

Enfield Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2024 Update

Enfield Council

Final Report

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The London Borough of Enfield 2024 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) is an update to the 2020 study and provides evidence to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the borough.

The GTAA update has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data including the 2021 Census.
- A review of findings from interviews and data obtained in the 2020 study.

There are currently no Gypsy and Traveller sites or Showperson yards in the borough but the previous study identified a need. Since the 2020 study, a steering group has been established to support Travelling communities and extensive work is being carried out to promote site development.

The findings of the 2024 study provide an up-to-date, robust and defensible evidence base for policy development.

The GTAA has been updated to include 2021 Census data and removes reference to 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 'nomadic habit of life' definition as government reverted back to the 2012 definition following the Lisa Smith Court of Appeal judgement in 2023.

Population and current accommodation provision

The 2021 Census identified a population of 372 people who identified as 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' or 'Gypsy/Romany' plus 1,120 people identifying as 'Roma' living in the borough and an estimate of 125 households where the household reference person identifies as being a Gypsy/Traveller, all of whom lived in bricks and mortar accommodation.

There are no authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites or Travelling Showperson yards in the borough.

In January and July each year, councils carry out a Traveller caravan count to inform DLUHC statistics. Most of the bi-annual DLUHC Traveller caravan counts (July 2019 to July 2023) reported zero caravan but the July 2023 count reported 30 caravans which were associated with tolerated negotiated stopping arrangements. A Travelling Showerson count takes place every January and data for the period 2017 to 2023 identified zero caravans.

Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

The 2023 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states in Paragraph 63 *'the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should*

be assessed and reflected in planning policy (including travellers)’. A footnote in the NPPF then states ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers’ housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document’.

The 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Site (PPTS) document states that *‘local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning’ and ‘ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies’ and ‘to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply’.*

In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc4 reflect the PPTS, build upon those methods established through previous guidance, our practical experience and decisions made at planning inquiries and appeals.

Need assessment period

As this is an update to the existing evidence base, need has been assessed over the same five-year short-term period 2020/21 to 2024/25 and longer-term period has been extended from 2025/26 to 2040/41.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

There is an overall need for 30 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches across the borough over the period 2020/21 to 2040/41 (Table ES1). Of this need, 16 are needed in the first five years (2020/21 to 2024/25) and 14 over the remaining period to 2040/41.

Needs analysis considers the needs arising from existing households in the borough and newly-forming households.

Notwithstanding evidence in this GTAA on need, additional need may arise over the plan period, for instance households moving into Enfield Borough. It is therefore recommended the council has criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for private sites should they arise.

Table ES1 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2020/21 to 2040/41

Period	Pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2020/21 to 2024/25) (A)	16
Longer-term need	
Over period 2025/26 to 2029/30 (B)	3
Over period 2030/31 to 2034/35(C)	4
Over period 2035/36 to 2040/41 (D)	7
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2040/41 (21 years) E=(B+C+D)	14
NET SHORTFALL 2020/21 to 2040/41 (A+E) (26 years)	30

Transit provision

There is currently no transit site provision in Enfield but has a highly effective negotiated stopping policy in place. There is an ongoing need for spaces where people can stop safely. The scale of need in Enfield for negotiated stopping emphasises the need for the council to identify land for use as a stop-over site. Based on evidence from the 2020 GTAA and the ongoing need for transit provision, there is a need for land for permanent stop over locations to accommodate at least 15 caravans at one time. This could be accommodated either through a transit site or stop over location(s) identified by the local authority.

Travelling Showperson plot requirements

There is currently no Travelling Showperson provision in Enfield. The 2009 Greater London GTANA had identified a need for 3 plots over the period 2007-2017 but the council have had no applications for plots since 2007. The Enfield GTANA has not evidenced any need for additional Travelling Showperson plots in the borough. However, it is recommended that the council should respond to any emerging need over the plan period through its planning policy.

1. Introduction

Overview

- 1.1 In March 2024 arc4 was commissioned by London Borough of Enfield Council to prepare a 2024 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). This new GTAA updates the 2020 study.
- 1.2 The overall scope of the GTAA is to ensure that the council has a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision over the period 2020/21 to 2040/41 and to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

Who the study covers?

- 1.3 In December 2023, the government announced that it was reverting to the definition of Gypsies and Travellers as set out within Annex 1 of the 2012 PPTS:
‘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 dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling Showpeople [sic] or circus people travelling together as such.’
- 1.1 Similarly, the following definition from Annex 1 of the Guidance in respect of Travelling Showpeople is used:
‘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 own or their family’s or dependants’ 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.’
- 1.4 In addition:
‘For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use pitches for “travelling showpeople”, which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.’ (DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 5).
- 1.5 For the purposes of this study, therefore, Gypsies and Travellers live on pitches within sites, whilst Travelling Showpeople live on plots within yards.

Geography and time frame for the study

- 1.6 This study relates to the geographical area of the London Borough of Enfield.

1.7 The timeframe for the study is 2020/21 to 2040/41.

1.8 The basedate for the study is March 2024.

Report structure

1.9 The GTAA 2024 update report structure is as follows:

- **Chapter 1 Introduction:** provides an overview of the study.
- **Chapter 2 Policy and local context:** presents a review of the national policy context which guides the study.
- **Chapter 3 Methodology:** provides details of the study's research methodology.
- **Chapter 4 Review of current Gypsy and Traveller population and provision of pitches/plots:** reviews estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across the borough and any existing site/yard provision.
- **Chapter 5 Household survey:** presents relevant data obtained from the household survey research.
- **Chapter 6 Pitch / plot / transit requirements:** focuses on current and future pitch/plot requirements. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, supply and current shortfalls across the district.
- **Chapter 7 Conclusion and strategic response:** concludes the report, providing brief summary of key findings and recommendations.

1.10 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:

- **Appendix A** Household questionnaires.
- **Appendix B** Glossary of terms.

2. Policy context

Overview

- 2.1 This study is grounded in an understanding of the national legislative and planning policy context that underpins the assessment and provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- 2.2 This chapter sets out the policy context within which this GTAA has been prepared, including a consideration of the previous GTAA for the borough.

Government policy and guidance

- 2.3 The 2023 National Planning Policy Framework states in Paragraph 63 *'the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies'*. It then lists a number of groups including Travellers. A footnote to the paragraph states *'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers' housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document'*.
- 2.4 The 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) document states that *'local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning' and 'ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies' and 'to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply'*.
- 2.5 Policy A of the 2015 PPTS relates to evidence needed to plan positively and manage development. This states *'in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:*
 - *pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities (including discussing travellers' accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups);*
 - *cooperate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups; other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas over the lifespan of their development plan, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities; and*
 - *use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions'*.
- 2.6 In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc4 reflect Policy A of the PPTS; build upon those methods established through previous guidance; our practical experience and findings from planning inquiries and appeals.

- 2.7 The calculation of pitch/plot requirements is based on established DLUHC modelling methodology, as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). Although this guidance was formally withdrawn in December 2016, in the absence of any updated guidance on the subject, it continues to provide a good practice approach for needs modelling.
- 2.8 Policy B of the 2015 PPTS relates to planning for Traveller sites and requires Local Plans:
- *to be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and consistent with the policies of the NPPF; and*
 - *to set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople as defined in Annex 1 which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.*
- 2.9 Policy B (paragraph 10) sets out that local authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:
- a. *identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;*
 - b. *identify a supply of specific, developable sites, or broad locations for growth, for years 6 to 10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;*
 - c. *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 (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);*
 - d. *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; and*
 - e. *protect local amenity and environment.*
- 2.10 Policy B (paragraph 13) sets out that local authorities should ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally and therefore ensure that their policies:
- a. *promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;*
 - b. *promote, in collaboration with commissioners of health services, access to appropriate health services;*
 - c. *ensure that children can attend school on a regular basis;*
 - d. *provide a settled base that reduces both the need for long-distance travelling and possible environmental damage caused by unauthorised encampment;*

- e. *provide for proper consideration of the effect of local environmental quality (such as noise and air quality) on the health and well-being of any travellers who may locate there or on others as a result of new development;*
- f. *avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;*
- g. *do not locate sites in areas at high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains, given the particular vulnerability of caravans; and*
- h. *reflect the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.*

Intentional unauthorised development

- 2.11 The planning policy statement issued with PPTS 2015 [planning policy statement link here](#) and confirmed by Ministerial Statement [Ministerial Statement link here](#) makes clear that if a site is intentionally occupied without planning permission this would be a material consideration in any retrospective planning application for that site. Whilst this does not mean that retrospective applications will be automatically refused, it does mean that failure to seek permission in advance of occupation will count against the application.
- 2.12 In addition, PPTS 2015 (Paragraph 12) makes clear that in exceptional cases where a local authority is burdened by a large-scale unauthorised site that has significantly increased their need, and their area is subject to strict and special planning constraints, then there is no assumption that the local authority will be required to meet their Gypsy and Traveller site needs in full. This is intended to protect local planning authorities with significant land constraints from being required to provide for additional needs arising directly from large sites such as Dale Farm (a large unauthorised site in Essex).

Considering ‘Cultural’ and ‘PPTS’ need

- 2.13 The definitions set out in PPTS have now reverted back to those of the 2012 PPTS. When considering future residential pitch needs, there is no longer a distinction between Gypsies and Travellers who have ceased to travel or continue to live a nomadic habit of life.

Responding to challenges

- 2.14 GTAAs are subject to intense scrutiny, particularly at planning inquiries and hearings. The methodological approaches taken by arc4 aim to maximise the robustness of evidence and measures include:
- An up-to-date assessment of the number of pitches on sites and the number of households living on pitches and any vacancies.
 - Maximising response rates from households.

- Carefully considering the relationship between households and the pitches they occupy.
- Sensitive analysis of the flows of existing households from and to local authority districts.
- Consideration of overcrowding and concealed households.
- Careful consideration of turnover on council / housing association pitches, with clear assumptions over future potential capacity from households moving away from pitches.
- Longer-term modelling of need using detailed demographic information contained from household survey work.
- Reasonable assumptions around the number of households in bricks and mortar accommodation who may want to move to a pitch.

3. Methodology

Introduction

- 3.1 The GTANA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirements of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.
- 3.2 The methodology for the 2024 update has comprised:
- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including 2021 census data and unauthorised encampment data;
 - the review of primary data, including household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers carried out in 2020 and information from subsequent planning applications; and
 - an assessment of accommodation needs taking into account all available data and information.
- 3.3 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:
- Phase 1: Literature / desktop review.
 - Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the Borough.
 - Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of the GTANA 2024 report.

Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions

- 3.4 We have reviewed relevant literature, including legislative background and best practice information; and analysis of available secondary data including 2021 census data relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Enfield.
- 3.5 Council officers were fully engaged with the 2020 study which included stakeholder consultation and provided contacts within the Gypsy and Traveller community. The 2024 update focuses on updating the needs analysis.

Phase 2: Fieldwork survey and interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

- 3.6 There are currently no Gypsies and Travellers living on sites in Enfield. However, the council has carried out a significant amount of community engagement work and this has allowed the field team to speak to households who either live in bricks and mortar accommodation in Enfield or are on the road but have links with the borough.
- 3.7 Households have been interviewed to provide information on their current housing situation and future housing needs. They were interviewed over the telephone using the questionnaire presented at Appendix A. This questionnaire has been carefully designed in consultation with councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents.
- 3.8 The main period of fieldwork took place during March to May 2020. A community consultation event was due to be held on the 21st February 2020, but this was cancelled due to a bereavement in the community. It was rescheduled to the 20th March but cancelled due to the COVID-19 national lockdown.
- 3.9 However, community engagement continued successfully via telephone and email and a total of 15 households have been successfully interviewed as part of the 2020 GTANA.

Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of report

- 3.10 A detailed explanation of the pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 6 but briefly comprises analysis of the following:
- households living in bricks and mortar accommodation; households planning to move in the next five years, and emerging households to give total need for pitches; and
 - supply based on the number of authorised pitches and turnover on sites on public pitches (which in the case of Enfield is zero for both pitches and turnover).
- 3.11 The overall need for pitches is then compared with the overall supply.

Site and pitch size

- 3.12 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes. Although now withdrawn, the DCLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites: good practice guide (2008) states in paragraph 4.4 that *'Gypsy and Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building, together with space for parking. Sites of various sizes, layouts and pitch numbers operate successfully today and work best*

when they take into account the size of the site and the needs and demographics of the families resident on them’.

- 3.13 Paragraph 4.47 states that *‘to ensure fire safety it is essential that every trailer, caravan or park home must be not less than 6 metres from any other trailer, caravan or park home that is occupied separately’.*
- 3.14 Paragraph 7.12 states that *‘as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area’.*
- 3.15 Paragraph 4.13 states that *‘smaller pitches must be able to accommodate at least an amenity building, a large trailer, drying space for clothes and parking for at least one vehicle’.*
- 3.16 As a general guide, it is suggested by arc4 that the minimum pitch size is 25m by 25m (625 square meters or 0.0625 hectares). This would support a twin-unit chalet/mobile home (15m x 6.5m), a tourer, an amenity shed/building (5m x 4m), two vehicle spaces (minimum 2.4m x 4.8m for each space) and turning circle for vehicles, amenity space and a small garden area/play space. Residential units need to be 3m from the pitch boundary and at least 6m apart. A slightly larger pitch of 25m by 30m (750 square meters or 0.075 hectares) would be appropriate for larger household units requiring several residential units.
- 3.17 The council has also considered design principles for Gypsy and Traveller sites as it reflects on how it can help meet need for sites.
- 3.18 In 2010, the Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain prepared a document ‘Travelling Showpeople’s sites: a planning focus – model standard package). This document was intended to provide guidelines to Travelling Showpeople and Local Planning Authorities when considering the needs of Travelling Showpeople.
- 3.19 This document confirmed that:
- A plot is a piece of land occupied by a Showperson with their family and equipment, used to store fairground rides, vehicles and other items as well as for living accommodation. The family unit can be large or small, for instance an extended family with grandparents, parents and children, or a single-family unit of parents and children.
 - A yard is two or more plots owned by the same family who may use this for their own family purposes or may let part out to other Showpeople.
 - A site is a group of plots where the land is owned by individual plot holders. Quite often a Showperson’s site will have a common shared access onto the main road network.
 - Showpeople’s sites do not fit neatly into the definition of a one land use category. The sites combine a residential use with a storage use, and maintenance is also likely to be carried out on site. The residential use can take the form of static homes and caravans.

- For a Travelling Showperson yard, the minimum size of a plot is 0.5ha and should include space for residential accommodation and equipment storage.

4. Review of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population and existing provision of pitches and plots

Overview

- 4.1 This chapter looks at the current picture in terms of the current population and demography of Gypsies and Travellers across Enfield before going on to explore the extent and nature of provision across the area.

Census data

- 4.2 In October 2023, the ONS published detailed census data relating to Gypsy and Traveller populations. This provides valuable insights into the population dynamics and comparisons with overall populations.
- 4.3 The 2021 Census reported a population of 372 people who identified as ‘White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ or ‘Gypsy/Romany’ plus 1,120 person identifying as ‘Roma’ living in Enfield borough. The total number of Gypsy and Traveller households was estimated to be **125** based on the number of Household Reference People, with all living bricks and mortar accommodation. This compares with 341 people living in 121 households from the 2011 Census.
- 4.4 Table 4.1 sets out a range of data relating to people identifying as Gypsies and Travellers from the 2021 Census. In summary:
- all live in bricks and mortar accommodation and none live in a caravan/mobile structure.
 - 94.5% rent (67.5% privately and 25% from a social landlord) and 7.5% are owner occupiers.
 - 30.4% are overcrowded compared with 21.7% of the general population.
 - Couples with dependent children and lone parent households were the key household types identified.
- 4.5 In terms of health, 75.7% of Gypsies and Travellers said their health was very good/good. The net health score was 75.6 compared with 78.8 across the general population. This is measure of the proportion saying their health is good/very good minus those saying it is bad/very bad.

- 4.6 Please note that the data reported from the census may differ from the findings of the household survey. This is because of the small population base of the Gypsy and Traveller population and data highly influenced by the level of response to both the 2021 Census and 2020 household survey.

Table 4.1 Characteristics of properties and households which are occupied by people identifying as Gypsy and Traveller from 2021 Census.

Theme	Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of total population
Dwelling Stock	Detached whole house or bungalow	65	16.3	8.9
	Semi-detached whole house or bungalow	85	21.3	28.3
	Terraced (including end-terrace) whole house or bungalow	80	20.0	30.8
	Flat, maisonette or apartment	170	42.5	31.9
	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure		0.0	0.1
	Total	400	100.0	100.0
Tenure	Owned: Owns outright	20	5.0	20.3
	Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	10	2.5	30.3
	Private rented or lives rent free	270	67.5	32.3
	Rented Social rented	100	25.0	17.1
	Total	400	100.0	100.0
Occupancy	Occupancy rating of bedrooms 0 or more	275	69.6	78.3
	Occupancy rating of bedrooms -1 or less (indicating overcrowding)	120	30.4	21.7
	Total	395	100	100
Household composition	One person household: Aged 66 years and over	#	0.0	3.7
	One person household: Other	20	5.1	5.8
	Single family household: Couple family household: No children	20	5.1	7.3
	Single family household: Couple family household: Dependent children	130	33.3	30.3
	Single family household: Couple family household: All children non-dependent	20	5.1	10.2
	Single family household: Lone parent household	130	33.3	19.0
	Other household types	70	17.9	23.6
	Total	390	100.0	100.0
General health	Very Good	175	44.9	50.6
	Good	120	30.8	33.0
	Fair	50	12.8	11.5
	Bad	30	0.0	3.7
	Very Bad	15	0.0	1.2
	Total	390	88.5	100.0
	Net health score (VG+G-B-VB)		75.6	78.8

Note 1 : # indicates data are suppressed as they relate to a small number of people.

Source: 2021 Census

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/ethnicity/articles/gypsyoririshtravellerpopulationsenglandandwales/census2021#>

Caravan Count information

- 4.7 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the Government in 1979 and have since been undertaken every January and July by local authorities. All counts for Enfield Borough over the period July 2019 to July 2022 reported no Gypsy and Traveller caravans. The July 2023 count reported 30 caravans which were associated with tolerated negotiated stopping arrangements.

Local sites and yards

- 4.8 There are currently no sites or yards in Enfield Borough.

5. Household survey findings

5.1 This chapter presents the findings of the household survey, which was carried out to provide primary data to inform the 2020. GTANA. The survey aimed to reach as many Gypsy and Traveller households living in bricks and mortar or had a connection with the borough. It was conducted using the questionnaires which are set out in Appendix A.

Gypsy and Traveller households interviewed

5.2 There were a total of 15 responses to the household survey. Of these:

- 12 were Gypsy and Traveller households living in bricks and mortar (of which 8 rented from the council or privately rented and 4 were living in temporary accommodation);
- 3 were on the road but had a connection with Enfield.

5.3 It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household survey data findings are presented below in order to maintain respondent confidentiality.

5.4 Of household representatives interviewed (base=15), 14 described themselves as Irish Traveller and one as an English Traveller.

5.5 Regarding household size (base=15), 5 were one or two person, 4 were three person, 2 were five person, and 4 were six or more person households.

5.6 Regarding household type (base=15), 4 were couples or singles with no children, 6 were couples with children, 4 were lone parents and 1 were other household types including extended family living together.

5.7 There were a total of 55 people in the households interviewed. In terms of age profile, the Gypsy and Traveller population is relatively youthful, with a large child and teenage contingent. The age profile of residents of Gypsy and Traveller households interviewed (n=55) was 38.2% aged 13 or under, 9.1% were aged 14-17, 27.3% were aged 18-34, 14.5% aged 35-44, 10.9% aged 45-59 and 0% aged 60 and over.

5.8 In terms of length of residence (base=15), 6 stated up to 5 years, 4 stated between 5 and up to 10 years and 5 stated at least 10 years.

5.9 When asked about overcrowding (base=15), 6 respondents said that their home was overcrowded (40%).

5.10 Regarding travelling behaviour:

- 12 of respondents lived in a household where someone had travelled in the previous year;
- 14 respondents lived in a household where someone had travelled previous to the last year;
- 12 stated someone in their household planned to travel in the next year; and

- 9 stated someone in their household planned to travel sometime after the next year.
- 5.11 Overall, 14 out of the 15 respondent households (93.3%) met the definition, (either they or someone in their household had travelled or plans to travel in the next year and beyond). Respondents were asked their reasons for travelling which are summarised in Table 5.1. The most frequently mentioned reasons were cultural/personal preference, visiting family and friends and work/attending fairs. Long-term health issues was the reason cited for not travelling.

Table 5.1 Reasons for travelling

Enfield Borough	Number mentioning	% of responses	% respondents mentioning reason
Cultural/personal preference	11	26.2	78.6
Personal preference	4	9.5	28.6
Work/attend fairs	4	9.5	28.6
Visit family/friends	9	21.4	64.3
To attend religious meetings/ conventions	2	4.8	14.3
Only way of life I know	4	9.5	28.6
Limited opportunity to settle down/ no plot on which to live/ lack of yard provision	6	14.3	42.9
Other reasons (harassment)	2	4.8	14.2
Total respondent households	14	100.0	
Total responses stated		42	

Note: this table shows multiple responses. There are 8 household responses to this question and they could state as many reasons as they wanted to. The 'number mentioning' are the number of households mentioning a particular reason e.g. 8 mentioned cultural/personal preference.

The '% of responses' has a base of 42 which is the total number of responses made by households (meaning that households gave an average of 3 reasons for travelling). The '% respondents mentioning reason' is the percentage of the 14 respondent households who mentioned the reason. For example 78.6% of households stated cultural/personal preference and 64.3% mentioned visiting family/friends.

- 5.12 All respondents said there is a need for permanent residential pitches in Enfield. The need expressed ranged from 8 pitches to 20 pitches. Two respondents suggest that smaller sites for families with 5 to 6 pitches on each site would be appropriate.
- 5.13 Twelve respondents said there was a need for transit provision. Eleven expressed a specific need which ranged from 2 to 20 pitches. Seven respondents stated up to 6 pitches, one respondent between 10 and 15 pitches and three respondents stated a up to 20 pitches.

6. Stakeholder engagement and progress since the 2020 GTAA

Overview

- 6.1 A stakeholder consultation exercise was undertaken for the Enfield 2020 GTANA which involved a range of stakeholders, including those actively participating in the newly formed Enfield Gypsy Roma Traveller project Board.
- 6.2 The 2020 GTAA sets out findings from the consultation and the 2024 update focuses on progress made since then.

Activity since the 2020 GTANA

- 6.3 Since the 2020 GTANA was published, a Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Travelling Showperson and Boater Project Board has been established and continues to meet on a quarterly basis. This group has a wide membership of over 65 individuals and organizations. The Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) population is generally recognised as one of the most marginalised groups in society.
- 6.4 The main purpose of the board is to bring together a cross-section of the community, including professionals, GRT advocates and GRT members, to proactively support GRT residents in Enfield.
- 6.5 The focus of the board is to:
- improve the quality of health
 - improve education
 - improve housing
 - oversee site delivery
 - enhance community development initiatives
- 6.6 The Council is concerned about the low level of engagement from GRT communities. This is acting as a barrier to accessing services, which can contribute to a poor quality of life.
- 6.7 There are 8 working groups, with a focus on:
- health and wellbeing
 - site delivery
 - education
 - community engagement
 - equalities monitoring
 - community safety
 - heritage and culture
 - financial inclusion and employment
- 6.8 The board has overseen continued outreach, health promotion including the monitoring of COVID and other vaccinations, publicity regarding the 2021

census, cultural events and the promotion of sanctuary stopping which seeks to use church land to accommodate households in transit.

- 6.9 One key aspect of the board’s remit is to help deliver permanent residential sites and extensive research has been conducted into best practice site design and potential site identification.

7. Household survey findings

7.1 This chapter presents the findings of the household survey, which was carried out in 202 to provide primary data to inform the GTANA. The survey aimed to reach as many Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople living in bricks and mortar or had a connection with the borough. It was conducted using the questionnaires which are set out in Appendix A.

Gypsy and Traveller households interviewed

7.2 There were a total of 15 responses to the household survey. Of these:

- 12 were Gypsy and Traveller households living in bricks and mortar (of which 8 rented from the council or privately rented and 4 were living in temporary accommodation);
- 3 were on the road but had a connection with Enfield.

7.3 It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household survey data findings are presented below in order to maintain respondent confidentiality.

7.4 Of household representatives interviewed (base=15), 14 described themselves as Irish Traveller and one as an English Traveller.

7.5 Regarding household size (base=15), 5 were one or two person, 4 were three person, 2 were five person, and 4 were six or more person households.

7.6 Regarding household type (base=15), 4 were couples or singles with no children, 6 were couples with children, 4 were lone parents and 1 were other household types including extended family living together.

7.7 There were a total of 55 people in the households interviewed. In terms of age profile, the Gypsy and Traveller population is relatively youthful, with a large child and teenage contingent. The age profile of residents of Gypsy and Traveller households interviewed (n=55) was 38.2% aged 13 or under, 9.1% were aged 14-17, 27.3% were aged 18-34, 14.5% aged 35-44, 10.9% aged 45-59 and 0% aged 60 and over.

7.8 In terms of length of residence (base=15), 6 stated up to 5 years, 4 stated between 5 and up to 10 years and 5 stated at least 10 years.

7.9 When asked about overcrowding (base=15), 6 respondents said that their home was overcrowded (40%).

7.10 Regarding travelling behaviour:

- 12 of respondents lived in a household where someone had travelled in the previous year;
- 14 respondents lived in a household where someone had travelled previous to the last year;

- 12 stated someone in their household planned to travel in the next year; and
- 9 stated someone in their household planned to travel sometime after the next year.

7.11 Respondents were asked their reasons for travelling which are summarised in Table 7.1. The most frequently mentioned reasons were cultural/personal preference, visiting family and friends and work/attending fairs. Long-term health issues was the reason cited for not travelling.

Table 7.1 Reasons for travelling			
Enfield Borough	Number mentioning	% of responses	% respondents mentioning reason
Cultural/personal preference	11	26.2	78.6
Personal preference	4	9.5	28.6
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Total respondent households	14	100.0	
Total responses stated		42	

Note: this table shows multiple responses. There are 8 household responses to this question and they could state as many reasons as they wanted to. The 'number mentioning' are the number of households mentioning a particular reason e.g. 8 mentioned cultural/personal preference.

The '% of responses' has a base of 42 which is the total number of responses made by households (meaning that households gave an average of 3 reasons for travelling). The '% respondents mentioning reason' is the percentage of the 14 respondent households who mentioned the reason. For example 78.6% of households stated cultural/personal preference and 64.3% mentioned visiting family/friends.

7.12 All respondents said there is a need for permanent residential pitches in Enfield. The need expressed ranged from 8 pitches to 20 pitches. Two respondents suggest that smaller sites for families with 5 to 6 pitches on each site would be appropriate.

7.13 Twelve respondents said there was a need for transit provision. Eleven expressed a specific need which ranged from 2 to 20 pitches. Seven respondents stated up to 6 pitches, one respondent between 10 and 15 pitches and three respondents stated a up to 20 pitches.

7.14 No travelling showpeople were identified living in Enfield Borough.

8. Gypsy and Traveller pitch and transit site requirements

Introduction

- 8.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Enfield. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data. This chapter also considers transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers. Finally, the chapter presents planning policy recommendations.
- 8.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on modelling as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance (DCLG, 2007)*. Although now formally withdrawn, the former DCLG guidance still provides the best-practice approach towards the assessment of pitch and plot needs (see Chapter 2 for further discussion).
- 8.3 This approach requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. It advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information. Modelling presents an overall need based on the 2012 PPTS definition which is also called the ‘cultural’ need.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

- 8.4 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model usually looks at need over the next five years. For this update, the starting point is the existing modelling which covers the period 2020/21 to 2024/25. A longer-term model looks at need over the period to 2025/26 to 2040/41 arising from children likely to need a pitch.
- 8.5 In terms of **cultural need**, the 5-year model considers:
- data derived from interviews with existing households who are either living in bricks and mortar accommodation or have a connection with the borough and have expressed a need for a pitch; and
 - households expected to form in the next five years and need a pitch; to derive a figure for,
 - total pitch need.
- 8.6 The model usually considers supply but there are currently no pitches in the borough.
- 8.7 The longer-term model then considers the need over the period to 2040/41. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households who have been interviewed.

Enfield Borough: Description of factors in the 5-year need model

- 8.8 Table 8.1 provides a summary of the 5-year pitch need calculation. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

Need

Estimate of households (1)

- 8.9 The 2021 Census suggested there were 125 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation (the 2021 census indicated 121 households).
- 8.10 The number of interviews relates to the number of households who either live in bricks and mortar accommodation in the borough or have a connection with the borough. A total of 15 households were identified and their need analysed.
- 8.11 **Existing households planning to move in the next five years (2)**

This was derived from information from the household survey for respondents who are wanting to move to a pitch in the next 5 years.

A total of 8 existing households living within the borough plan to move to a site within the borough.

Regarding in-migration, there was 1 household interviewed who has a connection with the borough but is currently living elsewhere.

The factors presented in section 2 of the model result in an overall net requirement of 9 pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years. Of the total need for pitches, 11.1% can be attributed to net in-migration which is due to households with a connection with Enfield currently living outside the borough. The majority of the need is from existing population within the borough.

- 8.12 **Emerging households (3)**

This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on household survey information. The total number is 7.

If children old enough to form their own household were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

- 8.13 **Total need for pitches (4)**

This is a total need from existing households in bricks and mortar, newly-forming households and households with a connection with Enfield who have been interviewed. This indicates a total need for 16 pitches over the first five years from 2020/21.

Supply

8.14 Current supply of authorised pitches (5)

There are currently no pitches in Enfield, so this is zero.

Table 8.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – 2020/21 to 2024/24

PITCH NEED			Enfield Borough
1	Estimate of households	1a. TOTAL (2011 Census)	125
		1b. Households interviewed	15
2	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		2a. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	8
		2b. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0
		In-migrant households	
		2c. Allowance for in-migration (+)	1
		2d. TOTAL Net impact (2a+2b+2c)	9
3	Emerging households (5 years)	3a. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	7
		3b. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		3c. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		3d. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		3e. TOTAL (3a+3b+3c+3d)	7
4	Total Need	2d+3e	16
SUPPLY			
5	Current supply of authorised pitches	5a Current supply of authorised pitches	0
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
6	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 4)	16
7	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 5a)	0
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2020/21 TO 2024/25			16

Longer-term pitch requirement modelling

- 8.15 Longer-term pitch need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on pitches. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.
- 8.16 The year when a child reaches 18 has been calculated and the 2020 GTAA assessed how many newly forming households may emerge over the period 2025/26 to 2035/36. A reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage.

The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in Enfield Borough (Table 8.2). This results in a need for another 7 pitches. This approach has been tested at various inquiries and hearings and corroborated regularly by households being interviewed as part of Gypsy and Traveller research.

Table 8.2 Future pitch requirements in Enfield based on the assumption that that 50% of children form households on reaching 18

Time period	No. children	Expected household formation
2025/26 to 2029/30	5	3
2030/31 to 2035/36	8	4
TOTAL 2025/26 to 2035/36	13	7

Updating the evidence to 2040/41

- 8.17 Over the 16-year period 2020/1 to 2035/36 the total need for pitches is 23 or 1.4375 each year. Extrapolating this figure to 2040/41 results in a need for 7 additional pitches based on 1.4375×5 .

Overall plan period pitch need

- 8.18 Table 8.3 summarises the overall need for pitches across Enfield Borough over the plan period to 2040/41. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2020/21 to 2024/25 and longer-term 2024/25 to 2040/41 period. The overall need is for 30 pitches. The main drivers of need continue to be a lack of pitches currently available for both existing and newly-forming households who need to live on a site.

Table 8.3 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: Enfield Borough 2020/21 to 2040/41

Period	Pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2020/21 to 2024/25) (A)	16
Longer-term need	
Over period 2025/26 to 2029/30 (B)	3
Over period 2030/31 to 2035/36(C)	4
Over period 2036/37 to 2040/41 (D)	7
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2040/41 (16 years) E=(B+C+D)	14
NET SHORTFALL 2020/21 to 2040/41 (A+E) (21 years)	30

Housing register and homelessness evidence

- 8.19 At the time of 2020 household survey, there were a number of Gypsy and Traveller households living in emergency/temporary accommodation. During the fieldwork period, three families have been placed into emergency accommodation and the council are reviewing their longer-term housing needs.

Transit requirements

- 8.20 There are a number of ways to delivery temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit pitches, stop over places and negotiated stopping arrangements (See <https://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk> for further details).
- 8.21 When considering transit need, the council needs to be mindful of new legislation through the Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act (Part 4). This will make using land for stopping without permission a criminal offence rather than a civil offence. The Act gives police increased powers to act and introduces significant penalties (fines up to £2,500, impounding vehicles and prison sentences).
- 8.22 Transit sites are permanent sites intended for temporary use by Gypsies and Travellers. The length of stay is usually limited to a maximum of three months. In terms pitches, 'Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites: Good Practice Guide' (CLG, 2008) states:
- Size of pitch – sufficient to accommodate two touring caravans, two parking spaces and private amenities;
 - Amenities should include electricity supply, toilet, wash basin and shower with hot and cold water supply for each pitch;
 - Depending on the level of use, portable facilities may be more appropriate, particularly if the sites are empty for lengthy periods of time and therefore at risk of vandalism.
- 8.23 A temporary stop over area is land which can be used on a temporary basis if unauthorised encampments occur or likely to occur. They can be fields, areas of hardstanding or a mixture of both. Temporary facilities can be provided when the temporary stop over is in use, for instance portable toilets and rubbish collection.
- 8.24 Negotiated stopping involves councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tend to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site.
- 8.25 The household survey found that 86% of respondents felt that transit provision should be made available in Enfield and a majority of households stated a need for up to 6 pitches. Assuming up to two caravans could be accommodated on each pitch, the overall transit capacity would be up to 12 caravans at any one time. When asked who should manage transit provision, all said the council.

Consideration should be being given to provide transit provision through potential future residential site development.

- 8.26 To help manage unauthorised encampment activity, the council has a negotiated stopping policy in place. During 2023, there were peaks of 23 negotiated stopping arrangements in Jun, 26 in August and 24 in July. In the first quarter of 2024, over 20 arrangements have been made. This underpins the effectiveness of the council to use negotiated stopping and the ongoing need for spaces where people can stop safely. The scale of need also emphasises the need for the council to identify land for use as a permanent stop-over locations which would be sufficient to accommodate at least 15 caravans at one time. This could be provided through one or multiple locations, with the potential use of transit pitches to help meet short-term need.
- 8.27 In summary, there is a need for land for permanent stop over locations to accommodate at least 15 caravans at one time. This could be accommodated either through a transit site or stop over location(s) identified by the local authority.

Meeting permanent Travelling Showperson requirements

- 8.28 There are currently no authorised yards in the borough and no need was evidenced in the 2020 study. However, need can arise and the council should respond to any emerging need over the plan period through its planning policy. It should be noted With Travelling Showpeople, there can be both residential need and economic need, with yards providing space for residential accommodation and space for equipment.

9. Conclusion and response

- 9.1 This concluding chapter provides a brief summary of key findings and recommendations.

Meeting permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitch needs

- 9.2 There are currently no Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Enfield.
- 9.3 Following the identification of households who either live in Enfield in bricks and mortar accommodation or have an association with the borough, the GTANA has evidenced a cultural shortfall of 30 pitches over the plan period to 2041. Evidence would indicate there is an immediate need for 16 pitches from existing households wanting to move onto a pitch and newly-forming households who were identified in the 2020 GTANA. If there are any adjustments to the timeframe for the evidence base, this immediate need should be considered backlog need. There is a further need for 14 pitches over the period 2025/26 to 2040/41.
- 9.4 It is recommended that the local plan acknowledges this scale of need. It is also recommended that the council considers future applications for small sites to meet the needs of additional families who may emerge over the plan period.

Transit provision

- 9.5 The council should consider how land can be provided for short-term use and particularly in response to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act. The council has a negotiated stopping policy in place which is being used extensively to accommodate transient communities as they travel through Enfield.
- 9.6 There is a need for land for permanent stop over locations to accommodate at least 15 caravans at one time. This could be accommodated either through a transit site or stop over location(s) identified by the local authority.

Travelling Showperson need

- 9.7 There are currently no authorised yards in the borough and no needs have been identified. However, it is recommended that the council should respond to any emerging need over the plan period through its planning policy.

Future updating

- 9.8 The GTAA should be updated on a 5-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and plot provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Enfield Borough.

Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire used in 2020 study

	Date and Time			
	Location of interview			
	Current address			
	General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection	GDPR came into effect from 25th May 2018. This provides new rights for EU citizens to control personal data held about them by organisations		
		This study is being done for Enfield Council to identify if there is a need for pitches in the Council area. A report will be prepared based on the findings of these surveys. The information you provide will not be used for any other purpose.		
		The information you provide will not be used to identify you personally, will be kept strictly confidential and not passed onto anyone		
	Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	Yes	No	
1a	Pitch/Property Type (e.g. house, flat, bungalow)			
1b	Do you own your home with a mortgage, own without a mortgage, rent from a private landlord, rent from a housing association			
2	Are there any Statics/mobiles on your property			
3	Are there any tourers on your property			
4	Description of house occupancy			
5	No. households			
6	No. concealed households			
7	No. doubled up hhs			
8	Anyone else use this property as their home? If so, who			
9	Household characteristics			
		Gender	Age	Relationship to respondent
	Respondent			
	Person 2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			
	Person 9			
	Person 10			
10	Ethnicity			

11	How many bedrooms are in your property?			
12	Overcrowding of home	Y / N		
13	Overcrowding of land on which your home is located	Y / N		
14a	Thinking back to when you were 15, were you living on a site, on the roadside or living in bricks and mortar housing	S, R, B&M		
14b	Where were you living? Record district/settlement name			
Travelling questions				
In 2015, the Government changed its definition of Gypsies and Travellers for planning purposes. To be recognised as a Gypsy Traveller you or someone in your household has to travel. I'm now going to ask a few questions about whether you or someone in your household travels				
15	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled	Y / N		
16	Previous to the last year, did you or someone in your household travel?	Y / N		
17	Reason(s) for travelling			
18	Do you or a member of your household plan to travel next year?	Y / N		
19	Do you think you or a member of your household will travel each year for the next five years and/or beyond	Y / N		
20	What reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?			
Future moving intentions				
21	Are you planning to move in the next 5 years?	Y / N		
22	Where are you planning to move to? (Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar			
23	What type of dwelling (caravan, trailer, house, flat, bungalow)			

24	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own pitch/bricks and mortar housing in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N				
		HH1	HH2	HH3	HH4	
25	Where are they planning to move to? (Bricks and Mortar housing, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where)					
26	What type of dwelling (caravan, trailer, house, flat, bungalow)					
27	Have they travelled / plan to travel	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	
28	Is there a need for transit pitches (for people stopping over temporarily) in the district?	Y / N				
29	If so, how many are needed?					
30	Who should manage them (Council, Traveller Community)					
31	Is there a need for authorised pitches (for people to live on all the time?)	Y / N				
32	If so, how many are needed?					
Other questions						
33	How many years have you lived here?					
34	If you live in bricks and mortar housing, are you happy to live there or would you prefer to live on a pitch?					
35	Are you aware of any land which could be used for a Gypsy and Traveller site?					
	If so, please provide further details					
Supplementary questions if relevant			If less than 6 years, please ask supplementary questions			
35	Where did you move from? (District)					
36	Were you living on a Private Site, Council Site, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?					
37	When you moved here, was the property vacant, a new property or was someone already living there?					
38	here?					
39	Did you already have a connection with the area (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)					
Final questions						
40	Do you know anyone else in bricks and mortar housing looking to live on a Site in Enfield? If so, can you provide contact details					
41	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about housing?					

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

Caravans: Mobile living vehicles used by Gypsies and Travellers; also referred to as trailers.

CJ&POA: Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994; includes powers for local authorities and police to act against unauthorised encampments.

CRE: Commission for Racial Equality.

DLUHC: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. Formerly Department for Communities and Local Government; created in May 2006 and responsible for the remit on Gypsies and Travellers during the period the PPTS was written. It was renamed in 2018 as MHCLG (Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government) and in 2021 it was renamed again as DLUHC.

Gypsies and Travellers: Defined by DLUHC *Planning policy for traveller sites* (December 2023 as “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 dependants’ 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”. The planning policy goes on to state that, “In determining whether persons are “gypsies and travellers” for the purposes of this planning policy, consideration should be given to the following issues amongst other relevant matters: a) whether they previously led a nomadic habit of life b) the reasons for ceasing their nomadic habit of life c) whether there is an intention of living a nomadic habit of life in the future, and if so, how soon and in what circumstances”.

Irish Traveller: Member of one of the main groups of Gypsies and Travellers in England. Irish Travellers have a distinct indigenous origin in Ireland and have been in England since the mid nineteenth century. They have been recognised as an ethnic group since August 2000 in England and Wales (O’Leary v Allied Domecq).

Mobile home: Legally a ‘caravan’ but not usually capable of being moved by towing.

Pitch: Area of land on a Gypsy/Traveller site occupied by one resident family; sometimes referred to as a plot, especially when referring to Travelling Showpeople. DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (August 2015) states that “For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use plots for “travelling showpeople”, which may / will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment”.

Plot: see pitch

PPTS: Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (DCLG, 2012 and 2015 editions)

Roadside: Term used here to indicate families on unauthorised encampments, whether literally on the roadside or on other locations such as fields, car parks or other open spaces.

Romany: Member of one of the main groups of Gypsies and Travellers in England. Romany Gypsies trace their ethnic origin back to migrations, probably from India,

taking place at intervals since before 1500. Gypsies have been a recognised ethnic group for the purposes of British race relations legislation since 1988 (CRE V Dutton).

Sheds: On most residential Gypsy/Traveller sites 'shed' refers to a small basic building with plumbing amenities (bath/shower, WC, sink), which are provided at the rate of one per pitch/plot. Some contain a cooker and basic kitchen facilities.

Showpeople: Defined by DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (August 2015) 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 own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above”.

Site: An area of land laid out and used for Gypsy/Traveller caravans; often though not always comprising slabs and amenity blocks or ‘sheds’. An authorised site will have planning permission. An unauthorised development lacks planning permission.

Slab: An area of concrete or tarmac on sites allocated to a household for the parking of trailers (caravans)

Stopping places/stopover sites: A term used to denote an unauthorised temporary camping area tolerated by local authorities, used by Gypsies and Travellers for short-term encampments, and sometimes with the provision of temporary toilet facilities, water supplies and refuse collection services.

Tolerated site: An unauthorised encampment/site where a local authority has decided not to take enforcement action to seek its removal.

Trailers: Term used for mobile living vehicles used by Gypsies and Travellers; also referred to as caravans.

Transit site: A site intended for short-term use while in transit. The site is usually permanent and authorised, but there is a limit on the length of time residents can stay.

Unauthorised development: Establishment of Gypsy and Traveller sites without planning permission, usually on land owned by those establishing the site. Unauthorised development may involve ground works for roadways and hard standings. People parking caravans on their own land without planning permission are not Unauthorised Encampments in that they cannot trespass on their own land – they are therefore Unauthorised Developments and enforcement is always dealt with by local planning authorities enforcing planning legislation.

Unauthorised encampment: Land where Gypsies or Travellers reside in vehicles or tents without permission. Unauthorised encampments can occur in a variety of locations (roadside, car parks, parks, fields, etc.) and constitute trespass. The 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act made it a criminal offence to camp on land without the owner’s consent. Unauthorised encampments fall into two main categories: those on land owned by local authorities and those on privately owned land. It is up to the landowner to take enforcement action in conjunction with the police.

Wagons: This is the preferred term for the vehicles used for accommodation by Showpeople.

Yards: Showpeople travel in connection with their work and therefore live, almost universally, in wagons. During the winter months these are parked up in what was

traditionally known as ‘winter quarters. These ‘yards’ are now often occupied all year around by some family members.