

Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2023 Update

Telford and Wrekin Council

Final Report
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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Telford and Wrekin Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2023 (GTAA) provides an update to the 2021 study which identifies the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the borough. Specifically, the 2023 study considers the implications of the Court of Appeal decision relating to the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) nomadic habit of life definition.

The GTAA has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data;
- Stakeholder consultation (6 responses received); and
- A household survey and site/yard observation. A total of 32 Gypsy and Traveller households were interviewed in 2021 out of a total of 48 households, a 67% response rate. Households on all private pitches were interviewed and 64% of households on council sites. Additional site management data was used to ensure that the final pitch need data was representative of all households living on council sites. Data on all households living on the Travelling Showperson's yard were also obtained through interview.

These data have been analysed to provide a picture of current provision and activity across the borough and an assessment of future need. The findings of the study provide an up-to-date, robust and defensible evidence base for policy development.

Population and current accommodation provision

The 2011 Census identified a total of 67 households in Telford and Wrekin where the Household Reference Person had a 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' ethnicity. Of these 42 lived in a caravan and 25 in bricks and mortar housing.

Culturally appropriate provision includes two council sites (with 45 pitches) and two private sites (with 4 pitches). There are two further private sites (Finney's Caravan Site, Edgmond and Whyte's Caravan Site, Woodcote) where owners are considering changing the planning status of the sites which would remove them from Gypsy and Traveller pitch supply. There is one Travelling Showperson's yard with 3 plots.

The bi-annual DCLG Traveller caravan count (Jan 2016 to Jan 2020) reported an average of 77 caravans. The annual Travelling Showperson caravan count (undertaken each January) has consistently showed zero caravans on Travelling Showperson's yards although there is a yard in Hadley.

Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

The 2023 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states in Paragraph 62 '*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 a 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’.

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.

‘Cultural’ and ‘PPTS need’

Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers. The PPTS is used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers who continue to lead a nomadic habit of life, even if they are temporarily not travelling. The NPPF is used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers that no longer lead a nomadic habit of life. With regards to a specific five-year supply of sites, national policy only requires a specific supply to be identified against the accommodation needs of those households which lead a nomadic habitat of life.

The GTAA establishes an overall ‘cultural’ need for pitches which accords with the overall need for Gypsy and Traveller culturally appropriate accommodation and considers the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equalities Act 2010 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016 section 124. Within this overall need, the specific need from households who meet the nomadic habit of life definitions set out in PPTS Annex 1 is identified. Analysis of the travelling behaviour of households or emerging households planning to move residential location indicates that 68.4% meet the nomadic habit of life/travelling behaviour criteria set out in the PPTS.

In October 2022, the Court of Appeal (Lisa Smith v SSLUHC [2022] EWCA Civ 1391) declared the PPTS to be discriminatory as the criteria excludes larger numbers of Gypsies and Travellers living in caravans who need a place to live. This includes those with a disability, long-term health condition or age which prevents them from travelling. The government did not challenge the decision, but an updated PPTS has not yet been published. In the light of case law, the definitions reported in GTAAs need to change, although the PPTS 2015 definition has still not been updated.

Therefore, the updated GTAA considers the following:

- PPTS 2012 which is the overall ‘cultural’ need for pitches.
- PPTS 2015 which reflects the current PPTS which is referenced in the National Planning Policy Framework and excludes those who have ceased to travel permanently; and
- PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) which is PPTS 2015 need including those unable to travel due to health, age or other family circumstances in line with the Lisa Smith Judgement.

Plan periods

Need has been assessed over a short-term 2021/22 to 2025/26 and longer-term 2025/26 to 2039/40.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

Overall need

There is an overall need for 26 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches across the borough over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40. This takes into account the needs arising from existing, newly forming and in-migrant households and anticipated supply from council pitches coming available. Of this need, 11 is from households who meet the nomadic habit of life definition within the PPTS under the 2015 or PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) definitions.

The pitch shortfall over the first five year and full plan period are set out in detail in Table ES1.

Table ES1 Addressing Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: Telford and Wrekin

Scenario	Telford and Wrekin	Cultural need	Of which PPTS 2015 NEED	Of which PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) NEED
A	5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26)	23	16	16
B	Anticipated minimum turnover on council sites	6	6	6
C=A-B	Residual need 2021/22 to 2025/26 after turnover	17	10	10
D	Longer-term need 2026/27 to 2039/40	26	18	18
E	Anticipated minimum turnover on council sites	17	17	17
F=D-E	Residual need 2025/26 to 2039/40 after turnover	9	1	1
Scenario	Summary	Cultural need	Of which PPTS 2015 NEED	Of which PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) NEED
G=A+D	Plan period Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2039/40)	49	34	34
H=B+E	Anticipated minimum turnover on council sites	23	23	23
I=G-H	Residual need 2021/22 to 2039/40 after turnover considered	26	11	11

Travelling Showperson plot requirements

There is currently one Travelling Showperson's yard in the borough and this is expected to meet the needs of existing households over the plan period.

Temporary stopping places and transit provision

The council has transit provision to accommodate up to 22 caravans. This should be sufficient to accommodate the needs of those travelling through the borough. At this time, no further transit provision is needed within the borough.

Policy recommendations

Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers through the NPPF for those who no longer travel and the PPTS for those who have a nomadic habit of life. The overall need that the council needs to plan for is therefore 26 pitches over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40. There is a need for 17 additional pitches in the first five years of the local plan and 9 for the remainder of the plan period

Of the 26-pitch need, 15 pitches are for households who no longer travel and 11 pitches for households who have a nomadic habit of life under both the PPTS 2015 and PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) definitions.

It is recommended that the Local Plan sets out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for small private sites should they arise over the plan period. There is no additional need for Travelling Showperson plots but it is recommended that the existing yard is safeguarded for Travelling Showperson use.

1. Introduction

Overview

- 1.1 In October 2023, arc4 was commissioned by Telford and Wrekin Council to provide an update to the 2021 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment (GTAA).
- 1.2 The overall scope of the original 2021 study was to ensure that the council has a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision over the period to 2040 and to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers to meet both the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS)-defined need and the council's obligations under section 124 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. The study also considers any matters arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 1.3 Specifically, the 2023 study considers the implications of the Court of Appeal decision relating to the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) nomadic habit of life definition.

Report structure

- 1.4 The GTAA 2023 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 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 borough.
 - **Chapter 7 Conclusion and strategic response:** concludes the report, providing brief summary of key findings and recommendations.
- 1.5 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:
 - **Appendix A** Household questionnaires.
 - **Appendix B** Glossary of terms.

2. Policy and local context

- 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 2021 National Planning Policy Framework states in Paragraph 62 *'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 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 a 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'*.
- 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);*
 - *co-operate 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 GTAA's, 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 DCLG 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 ([click here](#)) (and confirmed by Ministerial Statement ([click 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).

Definition of Gypsies and Travellers

- 2.13 The GTAA 2023 uses the definition of 'Gypsies and Travellers' set out within the PPTS, which was published by the government in August 2015, as the basis for identifying need. This sets out the following definition of 'Gypsies and Travellers':

'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, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such' (MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 1.)

- 2.14 In addition, PPTS 2015 provides the following 'clarification' for determining whether someone is a Gypsy or Traveller:

'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.* **(MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 2)**
- 2.15 The following definition of 'Travelling Showpeople' is set out in PPTS 2015:
'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.' **(MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 3).**
- 2.16 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.' **(MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 5).**
- 2.17 For the purposes of this study, therefore, Gypsies and Travellers live on pitches within sites, whilst Travelling Showpeople live on plots within yards.

Considering 'Cultural' and 'PPTS' need

- 2.18 Paragraph 62 of the 2021 NPPF recognises the need to assess a range of community needs including those of Travellers. Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers. The PPTS is used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers who continue to lead a nomadic habit of life, even if they are temporarily not travelling. The NPPF is used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers that no longer lead a nomadic habit of life. In both respects policy requires need to be assessed and then a five year supply of sites to meet that need to be identified as part of the Local Plan. This approach also reflects the council's obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equalities Act 2010 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016 section 124.
- 2.19 In October 2022, the Court of Appeal (Lisa Smith v SSLUHC [2022] EWCA Civ 1391) declared the PPTS (2015) definition to be unlawfully discriminatory in the case of the claimant as the criteria excludes larger numbers of Gypsies and Travellers who continue to live a traditional way of life – i.e. an aversion to bricks and mortar accommodation – but have ceased to travel due to disability and old age. While the scope of the judgement could not go so far as to conclude the PPTS (2015) itself was unlawful, this is strongly suggested, and it is clear the judgement has implications for planning decisions. The government did not challenge the decision, but an updated PPTS has not yet been published. In the light of case law, the definitions reported in GTAA's need to change.
- 2.20 Therefore, the GTAA considers the following:

- PPTS 2012 which is the overall ‘cultural’ need for pitches.
 - PPTS 2015 which reflects the current PPTS which is referenced in the National Planning Policy Framework; and
 - PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) which is PPTS2015 need including those unable to travel due to health, age or other family circumstances in line with the Lisa Smith judgement.
- 2.21 However it is important to note that the needs of non-travelling travellers who simply have chosen not to travel and have no reason why they should not travel will only meet the PPTS 2012 definition.
- 2.22 Our assessment methodology is set out in Chapter 3 and the outworking of this approach for Telford and Wrekin is set out in Chapter 7.

Responding to challenges

- 2.23 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 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 GTAA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirement of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.
- 3.2 The methodology has comprised:
- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including data on pitches/sites, plots/yards and unauthorised encampments;
 - the collection of primary data, including household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople;
 - stakeholder consultation; 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 and stakeholder consultation.
 - Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of the GTAA 2021 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 relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the borough. The research has been overseen by a steering group comprising local authority officers including the Gypsy and Traveller liaison officer who has a detailed knowledge of sites across the borough.

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

- 3.5 Our aim is to obtain interviews from all households living on sites using a standard questionnaire (Appendix A). This questionnaire has been carefully designed in consultation with councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents. Site visits took place during April 2021 and households were left with a leaflet explaining the work. Several interviews were conducted with appropriate social distancing taking place.

- 3.6 Regarding the PPTS definition, the questionnaire asks if households have been travelling in the preceding year or within the past five years and/or intend to travel in the next year or in any year in the next five years. Note that households who cannot travel due to age or health limitations are excluded from analysis. If eligible households answer 'yes' to either question the household meets the travelling criteria set out in PPTS. By contrast, all households identifying as part of the Gypsy and Traveller or Travelling Showpeople community are contained within a broader 'cultural' definition.
- 3.7 Analysis of the travelling behaviour of households or emerging households planning to move residential location indicates that 63% meet the nomadic habit of life/travelling behaviour criteria set out in PPTS. These households meet the criteria by either travelling within the past five years and/or intend to travel in the next year or in any year in the next five years. Given the national lockdown restrictions, very few households have been able to travel in the past year and travelling in the past year has not been considered in the assessment of travelling behaviour. This is discussed further in the analysis in Chapter 7.

Phase 2b: Stakeholder consultation

- 3.8 The survey of stakeholders was conducted during May and June 2021 using an online questionnaire. Contact information for key stakeholders was provided by council officers. Stakeholders were contacted and asked to participate in the online questionnaire, answering whichever questions they felt were relevant to their knowledge and experience. The stakeholder consultation invited representatives from all of the neighbouring local authorities, who were requested to provide information regarding their local situation and provision, including issues such as unauthorised encampment activity. This approach assists the council in meeting their requirements under the Duty to Cooperate.
- 3.9 A total of six responses to the stakeholder survey were obtained and the findings are presented within the report.

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:
- current pitch supply, 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.
- 3.11 The overall need for pitches is then compared with the overall supply.

Pitches and households

- 3.12 One of the key challenges faced when assessing Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements is the actual nature of pitches and how this relates to the number of households they can support.
- 3.13 PPTS 2015 refers to the need for local planning authorities to '*identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets*' and '*relate the number of pitches/plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density*' (PPTS 2015, paragraph 10).
- 3.14 Planning decision notices usually refer to the number of pitches on a site or the specifics of what can be on a pitch e.g. statics, tourers; or specific individuals and/or households.
- 3.15 As part of the GTAA, it is essential that the characteristics of sites, the number of pitches and how many households these can support is carefully considered. There are a range of issues which need to be considered when reviewing site and pitch characteristics and their potential implications for future pitch and site requirements which are now summarised.

Site and pitch size

- 3.16 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes. Previous Design Guidance (DCLG, 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*'.
- 3.17 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*'.
- 3.18 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*'.
- 3.19 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*'.
- 3.20 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.

- 3.21 It is generally accepted amongst the Travelling community that private sites of up to 6-10 pitches are appropriate. Public sites tend to be larger and have policies and procedures in place to ensure the effective management of sites.

Occupancy

- 3.22 A pitch may accommodate more than one family unit, for instance it could include a family, older children who have formed their own household and other family members. This could lead to potential overcrowding and this is considered as part of the GTAA household survey.
- 3.23 Private sites may restrict occupancy to close family/friends. This limits opportunity for others to move onto the site but this restrictive occupancy may provide for emerging needs within a household, for example as grown-up children (previously living within a parent(s) or grandparent(s) home) form independent households of their own.
- 3.24 Quality, size of pitch and proximity of caravans on pitches vary dramatically.

Response

- 3.25 For each site, a pragmatic and reasonable judgement should be made as part of the GTAA regarding the number of pitches or sub-divisions on sites. This may relate to the number of families living on sites, and could include a consideration of the potential intensification of sites (for instance through further sub-division, extension or use of vacant areas within the site). Capacity and layout of sites should be identified through site observation (directly or indirectly through Google maps or similar), planning history and local knowledge of planning, enforcement and liaison officers.
- 3.26 Pitches can become intensified or sub-divided once planning applications have been approved. These sub-divisions tend to be tolerated by councils. Often pitches become subdivided to provide space for newly-forming households, particularly from family members. The potential for pitch intensification/sub-division was considered on site visits and respondents were asked whether intensification/sub-division was possible on the site they lived on.

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

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

2011 Census population and household estimates

- 4.2 The 2011 Census (Tables 4.1 and 4.2) identified a total of 165 people and 67 households in Telford and Wrekin with a Household Reference Person who identified as having a White Gypsy or Irish Traveller ethnicity. 37% of households who identified as Gypsy/Traveller lived in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Table 4.1 People from households identifying as White Gypsy or Irish Traveller by accommodation type

Local Authority	Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
Telford and Wrekin	165	42	12	111

Source: 2011 Census CT127

Table 4.2 Households identifying as Gypsy Traveller by accommodation type

Local Authority	Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
Telford and Wrekin	67	19	6	42

Source: 2011 Census CT0128

2021 Census population

- 4.3 Population estimates were published in late November 2022 as part of the roll out of census data. The Gypsy and Traveller population is now reported as 203 and zero Roma (included for the first time as a distinct ethnic category) but data on the number of households and accommodation type are not yet published. The change in number could simply reflect people more willing to identify as Gypsy and Traveller rather than an increase in population, for example as a response to the Traveller Movement's 'Stand Up and Be Counted' campaign (see: <https://travellermovement.org.uk/stand-up-and-be-counted>). For every 1,000 residents in Telford and Wrekin, 1.094 is a Gypsy or Traveller. The national average is 1.06 per 1,000 residents.

Caravan Count information

- 4.4 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. An annual count of Travelling Showperson caravans takes place every January. The counts provide a source of information on the number of caravans located on authorised and unauthorised sites but do not record the actual number of pitches on sites/yards.
- 4.5 The figures for the last 13 Traveller caravan counts for Telford and Wrekin are set out in Table 4.3. Data shows an average of 69 caravans across the borough during the period Jan 2016 to Jan 2023. Of these, 92.2% were on council sites and 7.8% on private sites.

**Table 4.3 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures January 2016 to January 2023
Telford and Wrekin**

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission	Authorised sites with planning permission	Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2016	69	19	0	88
Jul 2016	58	19	0	77
Jan 2017	69	19	0	88
Jul 2017	56	19	0	75
Jan 2018	68	0	0	68
Jul 2018	68	0	0	68
Jan 2019	74	0	0	74
July 2019	72	0	0	72
Jan 2020	81	0	0	81
Jul-21	71	0	0	71
Jan-22	74	0	0	74
Jul-22	68	0	0	68
Jan-23	70	0	0	70
13-Count Average (Jan 2016- Jan 2023)	69	6	0	75
13-Count Average % (Jan 2016- Jan 2023)	92.2	7.8	0.0	100.0

Source: DLUHC Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1

Notes:

Since 2018 caravan counts have focused on public sites

Counts not taken in July 2020 or Jan 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic

- 4.6 Over the period 2015 to 2023 there were no reported Travelling Showperson caravans across Telford and Wrekin in the DLUHC caravan count statistics (Table 4.4). There is one Showperson's yard at Mitchell's Yard, Haybridge which is occupied by an extended family unit.

Table 4.4 Annual Travelling Showpeople caravan count figures January 2015 to January 2023

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission	Authorised sites with planning permission	Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0
13-Count Average	0	0	0	0
13-Count % Average	0	0	0	0

Source: DLUHC Travelling Showpeople Caravan Count, Live Table 3

Local site and yards

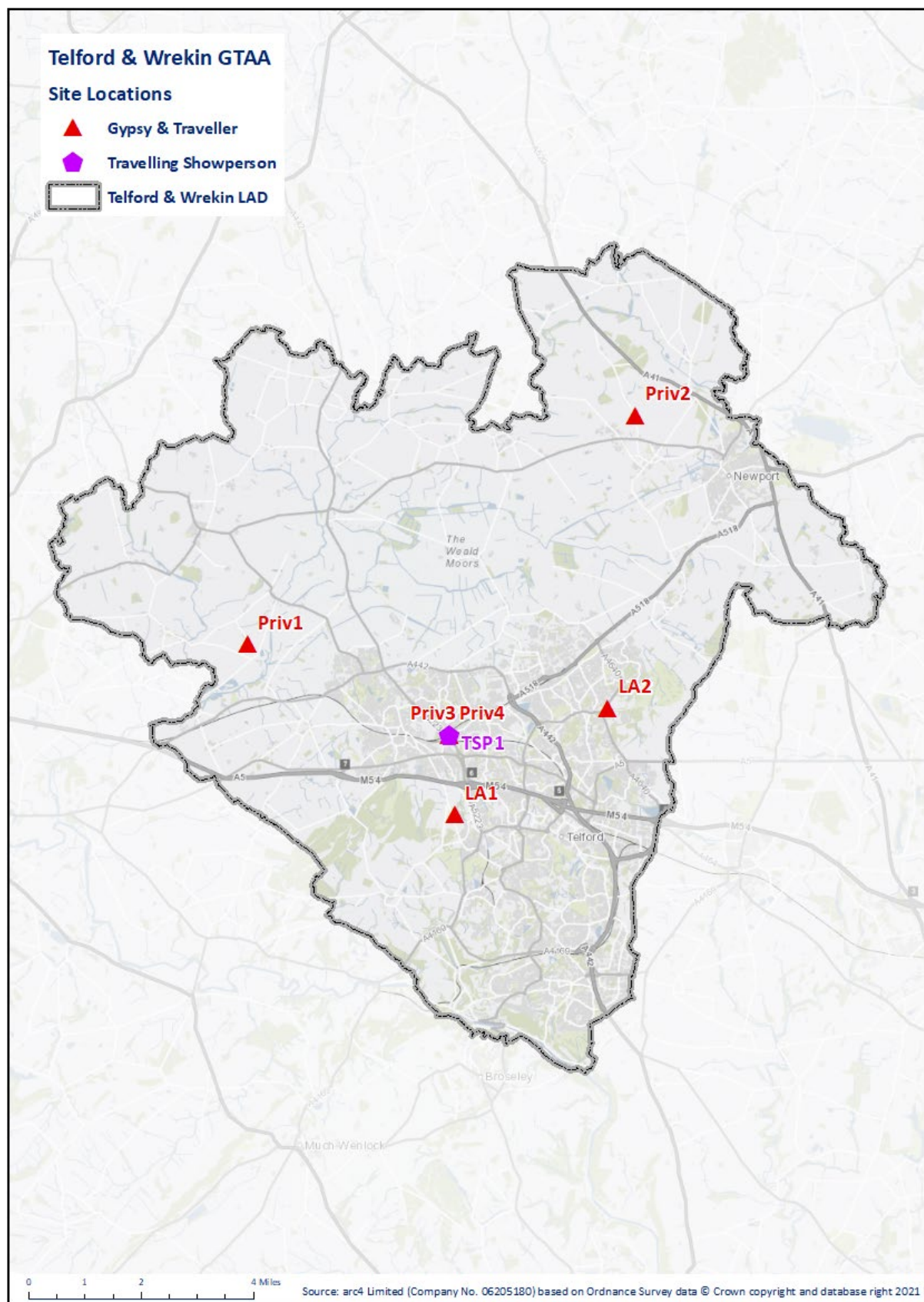
- 4.7 The types of sites occupied by Gypsies and Travellers (see Appendix B for more detailed definitions) include:
- Authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either public or privately-owned land.
 - Unauthorised sites are made up of either longer-term (approximately three months or longer) unauthorised encampments and can considered to be indicative of a permanent need for accommodation (in some instances local authorities class these as tolerated sites and do not take enforcement action to remove them); and
 - Unauthorised developments, where Travellers are residing upon land that they own and that does not have planning permission.
- 4.8 Table 4.5 sets out the range of sites and Travelling Showperson's yards across Telford and Wrekin. The table also shows the number of household survey responses or where data have been obtained from site management data.

- 4.9 Culturally appropriate provision includes two council sites (with 45 pitches) and two private sites (with 4 pitches). There are two further private sites (Finney's Caravan Site, Edgmond and Whyte's Caravan Site, Woodcote) where owners are considering changing the planning status of the sites which would remove them from Gypsy and Traveller pitch supply.

Table 4.5 List of Gypsy & Traveller sites (as of April 2021)

Site Code	Site/Yard Name and Address	Postcode	Type of Site	Ownership	Total Pitches	Households	Household data obtained by 2021 Interview	Household data obtained by Site management data	Total
LA1	Ketley Brook Caravan Park, Lawley Telford	TF1 2JX	Permanent Authorised	Local Authority	20	20	14	6	20
LA2	Lodge Road Caravan Park, Lodge Road Caravan Site, Donnington, Telford	TF2 7QD	Permanent Authorised	Local Authority	25	25	15	10	25
Priv1	Lees' Caravan site, Marsh Green	TF6 6NE	Permanent Authorised	Private	1	1	1		1
Priv2	Finney's Caravan site, Marsh Green	TF6 6NE	Permanent Authorised	Private	3	1	1		1
Priv3	Jordan's Yard, Haybridge Road, Hadley	TF1 6JE	Permanent Authorised	Private	1	2	2		2
Priv4	Fairview, Haybridge Road, Hadley (VACANT)	TF1 6JE	Permanent Authorised	Private	1	0	0		0
Priv5*	Finney's Caravan site, Marsh Road, Edgmond	TF10 8EP	Permanent Authorised	Private	*	*	*		*
Priv6*	Whyte's Caravan site, Woodcote (9 Woodcote), Newport	TF10 9BW	Permanent Authorised	Private	*	*	*		*
Total Gypsy and Traveller Pitches					51	49	33	16	49
TSP1	Mitchell's Yard, Haybridge Road, Hadley	TF1 6JE	Permanent Authorised	Private	1	3	3		3
Total Travelling Showperson Plots					1	3	3	0	3

Source: Council data 2021, site survey and fieldwork 2021GTAA *see para 4.8

Map 4.1 Location of sites and yards in Telford and Wrekin

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 this GTAA. The survey aimed to reach as many Gypsy and Traveller households living in the study area as possible. It was conducted using the questionnaire presented in Appendix A. Information from the site management data is included in the analysis where appropriate.
- 5.2 Data from the extended Travelling Showperson family living in Telford and Wrekin is not presented for confidentiality reasons but evidence of need has been assessed.

Gypsy and Traveller households living in Telford and Wrekin

- 5.3 A review of the characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller households living in Telford and Wrekin has been based on data from a total of 49 households:
 - 33 household interviews achieved in the 2021 household survey; and
 - data on 16 households who were not available for interview or refused, using site management data.
- 5.4 The number of responses achieved to particular questions is summarised for each question. It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information, for instance by type or location of site, as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household data are presented in a manner which maintains respondent confidentiality. Where analysis refers to 'small numbers' this means 4 or fewer households responding.
- 5.5 Ethnicity (base=33): Of household representatives interviewed 69% described themselves as Gypsy (including Romany, Romany Gypsy and English Gypsy), 28% as Irish Traveller and 3% as Scottish Travellers.
- 5.6 Data from the household survey provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on pitches.
- 5.7 **Household size** (base=32): 21.9% of households were single person; 21.9% two person; 6.3% three person; 21.9% four person, 15.6% five person and 12.6% six or more person households.
- 5.8 **Household type** (base=32): 31.2% were single parents, 15.6% multi-adult households (for instance couples with adult children), 15.6% singles, 12.5% couples with children, 9.4% older couples, 6.2% couples, 6.2% older singles and 3.1% extended family.
- 5.9 **Age profile:** Site management data reports a total of 179 people living on council sites and surveys of private sites identifies 16 people, resulting in a total Gypsy Traveller population on sites of 195. Household survey data reports the following age profile (base=108) of the Travelling population living on pitches: 27.8% were aged 13 or under, 12% aged 14-17, 25% aged 18-34, 20.4% aged 35-49, 7.4% aged 50-64 and 7.4% aged 65 and over.

- 5.10 **Length of residence** (base=32): 12.5% had lived at their current place of residence for less than 5 years, 34.4% between 5 and less than 10 years, 28.1% between 10 and less than 20 years and 25% for 20 years or more.
- 5.11 **Overcrowding:** When asked if their home was overcrowding (base=32), 72% said no it was not overcrowded and 28% said it was overcrowded. When asked whether their pitch was overcrowded (base=32), 72% said no and 28% said yes. Sometimes, overcrowding is due to the number of children in a household and modelling in Chapter 6 takes into account any need arising which, if addressed through new pitches, would help reduce the level of overcrowding.
- 5.12 **Regarding the need for more residential pitches** (base=29), respondents were asked if they felt there was a need for more pitches. This was to gauge local views on need and does not influence the needs assessment modelling carried out. 62% said there was a need for more and 38% said no more were needed. Of those stating a number (base=16), 75% said less than 5 pitches, 6% between 5 and less than 10 pitches and 19% said between 10 and less than 30 pitches.

Health and support needs

- 5.13 The household survey asked if the respondent or members of their family had particular health issues. Most frequently mentioned were asthma, arthritis, depression/anxiety, heart disease and some had experienced with Long Covid.
- 5.14 Table 5.1 sets out the range of improvements and adaptations households said they needed in their caravans and sheds/amenity blocks which usually included cooking, washing and toilet facilities. Better insulation and heating were most frequently mentioned.

Table 5.1 Improvements and adaptations needed

Type of improvement/adaptation	% stating needed Caravan	% stating needed Shed/ Amenity Block
Better heating	71.9	71.9
More insulation	56.3	56.3
Adaptations to kitchen (e.g. accessible/drop-down units)	21.9	12.5
Adaptations to bathroom (e.g. level-access shower/wetroom)	28.1	21.9
Adaptations relating to sensory needs (e.g. to radiators, floors, sockets)	6.3	6.3
Internal hand/grab rails	15.6	9.4
External hand/grab rails	6.3	6.3
Lever door handles	6.3	3.1
Wheelchair adaptations (including door widening and ramps)	9.4	6.3
Other adaptations (please say what is needed)	6.3	3.1
Base (respondents)	32	32

- 5.15 Regarding support needs, the survey identified that 63% need support from doctors, 53% from hospitals, 25% from Occupational Health. 16% would like counselling services and around 15% either pregnancy or post-natal support. Stakeholders commented that service and support that is provided for the families is poor.

Education and training support needs

- 5.16 Regarding educational support, 44% of household survey respondents said they needed help for primary school age children and 38% for secondary school age children. 31% said they needed help with English/Maths/IT skills and 28% needed help applying for apprenticeships.
- 5.17 Stakeholders commented that poor internet service hampers access to school admissions and online learning opportunities for children as seen in recent OFSTED monitoring reports. There was also a broader concern of discrimination when trying to access local services.

6. Gypsy and Traveller pitch, Travelling Showperson plot and transit site requirements

Introduction

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Telford and Wrekin. 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. The needs of Travelling Showpeople are explored. Finally, the chapter presents planning policy recommendations.
- 6.2 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).
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 The GTAA has modelled current and future need and current and future supply separately for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. For both groups, the modelling shows an overall 'cultural' need and within this the PPTS need which refers to those households who met the PPTS planning definition.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

- 6.5 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2021/22 to 2025/26). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2039/40) arising from children likely to need a pitch.
- 6.6 In terms of **cultural need**, the 5-year model considers:
- the baseline number of households on all types of site (authorised, unauthorised and temporary authorised sites) as at May 2021;
 - existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
 - emerging households currently on sites and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a pitch; to derive a figure for
 - total pitch need.
- 6.7 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
- total supply of current pitches on authorised sites; and
 - vacant pitches on authorised sites.

- 6.8 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:
- total need for pitches; and
 - total supply of authorised pitches.
- 6.9 The longer-term model then considers the cultural need over the period to 2039/40. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches (the longer-term model). Data for the final year of the plan period (2039/40) have been extrapolated based on the annualised requirement over the period 2036/7 to 2038/38 (which is 6 pitches or 2 each year, so the needs figure for 2039/40 is 2 pitches).
- 6.10 For each model, the likely pitch need from households meeting the PPTS definition is also calculated.

Telford and Wrekin Gypsy and Traveller pitch need analysis: Description of factors in the 5-year need model

- 6.11 Table 6.4 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

Current households living on pitches (1a to 1d)

- 6.12 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. In summary there are 49 households living on 48 authorised pitches, the difference is explained by two households living on one private pitch at Jordan's Yard. This is a temporary arrangement as the family are planning to move to Fairview.
- 6.13 There are 3 pitches at Finney's Caravan Site, Marsh Green but only one is used as a permanent residential pitch. The other two are occupied occasionally by family visitors.
- 6.14 No other households were identified as being concealed/doubled up on pitches.

Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

- 6.15 The 2011 Census suggested there were 25 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Weighting of data

- 6.16 Two weightings have been applied to the survey data. A weighting has been applied to survey responses for the five year need modelling and a separate weighting has been calculated for longer-term needs.

5 year needs modelling

- 6.17 This weighting is based on the number of responses compared with the total number of households on the two council sites and private sites (Table 6.1).

Table 6.1 5-year needs modelling

Scenario	Ketley Brook	Lodge Road	Private	Total
Responses	14	15	3	32
Total households	20	25	3	48
Weighting of 5 year need	1.428571429	1.666666667	1	

Longer-term needs modelling

- 6.18 Data for the longer-term modelling is based on detailed demographic data from household surveys. These provided information on the age profile of people under the age of 18. However, not all households responded to the survey so this data needs to be weighted to reflect the total number of people aged under 18 living on pitches. This total number has been derived from detailed site management data (Table 6.2).

Table 6.2 Longer-term needs modelling weighting

Scenario	Ketley Brook	Lodge Road	Private	Total
Children in interviewed household	13	30	8	43
Total number of children using site management data	27	54	8	81
Weighting of 5 year need	2.0769	1.8	1	

Housing waiting list

- 6.19 There are a total of 26 households on the housing waiting list as at July 2021. Available information on these households is shown in (Table 6.3).

Table 6.3 Households on the housing waiting list for pitches

A. Total on the waiting list who are existing households living on sites within Telford and Wrekin	4
B. Total on the waiting list who are newly-forming households living on sites within Telford and Wrekin and have requested a pitch	18
C. Total on the waiting list who are in bricks and mortar housing within Telford and Wrekin	1
D. Total on the waiting list who are from outside Telford and Wrekin	5
Total households on waiting list (A+B+C+D)	26

- 6.20 The needs analysis factors in households on the housing waiting list where appropriate.

Existing households planning to move in the next five years (3)

- 6.21 This was derived from information from the 2021 household survey for respondents currently on pitches and the housing register.
- 6.22 Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that 2.4 (weighted) plan to move and in the next 5 years. The housing waiting reports a total of 4 households wanting to move to another pitch but this has no net impact on need.
- 6.23 For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc⁴ studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate to 1.3 (weighted) households. The household survey identified a household who had moved from bricks and mortar onto a pitch and this results in a 1.4 (weighted) household need, which is used in the model. The housing register has 1 household currently in bricks and mortar which corroborates the figure used in the needs modelling.
- 6.24 Regarding in-migration, analysis of household survey data indicates that 2.9 households (weighted) have moved into the borough and onto a pitch in the past 5 years and shown at row 3g. There are 5 households on the housing register who want to move into Telford and Wrekin and live on a pitch. The in-migration figure is therefore uplifted to a total of 5 to reflect the housing register data.
- 6.25 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of +3.9 pitches (weighted) from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years which includes an allowance for in-migration.

Emerging households (4)

- 6.26 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2021 household survey information. The total number is +18.8 (weighted). If young people 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. The housing register reports a total of 18 newly-forming households needing a pitch. The overall need from the household survey is therefore corroborated by the housing register and no further adjustments to account for housing register need is necessary.

Total need for pitches (5)

- 6.27 This is a total of current households on authorised pitches, households on pitches planning to move in the next five years and demand from emerging households currently living on pitches. This indicates a total need for 71.7 pitches (49 existing households on pitches plus a net need for 3.9 (weighted) pitches from existing households planning to move including in-migration and a need for 18.8 (weighted) pitches from emerging households). This total need is rounded up to 72 pitches.

Supply

Current supply of authorised pitches (6)

- 6.28 This is a summary of the total number of occupied authorised pitches and the number of vacant authorised pitches. This shows a total supply of 48 authorised pitches plus 1 vacant pitch resulting in a total supply of 49 authorised pitches. The 1 vacant pitch is currently unoccupied is on a private site but a household is expecting to move there in the next 5 years.

Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.29 There is a total need over the next five years (2021/22 to 2025/26) for 72 additional pitches in Telford and Wrekin (Table 6.4) compared with a supply of 49 authorised pitches (including a vacant pitch). The result is an overall cultural need shortfall of 23 pitches.

Table 6.4 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – 2021/22 to 2025/26

CULTURAL NEED			Manchester
1	Households living on pitches	1a. On Council sites	45
		1b. On private site - Authorised	4
		1c. On unauthorised site	0
		1d. Total (1a to 1c)	49
2	Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation	2011 Census	184
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	Currently on sites	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	4.0
		3b. To another site in borough (no net impact)	0.0
		3c. From site to Bricks and Mortar (-)	1.0
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside borough	1.4
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	1.4
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0
		In-migrant households	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	5.0
		3h. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3g)	3.9
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	13.8
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the borough	5.0
		4c. Currently on site and panning to live outside the borough	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	18.8
		5	Total Need
SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a Current supply of occupied authorised pitches	48
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are not occupied and available	1
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	49
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	72
8	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 6c)	49
		5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2022/23 TO 2026/27	23

Longer-term pitch requirement modelling

- 6.30 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.
- 6.31 The year when a child reaches 18 has been calculated and it is possible to assess how many newly forming households may emerge over the period 2026/27 to 2038/39, with data extrapolated to 2039/2040. 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 Telford and Wrekin. This approach has been tested at inquiry and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees. Analysis would suggest a total cultural need for 26 additional pitches over the period 2026/27-2039/40 (Table 6.5).

Table 6.5 Future pitch requirements in Telford and Wrekin based on the assumption that 50% of children form households on reaching 18

Time period	No. children	Expected household formation
2026/27 to 2030/31	29	15
2031/32 to 2035/36	15	7
2036/37 to 2038/39	6	3
2039/40	2	1
Total (2026/27 to 2039/40)	53	26

Planning Policy for Traveller Site definition

- 6.32 Analysis of household survey data has been carried out to assess the extent to which households meet the nomadic habit of life test of the PPTS. Analysis establishes that:
- For all households (base=32), 10 have nomadic habit of life, 16 are unable to travel for either health reasons for because children are in education and 6 do not have a nomadic habit of life.
 - Under the PPTS 2015 definition, 31.3% have a nomadic habit of life. Under the PPTS 2015 (including unable to travel) definition, this increases to 83.8%. Note that the 2021 GTAA excluded those unable to travel from calculations, and by excluding these exemptions 63% of households met the PPTS definition.
 - A total of 4 existing households (unweighted) are planning to move and all 4 meet the PPTS 2015 and revised definitions or 100%.

- A total of 15 new households (unweighted) are expected to form in the next 5 years. Of these, 6 do not meet the either PPTS definitions and 9 meet the definitions or 64.3%.
- 6.33 Therefore 13 out of 19 respondents (unweighted) who are planning to move (either as an existing or emerging household) meet the PPTS travelling definition or 68.4%. This is the same as the figure reported in the 2021 GTAA.

Overall plan period pitch need

- 6.34 Table 6.6 summarises the overall need for pitches across Telford and Wrekin over the plan period 2021/22 to 2039/40. It presents the overall cultural need based on households identifying as Gypsy and Traveller and a PPTS need which is a subset of the cultural need and represents households who meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life definition. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2021/22 to 2025/26 and longer-term 2026/27 to 2039/40 period. The overall need is 49 pitches of which 34 is PPTS need. The main driver of need in the first five years is net in-migration and emerging households.

Table 6.6 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2021/22 to 2037/38

Period	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need 2015	Of which: PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	23	16	16
Longer-term need			
Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (B)	15	10	10
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36(C)	7	5	5
Over period 2036/37 to 2039/40(D)	4	3	3
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2037/38 (13 years) $E=(B+C+D)$	26	18	18
NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2039/40 (A+E) (19 years)	49	34	34
Annual net shortfall	2.6	1.8	1.8

Potential capacity for Gypsy and Traveller pitches on existing sites

Turnover on sites

- 6.35 Turnover relates to the number of pitches that are expected to become available for occupancy. Analysis only includes expected turnover on public sites as this is referenced in (former) CLG guidance and more accurate data on changes in pitch occupancy is likely to be available. Although there is likely to be turnover on private sites, the ability of households to move onto private sites may be more restrictive (for instance the site may be restricted to a particular

family) and less likely to be recorded. 4 out of 29 households interviewed on council sites had moved onto their pitch in the past 5 years, representing a 5 year turnover rate of 13.8%. Applied to all pitches (45) would give a turnover of 6 pitches or 1.24 each year.

Potential for additional pitches on existing sites

- 6.36 Although several household survey respondents suggested that additional pitches could be provided on Lodge Road, this is not a realistic option. Further private sites may be identified over the plan period but the Council has not received any applications for new sites which can be considered in the GTAA.

Impact of turnover and new pitch provision on pitch need

- 6.37 As shown in Table 6.7, anticipated turnover reduces the overall cultural need to 26 pitches of which 11 is PPTS need under both the 2015 and undated definitions..
- 6.38 Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers through the NPPF for those who no longer travel and the PPTS for those who have a nomadic habit of life. The overall need that the council needs to plan for is therefore 26 pitches over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40. There is a need for 17 additional pitches in the first five years of the local plan and 9 for the remainder of the plan period.
- 6.39 Of the 26-pitch need, 15 pitches are for households who no longer travel and 11 pitches for households who have a nomadic habit of life under both the PPTS 2015 and PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) definitions.

Tenure preferences

- 6.40 Respondents planning to move and form new households were asked to consider their preferred tenure of pitches (social rented or private). Most (88%) stated a preference for council pitches, with 6% stating private and 6% a mix of private/council.

Table 6.7 Addressing Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: Telford and Wrekin

Scenario	Telford and Wrekin	Cultural need	Of which PPTS 2015 NEED	Of which PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) NEED
A	5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26)	23	16	16
B	Anticipated minimum turnover on council sites	6	6	6
C=A-B	Residual need 2021/22 to 2025/26 after turnover	17	10	10
D	Longer-term need 2026/27 to 2039/40	26	18	18
E	Anticipated minimum turnover on council sites	17	17	17
F=D-E	Residual need 2025/26 to 2039/40 after turnover	9	1	1
Scenario	Summary	Cultural need	Of which PPTS 2015 NEED	Of which PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) NEED
G=A+D	Plan period Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2039/40)	49	34	34
H=B+E	Anticipated minimum turnover on council sites	23	23	23
I=G-H	Residual need 2021/22 to 2039/40 after turnover considered	26	11	11

Stakeholder views on residential pitch need

6.41 Stakeholders were asked what the need for permanent residential pitches for Gypsies and Travellers in Telford & Wrekin were. Stakeholders gave a range of views which are detailed below:

- There is a need for permanent residential pitches to meet the needs of an ever-growing community.
- There are two current sites which are full with a waiting list. There is a demand and a need for more permanent sites and/or an extension to existing sites.
- The council have an obligation to plan for G&T accommodation alongside other needs of accommodation in the borough. Failure to plan effectively either through a positive policy position that facilitates windfall sites or through allocation of sites will lead to an under provision for the community. Transit pitches help reduce the instances of temporary encampments that can lead to negative perceptions of the community.

6.42 All stakeholders responding to the survey were asked where they thought the permanent sites needed to be located and why. The responses received are below:

- There should be several small sites located throughout the borough, rather than extending or creating large sites making them more manageable.
- There would be an option of extending the current sites or creating another site in a different part of the borough. Any new location would need to be mindful of services to support families – e.g. capacity of local schools / GPs etc.
- Permanent sites could be located in a variety of locations including rural and urban settings. They could also include council owned sites or development or private sites
- Ideally three new permanent sites in addition to the current ones in Lawley, Ketley Brook and Donnington Wood. The three new ones would ideally be located in areas around:
 1. The north of Telford – Wellington/Hadley- as communities are very diverse and accepting of families new to Telford.
 2. Another site close to Donnington Wood or extension due to family links.
 3. Close to Lawley Primary School (catchment area) as families get good support from the pastoral team.
 4. Private sites in Ketley Brook and new site could be located close to it. (Transit site).

6.43 Stakeholders were asked whether there were any barriers to the provision of new permanent sites. The comments received are detailed below:

- The main barriers are the sourcing of land in appropriate locations that is of a sufficient quality and setting that it does not disadvantage the community.
- The sourcing of willing land owners is also an issue – there needs to be a balance of private and public sites to meet the needs of the G&T community
- Obtaining planning permission is sometimes a barrier.
- The communities experience racism and discrimination from existing communities who are not Gypsy/Traveller, especially in Donnington Wood where there is an existing site.
- Existing communities will openly discourage travelling families from coming to their area.
- Families are particular about who they share sites with and consultation needs to be aware of this as some are British Gypsies and some are Irish Gypsies. There is a cultural difference and they do not like to share sites if possible.
- Trust in the council as some have short-term leases but there is a preference for long-term permanent sites.
- Many families do not like housing and prefer to be on a site and therefore there may be more plots needed than those currently on the road.

- During lockdown, internet access was very poor. Families need good provision to access services provided by council, education and for general use.
- Ensuring that where suitable sites are found there needs to be consideration of the local community and how negative perceptions can be addressed.

Transit requirements

- 6.44 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping.
- 6.45 Stakeholders were asked about unauthorised encampments including the level of activity, challenges and policies for dealing with encampments. The A5 is a key transport corridor that runs through Telford and Wrekin and families move in and out of the area for seasonal work.
- 6.46 Stakeholders confirmed that the creation of a transit site in 2013/14 has reduced unauthorised encampments significantly. Also Telford has a transient population who may stay for a few days when in the area. In addition, Horton Wood has had a few instances over the past 5 years but it is very inconsistent.

Transit site provision

- 6.47 There is an 11-pitch transit site adjacent to the Lodge Road site with capacity for 22 caravans.
- 6.48 In terms of transit 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.
- 6.49 Regarding transit sites, stakeholders commented:
- There is a need for a few transit sites. It would be better to have transient sites next to, incorporated into or close to permanent sites. This is due to family connections and the feeling of safety and community. Services would be already on site that you can make use of such as electricity and water.
 - It is anticipated this need will grow due to the proposed 2020 – 40 plan period. Telford is also on the A5 route between London and Holyhead so it is assumed that there is a flow of G&T community between England and Ireland at certain times of the year.

Temporary stop over provision

- 6.50 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.
- 6.51 Stakeholders commented that:
- The borough is relatively small, and the transit site can meet the community's needs.
 - If there are good permanent and transit sites, these would not be needed.
 - Temporary stop over places could be useful depending on the level of unauthorised encampments. However the key issue would be their location and the likelihood they would be used as an alternative to an unauthorised encampment. They should be located in discreet but easy to access locations.

Negotiated stopping

- 6.52 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 tends to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site.

Policy response

- 6.53 The council has transit provision to accommodate up to 22 caravans. This should be sufficient to accommodate the needs of those travelling through the borough. At this time, no further transit provision is needed within the borough.

Showperson plot requirements

- 6.54 There is currently one Travelling Showpersons yard located in Hadley. There is no immediate needs arising from families living on this yard but there is a small long-term need for 2 plots over the plan period to 2039/40 but this is expected to be met through the intensification of the yard.

Duty to cooperate

- 6.55 Stakeholders were asked whether this questionnaire contributes to the requirement on the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities as set out in Section 3A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (as amended by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011) and described in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as an integral part of the Local Plan-making process and its assessment at Examination. Stakeholders agreed that the questionnaire contributes to the requirement on the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities.

7. Conclusion and response

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

Current accommodation

- 7.2 There are well-established Gypsy and Traveller communities living in Telford and Wrekin. Culturally appropriate provision includes two council sites (with 45 pitches) and two private sites (with 4 pitches). There are two further private sites (Finney's Caravan Site, Edgmond and Whyte's Caravan Site, Woodcote) where the owners are looking to change the planning status of the site and remove them from Gypsy and Traveller pitch supply. There is one Travelling Showperson's yard with 3 plots.

Future residential need

- 7.3 Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers through the NPPF for those who no longer travel and the PPTS for those who have a nomadic habit of life. The overall need that the council needs to plan for is therefore 26 pitches over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40. There is a need for 17 additional pitches in the first five years of the local plan and 9 for the remainder of the plan period.
- 7.4 Of the 26-pitch need, 15 pitches are for households who no longer travel and 11 pitches for households who have a nomadic habit of life under both the PPTS 2015 and PPTS 2015 (plus unable to travel) definitions.
- 7.5 It is recommended that the Local Plan sets out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for small private sites should they arise over the plan period. There is no additional need for Travelling Showperson plots but it is recommended that the existing yard is safeguarded for Travelling Showperson use.

Transit site/stop over need

- 7.6 There is an 11-pitch transit site adjacent to the Lodge Road site with capacity for 22 caravans. This should be sufficient to accommodation transit need arising within the borough. At this time, no further transit provision is needed across the borough.

Future updating

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

Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire

	Date and Time			
	Site Reference			
	Address			
	General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection	GDPR came into effect from 25th May 2018. This provides rights of people to control personal data held about them by organisations		
		This study is being done for Telford and Wrekin Council to identify if there is a need for more residential pitches and transit provision in the 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		
		Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	Yes	No
1	pitch/Property Type (and tenure if B&M)			
2	No. Statics/mobiles/chalets or bricks and mortar			
3	No. tourers/caravans			
3b	Are the caravans/chalets all used for sleeping/living spaces? If not, what is they used for?			
3c	Do you own the caravans/chalets or do you rent them from someone else?			
4	Description of pitch occupancy			
5	No. households			
6	No. concealed households			
7	No. doubled up households			
8	Anyone else use this pitch as their home? If so, who.			
8a	Anyone else use this pitch to pull on when visiting? If so who, how long and do they need their own residential or transit pitch in the borough			
9	Household characteristics			
		Gender	Age	Relationship to respondent
	Respondent			
	Person 2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			
10	Ethnicity			
11	How many bedspaces are there on your pitch?			
12	Overcrowding of home (meaning do you have enough space for the household at its current size)	Y / N		
13	Overcrowding of pitch	Y / N		
14	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		
15	Where were you living? Record district/settlement name			

	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				
16	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled?	Y / N			
17	Previous to the last year, did you or someone in your household travel?	Y / N			
18	Reason(s) for travelling				
19	Please describe when and where do you travel? (if relevant)				
20	Do you or a member of your household plan to travel next year?	Y / N			
21	Do you think you or a member of your household will travel in the next two to five years?	Y / N			
22	What reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?				
	Where you plan to live in the future				
23	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N			
24	Why are you planning to move ?				
25	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing). Try and get specific location				
26	What type of dwelling ? (caravan, trailer, chalet house, flat, bungalow)				
26a	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
	If in B&M housing				
27	If you live in bricks and mortar housing, are you happy to live here or would you prefer to live on a pitch?	Happy Here / Prefer plot			
28	If you would prefer to live on a pitch is this because you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar (this means it affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)?	Y / N			
	Emerging households				
29	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own pitch in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N			
		HH1	HH2	HH3	HH4
30	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing. Try and get specific location				
31	What type of dwelling ? (caravan, trailer, chalet house, flat, bungalow)				
31a	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
32	Have they travelled / plan to travel ?	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N
33	If living in bricks and mortar do you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar? (this means it affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N
	Additional residential pitches				
34	Scope to expand site (extend the boundary of the site)	Y / N			
35	No. additional pitches				
36	Scope to intensify pitches (put more pitches on the existing site)	Y / N			
37	No. additional pitches				
38	Are there any vacant pitches on the site which could be used by another family? If so how many pitches				
39	In general, is there a need for more authorised pitches (for people to live on all the time?) in this district?	Y / N			
40	If so, how many are needed?				
41	Who should own them (Council, people from the Traveller Community, non-Travellers)				
42	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a site?				

Transit and temporary stopover need				
43	Is there a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling through the district? This can include transit pitches or stopover places	Y / N		
44	Is there a need for transit pitches (for people stopping over temporarily) in the district? A transit pitch is intended for short-term use and usually includes space for two caravans, parking space and access to electricity, a toilet, washing facilities	Y / N		
45	If so, how many are needed?			
46	Who should manage them ? (Council, Traveller Community)			
47	Where should they be located?			
48	Is there a need for stopover places? A stopover place is land which can be used on a temporary basis and usually include access to portaloos, waste disposal and water	Y / N		
49	If so, how many are needed?			
50	Who should manage them ? (Council, Traveller Community)			
51	Where should they be located?			
Residential history				
52a	Is this your homebase or do you have a homebase somewhere else? If so where and type of accomodation and how often to you use it			
52b	How many years have you lived here?			
Routing	If more than five years	Go to Q58		
	If five years or less	Go to Q53		
53	Where did you move from? (District)			
54	Were you living on a Private Site, Council Site, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?			
55	When you moved here, was the pitch vacant, a brand new pitch or had the pitch been created by dividing up an existing pitch?			
56	What were the reasons for moving here?			
57	Did you already have a connection with the area ? (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)			
Support needs				
58	Do you or a member of your household have any health-related needs? Could you please explain what they are?	Please say how many people in your household		
59	Is there a need for your home to be adapted in any way?	Please tick if needed in caravan/trailer/mobile	Please tick if needed in shed	
	Better heating			
	More insulation			
	Adaptations to kitchen (e.g. accessible/drop-down units)			
	Adaptations to bathroom (e.g. level-access shower/wetroom)			
	Adaptations relating to sensory (eyesight/hearing) needs (e.g. to radiators, floors, sockets)			
	Internal hand/grab rails			
	External hand/grab rails			
	Lever door handles			
	Wheelchair adaptations (including door widening and			
	Other adaptations (please say what is needed)			

60	Are you or someone in your household in need of any support because of health reasons?			
	Pregnancy support			
	Post-natal support			
	Medical treatment from GP			
	Medical treatment from hospital			
	Occupational Therapy			
	Counselling			
	Other support (please say what)			
61	IF RELEVANT: Do you or someone in your household need any support with the education of your child(ren) ?			
	Help for children of primary school age			
	Help with children of secondary school age			
	Other support (please say what)			
62	IF RELEVANT: Do you or someone in your household require any support with job-related training ?	Go through list of support		
	Help with English, Maths and/or IT skills			
	Help applying for an apprenticeship			
	Help applying for a course at college/university			
	Other support (please say what)			
		(For each important, not important, no view/not relevant)		
	Questions on site locations			
63	When thinking about new residential sites, which of the following are important or not important to you			
	Within walking distance from primary schools			
	Within walking distance from secondary schools			
	Within walking distance from shops			
	Within walking distance of church/place of worship			
	easy access to public transport/bus stop			
	access to main roads/motorways			
	Close to doctors			
	Child-friendly with safe places to play			
	Community spaces and buildings			
	Parking for visitors			
	Room for family and visitors to stay for a short while			
	Makes sites accesible for people with disabilities			
	Haivng different sizes of pitch for different types of households			
	Space for equipment/vehicules			
	Anything else?			
	Final questions			
64	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your housing or support needs?			
65	Do you know anyone in bricks and mortar housing looking to live on a pitch? If so, can you provide contact details			

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.

DCLG: Department for Communities and Local Government; created in May 2006. Responsible for the remit on Gypsies and Travellers, which was previously held by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (O.D.P.M.).

Gypsies and Travellers: Defined by DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (August 2015) 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, 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 land owner 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.