**

- Outside development limits
- Access in flood zone 3
- Access across a protected lane
- Site is too big
- Narrow roads
- No pedestrian access
- Safety of the new residents is a concern due to poor street lighting, access and flooding
- Unsustainable location - no public transport
- No local facilities – health care, schools, shops
- Negative impact on landscape
- Area of natural beauty
- Enforcement should proceed at the Stansted gypsy and traveller site to release accommodation.
- Contrary to site assessment criteria

**Star Green Radwinter End:**

- Unsustainable location
- Narrow, dangerous access via a lane
- No local facilities

**Land south of the B1256 opposite Taylors Farm**

- Site included without all the landowners permission – request to remove the site from 3 of the landowners
- Within CPZ
- Concern regarding impact on local residents
- Negative impact on close by listed buildings

**Question 13: (existing site within the Green Belt)**

**The Council need to determine whether this site is available, suitable and achievable for Gypsy and Traveller provision, do you have any evidence or information to justify your view?**

1 comment has been received stating that this site is not suitable as it is within the Green belt.

**Question 14: Do you have any evidence or information about the sites which have been rejected for Gypsy and Traveller provision?**

No comments have been received in relation to this question.

**Question 15: If the Council find that they are unable to identify, from those sites submitted, enough suitable, available and achievable sites to meet local needs for the future, what do you think they should do? (please tick one from the list)**

**Consider possible sites within the Green Belt**

**Consider other sites**

**Reconsider sites previously rejected in the exercise, provided development would avoid serious impact on the environment**

3 comments have been received. 2 of which suggested other sites should be considered and 1 suggests that sites within the Green Belt should be considered.

**Question 16: Do you know of any other sites which the Council should be considering for future Gypsy, Traveller or Travelling Showpeople uses?**

No comments have been received.

**Question 17: Any other comments**

3 comments have been received. 1 states that views of local residents need to be taken into consideration as they do not have a political or financial interest, another makes a general comment about the format of the questionnaire and Braintree District Council state that they have no specific comments but are pleased we are making provision in line with the 2014 needs assessment.