

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Housing Portfolio Holder

17 November 2010

AUTHOR/S: Executive Director, Operational Services /Corporate Manager, Affordable Homes

TRAVELLERS' ISSUES UPDATE

Purpose

1. To update the Housing Portfolio Holder regarding grant funding to upgrade the Gypsy and Travellers site at Blackwell Farm, Milton.

Recommendation

2. That the Portfolio Holder notes the report.

Background

3. The site is owned by Cambridgeshire County Council and is managed by this Council.
4. The Homes and Communities Agency invited bids from across the region for the improvement of Gypsy and Traveller sites. A bid was submitted by the Council to the HCA on behalf of the County Council.
5. The Council has now been informed that it has been successful in its bid and subject to conditions; it will receive funding to enable the refurbishment of the site units and infrastructure. The total value of the grant is £894,000.

Considerations

6. Cambridgeshire County Council has appointed a project manager to oversee the work required.
7. Residents will be fully consulted and kept informed throughout the duration of the work and the County will continue to work in partnership with the Council.
8. Work will start on site following a planning application to be made in February 2011 and completion of the project is expected by December 2011.

Implications

9.	Financial	None for the Council. The grant will be paid to the Council and passed on in full to the County Council.
	Legal	None
	Staffing	None
	Risk Management	The project management will be the responsibility of the County Council and their appointed project manager.
	Equality and Diversity	The project supports the Council's commitment to addressing the needs of the most vulnerable in the community
	Equality Impact As-	No

Assessment completed	
Climate Change	All work will aim to be carbon neutral and ensure that the day units on the site achieve greater thermal efficiency and reduce carbon emissions

Consultations

10. The residents of the site have been consulted on the proposal.

Effect on Strategic Aims

11. This project supports the aim of the Council by ensuring that South Cambridgeshire continues to be a safe and healthy place for people and families to live.

Conclusions / Summary

12. To note the contents of the update report

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

None

Contact Officer: Anita L Goddard – Housing Operational Services Manager
Telephone: (01954) 713040