



**Central Lancashire Local Plan 2023 - 2041
Regulation 19 Consultation, February 2025**

**Representation 4
On behalf of Michael and Patty Linfoot
Relating to Paragraph 4.103**

1.0 Why the Plan is Unsound

- 1.1 The statement at paragraph 4.103 that: *'The authorised site at Hut Lane has been allocated and it is envisaged that future family needs arising from that site over the plan period can be met within the site'* is incorrect and misleading.
- 1.2 It has long been acknowledged that the Linfoot / Bird family who occupy 2 Heath Paddock have needs which exceed the capacity of the existing site. The Central Lancashire GTAA, January 2014 identified a need for 5 pitches in Chorley based on the needs of the Linfoot / [REDACTED]. The Council consulted on options for a Traveller site and concluded it should be within the (non-Green Belt) Cowling Farm development. In May 2015 the Local Plan Inspector found that the estimate of need for 5 pitches was probably too low, but allowed the plan to be adopted based on the allocation of the site with at least 5 pitches at Cowling Farm, and a commitment to revisit the needs assessment. The updated Central Lancashire GTAA, June 2015 found a need for 10 pitches for Gypsies & Travellers in Chorley. The need identified was principally for the Linfoot / [REDACTED]



- 1.3 The Linfoot [REDACTED] were granted a sequence of temporary permissions on 2 Heath Paddock because it was assumed they would be able to relocate to Cowling Farm. It was eventually established that development of a Traveller site at Cowling Farm was not viable, which led to 2, Heath Paddock being granted permanent permission.
- 1.4 The authorised site at 2, Heath Paddock is developed as an extended family site, which means that equating the provision with pitch numbers is approximate. Having said that, Mr and Mrs Linfoot are happy with the way the site is described site at Table 4.5 of the 2024 GTAA: as providing accommodation for the equivalent of four households on three pitches.
- 1.5 The site is fully occupied. This is shown in the site plan at Annex 2 which was submitted with planning application 24/00557/FUL. The permission allows the siting of up to seven caravans, of which no more than three can be mobile homes.
- 1.6 Currently the site provides accommodation for three households: Mr and Mrs Linfoot and their three sons; [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
- 1.7 The Linfoot's eldest son is getting married this year, which will create a fourth household. The age of the young people means there is a significant likelihood of others marrying in the coming years and needing their own accommodation. In addition, [REDACTED] who is in poor health, and they would like to be able to offer her room on the site.
- 1.8 This means the family needs accommodation equating to five to six additional pitches in addition to what the current site provides. However, reflecting the way in which they live as an extended family and use the space flexibility to provide for family member's needs, if they are able to acquire 1 Heath Paddock they will develop the land so it provides all or most of the accommodation they need.
- 1.9 The incorrect and misleading statement at paragraph 4.103 *'that future family needs arising from that site over the plan period can be met within the site'* means that the Plan is not positively prepared. It will contribute to ensuring the plan will not meet the area's needs. It is not justified: an appropriate strategy

taking into account reasonable alternatives and based on proportionate evidence. It is not consistent with national policy, enabling the delivery of sustainable development.

2.0 **Actions**

2.1 In the following paragraphs we suggest a replacement for the first sentence of paragraph 4.103. The words in bold represent suggested text. The paragraph headed comments provide justification for the text we suggest.

2.2 Modify the first sentence of paragraph 4.103 to read: '**Allocating and developing 1 and 2 Heath Paddock, Hut Lane as an extended family site will contribute significantly to meeting the family's needs over the plan period.**'

Comments

2.3 While 1 and 2 Heath Paddock will be able to provide for the family's current needs, depending on how the extended family evolves over time, in the longer term they may have additional needs.