

**CABINET MEMBER FOR WASTE, PROPERTY AND ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
CONTROL SERVICES - CLLR TOBY STURGIS**

HOUSING

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REFERENCE: WPED-005-12 INTENTION

**WPED-005-12 - OPTION ON LAND ADJACENT TO THINGLEY
TRAVELLER SITE**

Purpose of Report

To seek authority to exercise an option held by the council to purchase 4.24 Ha (10.472 acres) of land adjacent to the existing gypsy and traveller site at Thingley near Chippenham.

Consultation

Consultation on the proposals for the development of this site have taken place with the residents on the site, the local Member and the Area Board Chair.

Options Considered

1. Not to exercise the option
2. To exercise the option

Reason for Decision

Exercising the option on the land adjacent to Thingley will, subject to planning permission being obtained, allow the council to deliver 8 additional local authority managed pitches and allow the refurbishment of the existing 23 pitches on the site to a higher standard of living and reducing ongoing maintenance costs, subject to the approval of a further report. This will meet the aims set out in both the Gypsy and Traveller Strategy and the Core Strategy for the provision of new pitches.

There is sufficient funding within the existing capital budget to cover the remaining costs of purchasing the site.

INTENTION TO MAKE DECISION

Following consultation with officers I give notice that I intend to make the decision set out in the attached report. If you would like to make any representations to me on this issue please do so by 28th May, 2012.

The following supporting document is attached:

WPED-005-12 - Report

Date: ...18th May, 2012.....

Cllr Toby Sturgis
Cabinet Member for Waste, Property and
Environment and Development Control Services