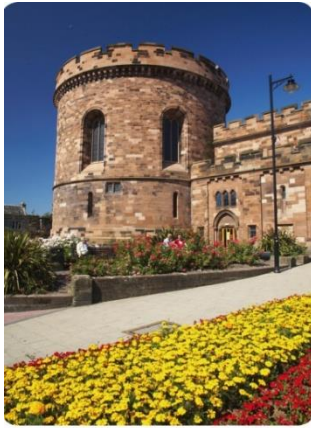
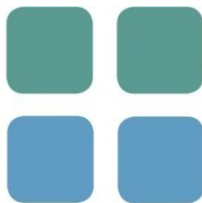




The Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030

Proposed Main Modifications (March 2016)

Consultation Representation Form



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Images courtesy of Andrew Paterson, D&H Photographers and Jason Friend

INSTRUCTIONS

The Carlisle District Local Plan Schedule of Main Modifications, arising from the recent Examination in Public, includes a series of changes to the published Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030. These suggested changes are being consulted on for a period of six weeks. **For advice on how to respond to the consultation, and how to fill in this form, please see the accompanying guidance note on the Council's website at <http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning-policy>**

Please note all representations must be received by no later than **17:00 on Monday 25th April 2016**. There are no guarantees that any representations received after this deadline can be accepted.

For all representations parts one and two of this form should be completed. Please use a separate form for each Proposed Main Modification that you wish to comment on. It is important that your responses relate only to the Proposed Main Modifications or any associated Sustainability Appraisal or Habitat Regulation Assessment matters. Representations relating to other parts of the Plan will not be considered.

A copy of the Schedule of Main Modifications and all supporting documentation, including the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulation Assessment Addendums, are available to view at <http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning-policy>

How to respond –

Via email: lpc@carlisle.gov.uk

In writing:

Investment and Policy
Carlisle City Council
Civic Centre
Carlisle
Cumbria
CA3 8QG

To find out more Call: 01228 817569

PART ONE- YOUR DETAILS

It is important that you fill in your contact details below; **we cannot register your representation without your details**. Please note that we will not be able to keep your representation or personal details confidential. We may also wish to contact you to clarify your representation.

In circumstances where there are individuals / groups / organisations who share a similar view on the Proposed Main Modifications, it would be helpful if these could make a single representation. It would also be useful if, in such circumstances, you state how many people/groups the submission is representing and how the representation was authorised.

Your Details	Your Agent's Details (If applicable)
Title: MR	Title: Click here to enter text.
Surname: Khan	Surname: Click here to enter text.
Forename: Aftab	Forename: Click here to enter text.
Organisation/Company: AWAZ Cumbria	Organisation/Company: Click here to enter text.
Address: Unit 29, Carlisle Enterprise Centre, James Street, Carlisle Postcode: CA2 5BB	Address: Click here to enter text. Postcode: Click here to enter text.
Contact No: 01228 511115	Contact No: Click here to enter text.
Email: Aftab@awaz.info	Email: Click here to enter text.
Signature: Aftab.Khan	
Date: 22 April 2016	
☒ Please tick if you are not already on our mailing list but would like to be kept updated on the progress of the Local Plan	

PART TWO - YOUR REPRESENTATION

Please use a separate form for each Proposed Main Modification that you wish to comment on. It is important that your responses only relate to the main modifications and not to other parts of the Plan.

Q1. Please give the Proposed Main Modification reference your comment relates to

Main Modification reference – MM GYPSY TRAVELLER POLICIES

Q2. Do you consider that the Proposed Main Modification to the Local Plan addresses the following in relation to the policy(s) concerned;

Legally Compliant?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Sound?

☒ Yes ☐ Yes, with minor changes ☐ No

Q3. If you consider the Local Plan remains or is unsound in light of the Proposed Main Modification, is it because it is not:

- ☐ Positively Prepared?
- ☐ Justified?
- ☐ Effective?
- ☒ Consistent with National Policy?

Q4. Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound in light of the Proposed Main Modification. Please be as precise as possible.

If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Local Plan, please also use this box to set out your reasoning.

Please note that your representation should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation. After this stage, further submissions will be only at the request of the Inspector.

I have previously commented on the main modifications for policy HO11 Gypsy Travellers and attended the Inspection meeting 19th Jan 2016 for further details please refer to AWAZ Cumbria correspondence with the Council on the subject matter: Carlisle District Local Plan Examination Matter 4.

AWAZ Cumbria actively engage with the members of Gypsy and Travellers communities in Carlisle and support a range of community development initiatives as well as provide public policy advocacy support on the issues affecting black and ethnic minority communities across the county.

AWAZ Cumbria has been in communication with the Council on this subject matter since 11 May 2015 when we enquired from the Council via e-mail:

“Good afternoon. Would it be possible for you to advise or signpost me to the relevant officer in the Council who can help with the information about the Council plan to develop traveller provision (Permanent and temporary pitches) as per the needs of the community during 2015/16 or onward. Do we have enough spaces available to meet the needs of Carlisle G&T community on the existing site provisions?

What is the Council allocation or letting policy for G&T Community on Council owned/allocated G&T site provisions?

In response to the AWAZ e-mail the Council’s responsible officer replied that “In brief current permanent provision in the district is 75 pitches, plus 30 transit. The 2013 countywide GTAA identified the need for 15 additional permanent pitches in the District over a 15 year period; six of which have already been delivered. The Local Plan makes provision for the remaining nine permanent pitches.

The 2013 GTAA identified need for up to 50 pitches across the county; (up to 8 transit pitches in the district) based on the incidence of unauthorised encampments between 2010/13.

The Council’s 15 pitch permanent site at Low Harker Dene is managed by Home Space. There is a needs based allocation policy.

Following this response AWAZ has facilitated a meeting of the representatives of the Gypsy and Travellers Community and the Council on 7th August 2015. The members of the G&T community shared their concerns with the Council regarding the erroneous methodological basis of 2013 GTAA and the lack of engagement with the community.

Over a dozen members of the community in the meeting informed the Council that they were present in Carlisle at the time of the survey conducted to inform 2013 GTAA. Majority of them are current or former residents of Council’s authorised permanent and temporary G&T sites in Carlisle.

They do not recall anyone contacted them to participate in the survey. For further details please note the failure of the 2013 GTAA to survey the many families living on the transit area at Hadrians Camp (as recorded on page 131 GTAA point D.18).

Furthermore, in their view “the 2013 GTAA is not worth the piece of paper it is written on” as it is by and large based on creative accounting of participants numbers and does not meet the standards of the valid qualitative data sampling principles. The community challenges the accuracy of the data and does not believe that this 2013 GTAA truly reflects the needs of the community based on adequate input from the members of the community. The survey was conducted by any organisation that has serious conflict of interest with regards to the outcome of the report. Around the time of research the same organisation has been failing on HCA’s Affordable Homes Programme to develop/deliver pitches in Cumbria. Most of the Districts across

Cumbria failed to identify appropriate land/sites within the HCA's timescale to spend the grant. It is a widely held perception within G&T community that the Home Space Sustainable Accommodation CIC has engineered the data to show there is less demand and need to provide pitches for G&T community to create an excuse for most of the Districts to cover up their failings in identifying land/site in their local development plans.

The authors of the 2013 GTAA report have failed to carry out appropriate checks with regards to the conflict of interest of their survey agent HSSA CIC. Furthermore, they were unable to demonstrate the validity of the respondents' data with regards to the diversity profile of the respondent's e.g. age profile and their geographical location post code map.

Since the publication of the Carlisle District Local Plan Schedule of main modification in March 2016 over 25 members of the Gypsy and Travellers community have contacted AWAZ Cumbria through their local community group and ask to make this representation.

The members of the Gypsy and Travellers community in Carlisle and those who have current or prospective family relations in Carlisle do not consider that the main modifications proposed address all the concerns raised and discussed at various meetings and communications with the Council.

In their view the proposed Policy HO11 does not address all the concerns raised at various meetings including the EIP on 19th Jan 2016.

The members of the community has serious concerns that no modifications are proposed or considered necessary to the level of permanent pitches planned for nor were any additional sites identified as being required in response to the levels of need set out in the Plan.

The 2013 GTAA recommended level of need is based on erroneous methodological assumptions and reliance on turnover. Furthermore, the Council has failed to factor in the number of unauthorised encampments during the last 3 years. A snapshot of the reported unauthorized encampments during August 2014 – Dec 2015 in Carlisle District is attached. The number of caravans in these unauthorised encampment incidents during this short period of time clearly demonstrate that the use of flawed 2013 GTAA by the Council as the only evidence in its proposed Carlisle District Local Plan Schedule of main modification recommendation would adversely impact on the life chances of the Gypsy and Travellers community.

The members of the G&T Community have serious concerns with regard to the lack of choice and provision for any provisions for the development of small private G&T sites to address the need.

The proposed concentrations of new pitches at Lower Harker site seriously concern the community. This site lack public transport links and is in very close proximity of an electrical sub-station which could be hazardous for the health and wellbeing of many people living on this site with specific medical conditions.

Furthermore, AWAZ Cumbria has serious concerns that the Council has not demonstrated due regard to meet the three aims of the public sector equality duty under Equality Act 2010, particularly race equality outcomes by mitigating adverse impact on Gypsy and Travellers community with regards to the proposed Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030 Schedule of main modifications.

Therefore, we suggest that the Council should take 'Positive Action' and allow flexible provision within the Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030 Schedule of main modifications to allay genuine concerns of the Gypsy and Travellers community and proactively engage with the community to identify their needs and allocate appropriate site provision that is reflective of the diversity of needs and choice.

Q5. Please set out what alternative/additional change(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to the test you have identified at Q3 above where this relates to soundness. You will need to say why this change will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward suggested revised wording. Please be as precise as possible:

The Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-30 should make clear that there are concerns with the assumptions made in the GTAA and that until this is revisited and monitoring can prove what level of turnover actually occurs and how many pitches this has potential to yield, there is uncertainty over the scale of immediate need.

The needs of the families living on what is supposed to be the transit area at Hadrians Camp needs to be taken into consideration

Provision should be made for more private sites in accordance with the findings in the GTAA.

The Council should consider the number of unauthorised encampments in assessing the needs.

Q6. Do you have any comments on the supporting documents, such as the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum or the Habitats Regulations Assessment Addendum?

The Gypsy and Travellers community has concerns that they haven't been made aware of the existence of the Health Impact Assessment of Lower Harker site. AWAZ Cumbria would like to have a copy of the HIA for the current G&T site at Lower Harker and for the proposed development.

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Q7. Any issues raised on the Main Modifications will be considered as written representations by the Inspector. Further hearing sessions will only be scheduled exceptionally. However please indicate whether you wish to appear at an examination hearing session if necessary?

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Thank you for your time to complete and return this Representation form.
Please keep a copy for future reference.**

AWAZ Cumbria – Consultation Response

The Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2013

Proposed Main Modifications (March 2016)

Appendix- 1

Unauthorised encampments in Carlisle Aug 2014 – Dec 2015

S.No	Unauthorised Encampments detail	No of Caravans
1	Unauthorised Encampment Show field Carpark off Gilt Road Brampton Arrived : 24/08/2014 Intended stay : 27/08/2015 No of persons : 3 Families with 3 children	No of caravans : 6
	Unauthorized Encampment on Cooper way Clifford Court, Carlisle Kingstown. Inspection: 23/10/2014 one member of the family has a hospital appointment out of the Carlisle area	No of Caravans: ??
2	Unauthorised encampment in a lay-by, approximately 2 miles outside Longtown on the A7 . Arrived: unknown Inspection: 05/05/2015 Showman family (mother and daughter age 13yr)	2 large trailers with fairground rides on and 2 caravans
3	unauthorised encampments of Travellers on 57C Kingstown Carlisle Arrived: unknown Inspection: 07/05/2015 6 Adults and 6 children (under 10)	No of caravans: 3 caravans
4	Unauthorised encampment on the Devonshire Walk Car Park (Carlisle) Arrived: 14/07/15 Intended stay: 1 week No. of persons: 1 family consisting of 2 Adults, 3 Children (none under 5)	No. of Caravans: 2
5	Unauthorised encampment on the village green at Newtown Village (near Irthington)	No. of Caravans: 1

	Arrived: 17/07/15 Intended stay: Not known No. of persons: Not known	No. of cars: 1
6	Unauthorised Encampment Devonshire Walk Car Park Arrived: 12/08/15 Intended stay: Not known, wouldn't confirm No. of persons: 4 Families with 9 Children	No. of Caravans: 8
7	Unauthorised encampment on land between Deepdale Drive and Dalston Road, Carlisle, 24 th August 2015	No of Caravans/vehicles 19
8	Unauthorised Encampment on Council Car Park Lower Viaduct Carlisle Arrived 26/8/15 pm 5.0clock Intended stay Next 24 Hours	No of caravans 20 No of cars 9
9	Unauthorised Encampment on Council Car Park Town Dyke Orchard Car park, Carlisle 3/9/15	Caravans 20 Cars 12
10	unauthorised encampment on Clarks Field playing fields off Etterby Lea Road. Arrived: 21/09/15 Intended stay: Not known, wouldn't confirm No. of persons: 9 adults and 2 children visible at time of visit. Wouldn't confirm exact numbers.	No. of Caravans: 14
11	unauthorised encampment at the end of Cooper Way, CA3 0JG Arrived: 01/10/15 No. of persons: 2 adults and 3 children (one under 5 and two 5-16 year olds)	No. of Caravans: 1
12	Unauthorised encampment on Devonshire Walk: Arrived 3/12/2015 Intended Stay—Not known (they stated that they would stay there until they had secured a site).	No of caravans 3 No of Vehicles 2