

Relates to paragraph number(s)  
Policy Number(s) DM6

**8. Please give details of why you consider that the Core Strategy/Sustainability Appraisal/Proposals Map is not legally compliant or is unsound. Please be as precise as possible.**

**If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Core Strategy/Sustainability Appraisal/Proposals Map, please use this box to comment.**

Policy DM6

This policy is generally acceptable though we have concerns with the way that Rural Exceptions are dealt with. We welcome the inclusion of Rural Exceptions which implicitly recognises the problems which face Gypsies and Travellers in acquiring a supply of affordable and available land for their needs. Circular 1/2006 recognises this (para 47) but also recognises that there is not a general presumption against development in rural and semi-rural areas (para 54).

As it stands para B Rural Exceptions would exclude Gypsies and Traveller who do not have an existing connection with the settlement in question from gaining planning permission.

PPS3 para 30 certainly highlights the importance of meeting local needs but does not rule out others who would also ensure *'that rural areas continue to develop as sustainable, mixed, inclusive communities'*.

Circular 1/2006 points out that criteria such as 'applications from gypsies and travellers with no local connections will not normally be allowed' conflict with the fact that:

*'Gypsies and travellers are by their nature nomadic and so will not always have local connections'* (p22)

In addition PPS 3 (para 30) indicates that housing in rural exception sites must be affordable and 'Rural exception sites should only be used for affordable housing in perpetuity.'

Unless all gypsy