



CASE 1

A group of commercial Irish Travellers with around 20 caravans and an assortment of vans and lorries arrive in your area late in the evening and manage to access the car park that serves the Council's main offices. The Council's duty officer is advised around 2300. What immediate and subsequent actions would your Authority take to deal with this situation?

CASE 2

A Gypsy family has had land in the family for several generations. Three adult siblings and their children have recently been evicted from a private rented site in the area that is being sold and turned into executive homes. They have moved onto the family land to have somewhere to stay where the children can continue to attend the same school. They have contacted your planning department and are preparing a retrospective planning application. Your LHA has no homes or stopping places for Gypsies at the moment, although a land search has begun. Are these people homeless? Should they have acted differently? What could LPAs / LHAs do as a matter of policy to proactively support a better situation?

CASE 3

A single Gypsy family of two adults and three children aged 2, 4 and 7 have acquired at auction, an old apple orchard on the edge of a small rural village. The site is adjacent to the last houses in the village and comprises around 3 acres with an existing access off a small lane and a number of elderly wooden sheds. The site is well screened except for the access point but is overlooked by 3 properties on small ridge about ¼ mile away. The village has become aware of the status of the family and at a packed and very heated Parish Council meeting they, led by two of the residents from the overlooking

properties, have demanded immediate action by the Council to stop any move by the family to occupy the site. The family are currently living locally on the edge of a bridleway remote from any village on an old section of redundant Highway land. What is the Council's response?

CASE 4

Twenty years ago, some families bought land pulled on the site and were refused retrospective planning consent. Families on either side purchased and gained planning consent for stables. In time, this use was changed to bungalows. There are also consents for mobile homes in the immediate area. The original families would like to reapply for planning consent for their homes. How would you advise them?

CASE 5

You have been made aware of a small group of English Gypsies comprising three families and three caravans have parked on the edge of an informal recreation area that you own close to a residential development. A resident's lobby group has formed and led by their Ward member they are demanding immediate action. What is your Council's response?

CASE 6

A group of New Travellers is parked up on land which is partly local authority land and partly forestry land. They are not near any buildings, but dog walkers have been complaining to you that they are afraid to walk their dogs. There is no clear evidence of reasons why, but that is the pressure you are receiving. Are these people homeless? Does your duty change if there are children onsite? What is your advice as to how to proceed?