SUBMISSION FROM ORKNEY ISLANDS COUNCIL

At this point in time, the Council has no official sites for Gypsy / Travellers nor does our emerging Orkney Local Development Plan make any provision. The reasoning for this Development Planning approach is that Orkney Islands Council does not presently have any identified housing need for Gypsy / Travellers.

Scottish Planning Policy states that the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers for appropriate accommodation should be considered through the Housing Needs and Demand Assessment and the Local Housing Strategy.

The emerging Housing Needs and Demand Assessment for Orkney states that, "Migration of Travellers to and from Orkney is negligible with only 1 family known to arrive on the island each summer. Because of this no further work has been done in this assessment in the field of travellers, as this population group simply does not exist in real numbers on the islands and therefore we have established that there is no housing need in this area."

Stuart West
Planning Manager
Development and Marine Planning
Orkney Islands Council
14 June 0212