



Local Plan (2021-2040)

Policy LP33 Park Homes Caravans and Houseboats: Explanatory Note

July 2025





1. Meeting the Needs for other Forms of Accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

- 1.1 The [Planning Policy for Traveller Sites](#) (PPTS) and the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) sets out the requirements for the provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- 1.2 The Government's overarching aim is to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.
- 1.3 The PPTS broadly breaks down the needs for gypsies and travellers into two parts:
 1. Those who meet the planning definition for a gypsy and traveller; and
 2. Those that do not meet the planning definition for a gypsy and traveller.
- 1.4 Under the PPTS and the [Housing and Planning Act](#) (2016), Local Planning Authorities should assess the accommodation needs for both these parts in their Housing Needs Assessment and Local Plan policies.
- 1.5 For those gypsies or travellers who meet the planning definition, the Local Plan is required to meet the first five years' worth of accommodation via allocations and provide a policy framework for determining planning applications thereafter. Policy LP32 within the Local Plan provide such allocations and policy framework.

Households that do not meet the Planning Definition

- 1.6 For those households who fall outside of the planning definition of a traveller or those travellers who wish to reside in alternative types of accommodation, the PPTS and the Housing and Planning Act (2016) also includes a duty that requires local authorities to consider the needs of people residing in or resorting to their area with respect to the provision of sites on which caravans can be stationed, or places on inland waterways where houseboats can be moored.
- 1.7 The implication is therefore that the housing needs of any gypsy and traveller households who do not meet the planning definition of a Traveller will need to be assessed as part of the wider housing needs of the area and will form a subset of the wider need arising from households residing in caravans or houseboats. This is echoed in the NPPF (2024).

Policy LP33: Park Homes, Caravans and Houseboats

- 1.8 Policy LP33, along with other housing related policies, provides the framework for those gypsies and travellers who do not meet the planning definition, but wish to live



in a park home, caravan or houseboat. This Policy also applies to any individuals who wish to live in a park home, caravan or a houseboat.

- 1.9 This Policy should also be read in conjunction with other relevant policies within the plan when determining any planning application. For example, LP25: Sites in Areas of Flood Risk.