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Your Reference:

Our Reference: LT/CCL/RB

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Date: 30th November, 2020

To: Holiday Caravan Park Operators and Residents

Dear Caravan Site Operators and Residents,

Important Information: Closure of Holiday Caravan Sites

As you will be aware, as a result of Covid-19 and restrictions earlier in the year the Council sought to respond positively to the wishes of the local business community through assisting with ways to extend the season - principally through the provision of the Coastal Local Development Order (LDO).

At this time, agreement has not been reached with partner agencies and the Government has requested that we do not currently agree any extensions to occupancy restrictions under the LDO. The Council has yet to agree any permissions with businesses to extend their seasons and given the current picture locally regarding Covid-19, it is not considered appropriate to implement permissions under the LDO at this time. **As a result, the Council will not be supporting applications which would see an extension of the 2020/21 season and all sites will be required to close in line with their current permissions.**

Occupancy beyond these periods is not permitted or endorsed by the Council and sites and / or occupiers remaining open / on site after this period may be subject to formal enforcement action. We take this matter and the accountability of site operators seriously and the Council will not hesitate to take robust action against any operator that fails to comply with these requirements.

We appreciate this may be a source of frustration for those businesses who were looking to opening for longer this winter, as well as those who may wish to holiday on those sites which are restricted, however, we have to be mindful of the current local situation and we want to be sure we're doing all we can to reduce any potential spread of the virus to protect our local communities whilst also balancing considerations regarding flood risk and mitigation. We will continue to liaise with site operators regarding the 2021/2022 season.

If you have people using your site as their primary residence and they do not have anywhere to go, please read on for clarity on what they need to do. We ask that you provide a copy of this letter to residents who have remained on site.

If you would like this information in a different format, please contact us on 01507 601111



Residents using holiday caravan sites as their main or primary address

We have identified that a number of households have been using holiday caravan sites in East Lindsey as their main and sole residence.

We must remind caravan site operators and residents that caravan parks operating as holiday lets are **not** a primary residence as they are not permitted for use as permanent accommodation. This is the case even where Council Tax is paid on the property. A holiday caravan site should only be used for holidays and not as a person's sole or main address for their permanent residential use. All households staying on a holiday site should have an alternative address available to them in line with the licence conditions and planning permission associated with the sites.

During the lockdown period, those residents who did not have anywhere else to go if the site were to close were permitted to remain on site in line with Government guidance **whilst the site remained within its permitted season**. In line with our advice following the national lockdown, any residents on holiday caravan parks who have remained on site should find alternative accommodation if they have not already done so.

We are aware that upon closure of holiday caravan sites, some households may not have an alternative residence available to them, or may be affected by travel and other restrictions necessitated by the pandemic. For any households who are unable to find an alternative housing option by the end date of the permitted open season, the Council will assist them to identify alternative temporary accommodation options. Those residents are urged to contact the Housing Hub on 01507 613135 or email Housing.Hub@e-lindsey.gov.uk

Further information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) can be found on the ELDC website at <https://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/CaravanParks>

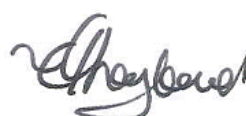
If you have other queries relating to site licensing of caravan parks, please email caravans@e-lindsey.gov.uk and we will arrange a call back.

Finally, we wish to reiterate that our teams are doing their best to provide advice and assistance during very challenging circumstances. Unfortunately, our teams have experienced challenging and unacceptable behaviour from some customers in relation this matter and we must stress that such behaviour will not be tolerated. Our teams are ready to assist any residents who find that they do not have anywhere to go upon closure of their holiday caravan site.

Yours faithfully,



Robert Barlow
Joint Chief Executive
Boston Borough Council &
East Lindsey District Council



CLlr Craig Leyland
Leader
East Lindsey District Council