

## **EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Reference No: 5/2012-13**

### **LEADER DECISION**

**Subject: Essex Countywide Traveller Unit – Representation**

#### **Decision:**

To appoint Councillor R Bassett as the District Council's non-voting representative at meetings of the Essex Countywide Traveller Unit for the municipal year 2012/13.

#### **Explanatory Notice:**

1. Essex County Council has created an Essex Countywide Traveller Unit (ECTU), which is aimed at providing a more efficient service to the Gypsy and Traveller community.
2. The Unit is a partnership made up of participating district, borough, city and unitary councils in the County, Essex Fire and Rescue Service, Essex Police, Essex Primary Care Trusts and Essex County Council.
3. The areas of activity for the ECTU include:
  - improving fire safety on sites
  - improving education outcomes
  - improving health and social care access
  - management of local authority sites
  - managing unauthorised encampments
  - reducing the risk of unauthorised developments
  - providing outreach services to authorised sites not under Essex County Council site management.
4. This Council informed Essex County Council that it did not wish to be a subscriber/full member to the Unit.
5. The County Council accepted this decision but responded that it would still welcome representation from this Council at meetings of the Unit having regard to its experience with gypsies and travellers. The County Council advised that if the District Council accepted this invitation its representative as a non subscriber/full member would be a non-voting member at meetings.
6. It is considered that attendance at meetings of the Unit could be beneficial to the District Council and Councillor Bassett has been appointed.

**Legal and Constitutional Powers:**

Local Government Act 2000  
Local Government etc Act 2007

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor C Whitbread  
Leader of the Council

Date: 6 September 2012

OCE/GL