



Hertsmere Borough Council

Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment



November 2014



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1. Introduction

The Survey

- 1.1 Opinion Research Services (ORS) were commissioned by Hertsmere Borough Council (HBC) to undertake a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (GTTSAA).
- 1.2 The study seeks to provide an evidence base to enable the authorities to comply with their requirements towards Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople under the Housing Act 2004, the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012. The main objective of this study is to provide Hertsmere Borough Council with robust, defensible and up-to-date evidence about the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Hertsmere during the period until 2028 in five year sections covering 2014-2018, 2019-2023 and 2024-2028. It also seeks to identify whether or not Hertsmere need to plan for the provision of transit sites or emergency stopping places.
- 1.3 We would note at the outset that the study covers the needs of Gypsies (including English, Scottish, Welsh and Romany Gypsies), Irish Travellers, New Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, but for ease of reference we have referred to the study as a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment.
- 1.4 This document is the main report and summarises the key findings of the study, in particular where they relate to existing policies, or have implications for future policy decisions.

Definitions

- 1.5 For the purposes of the planning system, Gypsies and Travellers means:

Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependents' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such. (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).
- 1.6 Within the main definition of Gypsies and Travellers, there are a number of main cultural groups which include:
 - » Romany Gypsies;
 - » Irish Travellers;
 - » New Travellers.
- 1.7 Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are recognised in law as distinct ethnic groups and are legally protected from discrimination under the Equalities Act 2010.

- ^{1.8} Alongside Gypsies and Travellers, a further group to be considered are Travelling Showpeople. They are defined as:

Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their family's or dependent's more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above. (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).

Legislation and Guidance for Gypsies and Travellers

- ^{1.9} Decision-making for policy concerning Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sits within a complex legislative and national policy framework and this study must be viewed in the context of this legislation and guidance. For example, the following pieces of legislation and guidance are relevant when constructing policies relating to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople:

- » Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012;
- » National Planning Policy Framework 2012;
- » Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments Guidance October 2007;
- » Environmental Protection Act 1990 for statutory nuisance provisions;
- » The Human Rights Act 1998, when making decisions and welfare assessments;
- » The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as subsequently amended);
- » Homelessness Legislation and Allocation Policies;
- » Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (sections 61, 62);
- » Anti-social behaviour Act 2003 (both as victims and perpetrators of anti-social behaviour);
- » Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004;
- » Housing Act 2004 which requires local housing authorities to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople as part of their housing needs assessments. This study complies with this element of government guidance;
- » Housing Act 1996 in respect of homelessness;
- » Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide 2008.

- ^{1.10} The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (Sections 77, 78) is particularly important with regard to the issue of planning for Gypsy and Traveller site provision. This repealed the duty of local authorities to provide appropriate accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers. However, Circular 1/94 did support maintaining existing sites and stated that appropriate future site provision should be considered.

- ^{1.11} For site provision, the previous Labour Government guidance focused on increasing site provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and encouraging local authorities to have a more inclusive approach to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople within their Housing Needs Assessment. The Housing Act 2004 required local authorities to identify the need for Gypsy and Traveller sites, alongside the need for other types of housing, when conducting Housing Needs Surveys. Therefore, all local authorities were required to undertake accommodation assessments for Gypsies and Travellers and

Travelling Showpeople either as a separate study such as this one, or as part of their main Housing Needs Assessment. The 2004 Housing Act requirement is still, in force, so while there is no legal requirement to provide sites, local authorities must still assess the needs of Gypsies and Travellers.

- 1.12 Local authorities were encouraged rather than compelled to provide new Gypsy and Traveller sites by central government. Circular 1/06 'Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites', released by the CLG in January 2006, replaced Circular 1/94 and suggested that the provision of authorised sites should be encouraged so that the number of unauthorised sites would be reduced.
- 1.13 The Coalition Government repealed the previous government's policy contained in Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (Circular 01/06), along with the Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) which were used to allocate pitch provision to local authorities. The CLG published 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' in March 2012 which set out the Government's planning policy for traveller sites. It should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework.

Planning Policy for Traveller Sites

- 1.14 The document 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' which came into force in March 2012 sets out the direction of government policy. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites is closely linked to the National Planning Policy Framework, but is to be viewed as a separate document. ORS have sought clarification of this relationship from CLG and have been told that Planning Policy for Traveller Sites should be viewed as effectively a separate document with little overlap. In particular, ORS queried paragraph 47 and 159 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Paragraph 47 states that local authorities should:

'Use their evidence base to ensure that their Local Plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area.'

- 1.15 While paragraph 159 states they should:

'Prepare a Strategic Housing Market Assessment to assess their full housing needs, working with neighbouring authorities where housing market areas cross administrative boundaries.'

- 1.16 We were informed by CLG that there was no requirement to implement these paragraphs in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments because they are not in Planning Policy for Traveller Sites. Similarly a planning inspector at a hearing in Wokingham has confirmed that the requirement to have a buffer for land supply contained in paragraph 47 of the National Planning Policy Framework does not apply to Gypsy and Traveller sites because it is not in Planning Policy for Traveller Sites. Therefore, it is clear that Planning Policy for Traveller Sites is best considered largely in isolation from the wider requirements set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

- 1.17 Among the objectives in Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, the new policy's aims in respect of Traveller sites are (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Page 1-2):

- » local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning;
- » to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites;
- » to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale;

- » that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development;
- » to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites;
- » that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective;
- » for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies;
- » to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply;
- » to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions;
- » to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure;
- » for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment.

^{1.18} In practice the document states that (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Page 3):

Local planning authorities should set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of Travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.

^{1.19} Local planning authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:

- » identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
- » identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years six to ten and, where possible, for years 11-15;
- » consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints across its area (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);
- » relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density;
- » protect local amenity and environment.

^{1.20} A key element to the new policies is a continuation of previous government policies. Local authorities now have a duty to ensure a 5 year land supply to meet the identified needs for Traveller sites. However, 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' also notes on Page 3-4 that:

Where there is no identified need, criteria-based policies should be included to provide a basis for decisions in case applications nevertheless come forward. Criteria based policies should be fair and

should facilitate the traditional and nomadic life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.

Tackling Inequalities for Gypsy and Traveller Communities

- ^{1.21} In April 2012 the government issued a further document relating to Gypsies and Travellers in the form of 'Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers' (CLG April 2012).
- ^{1.22} The aforementioned report contains 28 commitments to help improve the circumstances and outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers across a range of areas including:
- » Identifying ways of raising educational aspirations and attainment of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children;
 - » Identifying ways to improve health outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers within the proposed new structures of the NHS;
 - » Encouraging appropriate site provision; building on £60m Traveller Pitch Funding and New Homes Bonus incentives;
 - » Tackling hate crime against Gypsies and Travellers and improving their interaction with the criminal justice system;
 - » Improving knowledge of how Gypsies and Travellers engage with services that provide a gateway to work opportunities and working with the financial services industry to improve access to financial products and services;
 - » Sharing good practice in engagement between Gypsies and Travellers and public service providers.

Funding

- ^{1.23} The Coalition Government policies also involve financial incentives for new affordable pitch provision in the form of the New Homes Bonus. For all new annual supply of pitches on local authority or Registered Provider owned and managed sites, local authorities receive a New Homes Bonus equivalent to council tax (based on the national average for a Band A property), plus an additional £350 per annum for six years. This equates to around £8,000 pounds per pitch.
- ^{1.24} The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) took over delivery of the Gypsy and Traveller Sites Grant programme from CLG in April 2009. The HCA has now confirmed allocations for all of its £60m of future funding which will support 96 projects around the country for the provision of new Gypsy and Traveller sites and new pitches on existing sites, as well as the improvement of existing pitches. No announcement of any further funding beyond 2015 has been made at the time of writing.

Methodology

- ^{1.25} This section sets out the methodology we have followed to deliver the outputs for this study. Over the past 10 years ORS have developed a methodology which provides the required outputs from a Gypsy, Traveller

and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment and this has been updated in light of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.

- ^{1.26} The stages below provide a summary of the process undertaken by ORS, with more information on each stage provided in the appropriate section of the report.

Stage 1: Background

- ^{1.27} At the outset of the project we sought to understand the background to the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population in Hertsmere. The study sought to identify the location of all known sites in the study area and the number of pitches or plots on each one. The study also gathered information from recent caravan counts provided by the local authority and information held on unauthorised encampments in the area and also waiting lists for public sites.

Stage 2: Household Survey

- ^{1.28} The research methodology for identifying the housing needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople adopted in this report was largely based upon face to face interviews with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Hertsmere. We sought to undertake a census of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households in November 2013. Interviews were sought with every known Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople household present during this time period and 32 interviews were achieved in total on Gypsy and Traveller sites. Though only one member of each household was interviewed, the survey questions cover other members of the same household. We would note that a single Traveller household may occupy several caravans.

Stage 3: Stakeholder Engagement

- ^{1.29} This study includes extensive stakeholder engagement with council officers from Hertsmere, and neighbouring local authorities and other stakeholders. The aim of this engagement was to help understand the current situation in the study area, particularly in relation to households not on known existing sites, and also to discuss Duty to Cooperate issues with neighbouring local authorities, and any issues regarding education, health and community cohesion.

Stage 4: Future Pitch and Plot Requirements

- ^{1.30} The overall principles behind assessing future needs are relatively simple. The model assesses the current backlog of need for pitches based upon unauthorised sites, concealed households, the net movement of households from bricks and mortar and those on the waiting list for public sites. It then adds in future arising need in the form of newly forming households, households on sites with temporary planning permissions and net migration in or out of the area. From this figure any empty or undeveloped pitches with planning permission are then subtracted to provide for a final net pitch requirement. The residential and transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers are identified separately from those for Travelling Showpeople and for each group the requirements are identified in 5 year periods to 2028 in line with the requirements of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.

Stage 5: Conclusions

^{1.31} This stage draws together the evidence from Stages 1 to 4 to provide an overall summary of the requirements for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Hertsmere.

2. Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Sites and Population

Types of Sites

- 2.1 A Strategic Housing Market Assessment focuses upon the number of dwellings required in an area, and how many of these should be affordable. The central aim of this study was to follow a similar format for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation requirements.
- 2.2 One of the main considerations of this study is the provision of pitches and sites for Gypsies and Travellers. A pitch is an area which is large enough for one household to occupy and typically contains enough space for one or two caravans, but can vary in size. A site is a collection of pitches which form a development exclusively for Gypsies and Travellers. For Travelling Showpeople the most common descriptions used are a plot for the space occupied by one household and a yard for a collection of plots which are typically exclusively occupied by Travelling Showpeople. Throughout this study the main focus is upon how many extra pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and plots for Travelling Showpeople are required in Hertsmere.
- 2.3 The public and private provision of mainstream housing is also largely mirrored when considering Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. One common form of Gypsy and Traveller sites is the publicly-provided residential site, which is provided by the local authority, or by a Registered Provider (usually a housing association). Pitches on public sites can be obtained through signing up to a waiting list, and the costs of running the sites are met from the rent paid by the licensees (similar to social housing).
- 2.4 The alternative to public residential sites is private residential sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. These result from individuals or families buying areas of land and then obtaining planning permission to live on them. Households can also rent pitches on existing private sites. Therefore, these two forms of accommodation are the equivalent to private ownership and renting for those who live in bricks and mortar housing.
- 2.5 The Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population also has other forms of sites due to its mobile nature. Transit sites tend to contain many of the same facilities as a residential site, except that there is a maximum period of residence which can vary from a few days or weeks to a period of months. An alternative is an emergency stopping place. This type of site also has restrictions on the length of time for which someone can stay on it, but has much more limited facilities. Both of these two types of site are designed to accommodate, for a temporary period, Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople whilst they travel.
- 2.6 Further considerations for the Gypsy and Traveller population are unauthorised developments and encampments. Unauthorised developments occur on land which is owned by the Gypsies and Travellers, but for which they do not have planning permission to use for residential purposes. Unauthorised encampments occur on land which is not owned by the Gypsies and Travellers.

Sites in Hertsmere

- 2.7 Overall in Hertsmere there are 2 public residential sites; 3 private residential sites with permanent planning permission; and 1 private residential site with temporary planning permission. There is one public transit site. A total of 4 unauthorised sites were identified during the study period, none of which are classified by the Council as tolerated. These provide a total of **66 residential pitches** in Hertsmere as of November 2013. No Travelling Showpeople yards were identified.

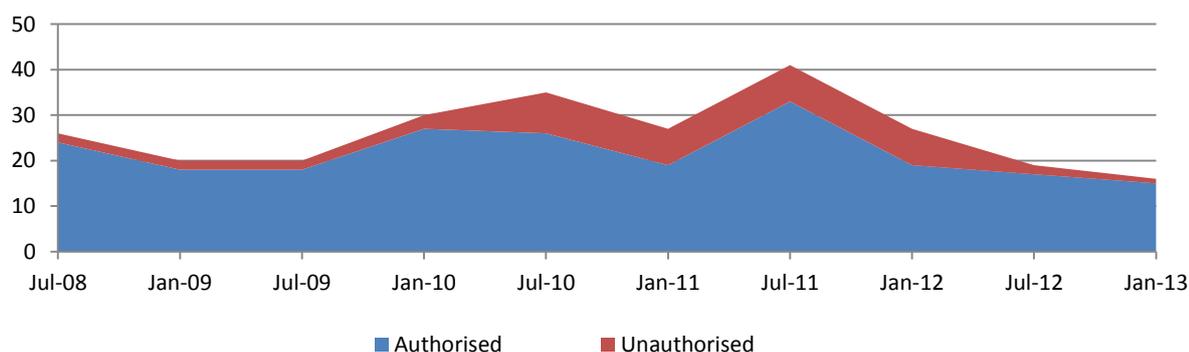
Figure 1
Sites in Hertsmere

Category	Sites	Pitches
Private with permanent planning permission	3	27
Private sites with temporary planning permission	1	1
Total Private Sites	4	28
Public Sites (Council or Registered Providers)	2	31
Unauthorised Sites	4	7
TOTAL	10	66

Caravan Count

- 2.8 A source of information available on the Gypsy and Traveller population derives from a bi-annual survey of Gypsy and Traveller caravans, required by government, conducted by each local authority in England on a specific date in January and July of each year, and reported to CLG. This count is of caravans and not households, which makes it more difficult to interpret for a study such as this because it does not count pitches or resident households. It must also be remembered that the count is merely a 'snapshot in time' conducted by the local authority on a specific day and that any unauthorised encampments which occur on other dates will not be recorded. Likewise any caravans that are away from authorised sites on the day of the count will not be included.
- 2.9 The chart below show the cumulative number of unauthorised and authorised caravans in the local authority area at the time of the counts. Please note that the chart does not include any Showpeople caravans in the area. We would also note the figures are provided for illustrative purposes to demonstrate the relative size of the populations and are not used in any modelling of future pitch requirements.

Figure 2
Gypsy Caravan Count for Hertsmere: July 2008– January 2013 (Source: CLG Bi-annual Local authority Caravan Count)



3. Gypsy and Traveller Population

Survey of the Gypsy and Traveller Population

- 3.1 One of the major components of this assessment is a detailed survey of the Gypsy and Traveller population within Hertsmere. This aims to identify current households with housing needs, and to assess likely future household formation from within existing households, to help judge the need for future site provision. As noted in the introduction, “Gypsy and Traveller” refers to;

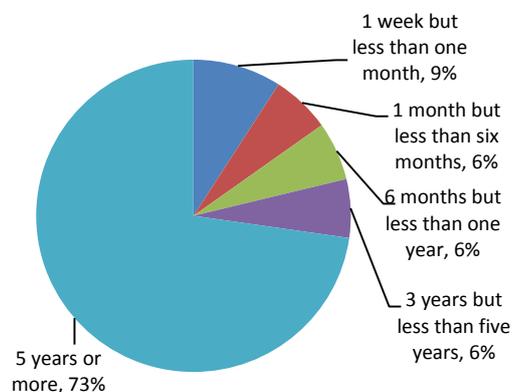
Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependents’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).

- 3.2 Interviews were attempted with every Gypsy and Traveller household in the area who were present during November 2013. Throughout the survey period interviewers from ORS worked from 9am to 7pm each day and made repeated visits to each household until a successful interview was concluded. In total, interviews were achieved on-site with 32 households from an estimated 66 pitches in Hertsmere. The response rate at all sites was good, except for at Brookes Place, where only one of the residents wished to take part in the formal interview process. Excluding Brookes Place the response rate was 78% of households. A copy of the Survey Form can be found in **Appendix B**.
- 3.3 Throughout this study the person responding to the survey will be referred to as the respondent, and in questions which refer to all people in the household they will be referred to as household members. Throughout the remainder of this report the majority of numbers which appear on the charts represent the percentage of respondents who appear in that category. The purpose of showing percentages is to allow the results of the survey to be extrapolated to the whole Gypsy and Traveller population of Hertsmere. In a few cases, it is more appropriate to use the actual number of respondents, and these cases are clearly identified. In all charts those respondents who answered ‘don’t know’, or did not answer the question, are omitted unless otherwise stated.

Length of Residence

3.4 Nearly three quarters (73%) of those surveyed had lived on their current site for more than five years, with a further 6% having lived on their site for more than 3 years. However, just over a fifth (21%) had moved to their current site within the last year. Most respondents (81%) considered the site they were interviewed on to be their permanent base. Of the remaining 19% two reasons were given for their current presence on site; 2 respondents said they couldn't find a permanent site and 4 respondents stated they had nowhere else to go. None of these 6 respondents reported that they had a permanent base elsewhere (outside the study area).

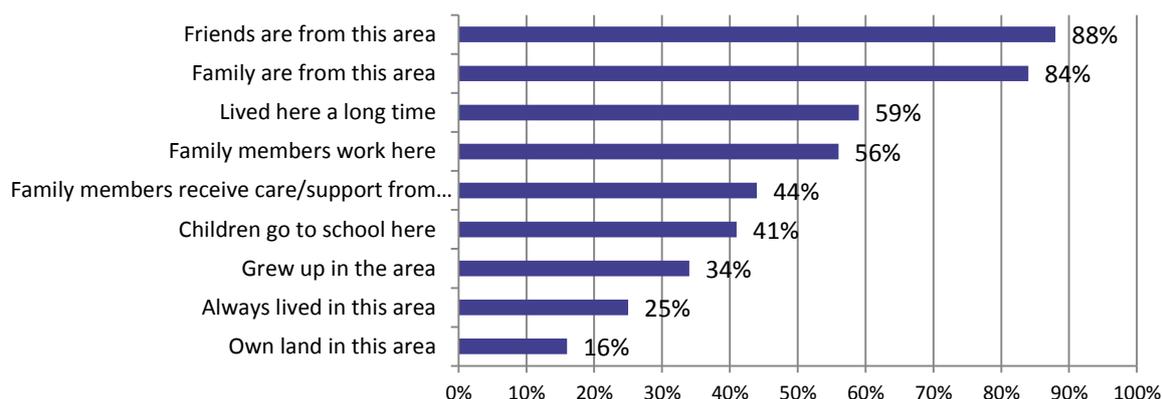
Figure 3
Length of Time Respondents Have Lived on Their Current Site, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)



Connections with the Area

3.5 Respondents noted a variety of different connections to their local areas (see Figure below), with the main links identified being that their friends (88%) or family (84%) are from the area, that they had lived in the area a long time (71%) or that family members work in the area (56%).

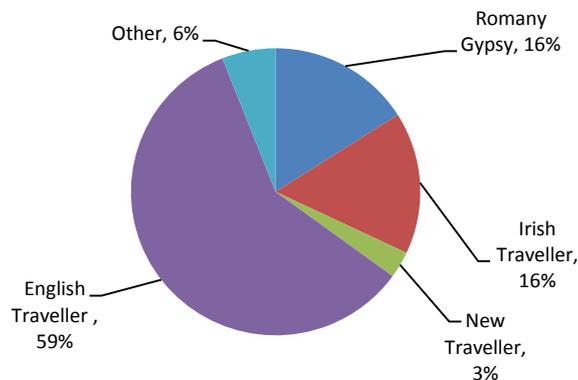
Figure 4
Nature of Local Connections in Hertsmere, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)



Ethnic Background

3.6 English Travellers made up the majority of the Traveller population surveyed, with 59% of respondents identifying themselves as such. Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers were the second and third largest category, with 16% of respondents reporting that they belonged to each group respectively. In addition to a small percentage of New Travellers (3%, or 1 respondent), 2 respondents identified themselves as non-travellers, but in both cases they were the partners of English Travellers. Again, we would note the residents of Brookes Place did not wish to take part in the survey.

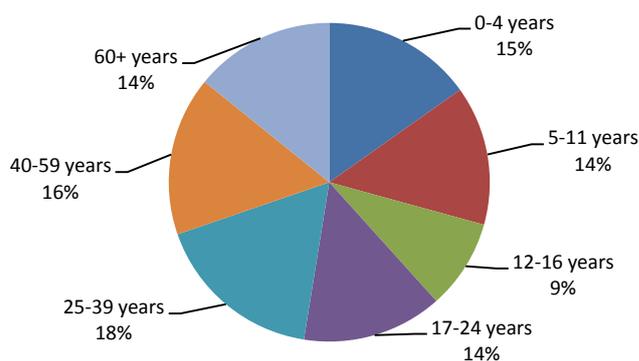
Figure 5
Ethnic Group by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)



Age and Household Profile

3.7 Households surveyed showed a mixed range of ages across their members, though (as with other studies carried out by ORS elsewhere) a significant proportion of the population were younger, with nearly 40% being 16 years of age or younger. However, we would note that it is typical for Gypsy and Traveller studies to record relatively few males aged 18-60 years, many of whom travel on an almost permanent basis, or are in prison¹. This is the case in Hertsmere with a third of the interviews conducted at pitches with no adult male household members, so the share of adults in the population is almost certainly higher than shown by the household survey.

Figure 6
Age of Household Members, by all Household Members (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)



¹ A report released in March by HM Inspectorate of Prisons revealed that around 5% of prisoners (approximately 4,200) in England and Wales consider themselves to be Gypsy, Romany or Traveller.

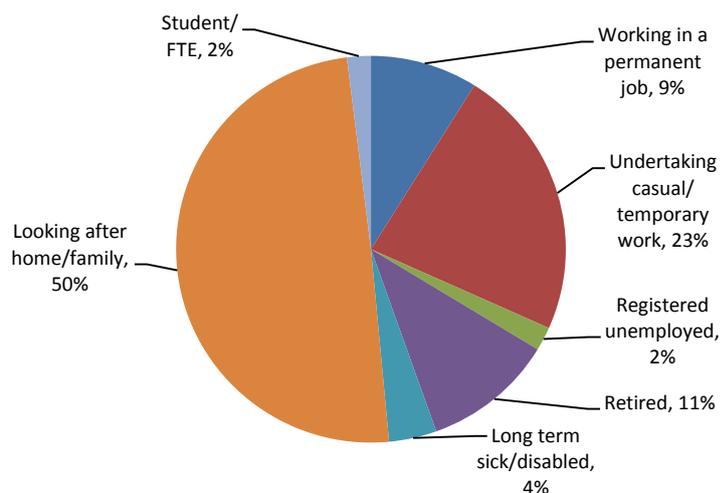
- 3.8 The vast majority of respondents (94%) reported just one household living on their pitch. The average number of people per pitch was 2.8, but this does exclude any male household members who were not reported as household residents.

Employment

- 3.9 Respondents were asked to give the employment status of all members of their household. Of those household members who had their employment status recorded, 23% were undertaking casual or temporary work and 9% were working in a permanent job. Half (50%) were looking after their home and/or family and 11% were retired. Only 2% were students/in full time education and registered unemployed respectively.
- 3.10 Those who were working reported to have a wide variety of jobs ranging from scrap metal dealing and car dismantling to tree, garden and building work.

Figure 7

Employment Status of Household Members, by All Household Members Aged Over 16 Years (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)



Health Problems

- 3.11 Almost a fifth (19%, 6 respondents) reported that their household contained at least one member with a long-term health problem. Of these 6 respondents, 4 stated that their current pitch was not meeting the needs of those in their household with health issues. The main reasons given for pitches being unsuitable were due to issues with the showers. Respondents noted that a 'lower shower is needed for us at our age' and that 'I have arthritis and the shower is no good for my needs'.

4. Existing Sites

Type of Site

4.1 The vast majority (71%) of respondents expressed some degree of satisfaction with their site, with nearly 3 in 10 (29%) stating that they were very satisfied. Only 9% (3 respondents) expressed any dissatisfaction (see Figure). Among those who were not satisfied were households on the transit site who were seeking permanent accommodation, and households on unauthorised sites.

4.2 When asked whether their current accommodation was meeting all of their needs in terms of quality, space, site facilities, location and management, 31% of respondents felt their needs were being met at their current pitch.

4.3 However, a large proportion of residents (69%) felt that their needs were not being met at their current pitch. The reasons why these respondents felt their site was not meeting their needs are shown in Figure 8 below.

4.4 The most common reasons for their sites not meeting their needs were; accommodation in a poor state of repair (50%); a lack of play areas for children (41%); and the site lacking facilities (41%). The sites lacking facilities included the South Mimms transit site, Sandy Lane and unauthorised developments. In particular, households emphasised problems with toilet and shower blocks.

Figure 8
Satisfaction with Current Site, by all Respondents
(Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)

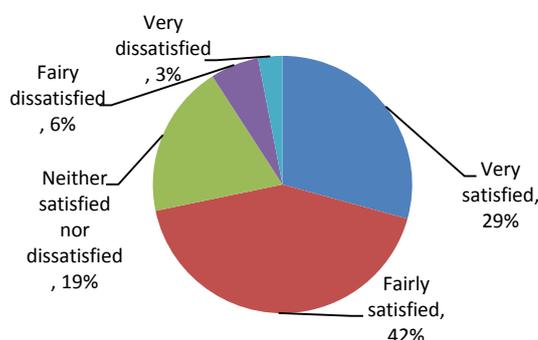
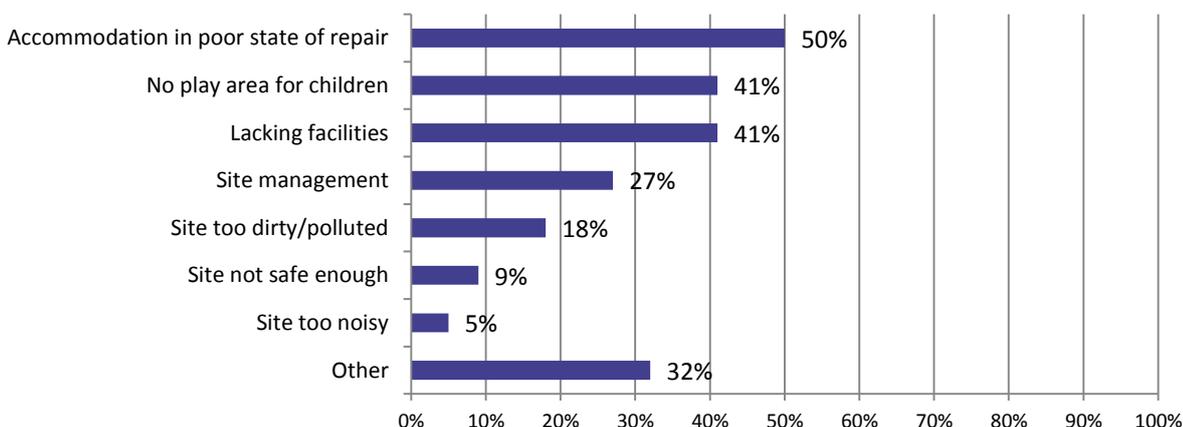
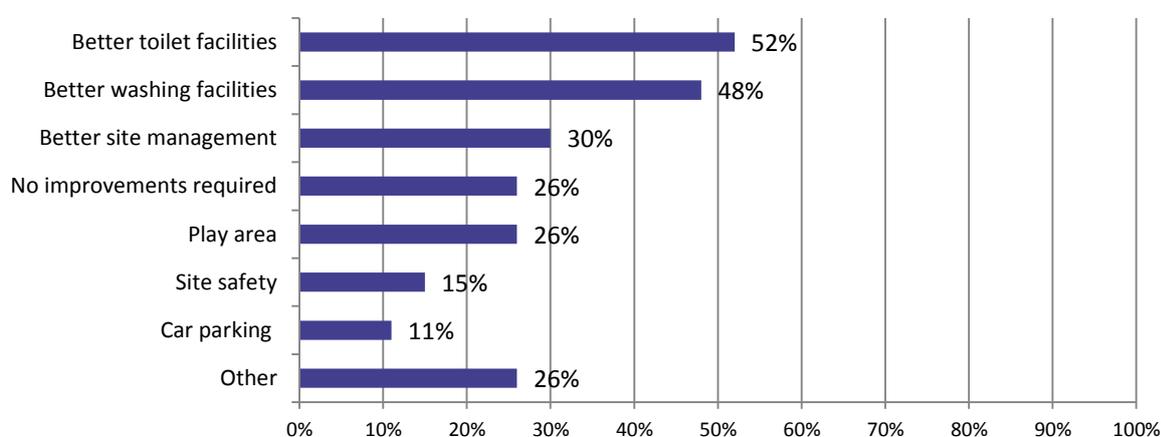


Figure 9
Reasons Respondents Felt Their Site Does Not Meet Their Needs (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)



- 4.5 Of the 22 respondents who felt that their current accommodation and site did not meet their needs, 16 felt their needs could be met at their current pitch, whilst 6 respondents wished to move to other sites.
- 4.6 Respondents were asked what improvements, if any, could be made to their site and the majority answered better toilet (52%) and washing (48%) facilities. Just over a quarter (26%) of respondents reported that no improvements were required, whilst some (26%) chose the 'other' option and suggested improvements such as: better lighting, speed limits and the erection of fences.

Figure 10**Suggested improvements that could be made to the site (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population 2013)**

Bricks and Mortar

- 4.7 3 respondents reported that they had previously lived in bricks and mortar, with 1 respondent having moved out of such housing between 5 and 10 years ago and the other 2 respondents having moved out over 10 years ago. The reasons given for leaving bricks and mortar accommodation were; not being comfortable in bricks and mortar; wife is a traveller; and marriage (all 1 respondent).

Moving to a New Permanent Base

- 4.8 13 respondents reported that they wanted to move to a new permanent base within the next 15 years. Of these, 2 wanted to live elsewhere (i.e. outside of the study area), but did not expect to be able to do so. 6 of the households looking for permanent accommodation are on the South Mimms transit site and a further 5 households looking to move are on the Sandy Lane. One household wishes to move from their current roadside site and one wishes to move from a private site.
- 4.9 Amongst those who wanted to move to a new permanent base, 4 respondents wanted to move into bricks and mortar accommodation, 6 wanted to move onto a council-run site and 3 wanted to move onto a private site owned by others.
- 4.10 When asked to reflect on what they thought needed to be considered when locating a site, 6 respondents stated that sites needed to be located near to services such as doctors, schools and shops, 3 respondents mentioned that living in a 'safe' place was paramount, whilst 1 respondent stated that sites needed to be located away from the existing settled community.

5. Stakeholder Consultation

Introduction

- 5.1 In order to set the context of the research and ensure the study is based on a sound understanding of the relevant issues, a list of 33 contacts was drawn up by the Council and ORS with the aim of carrying out telephone interviews.
- 5.2 25 individual interviews were undertaken and the following is a breakdown of each consultation group:
- » 3 Members;
 - » 4 Officers;
 - » 7 Officers from surrounding areas;
 - » 7 Stakeholders;
 - » 4 Parish/Town Councillors.
- 5.3 ORS conducted 25 semi-structured and in-depth telephone interviews during December 2013 and January 2014 yielding a 76% response rate. The interviews typically lasted between 30- 40 minutes.
- 5.4 Reasons for not being able to conduct interviews were:
- » Those requested by e-mail to provide telephone contact details did not do so;
 - » Colleagues within the same organisation had already been interviewed and nothing further could be added;
 - » The person contacted felt they did not have any information that would be of help to the study;
 - » The person contacted was unavailable due to the Christmas and New Year break/s;
 - » Those contacted did not respond.
- 5.5 The following neighbouring authorities chose to take part in the GTAA; written responses were received from or interviews were conducted with officers from: St Albans City and District Council, Enfield Council, Three Rivers District Council; Watford Borough Council, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, Barnet Council and Harrow Council.
- 5.6 The aim of interviewing nearby authorities is to identify any migration between districts, which routes may be travelled, background information on the framework within which the authorities operate and any perceptions they may have regarding Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople communities within their operational areas.

- 5.7 The officers interviewed from Hertsmere Borough Council and neighbouring authorities work in the following departments: Planning and Building Control, Planning and Enforcement, Planning, Planning Policy and Housing.
- 5.8 ORS also interviewed wider Stakeholders and these included interviews undertaken with individuals who have knowledge and experience of working with Gypsies and/or Travellers. Responses have been received from Hertfordshire Police, Hertfordshire County Council (Gypsy Section & Trading Standards Department), Hertfordshire Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust, Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue and Registered Providers.
- 5.9 With the aim of obtaining bricks and mortar contacts ORS interviewed representatives from the following Registered Providers:
- » Affinity Sutton;
 - » Aldwyck Housing Association;
 - » Hightown Praetorian & Churches Association.
- 5.10 Hertsmere Borough Council operates a choice based lettings scheme called Herts Choice Homes and this is in partnership with four other local authorities: St Albans City and District Council, Watford Borough Council, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council and Three Rivers District Council.
- 5.11 ORS also sent out a postal survey to Parish Councils and received 3 responses.
- 5.12 All interviewees, including Members, were asked whether they could identify or knew any Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople living in bricks and mortar accommodation and if so, could they give a letter from ORS to them. The letter from ORS asked whether they would like to be involved in the Accommodation Needs Assessment consultation.
- 5.13 Registered Providers were also asked how well they are able to identify these households within their current monitoring mechanisms and whether there are specific issues in relation to housing people from the Gypsy, Traveller or Showpeople communities.
- 5.14 Registered Providers, together with other organisations found they were able to provide very little data through their monitoring systems. The majority of Officers confirmed they knew of people from the Gypsy, Traveller or Showpeople communities living in their areas or in their properties because of Officer experience/knowledge, but not because of the analysis of statistical data.
- 5.15 The reasons given for not being able to accurately provide information was due to people not self-declaring their ethnicity during the housing application process or it was not possible to extrapolate this information from data sets/computer systems and/or tended generally not to be included in monitoring. One RP raised concerns over their ability to use the information a client had given regarding their ethnicity and using it to assist ORS as this had not been agreed with the client at the time of them completing their application form.
- 5.16 The Consultation section has been split into two distinct sections:
- » Officers and Members of Hertsmere Borough Council and Officers representing neighbouring authority areas;

- » Wider Stakeholders – including Registered Providers.

- 5.17 Due to issues around data protection and in order to protect the confidentiality of those who took part, this section does not include verbatim comments and it aims to represent a summary of the views and responses expressed by Officers, Members and Stakeholders during the consultation interview process.
- 5.18 The Consultation Section may, in some places, be representative of personal views and opinions and not necessarily the views of the organisation the interviewee works for.
- 5.19 The Consultation Section is based on information provided during the interview process and may not have a direct correlation to the factual information passed to ORS from the local authority e.g. number and names of sites.

Hertsmere Officers and Members and Officers employed in neighbouring areas

Background

- 5.20 Officers for Hertsmere Borough Council stated that the Council has been working to meet the needs identified in the last GTAA through granting permissions on existing sites retrospectively and has been responding through windfall opportunities rather than allocating new sites up until the present time.
- 5.21 Members responding from Hertsmere Borough Council highlighted their involvement in the consultation for new sites as part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) process and how, at times this had been difficult due to NIMBYism².
- 5.22 Officers and Members believe the Council is meeting the need to provide site accommodation in the Hertsmere area. Officers from neighbouring areas confirmed the following:
- » Enfield Council – Are using their GTANA³ 2008 which identified an extremely low accommodation need for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople in their area;
 - » Harrow Council – A Local Plan outlines future development requirements to 2026 which includes any need for Gypsy and Traveller provision which the last GTAA estimated to be approximately 3 pitches.
 - » Barnet Council – have a criteria based policy in their Core Strategy, currently using the Regional Needs Assessment (2008);
 - » St Albans City and District Council – an updated GTAA has been commissioned to inform the Strategic Local Plan;
 - » Three Rivers District Council – A GTAA has recently been undertaken and will be published shortly and consultation has been undertaken with regard to identification of sites.
 - » Watford Borough Council – Undertook evidence base for their Core Strategy and site allocations document 3 years ago. The need for sites has been based on the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy numbers⁴ as the number and instances of encampments have remained static.

² NIMBY – Not in my back yard

³ GTANA – Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment

⁴ Regional Spatial Strategies were formally abolished in July 2010.

- » Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council – A GTAA was carried out in 2011 and published 2012. A Call for sites was also carried out in 2013 to inform future site allocations.

Accommodation Provision: Authorised Sites, Unauthorised Developments/Temporary Permission and Bricks and Mortar

- 5.23 Officers and Members from Hertsmere Borough Council identified the Pylon site at Potters Bar (sometimes known as Brooks Place), Gullimore Farm and One Acre, all of which are privately owned and Sandy Lane Bushey and the South Mimms sites both owned and managed by Hertfordshire County Council. All of these sites are understood to be well run with few issues and meet the needs of residents.
- 5.24 Some officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council highlighted that the majority of the sites are privately owned by families who are often related to each other.
- 5.25 Members and Officers did not mention sites for Showpeople in the Hertsmere area.
- 5.26 Officers responding from the Barnet Council and Enfield Councils confirmed they have no authorised sites in their areas.
- 5.27 Officers in neighbouring authorities highlighted the following authorised sites in their areas:
- » Watling Farm, Harrow Council (public site) – 1 pitch;
 - » A number of privately owned sites, Three Rivers District Council;
 - » One site, Watford Borough Council (Council owned/managed by Hertfordshire CC) – 10 pitches;
 - » 2 private sites, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council – 16 pitches
 - » Holwell Site, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (owned and managed by Hertfordshire CC) – 39 pitches
 - » One private site for Showpeople, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council;
 - » Three public sites in the St Albans District Council area – (40 pitches in total);
 - » Six private sites in the St Albans District Council area – (25 pitches).
- 5.28 The general consensus of officers responding from neighbouring authorities is that the public and private sites are, in the majority of cases, meeting the needs of residents and there are no current issues in relation to anti-social behaviour or community cohesion. One officer did mention that on a site in their area they had issues around over-occupation in terms of doubling up on pitches.
- 5.29 Officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council gave few examples of unauthorised developments or those with temporary planning permission. One officer commented that those that were known about were often tolerated and if residents stayed on these sites they must meet their needs it was further suggested that because they are designed by those living on the sites they would naturally meet their needs, unless those needs changed.
- 5.30 Members gave some examples of unauthorised developments such as a site in Sandy Lane which is in close proximity to high value houses. The owners of the site keep horses and it was mentioned that these were not always treated as well as could be and local residents found this distressing. Mention was further made

of a certain level of criminality on the site and there is concern that the site is being expanded without planning permission.

- 5.31 Officers responding from neighbouring authority areas gave few examples of unauthorised developments and/or sites with temporary permissions or, if these do occur, whether they are tolerated.
- 5.32 Some officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council believe there may be some Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople living in bricks and mortar accommodation. However, they are unable to identify specific households and do not know them personally.
- 5.33 Officers understood there to have been no complaints received by the Council from those Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople now living in bricks and mortar accommodation and therefore it was likely that such accommodation is meeting their needs.
- 5.34 Two Members are aware that in their wards there are Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople living in bricks and mortar accommodation. A letter from ORS was given to these Members to pass on to any such households but this did not generate a response to the request to be involved in this consultation.
- 5.35 Officers responding from neighbouring authorities were unable to provide information regarding Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople who may be living in bricks and mortar accommodation in their areas.
- 5.36 Where GTAAs/GTANAs have been undertaken in nearby local authority areas very little information about those living in bricks and mortar accommodation and their needs have been identified. Officers reported it was challenging to identify any such households to assist in their GTAA consultation/research or when households have been identified they indicated they have no intention of moving out of their accommodation back onto sites.

Accommodation and Management: Roadside Encampments/Transit

- 5.37 Members and officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council confirm they are unaware of any short-term unauthorised roadside encampments in their area currently and the number of such encampments has decreased over recent years.
- 5.38 Officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council believe that sufficient site provision is available in the area and this is why encampments are rare. The only issue that has been identified is that sites are sometimes expanded to allow for family members to live close by resulting in unauthorised developments; this is being resolved by granting retrospective planning permission wherever feasible.
- 5.39 Some officers from Hertsmere Borough Council suggested that should encampments occur it is possibly as a result of eviction, travelling through the country and staying in the area for a short time or there is no temporary facility for them to move onto for their short stay.
- 5.40 Members agreed there are few instances of unauthorised encampment in the Hertsmere area. On the few occasions there are encampments Gypsies or Travellers have been moved quickly and the main nuisance has been due to the amount of rubbish left behind.
- 5.41 Members agreed that in general the issues in Hertsmere relate to unauthorised development on existing authorised sites and is not due to roadside encampments.

- 5.42 Officers responding from nearby local authority areas confirmed that they encounter few instances of unauthorised encampments and the level has decreased over recent years.
- 5.43 When encampments do occur in nearby local authority areas it is thought that Gypsies or Travellers are visiting relatives or are attending a specific occasion such as a wedding or they are just travelling through.
- 5.44 Hertfordshire County Council manages a transit site at South Mimms which is in regular use. It was mentioned that at times this was overcrowded. No other issues or comments were made by respondents in relation to transit provision.

Gypsies and Travellers - Trends, Favoured Locations and Stopping Points

- 5.45 When asked to consider trends in relation to these communities, officers from Hertsmere Borough Council believe there have been no significant trends. Some officers believe there is an indication that there appears to be a slight increase in privately owned sites being both regularised and proposed.
- 5.46 Members agree they have seen no trends especially with regard to the number of Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople in the Hertsmere area and the general consensus is that the situation remains static.
- 5.47 Officers from neighbouring areas report they have seen a decrease in the number of unauthorised encampments over recent years, only one officer confirmed they had had recent experience of an unauthorised encampment.
- 5.48 The majority of officers responding from neighbouring authorities believe they have seen little change over recent years, although two officers noted they have seen an increase in sites gaining permanent and temporary planning permission, often retrospectively.
- 5.49 Officers from Hertsmere Borough Council in the main do not believe there are favoured areas or stopping points in the district, although some officers did suggest along the A roads or motorways towards/around London.
- 5.50 Members did not mention any areas they believe to be favoured by Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople in the Council's area.
- 5.51 Officers responding from neighbouring local authority areas believe that Hertfordshire, generally, is a favoured location due the motorway networks through the area and the only other favoured areas are usually within the proximity of existing sites such as at Redbourn.

Future Accommodation Needs

- 5.52 Officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council believe there is sufficient site provision in the area and that there is a balance of private and public permanent sites including transit provision.
- 5.53 The majority of Members agree there is sufficient site provision in the Hertsmere area and they believe the Council has responded well to meeting the needs that have been identified for Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople.
- 5.54 The majority of officers responding from nearby authority areas confirm they are meeting the need for sites as identified in their GTAAs/GTANAs; one officer highlighted that across Hertfordshire there are 157

- households on the Hertfordshire County Council's pitch waiting list and there are insufficient numbers of pitches in their area and across the County/region generally to meet the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople.
- 5.55 An officer from a neighbouring area highlighted that the South Mimms transit site could be contributing to the high level of need for permanent provision in the Hertfordshire area. However no further explanation was given for this point of view.
- 5.56 A minority of officers from neighbouring authority areas stated that there is a lack of information about the needs of Showpeople in their areas and research will be undertaken in due course.
- 5.57 In terms of the criteria to be considered when determining where a site should be located officers and Members responding from Hertsmere Borough Council stated the following views:
- » Sites should aim to meet the needs of residents, but take into account the impact on the settled community;
 - » Sites should be near local services and facilities such as shops, GPs and schools;
 - » Accessible to local road networks such as the M25 and A roads and public transport;
 - » Access to services/facilities on site such as water, sanitation, rubbish collection and electricity;
 - » An impact assessment should be undertaken in relation to the local environment in the same way as brick built housing should be undertaken.
- 5.58 The majority of Members believe that new sites should be located adjacent or near to existing sites. This is because these sites are close to local facilities and additional support may already be provided which would save resources.
- 5.59 One Member highlighted that because there are sometimes tensions with the settled community, new sites should be located at least ½ a mile away from existing settlements, whilst another Member raised concerns about locating new sites within the green belt.
- 5.60 Officers responding from neighbouring authorities generally agreed that sites should be located in sustainable locations with access to amenities such as shops, schools, public transport and health centres.
- 5.61 Officers from Hertsmere Borough Council explained that the focus has been on making better use of existing sites and no suggestions for new locations were suggested during the interviews.
- 5.62 The majority of Members are unable to suggest suitable locations for new sites; one Member suggested expanding the site at Shenley but believes no new sites should be provided within Hertsmere.
- 5.63 Officers responding from neighbouring authorities were unable to suggest locations within the Hertsmere area that would be suitable for site provision if need is identified. One officer stated that should a site be identified close to a boundary with another authority, then discussions/communication should take place in order to discuss the impact/issues that could arise.
- 5.64 Officers from Hertsmere Borough Council had a mix of views in relation to ownership and management. Some officers stated that the County Council run sites were well managed whilst another believed the

County Council was a law unto itself. It was generally agreed that privately run sites work well until they become too big, but no maximum number of pitches was suggested.

- 5.65 The majority of Members did not have a view on the management or ownership of sites; one Member believes sites should be privately managed with an input by the local authority.
- 5.66 The majority of officers responding from neighbouring areas did not express a view with regard to the ownership and management of sites.

Community Cohesion, Employment, Health and Education Issues

- 5.67 No specific issues in relation to Showpeople when speaking about community cohesion were recorded.
- 5.68 Officers from Hertsmere Borough Council highlighted where sites are established few issues arise between the settled community and residents. However, when there is an encampment the public is immediately concerned and issues arise with Gypsies or Travellers and local settled residents.
- 5.69 Officers suggested that should more pitches be provided fewer encampments would result although there is a concern that additional provision may result in an increase in the number of Gypsies and Travellers moving to the area.
- 5.70 Officers from the Council highlighted there are sometimes internal family feuds and also specific groups of Gypsies and Travellers, such as Irish Travellers and English Gypsies, are unable to live on the same site due to cultural differences. This leads to sites becoming specific to either one or the other.
- 5.71 Members reported little evidence to suggest there are tensions between Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople communities or between these communities and the settled community within the area. One Member highlighted the issue of fly tipping and rubbish falling into the middle of roads and although the Travellers concerned have been fined, they seem to take little notice.
- 5.72 Members were unable to suggest whether anything was being done to address these issues other than there was a unit within Hertfordshire County Council, but some Members are unsure as to whether this is still running because of recent cuts to services.
- 5.73 Officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council believe Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople are able to access education services, but are unaware as to what the situation is regarding their ability to access health and employment services.
- 5.74 The majority of Members do not have a view with regard to Education, Health or Employment in relation to the Gypsy, Traveller or Showpeople communities. It was generally agreed that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople are able to access these services if they wish to.
- 5.75 A minority of officers responding from neighbouring authorities highlighted that there can be tensions between the settled community and Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople. These tensions usually occur when consultation is undertaken in respect of the identification of new sites, permanent planning permission is sought for sites with temporary planning or when an application to expand an existing site is submitted.

- 5.76 Officers responding from neighbouring authorities generally believed that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople are able to access health and education services and employment opportunities would not be accessed by these communities as they are believed to mainly self-employed.

Cross Boundary and Consultation Activities

- 5.77 Officers and Members of Hertsmere Borough Council and officers responding from neighbouring authorities believe that the main travelling routes for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople through Hertfordshire are: the A41, A1M and M25.
- 5.78 Officers and Members of Hertsmere Borough Council agree there is no trend for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople to move to neighbouring districts from Hertsmere neither does it appear these communities are being moved backwards and forwards between local authority areas.
- 5.79 The majority of officers responding from neighbouring areas do not believe that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople are moving out of their area to neighbouring districts. One officer highlighted a GTAA has been undertaken by a local authority that abuts their area and need had been identified for pitches on their boundary; it was suggested that when such a need is identified local authorities need to discuss these matters because of the risk of locating different types of Traveller groups or feuding families in close proximity to each other.
- 5.80 One officer responding from a neighbouring local authority believes there is limited evidence of unauthorised encampments being moved between local authority districts and another officer commented that there is an inequitable distribution of pitches across Hertfordshire because some local authorities have a greater population of Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople as a result of meeting historic caravan designation targets.
- 5.81 A minority of officers responding from neighbouring authorities highlighted that some of the nearby London boroughs are likely to have more Gypsies or Travellers in their areas and therefore a greater propensity for unmet need. It was highlighted, however, that this is part of the broader issue regarding the lack of affordable housing in general, for which the need for sites is part.
- 5.82 Officers and Members from Hertsmere Borough Council are not aware of any cross-border working other than some discussions took place on a countywide basis in respect of transit provision in the past.
- 5.83 Officers responding from neighbouring local authority areas gave some examples of cross-border working such as undertaking GTAAs with neighbouring authorities. However, further work in terms of updates is proving challenging because of the different stages Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) are at with their Local Plans. Some officers suggested that the future alignment of evidence base updating could be beneficial.
- 5.84 The majority of officers responding from neighbouring local authority areas wished to work together and some suggested that any cross-border working could be improved by the County Council leading the issue. It was suggested that having one study commissioned with all local authorities agreeing a methodology and feeding into it so there is agreement as to what the need is for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople, would progress meeting the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople across Hertfordshire.
- 5.85 Officers and Members responding from Hertsmere Borough Council believe the Council is meeting its duty to co-operate.

- 5.86 Officers responding from nearby local authority areas believe they are complying with the Duty to Cooperate and believe Hertsmere Borough is too albeit that the majority of local authorities attend different strategic housing and planning forums where Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople accommodation needs are discussed. Some officers stated the process has been problematic because of the different stages of the plan production and evidence gathering across the County.
- 5.87 Officers and Members of Hertsmere Borough Council stated that regular consultation with Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople does not happen other than when officers visit sites on a regular basis and where informal chats will take place to discuss specific issues face to face.
- 5.88 Officers responding from neighbouring local authority areas generally agree that consultation could be considered regular on the public run sites; this is sometimes specific if related to site refurbishment and the gaining of grant funding or in relation to GTAA's for example.
- 5.89 Officers responding from neighbouring local authority areas confirm they visit sites to undertake consultation as written formats are less likely to be effective, sometimes due to low levels of literacy.

Future Priorities and Any Additional Issues

- 5.90 It is generally agreed by all those interviewed that massive change is unlikely in relation to the numbers of Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople living or travelling through the Hertsmere area.
- 5.91 Officers responding from Hertsmere Borough Council believe that a priority for the council will be to ensure there are enough pitches in decent locations to meet any need identified.
- 5.92 Members generally agree that the priority for the Council is to identify accurately any need there may be for more sites in Hertsmere and that consultation with both the settled community and the Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople communities should take place.
- 5.93 One Member stated that every resident on a site should be registered with the local authority in order that they can be accounted for.
- 5.94 The majority of officers responding from neighbouring local authority areas agree their priority is either to identify the need in their area, or to identify sites to meet any need identified. Some officers highlighted that any research should be regularly monitored and reviewed.
- 5.95 Another priority for some officers responding from neighbouring local authority areas is to explore ways to finance public sites such as involving registered providers who may be able to subsidise site provision.
- 5.96 A minority of officers responding from neighbouring local authorities raised concerns that if there are local authorities, especially London boroughs, who are unable to meet their site provision needs because of a lack of land, whether this will have an impact in Hertfordshire.

Wider Stakeholders

Background

- 5.97 The majority of Stakeholders interviewed are not local authorities and therefore do not undertake their own GTAA's and therefore are unaware as to the status of these documents in their area.

- 5.98 The majority of respondents have not undertaken any specific training in relation to Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople.

Accommodation Provision: Current Site Provision and Bricks and Mortar

- 5.99 The majority of respondents believe the current authorised sites were well managed and that facilities on sites are good.
- 5.100 One respondent highlighted a concern in relation to emergency vehicles being able to access sites designed on a semi-circular layout because large vehicles, such as horse boxes, sometimes block the road; this means emergency vehicles are unable to pass and it is difficult for vehicles to reverse in such a tight area.
- 5.101 One respondent highlighted overcrowding on the South Mimms site because some families are doubling up on pitches and a belief that the site is used as a permanent rather than transit site because residents appear to stay on the site for up to a year. This was backed up in the site interviews which found that several households had been resident on the site for 5 years or more.
- 5.102 Stakeholders are unable to identify or comment on private sites.
- 5.103 The majority of Stakeholders are unable to identify any unauthorised developments or sites with temporary planning permission so are unable to comment as to whether or not the sites meet the needs of residents.
- 5.104 A minority of respondents stated they are aware of some Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople living in bricks and mortar accommodation and a small number are known to want to move back to sites because they are on the Hertfordshire site waiting list. A letter from ORS was made available to Stakeholders so they could pass it on to anyone they knew. However, no specific households in bricks and mortar were identified by Stakeholders to enable them to pass on the letter and no Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople have contacted ORS in order to be involved in the consultation.
- 5.105 Representative parties confirm they do monitor ethnicity and have the ability to extrapolate statistical data in relation to Gypsies and Irish Travellers where this has been declared by an applicant. The three representative parties consulted identified four households who had indicated that they are Gypsies or Irish Travellers; a letter was passed to representative parties, and some agreed to pass letters on to these households but none have shown an interest in being part of the consultation.
- 5.106 One representative party stated that although they have 1,473 properties in Hertsmere, only one household/applicant has declared themselves as a Gypsy or Irish Traveller, which does give some insight into the very small numbers of Gypsies and Travellers who could be living in affordable housing in the Hertsmere area.
- 5.107 Representative parties did not provide any meaningful information as to where any Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople they house have moved from, the type of tenure they had been living in or the reason for needing to be housed.
- 5.108 Where representative parties monitor this information it is reliant on whether or not those completing the necessary application form, or who are asked to update their profiles, declare this information.
- 5.109 It was generally agreed that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople living in bricks and mortar housing may be reluctant or unwilling to be interviewed as part of the consultation because, it is believed, they are

suspicious of those in authority and also as to what the information will be used for. However, some stakeholders believe that the problem is not, why Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople would refuse or not want to be interviewed; the problem is identifying these households in the first place.

5.110 Some Stakeholders believe that bricks and mortar accommodation does not meet the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople because it is against their culture. One stakeholder commented that Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople do not choose to move into bricks and mortar housing, it is usually through necessity, and it is unlikely to meet their long term requirements or aspirations.

5.111 Some Stakeholders suggested that more information should be provided by the local housing authority in relation to whether prospective tenants are Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople. It is believed that this will help with the allocation of suitable properties and their cultural needs can be taken into consideration. It could also ensure that support can be put in place from the start of the tenancy should it be required; thus assisting in a sustained tenancy.

5.112 Representative parties did not raise any specific issues in relation to housing management of accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople.

5.113 One Stakeholder did highlight that there can be issues for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople being accommodated in bricks and mortar accommodation because of anti-social behaviour. It was believed that sometimes socialising takes place outside of the property such as in the garden or in the street and this can, on occasions, be noisy and upsetting to neighbours.

5.114 One stakeholder also suggested that there is discrimination in relation to Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople when housed in bricks and mortar housing from those who are from the settled community.

Accommodation and Management: Roadside Encampments/Transit

5.115 Stakeholders agree that roadside encampments are not regular occurrences in the Hertsmere area.

5.116 Some respondents believe that when encampments occur in the area they are because of specific events such as a wedding or they are visiting family or for work.

Gypsies and Travellers - Trends, Favoured Locations and Stopping Points

5.117 Respondents did not report any significant trends.

5.118 Respondents do not believe there were any particular locations or stopping points that are favoured by Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople in the Hertsmere area.

5.119 One stakeholder highlighted the fact that Hertfordshire more generally has good access roads e.g. the M25 to London and another stakeholder responded that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople are likely to be in areas where their families are located and because there has always been these communities in Hertfordshire and that is why they are here.

Future Accommodation Needs: Permanent and Transit Provision

5.120 Stakeholders have mixed views as to whether there is sufficient site provision in the Hertsmere area. The majority believe that additional sites should be provided and sites should be publicly owned and managed.

- 5.121 One respondent highlighted the number of private sites across Hertfordshire and raised concerns that those who could afford it were having their needs met and this was counting towards the Council's unmet need, whilst those Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople unable to afford to provide for themselves were not having their needs met; this is especially concerning for those who are sometimes vulnerable such as Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople who are older and/or who are in poor health.
- 5.122 Those respondents who highlighted the need for additional sites believe that there should be a mix of permanent and transit provision.
- 5.123 Respondents stated the following as important criteria to consider with regard to site location and design:
- » Access to amenities and facilities such as GPs, schools, shops, public transport etc.;
 - » Access to facilities on site such as water, electric, drainage and rubbish disposal;
 - » Sufficient access and space for emergency vehicles;
 - » That sites meet specific legal legislation such as the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960;
 - » In close proximity to other residential areas and not located in rural areas where residents could be isolated.
- 5.124 Stakeholders were unable to suggest locations for new sites. One respondent had concerns that the trend at present appeared to be the expansion of existing private sites and felt that only the Council should be able to consider creating any new sites.
- 5.125 Stakeholders did not have a preference as to who owns or manages sites; the consensus is that there should be a balance. One stakeholder held a belief that when there are issues on a site it is not because of the number of residents it is more related to who is living or wanting to live on the site.
- 5.126 The majority of stakeholders did not put forward a preferred size for a site other than one who stated that no more than 15 pitches would be considered manageable.

Community Cohesion, Employment, Health and Education Issues

- 5.127 Stakeholders in general agreed that there are issues around community cohesion. These challenges were not only between the settled community and Gypsies and Travellers but also between Gypsies and Travellers themselves.
- 5.128 Representative parties did not highlight any specific issues in relation to the housing of Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople in bricks and mortar accommodation in relation to anti-social behaviour or their integration into the settled community.
- 5.129 Some stakeholders believe that if sites were closer to the settled community Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople would become integrated into the wider community.
- 5.130 Some stakeholders believe that further work with regard to education needs to be undertaken with the Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople communities and the settled community in order that there is better understanding of the different cultures.

- 5.131 One stakeholder proposed that where an applicant has identified themselves as being a Gypsy, Traveller or Showperson and is nominated for affordable housing, discussions between the Council and the provider would be helpful to ensure better consideration of what type and location of accommodation may be suitable. This is especially advisable when an eviction is due to take place and residents have been accepted as homeless and been offered accommodation. Such discussions could decrease the risk of ghettoisation or the potential for warring families being housed in the same area.
- 5.132 The majority of Stakeholders stated that they believe Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople living on authorised sites and in bricks and mortar accommodation are able to access services relating to health and education. One stakeholder did mention that sometimes members of the Gypsy, Traveller or Showpeople communities are reluctant and/or sceptical of engaging with services they have little contact with or where there are cultural taboos such as mental health.
- 5.133 The majority of stakeholders are unable to respond as to whether Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople access employment opportunities. The majority of Stakeholders believe that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople are self-employed.

Cross Boundary and Consultation Activities

- 5.134 Stakeholders recorded that the following routes may be used by Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople: M1, M25 and A41.
- 5.135 The majority of Stakeholders do not believe that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople are moving from Hertsmere to other areas or vice versa, nor are they being forced to move between local authorities areas because of eviction.
- 5.136 Stakeholders generally believe that Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople are either based in Hertsmere or are Travellers passing through the area and stopping for a few days to break up the journey.
- 5.137 Stakeholders also generally believe that cross boundary working could be improved but examples of cross boundary working were suggested, such as the Hertfordshire Gypsy and Traveller Section Multi Agency Group and also work undertaken by Gypsy and Traveller Empowerment (GATE).
- 5.138 Stakeholders did not provide a view as to whether Hertsmere Borough Council is complying with the duty to cooperate with regards to Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople.
- 5.139 The majority of Stakeholders are not aware of any consultation with Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople on a regular basis. In some cases respondents gave examples of engagement rather than consultation.
- 5.140 Regular engagement with Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople is undertaken with residents on authorised sites together with support agencies for Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople, examples were given as ensuring improved safety. One stakeholder highlighted that engagement with those living on private sites was often a challenge.
- 5.141 Where engagement is undertaken and where consultation is occasionally carried out with regard to a specific reason such as the GTAA this is done via face to face contact. Issues relating to literacy were highlighted for Gypsies and Travellers in particular, and the belief is that face to face contact is the best way to communicate with these communities as, in the most part, it builds up trust.

5.142 One stakeholder believes that general engagement and encouraging Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople who had moved into bricks and mortar accommodation to become involved in the wider community has improved, but no suggestions as to why this has improved were given.

Future Priorities and Any Additional Issues

5.143 The majority of stakeholders believe that further site provision should be provided as a priority in Hertsmere. In terms of the type of sites, stakeholders suggested that public sites are needed in order to meet the needs of those that cannot afford to purchase their own land. Some stakeholders mooted the idea that another transit site within Hertfordshire should be considered.

5.144 Some concern was highlighted over the low levels of literacy within the Gypsy and Traveller community in particular. With the emphasis on information/digital technology it may be that members from these communities may find it even harder to access services from councils and Registered Providers for example.

5.145 One stakeholder raised concerns over the rifts between Irish Travellers and Gypsies especially in the Potters Bar area. A consideration for ethnic specific sites should be considered in order to resolve these issues.

5.146 One stakeholder raised a concern over whether anything would be achieved by undertaking another GTAA as there was a lot of expectation when the last one was completed and nothing seems to have materialised to meet the needs identified.

5.147 It is a belief that communication networks need to be improved with members of the Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople communities in order to ensure that improvements can be made to sites, such as safe access for emergency services.

Parish Survey

5.148 Three Parish Councils completed and returned the postal survey. Of the three, one has regular unauthorised encampments, one has a small private site and housed Travellers in the area and the third reported no Traveller sites.

5.149 Two Parishes reported tensions between the settled and Traveller communities.

6. Future Pitch Provision

Pitch Provision

- 6.1 This section focuses on the extra pitch provision which is required in Hertsmere currently and over the next 15 years to 2028 by 5 year segments. This includes both current unmet needs and needs which are likely to arise in the future.
- 6.2 We would note that this section is based upon a combination of the on-site survey, planning records and waiting list information. In many cases, the survey data is not used in isolation, but instead is used to validate information from planning records or other sources.
- 6.3 This section concentrates not only upon the total extra provision which is required in the area, but whether there is a need for any transit sites and/or emergency stopping place provision. The calculation will be firstly provided for Gypsies and Travellers, before being repeated for Travelling Showpeople.
- 6.4 Before commencing on the identification of future needs we would wish to note some key points. In 2010 the Coalition Government announced the planned abolition of all Regional Spatial Strategies and the advent of the Localism Act 2011, National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012 it should be the case that Local Plans rapidly replace the RSS as material consideration in planning decisions. It is also the case that we have not considered provision made in the period 2006-2013 and instead we are taking November 2013 as a baseline position for our estimates.
- 6.5 To identify future need, the March 2012 CLG document 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites', requires an assessment for future pitch requirements, but does not provide a suggested methodology for undertaking this calculation. However, in October 2007 Department of Communities and Local Government produced 'Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments: Guidance'. As with any housing assessment, the underlying calculation can be broken down into a relatively small number of factors. In this case, the key issue for residential pitches is to compare the supply of pitches available for occupation with the current and future needs of the households. The key factors in each of these elements are set out below:

Supply of pitches

- 6.6 Pitches which are available for use can come from a variety of sources. These include
- » Currently vacant pitches;
 - » Any pitches currently programmed to be developed within the study period.

Current Need

- 6.7 There are four key components of current need. Total current need is:

- » Households on unauthorised developments;
- » Concealed households;
- » Households in brick and mortar wishing to move to sites; and
- » Households on waiting lists wishing to move to sites.

Future Need

6.8 There are three key components of future need. Total future need is simply the sum of the following:

- » Households living on sites with temporary planning permissions;
- » New household formation expected during the study period; and
- » Migration to sites from outside the study area.

6.9 We will firstly provide the model as set out above for Gypsies and Travellers before repeating the calculation for Travelling Showpeople.

Current Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision

6.10 There are currently 31 pitches on public sites and 27 developed pitches on private sites in Hertsmere with permanent permissions. 1 pitch has a temporary planning permission and a further 7 pitches have no planning permission. A full list of sites is shown in Appendix A.

6.11 The next stage of the process is to assess how much space is, or will become available on existing sites. The main way of finding this is through:

- » Current empty pitches;
- » New sites or site extensions which are likely to gain planning permission.

6.12 ORS interviewers didn't find any unoccupied pitches on private or public sites. However, in its Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD consultation draft, Hertsmere Borough Council proposes an allocation to provide 3 additional pitches at the HCC traveller site at Sandy Lane, and the regularisation of 6 of the 7 pitches which exist on unauthorised sites elsewhere in Bushey. Therefore, we have included an additional supply of 9 pitches to help meet future needs.

Additional Site Provision: Current Need

6.13 The next stage of the process is to assess how many households are currently seeking pitches in the area. Groups of people who are likely to be seeking pitches will include those:

- » Households on unauthorised developments;
- » Concealed households;
- » Households in brick and mortar wishing to move to sites; and
- » Households on waiting lists wishing to move to sites.

Current Unauthorised Developments

- 6.14 There are currently 7 households on unauthorised developments across 4 sites in Hertsmere so we have allowed for 7 pitches to accommodate these households. As noted above, Hertsmere Borough Council intend to regularise the use of 6 of these pitches, but this has been included in the future supply figures, so the households on these sites must be included as need to prevent undercounting of need.

Concealed Households

- 6.15 The household survey also sought to identify concealed households who require a pitch immediately. A concealed household is one who is living within another household and would wish to form their own separate family unit, but are unable to do so because of a lack of space on public or private sites.
- 6.16 The household survey contains two main sources of information on concealed households. Firstly it asks how many households live on a pitch. In one case, only one respondent stated that there were more than one household on a pitch. However, this case was a family with young children who also have an older relative living with them who does not wish to form as a separate household.
- 6.17 Those who state that they do not live at the pitch permanently and do not have a permanent address also indicate a concealed household. In this case the household survey contained 6 households in this situation. One is on an unauthorised site and has been counted above. The remainder are living on the transit site. Four are seeking a permanent pitch and one is seeking to move to housing. We have therefore allowed for those households seeking a permanent pitch to be considered as concealed households living on a site where they should not remain beyond the 13 week period allowed. Therefore we have counted these 4 households as being concealed.

Bricks & Mortar and Waiting Lists

- 6.18 One possible source of information on bricks and mortar households is the public site waiting list. The method of registering a desire to obtain a pitch on a public site is through placing your name on the waiting list held by Hertfordshire County Council. Currently there are 130 households in total on the waiting list for a site in Hertfordshire, with 14 of these identifying the Sandy Lane site as their first preference. 4 of these are the concealed households on the transit site and 1 of these is in bricks and mortar in Hertsmere. The remaining 9 households are on other sites or bricks and mortar outside of Hertsmere. Where appropriate these will be counted as part of the component of net migration.
- 6.19 There is clearly a high potential to double count needs between areas when households are seeking to cross local authority boundaries. Therefore, from the 10 remaining households after concealed households have been excluded, we have taken a pragmatic view and counted 50% of the waiting list as need. This gives a further need of 5 pitches which includes the one household in bricks and mortar in Hertsmere.
- 6.20 ORS also worked with stakeholders, the Local Authority, on-site interviewees and also through advertising on Friends, Family and Travellers Facebook page to identify households in bricks and mortar. However, this process yielded no interviews.
- 6.21 We would also note that it would be possible for the Council to undertake an extremely expensive process to try and identify all households in bricks and mortar. However, the National Planning Policy Framework

requires councils to use a proportionate evidence base and the new National Planning Policy Guidance, Section 3, paragraph 1 recommends:

Plan makers should avoid expending significant resources on primary research (information that is collected through surveys, focus groups or interviews etc. and analysed to produce a new set of findings) as this will in many cases be a disproportionate way of establishing an evidence base.

6.22 Gypsies and Travellers are the only group in the community who are currently being surveyed on a regular basis with all other housing needs being assessed from secondary data. We would consider it disproportionate for a large scale expensive survey to be undertaken to assess the needs of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar.

6.23 It is also the case that within most face to face surveys undertaken on-site by ORS a small number of households are seeking to move to bricks and mortar. Therefore, it should be remembered that movement between housing and sites runs in both directions. In this case 4 households wished to leave the Sandy Lane site for bricks and mortar and 5 households wished to move from the waiting list to sites. Therefore, the net movement from the waiting list and between bricks and mortar and sites in 1 pitch.

Additional Site Provision: Future Need

6.24 The next stage of the process is to assess how many households are likely to be seeking pitches in the area in the future. Groups of people who are likely to be seeking pitches will include those:

- » Households living on sites with temporary planning permissions;
- » New household formation expected during the study period; and
- » Migration to sites from outside the study area.

Temporary Planning Permissions

6.25 Hertsmere currently has a single pitch site with a personal temporary planning permission until 2016. We have counted this site as part of the future needs.

New Household Formation

6.26 Many studies of Gypsy and Traveller populations assume a net growth in the population of around 3% per annum, and this figure was used in the East of England Regional plan. However, a 3% per annum growth rate will see household numbers double in 23.5 years and this figure has been widely used without any clear underlying evidence to support it.

6.27 In a study on behalf of Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in 2003 (Local Authority Gypsy and Traveller Sites in England Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2003), Pat Niner identified that household growth rates of 2%-3% per cent a year were appropriate when projecting future formations.

6.28 In October 2007 the Department of Communities and Local Government issued guidance for conducting Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments. On page 25 this provides a worked example using a 3% per annum household formation rate, but notes in footnote 6 that:

'The 3% family formation growth rate is used here as an example only. The appropriate rate for individual assessments will depend on the details identified in the local survey, information from agencies working directly with local Gypsy and Traveller communities, and trends identified from figures previously given for the caravan count.'

6.29 Therefore, the current guidance is clear that each individual assessment should use local evidence for future household formation rates. This position was confirmed in a letter from the Planning Minister, Brandon Lewis MP to Andrew Selous MP which was placed in the House of Commons library on March 26th 2014. It stated:

'I can confirm that the annual growth rate figure of 3% does not represent national planning policy.'

The previous Administration's guidance for local authorities on carrying out Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments under the Housing Act 2004 is unhelpful in that it uses an illustrative example of calculating future accommodation need based on the 3% growth rate figure. The guidance notes that the appropriate rate for individual assessments will depend on the details identified in the local authority's own assessment of need. As such the Government is not endorsing or supporting the 3% growth rate figure.'

6.30 ORS have produced a detailed separate paper 'Household Formation Rates for Gypsies and Travellers: Technical Note' which demonstrates that the likely rate of growth for the population of Gypsies and Travellers across the whole of England based upon the best available evidence is closer to 1.5% per annum. Officials from Communities and Local Government have seen the technical note and confirmed that they have not undertaken any research on population or household growth for Gypsies and Travellers, and therefore have no information which contradicts this position.

6.31 A population growth rate of 1.5% will not necessarily equate to a household growth rate of 1.5%. Instead household growth rates may be higher. For example, across the whole of England for the entirety of the population, the Office for National Statistics project in their 2011 based population a natural change in the population of 0.5% per annum and an overall change of 0.83% per annum when the effects of migration are added. 2011 based household projections produced by Communities and Local Government show a projected rise in households of 0.95% per annum.

6.32 However, ORS believe that the 3% figure often used in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments is too high to be used as a fixed value for all studies. Instead, we consider a range of values which typically vary from 1.5% up to high of 2.5% unless the population is exceptionally young. For Hertsmere we have provided a range of figures from 1.5% to 3%. Across the country, ORS consider 2% per annum to be an appropriate rate of growth for future formation rates and the age profile of the population on site in Hertsmere is typical of that to be found elsewhere. Therefore, we have used a 2% growth rate in our main calculations, but have also provided alternative figures for higher or lower formation rates if Hertsmere wish to consider adopting these. Clearly a higher rate of delivery would lead to the council facing less risk at EIPs, planning appeals and public inquiries.

6.33 We would note that extrapolating ONS and CLG population projections for this time period will see the population of Hertsmere rise by 8% due to natural change with a further 12% due to migration. Overall household numbers are projected to rise by around 20% in the period 2014-2028 from CLG household projections.

- 6.34 We have used the 66 pitches on site, plus a net 1 household in bricks and mortar and 4 concealed households as a baseline for the growth in the population. On this basis, the table below sets out the potential number of new household formations in Hertsmere

Figure 1

New Household Formations in the Period 2014-2028 for Different Rates of Future Household Growth

Annual Net Growth Rate	Number of formations to 2028
1.50%	18
1.75%	21
2.00%	25
2.25%	28
2.50%	32
2.75%	36
3.00%	40

In-migration from Other Sources

- 6.35 The most complicated area for a survey such as this is to estimate how many households will require accommodation from outside the area. Potentially Gypsies and Travellers could move to the Hertsmere area from anywhere in the country. The number of households seeking to move to Hertsmere is likely to be heavily dependent upon pitch provision elsewhere. It has been noted that a weakness of many Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments conducted across the country has been that they either allowed for out-migration without in-migration which led to under-counting of need, or they over-counted need by assuming every household visiting the area required a pitch.
- 6.36 Overall the level of in-migration to the Hertsmere area is a very difficult issue to predict. We have allowed for a balanced level of migration on to existing sites. The advantage of allowing for net migration to sum to zero is that it avoids the problems seen with other Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments where the modelling of migration clearly identified too low or high a level of total pitch provision. An assumption of net nil migration implies that the net pitch requirement is driven by locally identifiable need. ORS would note that we consulted with CLG in 2013 and were told that Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments were not the correct place to consider the redistribution of needs across local authority boundaries. And instead that this was the role of the Duty to Cooperate.
- 6.37 Beyond this number, rather than assess in-migrant households seeking to develop new sites in the area, we would propose that each case is assessed as a desire to live in the area and that site criteria rules are followed for each new site. It is important for the authorities to have clear criteria based planning policies in place for any new potential sites which do arise.

Overall Needs for Hertsmere

^{6.38} The estimated extra site provision that is required until 2028 is for **29 additional pitches**. This includes the existing households on unauthorised sites, concealed households, those on the waiting list for a public site and the growth in household numbers due to household formation.

Figure 22
Extra Pitches which are Required in Hertsmere from 2014-2028

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	9	
Total Supply		9	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area	7	-	
Concealed households	4	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar and the waiting list	1	-	
Total Current Need	12		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	1	-	
Net migration to the area	0	--	
Net new household formation	25	-	
Total Future Needs	26	-	
Total	38	9	29

Requirement by Time Periods

^{6.39} It is recommended that, based on the evidence contained in this study, 10 additional pitches are required in the next 5 years. This is on the basis of all unmet need being met in the first 5 years rather than it being spread over the full 15 year period⁵. There is a total requirement for 19 additional pitches but 9 of these are already included as supply in the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies draft DPD. This total of 19 reflects the following:

- » The requirement for 11 pitches to meet the current need of households on unauthorised sites (7) and concealed households (4).
- » The need that will arise during this period when the temporary planning permission for 1 pitch expires in 2016.
- » The need for 7 pitches through new household formation. The total new household formation over the 15 year study period has been apportioned based on a new compound growth rate of 2.00%. The age profiles⁶ of site residents identified during the site surveys

⁵ It is recognised that for general housing needs alternative approaches to whether all unmet needs are met in the first 5 years or the full plan period can be taken.

⁶ See Page 16 Paragraph 3.2

indicates that this level of household growth can be expected during the first 5 year period.

- 6.40 The remaining new household formation has been apportioned over the remaining 5 year periods based on a net compound growth rate of 2.00%.

Figure 33
Split by Time Period to 2014-2028

Local Authority	2014-2018	2019-2023	2024-2028	Total
Current need⁷	11	0	0	11
Bricks and Mortar/Waiting List	0	1	0	1
Temporary permission	1	0	0	1
Household formation	7	9	9	25
Supply of additional pitches	-9	0	0	-9
Total	10	10	9	29

Site Delivery

- 6.41 As noted in section 1 of this report, ORS have consulted with CLG over issues such as whether paragraphs 47 and 159 of the National Planning Policy Framework apply to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople site provision and have been informed that they do not. Therefore, there is no need for Hertsmere to consider needs at their housing market area level or for them to have a 20% land supply buffer due to previous under-provision of pitches. The view of CLG is that they simply want local authorities to provide additional pitches to meet identifiable needs and that these pitches can be delivered through a variety of means and that delivery should be consistent with providing choices to the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 6.42 As also noted earlier, HCA funding for additional pitches has now been allocated and there is no commitment to provide more beyond 2015. However, local authorities can still seek to deliver public pitches through Section 106 agreements with developers.
- 6.43 It is also possible to meet needs through working with land owners to develop private rented sites and if necessary allowing the households on these to meet the rents through the local housing allowance. Local authorities can also look at the disposal of their own land holdings to provide for either public or private sites.
- 6.44 It is also the case that local authorities can work with individual land owners to provide for small family owned sites.

Transit/Emergency Stopping Site Provision

- 6.45 Transit sites serve a specific function of meeting the needs of Gypsy and Traveller households who are visiting an area or who are passing through on the way to somewhere else. A transit site typically has a restriction on the length of stay of around 13 weeks and has a range of facilities such as water supply, electricity and amenity blocks.

⁷ Unauthorised sites and concealed households

- 6.46 An alternative to a transit site is an emergency stopping place. This type of site also has restrictions on the length of time for which someone can stay on it, but has much more limited facilities with typically only a source of water and chemical toilets provided. Some authorities also operate an accepted encampment policy where households are provided with access to lighting, drinking water, refuse collection and hiring of portable toilets at a cost to the Travellers.
- 6.47 The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 is particularly important with regard to the issue of Gypsy and Traveller transit site provision. Section 62A of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act allows the police to direct trespassers to remove themselves and their vehicles and property from any land where a suitable pitch on a relevant caravan site is available within the same local authority area (or within the county in two-tier local authority areas).
- 6.48 A suitable pitch on a relevant caravan site is one which is situated in the same local authority area as the land on which the trespass has occurred, and which is managed by a local authority, registered social landlord, or other person or body as specified by order by the Secretary of State. In two tier authority areas, where a district council is situated within a wider county council area, the relevant caravan site may be anywhere within the county council area. Case law has confirmed that a suitable pitch must be somewhere where the household can occupy their caravan and bricks and mortar housing is not a suitable alternative to a pitch.
- 6.49 Therefore, a public transit site both provides a place for households in transit to an area and also a mechanism for greater enforcement action against inappropriate unauthorised encampments. There is currently an operational public transit site in Hertsmere at South Mimms, managed by Hertfordshire County Council. The site has a history of management problems and as noted above, a number of households are effectively living on the transit site because of a lack of space on public sites with permanent pitches. Clearly it would be easier to resolve the issues with permanent pitch provision which would help to release the transit site back to its original and proper use rather than provide for additional transit provision. Therefore, this assessment does not consider that additional transit provision is required in Hertsmere and that all additional provision should be for permanent pitches and that this will help to relieve pressure on the existing transit sites.

Needs for Plots for Travelling Showpeople

- 6.50 Hertsmere does not contain any known yards for Showpeople or Circus Performers. No stakeholders, who included the Showmen's Guild, was able to provide any information on any groups who would wish to live in the area. While potentially Showpeople or Circus Performers may seek to develop a new site in the borough, there is no evidence of provision being necessary. Again it is still important for Hertsmere to have criteria based planning policies in place in the event of someone seeking to develop a new Showpeople's site in the area.

7. Conclusions

Introduction

- 7.1 This chapter brings together the evidence presented earlier in the report to provide some key policy conclusions for Hertsmere. It focuses upon the key issues of future site provision for Gypsies and Travellers and also Travelling Showpeople.

Gypsy and Traveller Future Residential Pitch Provision

- 7.2 Based upon the evidence presented in Chapter 6, the estimated extra residential pitch provision that is required for Gypsies and Travellers in Hertsmere over the next 15 years is **29 additional pitches** to address local needs. The table below shows the requirements by 5 year time periods until 2028.
- 7.3 This recommendation is on the basis of all unmet need being met in the first 5 years rather than it being spread over the full 15 year period⁸. The remaining new household formation has been apportioned over the remaining 5 year periods based on a net compound growth rate of 2.00%.

Figure 14
Split by Time Period to 2014-2028

Local Authority	2014-2018	2019-2023	2024-2028	Total
Current need ⁹	11	0	0	11
Bricks and Mortar/Waiting List	0	1	0	1
Temporary permission	1	0	0	1
Household formation	7	9	9	25
Supply of additional pitches	-9	0	0	-9
Total	10	10	9	29

Transit/Emergency Stopping Site Provision

- 7.4 There is currently an operational public transit site at South Mimms which is managed by Hertfordshire County Council. The site has a history of management problems and a number of households are effectively living permanently on the transit site because of a lack of space on public sites. Clearly it would be easier to resolve the issues with permanent pitch provision which would help to release the transit site back to its original and proper use rather than provide for additional transit provision. Therefore, this assessment does not consider that additional transit provision is required in Hertsmere and that all additional provision should be for permanent pitches and that this will help to relive pressure on the existing transit site.

⁸ It is recognised that for general housing needs alternative approaches to whether all unmet needs are met in the first 5 years or the full plan period can be taken.

⁹ Unauthorised sites and concealed households

Travelling Showpeople Future Plot Provision

- ^{7.5} Hertsmere does not contain any known yards for Showpeople or Circus Performers. No stakeholders, who included the Showmen's Guild, were able to provide any information on any groups who would wish to live in the area. While potentially Showpeople or Circus Performers may seek to develop a new site in the borough, there is no evidence of provision being necessary. Again it is still important for Hertsmere to have criteria based planning policies in place in the event of someone seeking to develop a new Showpeople's site in the area.

Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Hertsmere

Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Hertsmere

Site	Number of Pitches
Local Authority Sites	
Sandy Lane	30
South Mimms Transit Site	1 (15 transit)
TOTAL PITCHES ON LOCAL AUTHORITY SITES	31
Private Sites with Permanent Permission	
Brookes Place, Potters Bar	25
Woodlands Yard	1
One Acre	1
TOTAL PITCHES ON PRIVATE SITES WITH PERMANENT PERMISSION	27
Private Sites with Temporary Permission	
The Conifers	1
TOTAL PITCHES ON PRIVATE SITES WITH TEMPORARY PERMISSION	1
Tolerated Sites – Long-term without planning permission	
-	-
TOTAL PITCHES ON LONG-TERM TOLERATED PRIVATE SITES	0
Unauthorised Developments	
Gullimore Farm	4
Roadside site near Shenleybury	1
Chapman's Yard	2
One Acre	(transit)
TOTAL PITCHES ON UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS	7
TOTAL PITCHES	66

Appendix B: Site Questionnaire



Hertsmere Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Survey November 2013—On-Site

INTERVIEWER READ OUT: Good Morning/afternoon/evening. My name is < > from Opinion Research Services, working on behalf of Hertsmere Borough Council. The council is undertaking a study of Gypsy & Traveller accommodation needs in this area. We would like you to take part because it is important that we interview a wide cross-section of people. Your family will not be identified and all the information collected will be anonymous and only used to help understand the needs of Gypsy and Traveller households. You do not have to answer all the questions but the more information you can provide the better the survey will be. The survey will take around 20-25 minutes to complete.

Name of Site and address:

A General Trends

A1a Do you consider this site to be your permanent base?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Yes → Go to A2

No → Ask (b)

A1b INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS IT'S NOT THEIR PERMANENT BASE.

If this isn't you permanent base, why are you currently living on the site?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible or at least name of town/village

A1c Where do you consider your permanent base to be?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible or at least name of town/village

A1d Thinking of your current location, have you travelled to this area before?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Yes → Ask (e)

No → Go to A2

A1e When did you start visiting this area?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Less than 2 years ago

5 years ago but less than 10 years ago

2 years ago but less than 5 years ago

10 years ago or longer

A2 What are your connections with this area?

INTERVIEWER: Please read out options and code all that apply

Always lived in this area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends are from this area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lived here a long time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family members work here	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grew up in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Children go to school here	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have a tradition of travelling to/through this area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family members receive care/support from Council/other local services here	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family are from this area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Own land in this area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

B

Your accommodation

INTERVIEWER READ OUT: I'd now like to ask you some more detailed questions about you and your family's needs and hopes.

B1 Including this accommodation, how many of each type of accommodation do you have on this pitch?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box in each row

	None	One	Two	Three or more
Trailer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile Home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of home (Please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B2 How long have you and your family lived on this site?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Less than a week	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 year but less than 3 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 week but less than one month	<input type="checkbox"/>	3 years but less than 5 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 month but less than 6 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	5 years or more	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 months but less than 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/>		

B3a Is this pitch...? INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please cross one box only

Owner occupied pitch <u>with</u> permission	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B3b
Privately rented pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B4a
An authorised public site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B4a
An unauthorised development	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B4a
An unauthorised encampment	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B4a
A tolerated site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B3b
A transit site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B4a
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B4a
Other type of site (Please write in below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B4a
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>			

B3b Would you be interested in working with Hertsmere Borough Council to explore the provision of additional pitches on this site?

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B3c
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B4a
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B4a

B3c Ideally, how many extra pitches would you expect to be able to accommodate on this site? INTERVIEWER: Please probe for estimate and write in below. **If answer is given in trailers MAKE SURE this is CLEARLY stated.**

B4a Does your current accommodation and site meet all of your needs in terms of accommodation quality and space; and site facilities, location and management?

*INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only*

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B5
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b) and following

B4b Why does this accommodation not meet your needs?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

Accommodation in poor state of repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	No play area for children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too small	<input type="checkbox"/>	Site management	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too large	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pitch location on site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lacking facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Too far from other family members	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site too far from services	<input type="checkbox"/>	No space for visiting caravans on site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site too noisy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Can't conduct business on site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site not safe enough	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site too dirty/polluted	<input type="checkbox"/>		

B4c If you feel existing facilities are lacking, what further facilities are needed ?

Please write in below giving as much detail as possible

B4d Do you feel that your needs can be addressed at this pitch or would you have to move to another pitch/site? INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please cross **one box only**

Can be addressed at this pitch	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B5
Would like to move to another pitch at this site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (e)
Would like to move to another site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (e)

B4e Are you on any of the following accommodation waiting lists?

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please code all that apply.

Housing (bricks and mortar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (f)
Council site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (f)
Private site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (f)
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B5
Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (f)

B4f IF ON A WAITING LIST: INTERVIEWER READ OUT

Which waiting lists are you currently on? Please write in below giving as much detail as possible, i.e. Which Council or Housing Association?

B5a Is there anyone else who needs to live with you, but is not able to at present?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B6a

B5b Who are the people who would need to live here that are not able to at present?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply

Husband, wife or partner	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grandparent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Son or daughter (inc. adopted, step-, fostered & -in-law)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grandchild	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brother or sister (inc. half-, step & -in-law)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not related	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent (inc. -in-law)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other related <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Niece or nephew	<input type="checkbox"/>		

B5c Where do they currently live? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible (at least town/village)

B5d In what type of accommodation do they currently live?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

Have their own pitch on an authorised site	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bricks and mortar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharing with another household on an authorised site	<input type="checkbox"/>	Overseas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unauthorised development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unauthorised encampment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transit site	<input type="checkbox"/>		

B6a Are additional caravans/residential units needed at this pitch? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B7a and following

B6b Which members of your household need additional caravans/residential units ?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply

Older children	Adult relatives	Other (Please write in)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

B6c How many additional caravans/residential units are needed?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

One	Two	Three	Four	Five or more
<input type="checkbox"/>				

B6d In your view, is there space on your existing pitch for these extra caravans/residential units?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B7a Would any members of your household like to leave permanently to live elsewhere in the next two years? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B8
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B8

B7b INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS YES

Which members of the household like to leave permanently to live elsewhere in the next two years and why? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

B7c What type of accommodation would they like to move to? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and probe for most desired.

Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:	Private site owned by others	<input type="checkbox"/>
House	Private site owned by you	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bungalow	Authorised transit site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flat	Unauthorised encampment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caravan/trailer that is on a:	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council run site	Other Please write in below	<input type="checkbox"/>

B7d Where would they like to move to? INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply.

Borehamwood	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potters Bar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bushey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Radlett	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shenley	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Mimms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elsewhere in Hertsmere (please state where below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	

Bedfordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
Essex	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buckinghamshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
North London	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elsewhere in Hertfordshire (please state where below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	
Other (please write in below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	

B7e If it is not possible for them to move to their preferred location, where else would they consider moving to ? INTERVIEWER: write in below.

B7f Are they on any of the following accommodation waiting lists? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

Housing (bricks and mortar)	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (g)
Council site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (g)
Private site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (g)
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (h)
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (h)
Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (g)
<input type="text"/>			

B7g IF ON A WAITING LIST: INTERVIEWER READ OUT

Which waiting lists are they currently on? INTERVIEWER: Please write in below giving as much detail as possible

B7h Do you expect them to be able to move to their desired location?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B7i and THEN GO TO B8
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask B7i and following

B7i Why do you think this is the case? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible

B7j Do you expect them to move to any new permanent base in the next two years?

*INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only*

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (k)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B8
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to B8

B7k What type of accommodation would you expect them to move to? *INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and probe for most desired.*

Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:		Private site owned by others	<input type="checkbox"/>
House	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private site owned by you	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bungalow	<input type="checkbox"/>	Authorised transit site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flat	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unauthorised encampment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caravan/trailer that is on a:		Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council run site	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px;"></div>	

B7l Where do you expect them to establish this permanent base?

Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible

B8 What improvements, if any, could be made to this site? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe but do not prompt and code all that apply.*

Better toilet facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Space for visitors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better washing facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Car parking	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better site management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lorry parking	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better site layout	<input type="checkbox"/>	Play area	<input type="checkbox"/>
More pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	Improved road surfacing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Less pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	Play area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larger pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pest control	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better access to main road	<input type="checkbox"/>	Better landscaping	<input type="checkbox"/>
CCTV	<input type="checkbox"/>	Site safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workshops for business	<input type="checkbox"/>	No improvements required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Storage for business needs (e.g. for tools)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not applicable (if unauthorised site)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refuse storage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B9a How satisfied or dissatisfied are you living here? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and cross **one** box only

Very satisfied <input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly satisfied <input type="checkbox"/>	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/>	Fairly dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/>	Very dissatisfied <input type="checkbox"/>
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B9b Why do you say that? INTERVIEWER: Probe but do not prompt. Please write in below

C Travelling

C1a How many trips, living in a caravan or trailer, have you made away from this pitch/ your permanent base in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

None –did not travel	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C4a
One	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask C1b
Two	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask C1b
Three	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask C1b
Four	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask C1b
Five or more	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask C1b

C1b In total how much time did you spend travelling in a caravan or trailer away from this pitch / your permanent base in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Less than 1 month <input type="checkbox"/>	1 month but less than 3 months <input type="checkbox"/>	3 months but less than 6 months <input type="checkbox"/>	6 months but less than 12 months <input type="checkbox"/>	Travelled all year round <input type="checkbox"/>
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C1c Which of the following types of stopping places did you travel to in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply,

An authorised private site <input type="checkbox"/>	A transit site <input type="checkbox"/>
An authorised public site (Council) <input type="checkbox"/>	A travelling show site <input type="checkbox"/>
An unauthorised development <input type="checkbox"/>	Other type of site Please write in below <input type="checkbox"/>
An unauthorised encampment <input type="checkbox"/>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px;"></div>

C2a Was this level of travelling normal, or has it changed in the past few years? INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Normal	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C3
Travelled less in recent years	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
Travelled more in recent years	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)

C2b Why have your travelling patterns changed in recent years? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

C3a Do you travel to particular places at certain times of the year? INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C5

C3b What time of year/season do you typically travel? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply

Summer (June - Aug)	Autumn (Sept- Nov)	Winter (Dec - Feb)	Spring (March - May)	All year round
<input type="checkbox"/>				

C3c What are your main reasons for travelling?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe but do not prompt and code all that apply.

For work	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to D1a
Family reasons	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to D1a
For a holiday	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to D1a
Fairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to D1a
Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to D1a

C4a You reported that you did not travel in the last 12 months. Have you travelled in the past? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to D1a

C4b If yes, why did you not travel in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply,

So children can receive education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Want a more settled lifestyle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Due to ill-health of some family members	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of casual employment in other areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Due to old age of some family members	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Please write in below	<input type="checkbox"/>
No longer easy to camp on the side of the road when travelling	<input type="checkbox"/>		

D Bricks and Mortar

D1a Do you own or rent a house, bungalow or flat? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to D1e
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask D1b

D1b Have you ever lived in a house, bungalow or flat? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask D1c
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E1a

D1c Why did you leave? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

D1d When did you last live in this type of accommodation?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Less than one year ago	<input type="checkbox"/>	5 years but less than 10 years ago	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 year but less than 3 years ago	<input type="checkbox"/>	10 years ago or longer	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 years but less than 5 years ago	<input type="checkbox"/>		

D1e Why do you/did you live in 'bricks and mortar' accommodation? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

E The Future

E1a Do you need to move to a new permanent base, either now or in the next 15 years?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask E1b
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1

E1b What are your main reasons for needing a new permanent base?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

E1c Ideally where do you want to establish this permanent base?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply.

Borehamwood	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bedfordshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potters Bar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Essex	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bushey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Buckinghamshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
Radlett	<input type="checkbox"/>	North London	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shenley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elsewhere in Hertfordshire (please state where below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Mimms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px;"></div>	
Elsewhere in Herts mere (please state where below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please write in below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px;"></div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px;"></div>	

E1d What are your main reasons for needing to move to this location?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

E1ei If you move to a new permanent base, would you prefer to live in a city/town or village, close to a town or village, or in a rural location? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only*

In a city/town/village <input type="checkbox"/>	Adjacent or close to a town/village <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural <input type="checkbox"/>
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E1eii What do you think is important when deciding where a site should be located?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

E1f Do you expect to be able to move to your ideal location? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only*

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E2a
No <input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask E1g
Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E2a

E1g Why do you not expect to be able to move to your desired location? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below in as much detail as possible*

E1h Do you expect to move to a new permanent base in the next two years? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only*

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask E1i
No <input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E2a
Don't know <input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E2a

E1i Where do you expect to establish this permanent base? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below in as much detail as possible*

E2a If you move to a new permanent base, which of the following types of accommodation would you most like to move to? *INTERVIEWER: Please READ OUT and probe for most desired. Cross one box only.*

Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:

House	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1
Bungalow	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1
Flat	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1

Caravan/trailer that is on a...

Council run site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E3a
Private site owned by others	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E3a
Private site owned by you	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask E2b
Transit site	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E3a
Unauthorised encampment	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E3a
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1
Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E3a

E2b If you purchased your own land to establish a site, in which of the following ways would you be most likely to live on that site?

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and cross one box only

Just your family live on the land	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E2d
Allow other families/anyone to rent/have pitches	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask E2c
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to E2d

E2c Who in general would you let pitches to?

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.

Close family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anyone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extended family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Close friends	<input type="checkbox"/>		

E2d Ideally, how many pitches would you expect to accommodate on the land?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe for estimate and write in below. If answer is given in trailers MAKE SURE this is CLEARLY stated.

E2e Would you be able to afford to buy your own land?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes	No	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

E3a Do you know of any sites or land that would be suitable for Gypsy and Traveller use which would need permanent planning permission? *INTERVIEWER: The Council are looking for potential sites anywhere in the district. Please cross **one** box only*

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask E3b
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F1

E3b Where is the land/site located?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible on location and write in

E3c Who owns the land/site? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible and write in*

E3d Can you provide contact details for the landowner? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible and write in*

F Family Profiles

F1 To which of these groups do you consider (i) you and (ii) other members of your household belong? Choose as many or as few as apply.

*INTERVIEWER: READ OUT and code **one** for (i) and all that apply for (ii)*

(i) You

(ii) Other household members

	(i) You	(ii) Other household members
Romany Gypsy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scots Gypsy or Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Showperson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
English Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Welsh Gypsy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bargee Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other <i>Please write in below</i>		

F2a For each person in your household, including yourself, please provide their age, gender and relationship to you. *INTERVIEWER: Please write gender as 'M' or 'F', the age in years. Do not include those who only live the household for some of the time/part of the year. E.g. a 7 year old daughter would be...*

		Person 1-respondent		Person 2		Person 3		Person 4	
F	7	Gender	Age	Gender	Age	Gender	Age	Gender	Age
Daughter		YOU		Relationship		Relationship		Relationship	
		Person 5		Person 6		Person 7		Person 8	
		Gender	Age	Gender	Age	Gender	Age	Gender	Age
		Relationship		Relationship		Relationship		Relationship	

F2b How many households live at this pitch?

INTERVIEWER: WRITE NUMBER IN BELOW

IF THIS NUMBER IS MORE THAN ONE THEN PLEASE SEEK TO CARRY OUT ANOTHER FULL INTERVIEW WITH OTHER HOUSEHOLD (S) LIVING AT THE PITCH.

F2c How many people live at this pitch?

INTERVIEWER: WRITE NUMBER IN BELOW

F3a For each permanent household member aged 16 or over including yourself, please tell me their current working status. Are they?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply for each relevant person

	Person 1 (Respondent)	Person 2	Person 3	Person 4
Working in a permanent job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking casual/ temporary work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking seasonal work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student/full-time education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retired	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long term sick/disabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Looking after home/family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full time carer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F3a Continued.....For each permanent household member aged 16 or over including yourself, please tell me their current working status. Are they?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply for each relevant person

	Person 5	Person 6	Person 7	Person 8
Working in a permanent job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking casual/temporary work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking seasonal work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student/full-time education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retired	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long term sick/disabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Looking after home/family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full time carer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INTERVIEWER: If respondent or anyone else in the household is currently undertaking work, please ask F3b. If respondent is not currently working, please go to F3c.

F3b *INTERVIEWER: Please ask if respondent is currently working.*

What type of work do you or any other household members currently undertake?

INTERVIEWER: Please write in type of work (e.g. building work or gardening) for respondent only.

F3c Have you undertaken any other type of work during the last two years? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only*

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask F3d
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F4a

F3d What other types of work have you undertaken?

INTERVIEWER: Please write in types of work (e.g. building work or gardening) for respondent only.

F4a Do you or any of the people currently living as part of your household suffer from any health problem? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe such as asthma, back problem, nerves or depression and cross one box only*

Yes



Ask F4b

No



Go to F5

F4b Does your existing pitch meet the needs of those suffering with health problems identified in F4a? *INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only*

Yes



Go to F5

No



Ask F4c

F4c If not why?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in.

F5 Are you aware of anyone in the Gypsy and Traveller community living in bricks and mortar housing in the Hertsmere area who may wish to take part in this survey?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes

Please provide contact details below

No

Go to end

Name

Address

Telephone

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT: Thank you very much for your time.

May I also take your name, telephone number and address? ORS may wish to contact you to confirm that this interview took place. These details will only be used for this purpose and will not be passed on to anyone else.

INTERVIEWER: IN THE FIRST INSTANCE WE REQUIRE THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBER, FOLLOWED BY THEIR POSTAL ADDRESS

RESPONDENT'S NAME

RESPONDENT'S TEL

RESPONDENT'S ADDRESS

RESPONDENT'S POSTCODE

INTERVIEWER: IF THE RESPONDENT REFUSES ON ANY OF THE ABOVE DETAILS, PLEASE TRY TO OBTAIN AN EMAIL ADDRESS

RESPONDENT'S EMAIL ADDRESS

Thank you for your time and help completing this questionnaire.

Interviewer Declaration

I certify that I have conducted this interview personally with the person named above in accordance with the Market Research Society Code of Conduct.

Interviewer's signature

Interview Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Date of interview
(DD/MM/YYYY)

Time of interview
(24HR CLOCK)

Duration of Interview