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Planning & Building Control Consultancy
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Project:
MR J WARD – LAND SOUTH OF NEW
ACRE STABLES, WOLVERHAMPTON
ROAD, PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE. ST19
5PA

By:
MCC

Date:
14/1/2024
Revision:

PUBLIC INQUIRY REQUEST STATEMENT

APPEAL SITE: LAND SOUTH OF NEW ACRE STABLES, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD,
PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE. ST19 5PA

ENFORCEMENT NOTICE DEVELOPMENT: WITHOUT PLANNING PERMISSION, THE MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE
OF LAND TO A USE FOR THE STATIONING OF A CARAVAN FOR
RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES ON THE LAND

APPELLANT: MR JOHN WARD ON BEHALF MS DONNA WARD

PLANNING AGENT: MR MIKE CARR MSc MRTPI – MAT DESIGN LIMITED

MR WARD REQUEST FOR A PUBLIC INQUIRY

This public inquiry request statement seeks to set out the reasons as to why we consider that such an inquiry would allow Local Planning Authority (LPA) Officers, Councillor's, other interested parties, and the appellant can provide direct evidence to the Planning Inspector in relation to:

- The appellants Gypsy & Traveller cultural status and the changes made to the PPTS in December 2023,
- The reasons that this development on the land has been carried,
- The long term and prejudicial approach by the LPA towards persons who have a Gypsy & Traveller cultural status, through a complete and utter failure of planning policy attached to the provision of land and development opportunities for persons who have Gypsy & Traveller cultural status,
- The long term and prejudicial approach by the LPA towards persons who have a Gypsy & Traveller cultural status, through the planning decisions made over an extended period,
- The temporary planning permissions and the welfare and human rights of the occupiers and their children
- The welfare and human rights of the appellant and her children,
- The welfare and human rights of the occupiers and their children of the other land to the north,

- The complete lack of alternative suitable places to live in the South Staffordshire Borough (CWAC),
- The significant numbers of pitches that are needed in the Borough, as set out in the South Staffordshire GTAA 2021, which has increased due to the changes to the PPTS,
- The failure of the LPA to positively plan for or identify (in any way) suitable opportunities to ensure that persons with a Gypsy & Traveller status have the same opportunities and life chances of other members of the South Staffordshire community,
- The Local Plan Preferred Options document (2021) identifies at paragraph 5.8 that *“the strategy for new Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Snowperson provision is to meet the needs of existing families that meet Planning Policy for Travellers Sites (PPTS) planning definition, as identified by the GTAA 2021 **by continuing to deliver privately owned sites/pitches**. The evidence supports an approach therefore of looking to allocate existing temporary or unauthorised sites to permanent (subject to other planning considerations) and looking to intensify and extend existing sites, rather than allocating wholly new sites that may have been suggested by non-travellers. It is currently not possible to test an alternative strategy of dispersing new pitch allocations more widely across the district due to a lack of site options, however we welcome views on whether there are any alternative approaches that have not been considered”*.
- The approach that is set out above is inconsistent with the approach taken towards the settled community in terms of housing deliver in the Borough, including the green belt,
- Such approaches, as listed above, by the LPA are contradictory and in conflict with their Public Sector Equalities Duty (Equality Act 2010) and towards the human rights of the appellant and her children and others,
- Such an approach by the LPA (as listed above) towards persons with a Gypsy & Traveller status has and continues to be prejudicial, and we consider that when this is considered in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework, the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010 direct evidence should and must be provided so the planning reasons given the LPA to justify the issuing of the enforcement notice can be considered and balanced against the prejudicial failures that are set out in this public inquiry request;

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- If necessary, the requested Inquiry could suitably combine the appellants new applications to remove the time limited condition and the planning application to extend the site to the north and,
- Overall, when the Human Rights Act was passed in 1998, this legislation seeks to let any person to defend their rights and compels public organisations – including the Government, police, and local councils – to treat everyone equally, with fairness, dignity and respect. The requested public inquiry would allow some of these issues to be considered openly and fairly for the Planning Inspector to consider.

For the above-mentioned reasons, we consider that the requested Public Inquiry is in the public interest, and we would ask that this request is accepted and agreed.