

TRAVELLING FAIRS - CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SUITABILITY OF SITES

The fairground organiser must give consideration to the following matters when selecting a site for a fairground in East Ayrshire.

- The ground conditions must be suitable for the types of attractions to be located there. Any risks arising from, for example, uneven or soft ground must be minimised.
- The site must be large enough to ensure there are safe distances between attractions and perimeter walls, fences, etc. Extra space may be required around popular attractions to ensure no “pinch points” or dangerous overcrowding occurs.
- There must be sufficient space to permit emergency vehicle access while the public are being evacuated.
- There must be clear access routes to the site which are capable of bearing the weight of all vehicles, including emergency vehicles.
- In order to avoid noise nuisance to local residents the site should not be in close proximity to residential dwellings. Organisers are invited to seek the advice of the Council’s Environmental Health and Waste Management Section on matters of proximity.
- The existence of any overhead power lines must be taken into account, as must any underground services. Further information on both should be obtained from the local electricity company and the site landlord.
- An appropriate area of ground must be set aside for public car parking, taking into account the means of access and egress from the site.

Sources of Further Information

It is recommended that organisers, when considering the suitability of a site, refer to the following documents, viz:-

Health and Safety Executive publications: HSG175 – “Fairgrounds and Amusement Parks – Guidance on Safe Practice”; HSG47 “Avoiding Danger from Underground Services”; and GS 6 1991 “Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electrical Lines”.