

CABINET MEMBER FOR SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES

3 SEPTEMBER 2012

GYPSY & TRAVELLER SERVICE – REVIEW OF RENTS

Report by the Director of Social and Community Services

Introduction

1. Nine additional pitches have been constructed at the Redbridge Hollow Traveller site. This report seeks approval to set a rent for these new pitches.

Exempt Information

2. None

Review of Rents

3. The nine additional pitches have been constructed using grant from the Homes & Communities Agency in accordance with the Designing Gypsy & Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide published by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The facilities provided are of a significantly higher standard than the existing plots at Redbridge and other Oxfordshire County Council sites.
4. The weekly rental for the existing fifteen pitches at Redbridge is £63.00 per week. It is proposed that a rent of £90.00 per week is charged for the nine new pitches.

Financial and Staff Implications

5. Assuming full occupancy, the new pitches will generate gross income of £42,000 per annum. Additional utility and other costs are estimated to be in the region of £8,000. It is expected that residents will move on to all of the pitches as soon as they are available and they have signed pitch agreements.
6. There are no staff implications.

RECOMMENDATION

7. **The Cabinet Member for Safer and Stronger Communities is RECOMMENDED to approve a rent of £90.00 per week for nine new pitches at the Redbridge Hollow Traveller Site.**

JOHN JACKSON
Director of Social and Community Services

Background papers: None

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