

Local Plan modifications representation

FPLPM597566507

Crawley Local Plan

Part A personal details

Title	Mrs.
First name	Alison
Last name	Heine
Organisation	Heine Planning
Is the address	Outside Crawley, or not found
Flat name or number	10 WHITEHALL DRIVE, HARTFORD, NORTHWICH
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Neighbourhood	HARTFORD
Town	NORTHWICH
County	Cheshire
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Has a planning agent been appointed?	No

Part B your representation

Which document would you like to make a representation on?	Crawley Borough Local Plan Main Modifications
Enter the Main Modification reference number that this representation relates to	mm28/29
Which policy or paragraph in the Local Plan does this representation relate to?	Other
Please give details using the Schedule of Main Modifications	gypsy traveller policy
Legally compliant?	No
Sound?	No

Please give details explaining your response

There is no evidence to suggest the 2014 GTAA overestimated need. CBC fail to acknowledge that failure to address this need has led to outmigration and families seeking planning permission for small private sites elsewhere including Rusper for the Maloney family who used to live in bricks and mortar in Crawley. If CBC had made efforts to contact the Irish Traveller families who live in housing in Crawley they would have established that there remains a need for caravan pitches. In migration is an additional need for families, some of whom have been displaced from Crawley and had to look elsewhere. There is a pressing need for more socially provided sites in this part of the SE region. There are large waiting lists for socially provided sites . There are families with a need for sites in adjoining districts such as Reigate and Banstead and Tandridge. CBC has not tested this need as it has no such site and there is no point Travellers applying for pitches on a site that does not have planning permission and which the Council has no real intention of providing. Those in housing in Crawley have no choice but to apply for sites in other districts. The Highway costs for Broadfield Kennels have not been made public. Requests to CBC to acquire this site for those with a need have been ignored/ overlooked. If CBS is not willing to release this land for private sites they must ensure they deliver it themselves and sort out grants and funding. But as the MM notes, the immediate need is for small privately owned family sized pitches for households who do not want to live on a socially rented site or on a site with other families. These families have experienced living on large, problematic, overcrowded, poorly managed socially provided sites and they want to self provide so that they do not have to experience the problems so often associated with council sites. They want security of tenure. They want affordable accommodation. The MM will fail to address the immediate existing need for small private sites and most worrying, CBC do not appear to realise this and do not appear willing to amend their policy as drafted to deliver what is needed. There is no commitment or timetable to deliver the so called Reserve Site. Its v title is indicative of the fact it is not considered an allocation to meet the immediate known need. The in house GTAA has failed to identify the needs of those in bricks and mortar. The Council has ignored the need in neighbouring authorities which could justify Broadfield kennels. The problem in CBC is policy was not informed by an uptodate need assessment . The GTAA was completed after policy was drafted and submitted for examination. It is really hard not to conclude that the Council is trying to justify policy as drafted, is ignoring evidence of need for private pitches and is failing to address the need that they know exists by relying on a site they appear to have no intention, of delivering. In the meantime families in Crawley have to go elsewhere for pitches and those displaced can not return and the Council is chosing to ignore evidence to support this and is leaving all the hard work to neighbouring authorities where need is much greater. This is not sound policy. It is not PPTS compliant. It is kicking the can down the road in the hope it gets squashed and never returns.

Please set out what modification(s) you consider necessary to resolve the issues you have identified above

Need to address immediate need and identify land for small private sites for those resorting to Crawley Need to commit to delivering a socially provided site for those in housing who do not wish to remain living in bricks and mortar and those on waiting lists for socially provided sites in the wider area, and explain how and when Broadfield Kennels will be provided/ funded. Need to contact Travellers in housing to identify their future need for pitches and not rely on neighbouring councils to meet need arising in Crawley.

Form submitted by:

Mrs. Alison Heine on 19/03/2024