

Item No:	Classification: OPEN	Date: 3 December 2012	Meeting Name: Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:		Call-in of IDM: A new written statement (agreement) for Council Gypsy and Traveller sites	
Ward(s) or Group affected:		All	
From:		Head of Overview & Scrutiny	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. On 14 November 2012 the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing Management considered a report setting out a new written statement (agreement) for council gypsy and traveller sites and therein approved the new Southwark Council traveller site pitch agreement

REASONS FOR CALL-IN

2. On 21 November 2012 the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Councillor Cathy Bowman - and three members of the committee (Councillors David Hubber, David Noakes and Paul Noblet) requested a call-in of the decision on the following grounds:
 - consultation - no responses were obtained from the travellers
 - respect for human rights - the DCLG guidelines states landlords should allow a minimum of 8 weeks permitted time away. Why is Southwark arbitrarily setting the limit below this? Allowing such a brief time away from Southwark sites is likely to impinge on the travellers' right to enjoy a gypsy way of life.

CALL-IN MEETING

3. The committee will consider the call-in request and in particular whether or not the decision might be contrary to the policy framework or not wholly in accordance with the budget.
4. If, having considered the decision and all relevant advice, the committee is still concerned about it then it may either:
 - a) refer it back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns, or
 - b) Refer the matter to council assembly if the decision is deemed to be outside the policy and budget framework.
5. If the committee does not refer the matter back to the decision making person or body, the decision shall take effect on the date of the scrutiny meeting.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held at	Contact
Report to Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing Management	160 Tooley Street London SE1 2TZ	Sean Usher Constitutional Team 020 7525 5338

APPENDICES
Report and Appendices

Audit Trail

Lead Officer	Shelley Burke, Head of Overview & Scrutiny	
Report Author		
Version	Final	
Dated	23 November 2012	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included