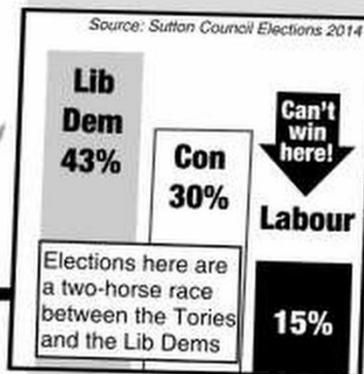


Sutton North Special **FOCUS**

News from Cllr Ruth Dombey, Cllr Marlene Heron and Cllr Steve Penneck



MP Paul Scully called out for scaremongering over Kimpton Traveller site

Sutton & Cheam MP Paul Scully has been found to be circulating misleading information claiming that a Traveller site is still on the cards for Kimpton.

Cllr Jayne McCoy, who chairs the committee that oversaw the development and Examination of the Sutton Local Plan and is referenced in the letter, made the following statement:

'Local Plan Examination confirms Kimpton not suitable for a Traveller site.

It is a great disappointment to learn that MP Paul Scully is circulating a letter to residents containing misleading and incorrect information regarding the recently approved Sutton Local Plan claiming a Traveller site at Kimpton is back on the table.

The facts are as follows:

As part of the initial consultation on the Sutton Local Plan, Sutton 2031, two potential sites were proposed as options to meet the need for Traveller sites over the fifteen year period of the plan, at Kimpton and in Wallington.

Residents responded in respect of both sites highlighting their unsuitability for development as Traveller sites. The council took account of the responses and was therefore able to make the case that to meet identified Traveller site need the only option was to expand the existing traveller site at Woodmansterne into Greenbelt.

At the Formal Examination in Public the Planning Inspector accepted that there were no suitable sites identified to meet need which meant that the Very Special Circumstances necessary to permit development on greenbelt land were met. The site at Kimpton is now safeguarded in the final Local Plan for burial space.

Expansion of the existing Travellers site at Woodmansterne would enable the council to meet the immediate predicted need for sites, and was acceptable to residents as confirmed by the further two rounds of consultation.

/Continued overleaf

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Your Sutton North Lib Dem team work hard all year round

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On a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high), how well do the following parties speak up for you?

Lib Dems	1	2	3	4	5
Labour	1	2	3	4	5
Conservative	1	2	3	4	5
UKIP	1	2	3	4	5
Green	1	2	3	4	5

What are your top three local issues?

Education	St Helier	Crime
Parking	Planning	Environment
Transport	Traffic	Parks

On a scale of 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) how well do you rate the work of Lib Dem-run Sutton Council?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

The council put the case at the Examination that the number of Travellers requiring pitches in the longer term was necessarily unpredictable due to the small numbers involved and the likelihood of fluctuation beyond the short term. The Inspector agreed with this, and so required a review of the expected pitch requirements in five years time. He made a similar requirement of the last Sutton Local Plan, as had been the case with other local authorities.

If that review does show a need for more pitches, then the council will have to consider new sites.

In light of this information the letter from the MP can be seen as ill-informed and unnecessarily scaremongering. I have asked the council's Strategic Planning Team to write to Mr Scully setting out the facts.

I hope that Mr Scully will be writing back to his constituents to correct his misleading information.'

Printed, published & promoted by P. Penneck on behalf of Sutton Liberal Democrats at rear of 694 London Road, Cheam, Sutton, SM3 9BY

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