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Date: 26 April 2011

Your ref:

My ref:

(submitted by email)

Dear Sir / Madam

**Homes and Communities Agency - 2011 -2015 Affordable Homes Programme (Traveller Pitch Funding)**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL  
Gypsy and Traveller Transit Site, Cannon Hill, Ferndown, Dorset**

Dorset County Council are currently developing plans for a new 25 pitch Gypsy and Traveller Transit site in the south east of Dorset and wish to submit this Expression of Interest for funding under the HCA 2001 - 2015 Affordable Homes Programme (Traveller Pitch Funding)

The proposed site is situated at Cannon Hill, adjacent to the A31, between Wimborne Minster and Ferndown in Dorset. An annotated aerial photograph of the location is provided showing the proposed site and its relationship with the surrounding environment. A draft annotated outline site plan is also provided, showing the proposed site design.

The need for a transit site in this area has been recognised for many years. The Dorset Gypsy and Traveller Needs Assessment indicates that there are significant seasonal variations to travelling patterns and levels of unauthorised camping along the A31 corridor in east Dorset. The proposed site is ideally positioned, next to a key transit route for Gypsies and Travellers (the A31). The site will provide the first formal transit location in Dorset and it is anticipated that it will considerably reduce the number of unauthorised encampments in the east / south east of Dorset

The land for the proposed site is currently owned by the Forestry Commission. Dorset County Council is negotiating a long term lease with the Forestry Commission, seeking an agreement of at least 25 years to ensure value for money. It is intended to adopt an innovative approach to the development of this site. It will incorporate a modular design to cater for unauthorised encampments of various sizes and will also enhance the wider site's environmental quality and landscape value, creating a local nature reserve. The site will also incorporate a high quality link for the Castleman Trailway, a medium distance recreational path.

Draft site design and appraisal has been completed and it is intended that the site will be included in the consultation on the emerging Dorset Gypsy and Traveller Sites Development Plan Document, due to commence in June 2011. Development could therefore commence later this financial year if funding permits. Expenditure to construct the site is estimated at approximately **£2.5 Million**.

**For further information, please contact**

**Primary contact**

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Yours sincerely

Richard Road

Richard Road

Business Development Manager





2005 Aerial Photograph

KEY:

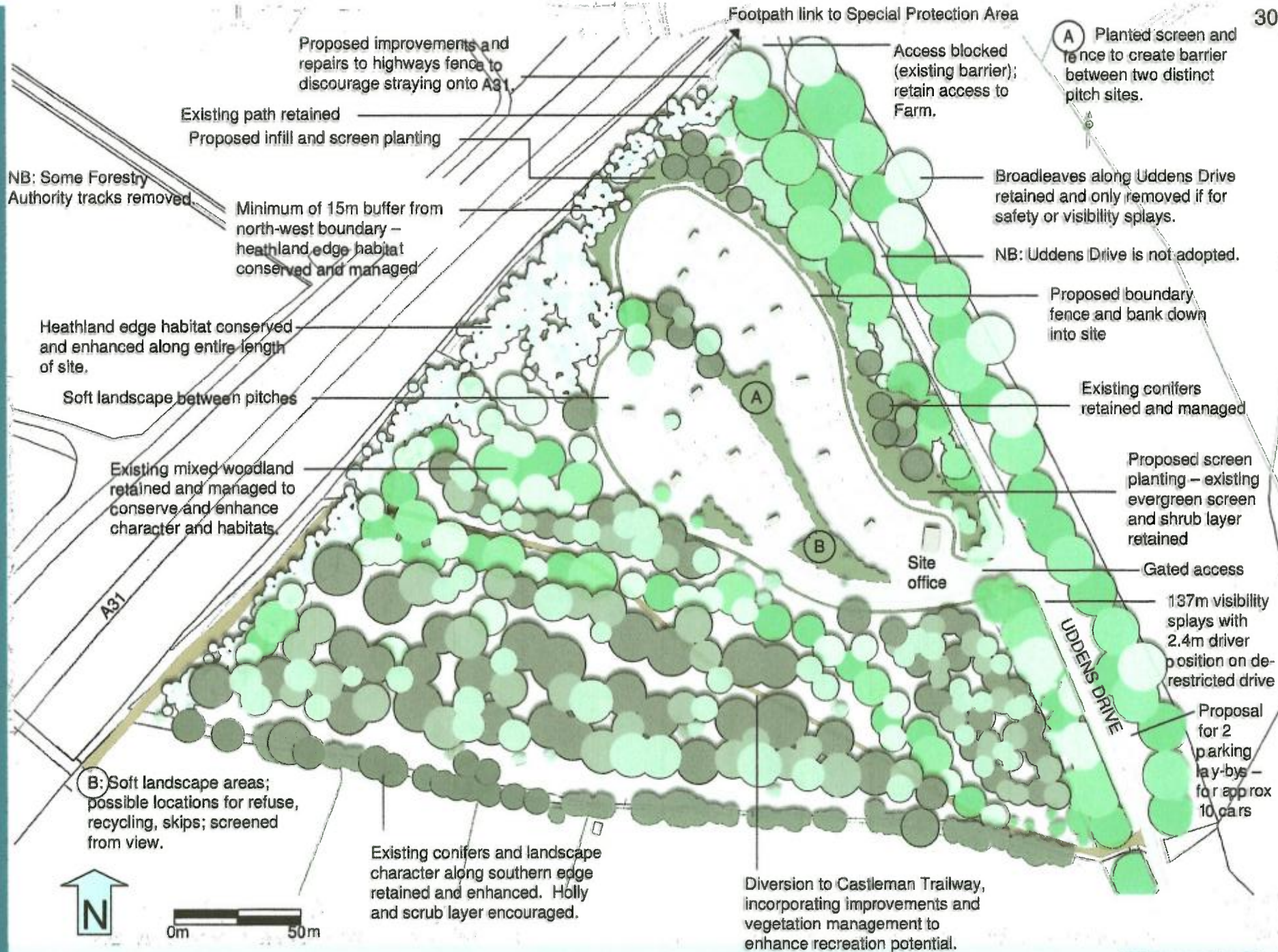


The Cannon Hill, Uddens Drive Site

**Landscape Appraisal**  
Existing Situation – Aerial Photograph





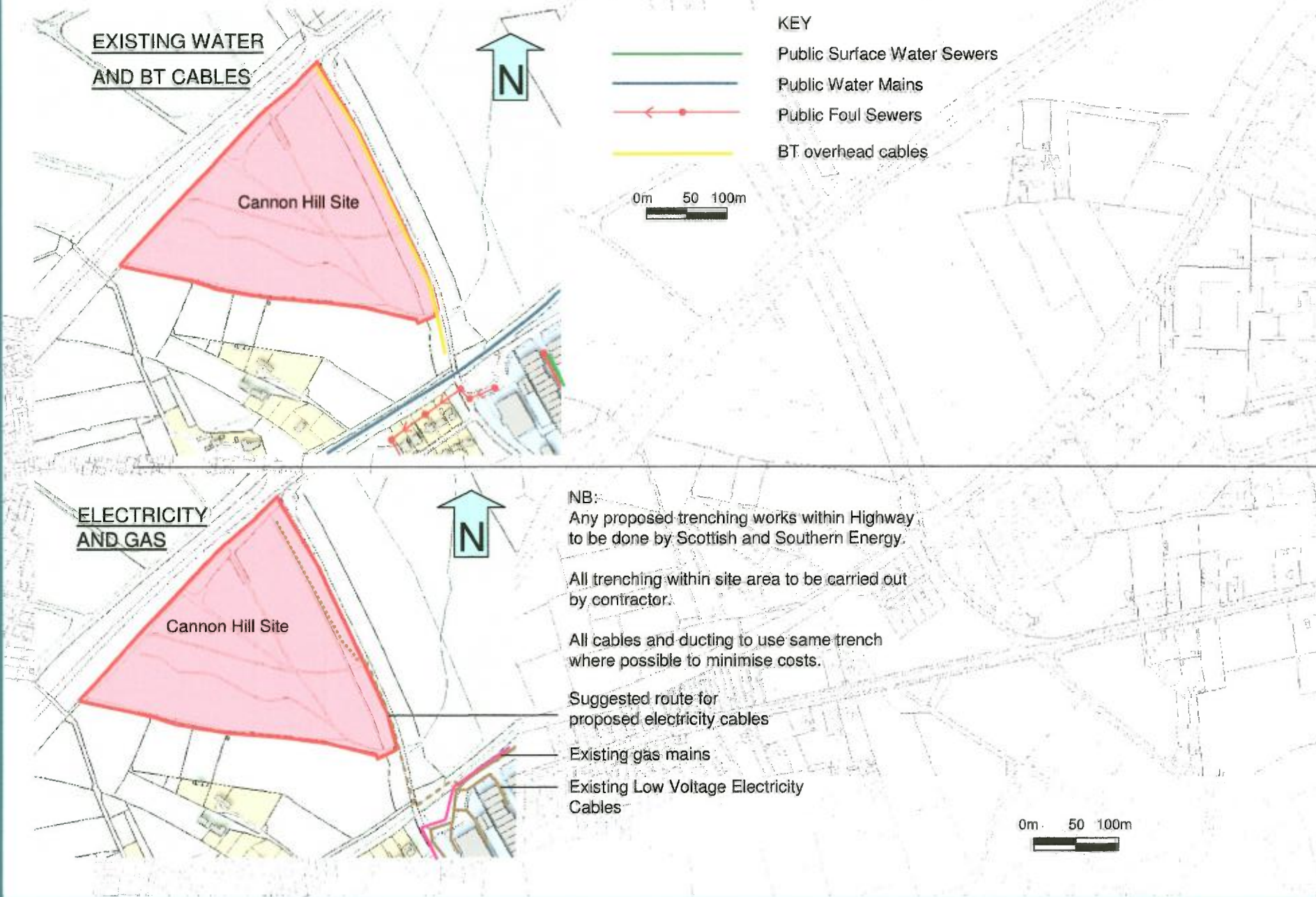


Landscape Appraisal

Sketch Proposal – Layout – Option A – 15 pitch site and 10 pitch site







**Landscape Appraisal**

**Existing Situation – Services & Utilities**