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**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighborhoods)**

**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Subject: Gypsy and Travelers Site Provision within Leeds**

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**Electoral Wards Affected: All**

Ward Members consulted  
(referred to in report)

**Specific Implications For:**

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

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**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 At the last Scrutiny Board meeting Members referred briefly to the current gypsies and travellers issues particularly in relation to the Council's approach to unlawful encampments and the provision or otherwise of alternative sites by the Council.
- 1.2 Members asked that the final inquiry report and recommendations on gypsy and travellers sites which was published in April 2005 be submitted to today's meeting for reference. Members should be aware that this report was rejected by the Executive Board in its entirety. This report is attached for Members attention.
- 1.3 The Board also requested a brief report on the current position in order to determine whether or not a further Inquiry might be appropriate and necessary.

**2.0 Report of the Director of Environment and Neighborhoods**

- 2.1 The report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods is attached which sets out the current position for Members consideration.
- 2.2 Representatives from Environment and Neighborhoods and Corporate Governance will attend today's meeting to introduce the report and respond to members questions.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

#### 3.1 Members are asked to

- (1) Note the report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to assist in the Board's consideration of a further scrutiny inquiry in respect of relevant gypsy and travelers issues particularly in relation to unauthorised encampments including the question of the provision of alternative sites.
- (2) Receive the Scrutiny Board's inquiry report published in April 2005.
- (3) Determine what, if any, further information Members require in order to decide whether to undertake further scrutiny of this issue by way of an inquiry and request terms of reference to be prepared for consideration by the Board.

#### Background Papers

None