

### Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	Travellers Sites Development Plan Document (DPD) – Commission consultants Arc 4 to provide specialist support for progressing the Travellers Sites DPD towards adoption.
<b>Date of decision:</b>	22 January 2018
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Richard Gabb
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	The chief executive’s scheme of delegation
<b>Ward:</b>	All wards
<b>Consultation:</b>	No consultation is required for this as it is required specialist technical input required for progressing the Traveller Sites DPD towards adoption. There have been a number of consultation stages throughout the preparation of the DPD.
<b>Decision made:</b>	To commission technical support in preparation for submission of the Travellers DPD and during the examination of the plan.
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	Arc 4 were commissioned to prepare the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment which is part of the evidence base for the Travellers Sites DPD. The GTAA was recently subject to consultation as part of the pre-submissions consultation process. Objections to the methodology and conclusions of the GTAA have been received and the Council needs to provide a response to these prior to submission of the DPD to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination. As Arc4 prepared the GTAA it is appropriate that they assist in the review of the objections made to it. Furthermore It is likely that hearings will take place as part of the examination process and that the GTAA will be one of the topics for discussion at the hearing sessions. The specification for the GTAA included a requirement to attend any examination hearings if required. Therefore it is appropriate to authorize the attendance of Arc 4 to support the council’s position.
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	Budget provision is available for the preparation and examination of the Travellers Sites DPD. The cost of specialist support by Arc 4 for this is anticipated to be £1,500. The approval of the DPD is a key part of the Council’s Equality Policy 2017-2019.
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	The examination of the Travellers Sites DPD by a Planning Inspector appointed by the Planning Inspectorate is a statutory requirement of the relevant legislation. (The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.)
<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None

Signed..... Date:.....