

**Nuneaton and Bedworth**  
**Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson**  
**Accommodation Assessment 2016**

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Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Final Report  
July 2016

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# 1. Introduction

1.1 In February 2016, arc<sup>4</sup> were commissioned by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to undertake a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment to identify the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and Bargee Travellers from across Nuneaton and Bedworth. The overall objective of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment is to inform the development of clear and realistic planning policies relating to Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and also considers need from Bargee Travellers.

1.2 The research provides information about the current and future accommodation needs and demands of Gypsies and Travellers, Travelling Showpeople and Bargee Travellers; as well as providing information about their additional support needs.

1.3 The study adopts the definition of ‘Gypsies and Travellers’ set out within the Government’s *Planning policy for traveller sites* (first published in March 2012 and updated in August 2015) within which the following definition of ‘Gypsies and Travellers’ is adopted:

*“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.”<sup>1</sup>*

1.4 In addition, updated Government planning policy (August 2015) adds 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.”<sup>2</sup>*

1.5 The following definition of ‘Travelling Showpeople’ is used, also taken from the planning policy document:

*“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.”<sup>3</sup>*

1.6 In addition:

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<sup>1</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 1

<sup>2</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 2

<sup>3</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 3

*“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.”<sup>4</sup>*

- 1.7 For the purposes of this study, therefore, Gypsies and Travellers live on pitches on sites, whilst Travelling Showpeople live on plots on yards.
- 1.8 The overall purpose of a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment is to support the development of clear and realistic planning policies relating to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the Council’s site allocations Development Plan Document. The study provides an evidence base to assist the Council in determining an appropriate level of pitch provision to be sought through the lifetime of the Borough Plan and to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers to meet the Council’s obligations under Section 225 of the 2004 Housing Act. The Council has a GTAA (2013) which was commissioned jointly with North Warwickshire Borough Council and covered the period 2012-2028. However, as the Council is looking to develop a site allocations document to sit alongside the Borough Plan, it is imperative that this is based on up-to-date evidence.
- 1.9 This study also considers the need for Bargee Traveller dweller mooring provision in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough.

## Study components

- 1.10 The study comprised five stages, which are set out below:
  - **Stage 1:** Development of methodology. Collation and review of existing information and literature;
  - **Stage 2:** Stakeholder consultation;
  - **Stage 3:** Survey of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the study area;
  - **Stage 4:** Data analysis, calculation of needs and report production; and
  - **Stage 5:** Dissemination.

## Report structure

- 1.11 The report structure is as follows:
  - **Chapter 1 Introduction:** provides an overview of the study;
  - **Chapter 2 Legislative and policy context:** presents a review of the legislative and policy context;
  - **Chapter 3 Methodology:** provides details of the study’s research methodology;

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<sup>4</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 5

- **Chapter 4 Review of current provision of sites:** looks at the current provision of sites across the study area to provide a baseline picture of what is currently available;
- **Chapter 5 Review of current population:** reviews estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough and the scale of existing site provision. A review of the current accommodation situation of Travellers identifies issues arising;
- **Chapter 6 Pitch and plot requirements:** focuses on current and future pitch and plot requirements. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, supply and current shortfalls across the study area. This chapter also considers need from bargee travellers;
- **Chapter 7 Travelling practices, experiences and transit requirements:** highlights experiences of and issues relating to travelling and includes an assessment of need for transit sites in the study area;
- **Chapter 8 Wider service and support needs:** highlights survey findings with reference to wider services used;
- **Chapter 9 Stakeholder consultation:** summarises views of stakeholders expressed through the on-line survey;
- **Chapter 10 Conclusion and strategic response:** concludes the report, identifying headline issues, and recommending ways in which these could be addressed.

1.12 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:

- **Appendix A** which provides details of the legislative background underpinning accommodation issues for Gypsies and Travellers;
- **Appendix B** Policy and guidance;
- **Appendix C** Fieldwork questionnaire;
- **Appendix D** Stakeholder questionnaire and responses; and
- **Appendix E** Glossary of terms.

## 2. Legislative and Policy Context

- 2.1 This research is grounded in an understanding of how the national legislative and policy context has affected Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities to date.

### Legislative background

- 2.2 Since 1960, three Acts of Parliament have had a major impact on Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople:
- Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960;
  - Caravan Sites Act 1968 (Part II); and the
  - Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.
- 2.3 The 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act abolished all statutory obligations to provide accommodation, discontinued Government grants for sites and made it a criminal offence to camp on land without the owner's consent.
- 2.4 Since the 1994 Act, the only places where Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople can legally park their trailers and vehicles are:
- Council and Registered [Social Housing] Providers' Gypsy caravan sites;
  - Privately owned land with appropriate planning permission; and
  - Land with established rights of use, other caravan sites or mobile home parks by agreement or licence along with land required for seasonal farm workers.
- 2.5 The 1994 Act resulted in increased pressure on available sites. It eventually resulted in further reviews of law and policy, culminating in the Housing Act 2004 which placed a requirement (s.225) on local authorities to assess Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation needs.
- 2.6 More detail on the legislation affecting Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople can be found at Appendix A.

### Policy background

- 2.7 A considerable range of policy and guidance documents have been prepared by Central Government to assist local authorities in discharging their strategic housing and planning functions and numerous research and guidance documents have been published by other agencies. This review examines influential policy, guidance and research which relates specifically to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople or makes reference to them; more information is provided within Appendix B.
- 2.8 Some of the key themes to emerge from the review of relevant literature include:
- Recognising the long-standing role Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople have played in society and how prejudice, discrimination and

legislative change have increasingly marginalised these distinctive ethnic groups;

- A recognised shortage of provision for Gypsies and Travellers;
- The importance of understanding Gypsy and Traveller issues in the context of recent housing and planning policy development;
- Recognition that Gypsies and Travellers are one of the most socially excluded groups in society and are particularly susceptible to a range of inequalities relating to health, education, law enforcement and quality of accommodation; and
- A need for better communication and improved understanding between, and within, Travelling communities themselves, and between Travelling communities and elected members, service providers and permanently settled communities.

### Planning policy

- 2.9 In March 2012 the Government published both the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)<sup>5</sup> and its accompanying *Planning policy for traveller sites*<sup>6</sup>. These documents replaced all previous national planning policy in respect of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- 2.10 Between September and November 2014 the Government consulted on proposed changes to planning policy in respect of traveller sites. The stated objective of the proposed changes was to ensure fairness in the planning system and strengthen the protection of the Green Belt and countryside. An updated *Planning policy for traveller sites* document was subsequently published in August 2015<sup>7</sup>.
- 2.11 Planning policy sets out that *“the Government’s overarching aim is to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community”*<sup>8</sup>
- 2.12 The policy also sets out the Government’s aims in respect of traveller sites, namely:
- a. *that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning*
  - b. *to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites*
  - c. *to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale*
  - d. *that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development*

<sup>5</sup> DCLG National Planning Policy Framework March 2012

<sup>6</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* March 2012 (now superseded)

<sup>7</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015

<sup>8</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015, paragraph 3

- e. *to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites*
- f. *that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective*
- g. *for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies*
- h. *to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply*
- i. *to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions*
- j. *to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure*
- k. *for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment”<sup>9</sup>*

2.13 It is within this policy context that local planning authorities will have to plan future provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across their respective areas. ‘Policy A’ requires Councils to use evidence to plan positively and manage development. Paragraph 7 of the policy document states that:

*“In assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:*

- a) *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)*
- b) *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*
- c) *use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions.”*

2.14 ‘Policy B’ of the *Planning policy for traveller sites* document relates to plan-making and planning. It sets the context for Local Plan preparation, consistent with policies in the NPPF. Paragraph 9 sets out that local planning authorities should set pitch and plot targets which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of Travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities. Specifically, in producing their Local Plan, local planning authorities should:

- a) *“identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years’ worth of sites against their locally set targets*

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<sup>9</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015, paragraph 4

- 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 across its area (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*
- e) *protect local amenity and environment."*
- 2.15 The policy document explains that, to be considered 'deliverable', sites should be available now, offer a suitable location for development, and be achievable with a realistic prospect that development will be delivered on the site within five years. Sites with planning permission should be considered deliverable until permission expires, unless there is clear evidence that schemes will not be implemented within five years, for example they will not be viable, there is no longer a demand for the type of units or sites have long term phasing plans. In order to be considered 'developable', sites should be in a suitable location for traveller site development and there should be a reasonable prospect that the site is available and could be viably developed at the point envisaged.

### Strategic policy

- 2.16 Despite the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy, the need for strategic planning remains, especially to ensure coherent planning beyond local authority boundaries. To this end the Localism Act 2011 has introduced the Duty to Co-operate which the Planning Advisory Service<sup>10</sup> advises:
- Requires councils and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis in relation to planning of sustainable development;
  - Requires councils to consider whether to enter into agreements on joint approaches or prepare joint Local Plans (if a local planning authority); and
  - Applies to planning for strategic matters in relation to the preparation of Local and Marine Plans, and other activities that prepare the way for these activities.
- 2.17 The Localism Act and the National Planning Policy Framework set out a requirement for local authorities to fulfil the Duty to Co-operate on planning issues, including provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, to ensure that approaches are consistent and address cross border issues with neighbouring authorities. The Duty is intended to act as a driver for change in order to enhance co-operation and partnership working to assist in delivering appropriate provision of future accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers, which can be contentious.

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<sup>10</sup> PAS A simple guide to Strategic Planning and the Duty to Cooperate  
<http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pageld=2133454>

## Progress on tackling inequalities

- 2.18 In April 2012 the Government published a *Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers*<sup>11</sup>, which summarised progress in terms of meeting “Government commitments to tackle inequalities and promote fairness for Gypsy and Traveller communities”<sup>12</sup>. The report covers 28 measures from across Government aimed at tackling inequalities, these cover:
- Improving education outcomes;
  - Improving health outcomes;
  - Providing appropriate accommodation;
  - Tackling hate crime;
  - Improving interaction with the National Offender Management Service;
  - Improving access to employment and financial services; and
  - Improving engagement with service providers.
- 2.19 In respect of provision of appropriate accommodation, the report advises that financial incentives and other support measures have been put in place to help councils and elected members make the case for development of Traveller sites within their areas. Changing perceptions of sites is also identified as a priority, and to this end the Government made the following commitments:
- *“The Department for Communities and Local Government will help Gypsy and Traveller representative groups showcase small private sites that are well presented and maintained...”*
  - *Subject to site owners agreeing to have their homes included we will help produce a case study document which local authorities and councillors, potential site residents and the general public could use. It could also be adapted and used in connection with planning applications.”*<sup>13</sup>
- 2.20 Also aimed at improving provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers, the Government committed to:
- The provision of support, training and advice for elected members services up to 2015; and
  - The promotion of improved health outcomes for Travellers through the planning system; the report states that *“one of the Government’s aims in respect of traveller sites is to enable provision of suitable accommodation, which supports healthy lifestyles, and from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure.”*<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> The study only includes reference to Gypsies and Travellers and not Travelling Showpeople

<sup>12</sup> [www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322](http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322)

<sup>13</sup> CLG Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers April 2012 commitment 12 page 18

<sup>14</sup> CLG Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers April 2012 para 4.13 page 19

## Emphasis on enforcement powers

- 2.21 On 4<sup>th</sup> May 2013 the Government revoked regulations governing the issuing of Temporary Stop Notices (TSNs)<sup>15</sup> by local planning authorities, which had been in place since the introduction of TSNs in 2005. The regulations were originally introduced to mitigate the likely disproportionate impact of TSNs on Gypsies and Travellers in areas where there is a lack of sites to meet the needs of the Travelling community. Under the previous regulations, TSNs were prohibited where a caravan was a person's main residence, unless there was a risk of harm to a serious public interest significant enough to outweigh any benefit to the occupier of the caravan. Under the new arrangements, and in the spirit of 'localism', local planning authorities are to determine whether the use of a TSN is a proportionate and necessary response. Concerns have been raised that, without the regulations in place, TSNs risk violating the Human Rights of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, especially in areas where there is an under-provision of sites/pitches/plots.
- 2.22 On 1st July 2013 in a Ministerial Statement issued by Local Government Minister Brandon Lewis<sup>16</sup>, the issue of inappropriate development in the Green Belt was highlighted. The statement sought to make clear that both temporary and permanent Traveller sites are inappropriate development in the Green Belt and that planning decisions *'should protect Green Belt land from such inappropriate development'*.
- 2.23 The statement specified that *'The Secretary of State wishes to give particular scrutiny to traveller site appeals in the Green Belt, so that he can consider the extent to which 'Planning policy for traveller sites' is meeting the government's clear policy intentions. To this end he is hereby revising the appeals recovery criteria issued on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 and will consider for recovery appeals involving traveller sites in the Green Belt.'*
- 2.24 This situation was to apply for a period of six months in the first instance, and a number of appeals have since been recovered in order to 'test' relevant policies at a national level. To this end, the Secretary of State recently upheld the Planning Inspector's decision to find in favour of an applicant seeking to extend an existing site in Runnymede, Surrey, which had previously been refused by the Council. The Secretary of State found that the Council's policy was not consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework's policies for the protection of the Green Belt.
- 2.25 The Statement also revoked the practice guidance on *Diversity and equality in planning*<sup>17</sup>, deeming it to be outdated; the Government does not intend to replace this guidance.
- 2.26 Revised Guidance from Government<sup>18</sup> in respect of dealing with unauthorised encampments was published on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2013; the updated guidance reflected the changes to TSNs. The Guidance states that:

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<sup>15</sup> Statutory Instrument 2013 No.830 Town and Country Planning (Temporary Stop Notice) (England) (Revocation) Regulations 2013

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/planning-and-travellers>

<sup>17</sup> ODPM Diversity and Equality in Planning: A good practice guide 2005

<sup>18</sup> DCLG Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers 9th Aug 2013

*“As part of the Government’s commitment to protecting the nation’s green spaces, these powers will help protect Green Belt land and the countryside from illegal encampments. In addition to the powers which are available to councils to remove unauthorised traveller [sic] sites, protest camps and squatters from both public and private land, new Temporary Stop Notices now give councils powers to tackle unauthorised caravans, backed up with potentially unlimited fines. With the powers set out in this guide available to them, councils should be ready to take swift enforcement action to tackle rogue encampments and sites.”<sup>19</sup>*

2.27 In March 2015, the Government published *Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers*, which sets out “the robust powers councils, the police and landowners now have to clamp down quickly on illegal and unauthorised encampments”.<sup>20</sup> The powers are reiterated as part of the Government’s commitment to protecting the Green Belt. The summary advises authorities that they “should not gold-plate human rights and equalities legislation” and that they have in fact strong powers available to them to deal with unauthorised encampments. When dealing with encampments authorities are advised to consider the following:

- *“The harm that such developments can cause to local amenities and the local environment;*
- *The potential interference with the peaceful enjoyment of neighbouring property;*
- *The need to maintain public order and safety and protect health;*
- *Any harm to good community relations; and*
- *That the State may enforce laws to control the use of an individual’s property where that is in accordance with the general public interest”.*<sup>21</sup>

2.28 Despite having a clear leadership role, the summary urges local authorities to work collaboratively with other agencies, such as the Police and/or the Highways Agency to utilise these enforcement powers.

2.29 On 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015, alongside the publication of updated *Planning policy for traveller sites*, the DCLG wrote to all the local authority Chief Planning Officers in England attaching a planning policy statement on *Green Belt protection and intentional unauthorised development*<sup>22</sup> with immediate effect. The statement sets out changes to make intentional unauthorised development a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, and also to provide stronger protection for the Green Belt. The statement explains that the Planning Inspectorate will monitor all appeal decisions involving unauthorised development in the Green Belt, and additionally the DCLG will consider the recovery of a proportion of relevant appeals for the Secretary of State’s decision “to enable him to illustrate how he would like his policy to apply in practice”, under the criteria set out in 2008.

<sup>19</sup> CLG *Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers* Page 3 first para

<sup>20</sup> CLG Home Office and Ministry of Justice *Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments a summary of available powers* March 2015 introduction

<sup>21</sup> CLG Home Office and Ministry of Justice *Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments a summary of available powers* March 2015 introduction

<sup>22</sup>[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/457632/Final\\_Chief\\_Planning\\_Officer\\_letter\\_and\\_written\\_statement.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457632/Final_Chief_Planning_Officer_letter_and_written_statement.pdf)

- 2.30 In addition, the planning policy statement of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015 announced that the Government has cancelled the documents *Guide to the effective use of enforcement powers, Part 1* (2006) and *Part 2* (2007).

## CLG Caravan Counts

- 2.31 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the Government in 1979, and have since been made by local authorities on a voluntary basis every January and July<sup>23</sup>. Their accuracy varies between local authorities and according to how information is included in the process. A major criticism is the non-involvement of Gypsies and Travellers themselves in the counts. However, the counts, conducted on a single day twice a year, are the only systematic source of information on the numbers and distribution of Gypsy and Traveller trailers. The counts include caravans (or trailers) on and off authorised sites (i.e. those with planning permission) but do not relate necessarily to the actual number of pitches (i.e. capacity) on sites.
- 2.32 A major review<sup>24</sup> of the counting system was undertaken in 2003 by the then Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), which made a number of recommendations and improvements to the process.

## DCLG Design Guidance

- 2.33 The Government's *Planning policy for traveller sites* provides no guidance on design for Gypsy and Traveller sites, concentrating instead on the mechanics of the planning process, from using evidence to plan making and decision taking.
- 2.34 Previous design guidance<sup>25</sup> was set out in *Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites – Good Practice Guide* (2008) which suggests that, among other things, there must be an amenity building on each site and that this must include, as a minimum:
- Hot and cold water supply;
  - Electricity supply;
  - A separate toilet;
  - A bath/shower room; and
  - A kitchen and dining area.
- 2.35 A Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) review (January 2012) of Non-Mainstream Housing Design Guidance found that the DCLG Design Guide most “succinctly outlines the physical requirements for site provision for travellers”. It also identified a number of ‘pointers’ for future guidance, and these are worth mentioning here:

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<sup>23</sup> Historically caravan counts have not included Travelling Showpeople. Since 2010 the Government has requested that January counts include Travelling Showpeople, however, the figures relating to Travelling Showpeople are reported separately and not included in the overall count figures.

<sup>24</sup> Counting Gypsies and Travellers: A Review of the Caravan Count System, Pat Niner Feb 2004, ODPM

<sup>25</sup> This guidance does not apply to the provision of new yards for Travelling Showpeople. Further information about good practice in the provision of yards can be obtained from the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain.

- The family unit should be considered to be larger and more flexible than that of the settled community due to a communal approach to care for the elderly and for children;
- A distinct permanent building is required on site to incorporate washing and cooking facilities, and provide a base for visiting health and education workers; and
- Clearer diagrams setting out the parameters for design are called for, both in terms of the scale of the dwelling and the site. Incorporating requirements for maintenance, grazing, spacing, size provision, communal spaces, etc. *'would ensure that a set of best practice principles can be established.'*<sup>26</sup>

2.36 The HCA Review suggested the following design considerations:

- Travelling Showpeople should be considered in the development of provision for temporary/transit sites;
- Vehicular access is a requirement and not an option;
- Open space is essential for maintenance of vehicles and grazing of animals;
- Open play space for children needs to be provided;
- A warden's office is required for permanent sites;
- Communal rooms for use of private health/education consultations are required; and
- An ideal ratio of facilities provision (stand pipes, parking area, recreation space) to the number of pitches.

2.37 On 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015, the DCLG letter to Chief Planning Officers (setting out the planning policy statement on *Green Belt protection and intentional unauthorised development*) set out that the Government thereby cancelled the document *Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites – Good Practice Guide* (2008).

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<sup>26</sup> Non-Mainstream Housing Design Guidance Literature Review, HCA January 2012 page 63

## 3. Methodology

3.1 In order to deliver the requirements of Government Guidance<sup>27</sup> the methodology for this study has comprised:

- Desktop analysis of existing documents, data and pitch/site information;
- A survey of key stakeholders via an online questionnaire for professionals who have direct contact with and knowledge of local Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities;
- A census of sites reviewing total number of pitches, number of pitches occupied and vacant, and total number of households; and
- Interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople on authorised sites/yards (note there are no unauthorised sites/yards in the Borough with the exception of unauthorised encampments);
- Interviews with Bargee Travellers.

3.2 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:

- Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and stakeholder discussions;
- Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers across the Borough; and
- Phase 3: Production of Report.

### Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and stakeholder consultation

3.3 This phase comprised a review of available literature, including legislative background and best practice information; and available secondary data relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

3.4 Relevant regional, sub-regional and local information has been collected, collated and reviewed, including information on:

- The national policy and legislative context;
- Current policies towards Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the Borough (drawn from Local Authority and sub-regional policy documents, planning documents, housing strategies and homelessness strategies); and
- Analysis of existing data sources available from stakeholders<sup>28</sup>.

3.5 This information has helped to shape the development of this report, and in particular the review of the legislative and policy context set out in Chapter 2.

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<sup>27</sup> CLG Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments Guidance October 2007 [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/7838/accommneedsassessments.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7838/accommneedsassessments.pdf)

<sup>28</sup> This includes CLG caravan count data and information on unauthorised encampment data provided by the Council (see chapter 6 for more information on this data)

- 3.6 The views of a range of key stakeholders identified by Nuneaton and Bedworth Council have been sought as part of this study, and these are summarised at Chapter 9. Stakeholders consulted as part of this process include representatives from district, borough and county councils and the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups.

## Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers, Travelling Showpeople and Bargee Travellers across Nuneaton and Bedworth

- 3.7 The primary fieldwork for this study comprised survey work with Gypsies and Travellers, Travelling Showpeople and Bargee Travellers. The questionnaire was designed by arc<sup>4</sup> in consultation with officers at Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. The household survey was undertaken, managed and monitored by arc<sup>4</sup>.
- 3.8 The household survey comprised face-to-face interviews with members of the Gypsy and Traveller, Travelling Showpeople and Bargee Travellers currently living with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. The interviews were carried out over the period April to May 2016, with an initial review of sites and awareness raising of the study carried out in March 2016. The overarching aim of the fieldwork was to maximise the number of interviews secured from households living on sites/yards and on waterways within the Borough. Consulting with stakeholders ensured that the fieldwork team had a good understanding of the local issues facing Gypsies and Travellers and helped to maximise the community's participation in the study.
- 3.9 The cultural needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople differ from those of the rest of the population and consideration of culturally specific requirements such as the need for additional permanent caravan sites and/or transit sites and/or stopping places (or improvements to existing sites) are key to this study. The research has therefore explicitly sought information from Travelling people across the Borough living in different types of accommodation.
- 3.10 A total of 31 interviews were secured (Table 3.1). 29 interviews were secured on permanent authorised sites, and 2 on an authorised yard. No interviews were undertaken with Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Attempts were made to interview households living on unauthorised encampments which took place during the fieldwork period but households refused to participate in the study.

<b>Dwelling type</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>Gypsy and Traveller</b>	
Pitch on Council authorised site	14
Pitch on private authorised site	15
<b>Showperson</b>	
Plot on private authorised yard	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>

## Phase 3: Production of report

- 3.11 In conjunction with face-to-face interviews with members of the Travelling community, a range of complementary research methods have been used to permit the triangulation of results. These are brought together during the research process and inform the outputs of the work and include:
- Desktop analysis of existing documents and data;
  - Preparing a database of authorised and unauthorised sites; and
  - Conducting a key stakeholder online questionnaire for professionals who have direct contact with local Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities across the Nuneaton and Bedworth area.
- 3.12 Good practice guidance and evidence from other studies emphasises that building trust with Travelling communities is a prerequisite of meaningful research. In this case it has been achieved by engaging with Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople groups, by using local resources and workers to make links, and working with officers who have already established good relationships with local Travelling communities.
- 3.13 We have also used the following sources of information:
- The bi-annual caravan count for CLG [from July 2013 to July 2015]; and
  - Local Authority information on existing site provision and unauthorised developments.
- 3.14 The assessment of pitch [and plot] requirements has been calculated by utilising information on current supply of pitches and the results from the survey. The overall number of pitches has been calculated using Local Authority information, with likely capacity through turnover assessed through the survey. A detailed explanation of the analysis of pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 6 but briefly comprises analysis of the following elements:
- Current pitch and plot provision, households living in bricks and mortar accommodation; households planning to move in the next FIVE years, and emerging households to give total demand for pitches and plots; and
  - Turnover on existing pitches, plots and total supply.
- 3.15 The approach used then reconciles the demand and supply data to identify overall pitch [and plot] requirements.
- 3.16 To identify the need for transit provision, data on unauthorised encampment activity has been collated and analysed, the results of this analysis are assessed alongside other contextual information to identify an appropriate target for transit provision in the Borough. The assessment of transit requirements is based on the median<sup>29</sup> number of caravans per transit related unauthorised encampment for the 36 month period January 2013 to December 2015.

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<sup>29</sup> The median figure is used and not the mean as it is more representative of unauthorised encampment activity more generally over the period. By using the median the overall transit target is not skewed by unrepresentative large or small scale one-off encampments

## 4. The Current Picture: Provision of Gypsy and Traveller Sites

- 4.1 This chapter considers the current provision of sites across Nuneaton and Bedworth. This is based on information provided by Nuneaton and Bedworth Council and supplemented with observations from the fieldwork team.

### Provision of authorised and unauthorised sites

- 4.2 Data on the provision of sites considers both authorised and unauthorised sites and yards across Nuneaton and Bedworth. Broadly speaking, authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either public or privately owned land. In this instance unauthorised sites are made up of either longer term<sup>30</sup> unauthorised encampments<sup>31</sup>, that have been in existence for some considerable time and so can be 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 (see Appendix E for more detailed definitions).
- 4.3 From Council data, site census data and from related discussions with local authority officers, there are across the Nuneaton and Bedworth study area a total of 15 private sites (of which 11 are occupied and 4 are unoccupied), 1 local authority site and 1 Travelling Showperson's yard. There are 65 permanent authorised occupied Gypsy and Traveller pitches (41 on private sites and 24 on the Council site) and 4 permanent authorised plots on a Showman's yard. There is currently one authorised vacant pitch and a potential for up to 20 pitches on sites in Parrotts Grove. Further details are provided in Table 4.1.

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<sup>30</sup> Approximately three months or longer

<sup>31</sup> Please note that unauthorised encampments also encompass short-term illegal encampments, which are more indicative of transit need, see para 7.10 for more information on these encampments.

**Table 4.1 List of Gypsy & Traveller Pitches on Sites and Showperson Plots on Yards (as at March 2016)**

Site Name	Site Location	Type of Site or Yard	Ownership	Total Number of Pitches/Plots on Site/Yard	Total Occupied Pitches/Plots	Total Vacant Pitches/Plots
Tides Reach, Smorrall Lane	Smorrall Lane, Bedworth, CV12 0NL	Permanent	Private	1	1	0
Bottom Meadow, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	8	8	0
Fella's Acre, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	5	5	0
Rosewood, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	1	1	0
The Haven, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	3	3	0
The Poppy's Mobile Caravan Park	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	7	7	0
Two Trees	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	2	2	0
Sunny Acre*, Parrotts Grove (Not occupied)	Parrotts Grove, Coventry, CV2 1NQ	Permanent	Private	20	0	20
Half Acre*, Parrotts Grove (Not occupied)	Parrotts Grove, Coventry, CV2 1NQ	Permanent	Private			
Plot 3* Parrotts Grove (Not occupied)	Parrotts Grove, Coventry, CV2 1NQ	Permanent	Private			
Plot 5, Parrotts Grove	Parrotts Grove, Coventry, CV2 1NQ	Permanent	Private	2	2	0
Gypsy Site No.4 Parrotts Grove	Parrotts Grove, Coventry, CV2 1NQ	Permanent	Private	4	4	0
Punch Bowl Bridge, Stoney Road** (Not occupied and no access)	Stoney Road, Nuneaton, CV10 0JS	Permanent	Private	0	0	0
Boundary Paddock, Withybrook Road	Withybrook Road, Bulkington, CV12 9JW	Permanent	Private	2	2	0
Watling Street (also known as Winter Oak and The Paddock)	Watling Street, Nuneaton, CV11 6BQ	Permanent	Private	6	6	0
The Griff, Coventry Road	Coventry Road, Nuneaton, CV10 7PE	Permanent	Council	25	24	1
Spinney Lane/ Whittleford Road 'Fairways' Showman's site'	Whittlesford, Nuneaton, CV10 9HU	Permanent Showperson	Private	4	4	0
<b>Summary</b>						
<b>Gypsy and Traveller</b>			<b>Private</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>20</b>
			<b>Council</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>
			<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Travelling Showperson</b>			<b>Private</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council data 2016, site survey fieldwork 2016

Notes accompanying this table are presented on the next page

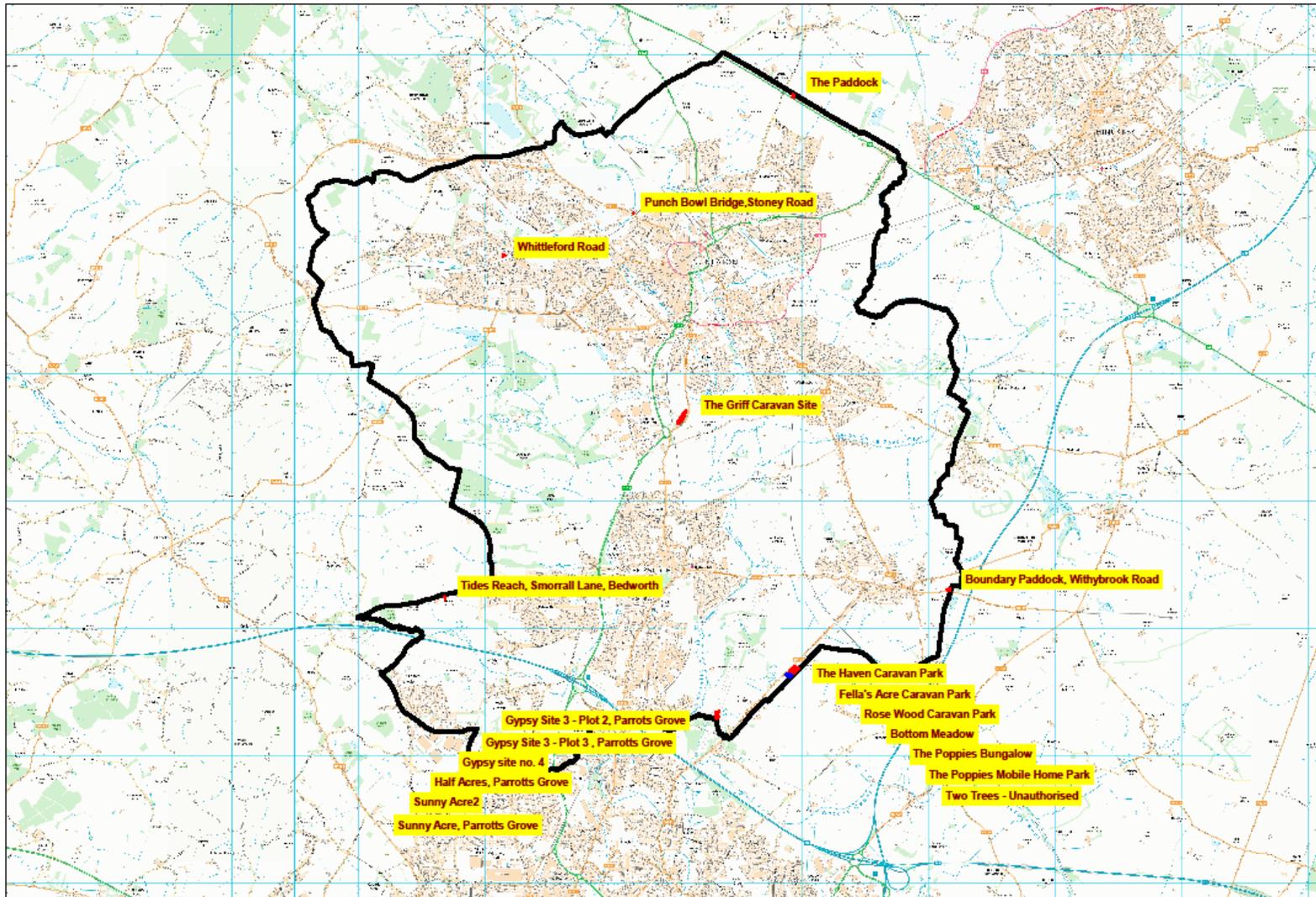
Notes (continued on next page)

The Poppies Bungalow, Mile Tree Lane is a permanent bricks and mortar bungalow and therefore excluded from the list of authorised pitches

\*Parrotts Grove can be divided into 5 sites. Sites 1 to 3 are unoccupied and through discussions with Warwickshire County Council there is potential for up to 20 pitches over the 3 sites. Electricity supply is an issue but it is understood that electricity has been provided to the first site that has the potential to be extended across the five sites.

\*\*Punch Bowl Bridge site is an authorised site but it cannot be occupied as there is no access from Stoney Road. It therefore cannot be counted as supply.

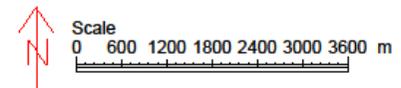
Map 4.1 Location of Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Sites and Yards



Contains Ordnance Survey data (C) Crown copyright and database rights 2012  
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council  
100018416

*Gypsy and Traveller sites*

Scale 1:55000



## 5. The current picture: Gypsy and Traveller population and pitch availability

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

### Population Estimates

- 5.2 Whilst it is recognised that some families may not identify themselves as Gypsies or Travellers in Censuses, in the 2011 Census<sup>32</sup>, a total of 29 households in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough were identified as having a ‘White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ (WGoIT) ethnicity (Table 5.1a). Of these, 16 households lived in bricks and mortar accommodation (house or bungalow, or flat, maisonette or apartment) and 13 lived in a caravan or other mobile or temporary structure.

Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
29	12	4	13

- 5.3 The 2011 Census provides further information on actual residents and Table 5.1b provides details of the breakdown of people.

Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
75	31	4	40

- 5.4 Table 5.1c provides an analysis of people and households and shows that the average household size is 2.59 for Gypsies and Travellers in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. This compares with an average household size of 2.3 (down from 2.4 in 2001) for the UK as a whole and looking at all households. There is significant variation in the average Gypsy and Traveller household size between accommodation types, however, with an average of 1.0 person in flats/maisonettes/apartments compared with 3.08 persons in caravans/mobiles.

<sup>32</sup> Tables 5.1a to 5.1e are taken from the Census 2011. Special tables were commissioned by ONS to cover the ethnicity and several data sets were produced and made available on the ONS website on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014. See Tables CT0127 and CT0128. Main article: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census-analysis/what-does-the-2011-census-tell-us-about-the-characteristics-of-gypsy-or-irish-travellers-in-england-and-wales-/index.html>

**Table 5.1c People per Household, Calculation by Accommodation Type**

Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
2.59	2.58	1.0	3.08

5.5 Table 5.1d identifies the number of Gypsy and Traveller households by tenure type. Social renting accounts for 62.1% of households in terms of tenure, while 20.7% of households own or part own their home. 17.3% of households rent privately or are living rent free.

**Table 5.1d Households identifying as WGoIT by Tenure**

All Tenures	Owned or shared ownership: Total	Social rented: Total	Private rented or living rent free: Total
29	6	18	5

5.6 Table 5.1e identifies the number of households by age group. This is derived from the Household Representative Person (HRP). Households aged under 35 account for just over a third (34.5%) of all Gypsy and Traveller households. Most households (44.8%) are in the 35 to 64 age bracket. 20.7% of households are aged 65+.

**Table 5.1e Households identifying as WGoIT by Age Group**

All Age Groups	Age 24 & under	Age 25 to 34	Age 35 to 49	Age 50 to 64	Age 65 to 74	Age 75 to 84	Age 85+
29	1	9	10	3	3	2	1

## Caravan Counts and authorised pitches and plots

5.7 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the Government in 1979, and have since been made by local authorities biannually on a voluntary basis every January and July. Their accuracy varies between local authorities and according to how information is included in the process. A major criticism is the non-involvement of Gypsies and Travellers themselves in the counts. However, the counts conducted on a single day twice a year are the only systematic source of information on the numbers and distribution of Gypsy and Traveller trailers. The counts include caravans (or trailers) on and off authorised sites (i.e. those with planning permission) but do not relate necessarily to the actual number of pitches (i.e. capacity) on sites.

5.8 A major review of the counting system was undertaken in 2003 by the then Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), which made a number of recommendations and improvements to the process. With effect from July 2013, the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) renamed the 'Gypsy and Traveller caravan count' as the 'traveller caravan count' [*sic*]. This

does not reflect any change to the coverage of the count, but brings its title into line with the terminology used for planning policy purposes. Since 2011, each January count has included a count of caravans occupied by Travelling Showpeople in each local authority in England. This count is undertaken annually.

5.9 The latest figures available are from the July 2015 Traveller Caravan Count<sup>33</sup>, which nationally found that:

- The total number of traveller caravans in England in July 2015 was 21,084, which was 1,126 more than in July 2014.
- 6,473 caravans were on authorised socially rented sites, an increase of 21 since the July 2014 count.
- The number of caravans on authorised privately funded sites was 11,478, which was 1,236 more than in July 2014.
- The number of caravans on unauthorised developments, on land owned by travellers, was 1,932, which was 50 below the number in July 2014.
- The number of caravans on unauthorised encampments, on land not owned by travellers, was 1,201, which was 81 less than in July 2014.
- Overall, the July 2015 count indicated that 85 per cent of traveller caravans in England were on authorised land and that 15 per cent were on unauthorised land.

5.10 The figures for the last five caravan counts for Nuneaton and Bedworth are set out in Table 5.2. This shows an overall decrease in the number of authorised pitches over the duration of the last five counts. There has been a notable decrease in the number of social rented pitches recorded, while the number of private authorised pitches has fluctuated. The January 2015 count identified 28 social rented pitches (compared with the five-count average of 37 pitches) and 24 private pitches (compared with the five-count average of 25 pitches). There has been a decrease in the number of unauthorised pitches (without planning permission) recorded over the same period, with only 3 unauthorised pitches identified in July 2015 compared with the five-count average of 8.

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<sup>33</sup> DCLG Count of Traveller Caravans July 2015 England, Housing Statistical Release November 2015

**Table 5.2 Bi-annual caravan count figures July 2013 to July 2015**

Nuneaton and Bedworth Count	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised pitches without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
Jul 2013	54	25	13	92
Jan 2014	34	36	18	88
Jul 2014	33	24	3	60
Jan 2015	37	17	1	55
Jul 2015	28	24	3	55
<b>Five-Count Average</b>	37.2	25.2	7.6	70.0
<b>Five-Count % Average</b>	<b>53.1%</b>	<b>36.0%</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: DCLG Traveller Caravan Count

- 5.11 It should be noted that there may be more than one caravan per pitch, and in the case of households doubling up on pitches there could be several caravans. For obvious reasons Gypsies and Travellers living on sites may not be present on the days on which the counts are conducted.
- 5.12 Table 5.3 summarises the range of sites and yards known to Nuneaton and Bedworth Council. There are a total of 66 permanent authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches on 12 occupied sites. There are 4 Travelling Showperson plots on a yard, but no known unauthorised encampments. Note there are an additional 4 private authorised sites which are not currently occupied.

**Table 5.3a List of Gypsy & Traveller Pitches on Sites (as at March 2016)**

Type of Site	No. Sites	No. Pitches
Council Authorised Permanent Gypsy and Traveller Site	1	25
Private Authorised Permanent Gypsy and Traveller Site (occupied)	11	41
Private Authorised Permanent Gypsy and Traveller Site (unoccupied)	4	20+

Source: Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council data 2016, site survey fieldwork 2016

**Table 5.3b List of Travelling Showperson Plots on Yards (as at March 2016)**

Type of Yard	No. Yards	No. Plots
Showpersons' Yards	1	4

Source: Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council data 2016, site survey fieldwork 2016

- 5.13 Residents across these sites were contacted and asked to participate in the study. A total of 31 interviews were achieved as presented in Table 3.1 (Chapter 3). In order to maintain confidentiality of responses, data are presented by whether the respondents live on a pitch on a permanent Council site, a pitch on a permanent private site or a plot on a private permanent yard, throughout the Report.

## Tenure of respondents

- 5.14 Overall, 50% of respondents stated that they own their own home, 40% rent from the Council and 7% rent privately (Table 5.4).

Table 5.4 Tenure of respondents		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	30
	Col %	100%
Rent from Council	Count	12
	Col %	40%
Rent privately	Count	2
	Col %	7%
Own home	Count	15
	Col %	50%
Not applicable	Count	1
	Col %	3%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 5.15 According to responses provided in the survey, there is a diverse range of land ownership within Nuneaton and Bedworth (Table 5.5). 42% rent the land from the Council; 29% own the land themselves with planning permission and a further 6% own the land with no planning permission; 12% rent the land privately (6% with planning permission and 6% without planning permission). The respondent who stated 'other'; said that their son owns the land they live on.

Table 5.5 Ownership of land where trailer/caravan located		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Own land where trailer / wagon is normally located (with planning permission)	Count	9
	Col %	29%
Own land where trailer / caravan is normally located (no planning permission)	Count	2
	Col %	6%
Rent pitch from Council	Count	13
	Col %	42%
Rent pitch privately (with planning permission)	Count	2
	Col %	6%
Rent pitch privately (no planning permission)	Count	2
	Col %	6%
Neither own or rent the land (unauthorised)	Count	1
	Col %	3%
Not applicable	Count	1
	Col %	3%
Other	Count	1
	Col %	3%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Repairs and improvements

- 5.16 91% of all respondents described the state of repair of their home as being good or very good; 6% said it was neither good nor poor; and 3% (one respondent) considered their home to be in very poor repair (Table 5.6).

Table 5.6 State of repair		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Very Good	Count	16
	Col %	52%
Good	Count	12
	Col %	39%
Neither Good nor Poor	Count	2
	Col %	6%
Very Poor	Count	1
	Col %	3%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 5.17 90% of respondents did not identify any repairs or improvements needed to their home (Table 5.7). 10% of respondents mentioned doors/windows and 3% (one respondent) commented on damp in their caravan.

Table 5.7 Repairs or improvements needed		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
None	Count	28
	Col %	90%
Doors / windows	Count	3
	Col %	10%
Damp in caravan	Count	1
	Col %	3%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

Note: Some respondents identified more than one repair/improvement so responses do not total 100%

## Space requirements

- 5.18 Whilst there is no set pitch size, DCLG<sup>34</sup> guidance states that there should be sufficient space on pitches to allow for:

<sup>34</sup> On 31st August 2015, the DCLG letter to Chief Planning Officers (setting out the planning policy statement on Green Belt protection and intentional unauthorised development) set out that the Government thereby cancelled the document *Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites – Good Practice Guide (2008)*.

- Manoeuvrability of an average size trailer of up to 15 metres in length;
  - Capacity for larger mobile homes of up to 25 metres on a number of pitches on a site; and
  - A minimum of six metres between every trailer, caravan or park home that is separately occupied on a site.
- 5.19 Good practice would suggest that ideally sites should be small, consisting of between five and 15 pitches unless there is clear evidence to suggest that either a smaller or larger site is preferred by the Traveller community<sup>35</sup>.
- 5.20 In terms of space for trailers, wagons and horseboxes, vehicles and loads (Table 5.8), 90% of all respondents felt they had enough space. 10% (three respondents) said that they had insufficient space for their trailers, wagons, horse boxes, vehicles and loads.

**Table 5.8 Enough space for trailers, wagons, horse boxes, vehicles and loads**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	28
	Col %	90%
No	Count	3
	Col %	10%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 5.21 74% of respondents felt that there was enough space in their amenity block/shed (Table 5.9). 13% (four respondents) expressed the view that they had insufficient space and 13% considered the question to not be relevant to them.

**Table 5.9 Enough space in amenity blocks/sheds on pitch**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	23
	Col %	74%
No	Count	4
	Col %	13%
Not relevant	Count	4
	Col %	13%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 5.22 Respondents were asked if they felt that there was enough space on their pitch (Table 5.10). 72% felt that they have adequate space on their pitch; 24% (seven

<sup>35</sup> DCLG, *Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites – Good Practice Guide*, May 2008, Chapter 4.

respondents) felt that they do not have enough space on their pitch and 3% (one respondent) considered the question not to be relevant to them.

**Table 5.10 Enough space on pitch**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	29
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	21
	Col %	72%
No	Count	7
	Col %	24%
Not relevant	Count	1
	Col %	3%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

5.23 The survey asked whether, if relevant, respondents had enough space to repair their equipment (Table 5.11). The majority of respondents (84%) felt that the question was not relevant; however, 12% (three respondents) said that they do not have enough space for repairing equipment while 4% (one respondent) said that they do have enough space.

**Table 5.11 Enough space to repair equipment**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	25
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	1
	Col %	4%
No	Count	3
	Col %	12%
Not relevant	Count	21
	Col %	84%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Overcrowding

5.24 Two respondents (6%) considered their home to be overcrowded (Table 5.12). Both respondents provided extra information; one referred to their personal situation and overcrowding due to several generations, including children, living together; the second simply said that there were not enough pitches.

**Table 5.12 Home / trailer / pitch overcrowded**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	2
	Col %	6%
No	Count	29
	Col %	94%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Facilities shared with other households

5.25 Respondents were asked if they have to share facilities with another household. Of the three respondents to this question, all three mentioned sharing a toilet, two mentioned sharing a bathroom and one mentioned laundry facilities.

**Table 5.13 Sharing of facilities**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	3
	Col %	100%
Bathroom	Count	2
	Col %	67%
Toilet	Count	3
	Col %	100%
Laundry	Count	1
	Col %	33%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Satisfaction with location of home

5.26 Satisfaction with the location of the home was high (Table 5.14), with 100% of the 31 respondents stating that they were satisfied (13%) or very satisfied (87%).

**Table 5.14 Satisfaction with the location of your home**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Very Satisfied	Count	27
	Col %	87%
Satisfied	Count	4
	Col %	13%
Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Count	0
	Col %	0%
Dissatisfied / very dissatisfied	Count	0
	Col %	0%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Cost of accommodation and services

- 5.27 29 respondents answered the survey question relating to housing costs and whether any of their housing costs were met by Housing Benefit. 55% said that none of their housing costs were covered by Housing Benefit; 21% said part was covered and 24% said all of their housing costs were covered.
- 5.28 It was not deemed culturally sensitive to ask about income in the survey.

		<b>TOTAL</b>
TOTAL	Count	29
	Col %	100%
None	Count	16
	Col %	55%
Part	Count	6
	Col %	21%
All	Count	7
	Col %	24%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Location to amenities

- 5.29 Respondents were asked if they felt being near to a range of amenities was important, slightly important or not important to them (Table 5.16). Proximity to both doctors and shops was considered important by 87% of respondents and slightly important by another 13%. Proximity to a post office/cash machine was considered important by 84% of respondents. Access to transport links indicated significant differences between modes; while 74% of respondents thought that being close to major roads was important, only 35% considered nearness to public transport important. Proximity to education was not a high priority for the majority of respondents, with 45% and 47%, respectively, stating that it was important to have primary schools and secondary schools nearby. Being close to a pub was considered the lowest priority, with only 23% of all respondents considering this to be important.

		TOTAL	
		Count	%
Primary School nearby	Important	14	45%
	Slightly Important	4	13%
	Not Important	13	42%
	<i>Base</i>	31	100%
Secondary School nearby	Important	14	47%
	Slightly Important	4	13%
	Not Important	12	40%
	<i>Base</i>	30	100%
Doctors nearby	Important	27	87%
	Slightly Important	4	13%
	Not Important		
	<i>Base</i>	31	100%
Shops nearby	Important	27	87%
	Slightly Important	4	13%
	Not Important		
	<i>Base</i>	31	100%
Post Office/Cash point nearby	Important	26	84%
	Slightly Important	4	13%
	Not Important	1	3%
	<i>Base</i>	31	100%
Pubs nearby	Important	7	23%
	Slightly Important	1	3%
	Not Important	23	74%
	<i>Base</i>	31	100%
Public Transport nearby	Important	11	35%
	Slightly Important	4	13%
	Not Important	16	52%
	<i>Base</i>	31	100%
Main Roads nearby	Important	23	74%
	Slightly Important	5	16%
	Not Important	3	10%
	<i>Base</i>	31	100%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Moving

- 5.30 Respondents were asked whether they planned to move over the next five years (Table 5.17). Just over three-quarters (77%) of respondents planned to stay where they are at the present time, while 23% (seven respondents) plan to move elsewhere. Of the seven respondents planning to move in the next five years, four provided additional information (Table 5.18): two said that they are planning to move onto another site/yard; one said that they are planning to move to another pitch/plot on the same site/yard; and one said they are planning to move into bricks and mortar accommodation, specifically a bungalow outside of the Nuneaton and Bedworth area. Health reasons were stated as the reason for planning this move into bricks and mortar housing.

**Table 5.17 Respondents planning to move in the next five years**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Planning to stay where you are based now	Count	24
	Col %	77%
Plan to move elsewhere	Count	7
	Col %	23%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

**Table 5.18 Type of future accommodation, if planning to move in the next five years**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	4
	Col %	100%
Another pitch / plot on the same site / yard in a chalet / mobile home	Count	1
	Col %	25%
Onto another site / yard	Count	2
	Col %	50%
Into bricks and mortar accommodation	Count	1
	Col %	25%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Household mobility

5.31 The household survey asked respondents how long they had lived in their current home (Table 5.19). Over half (67%) of all respondents had lived in their current residence for five years or over. Of the remainder: 6% (two respondents) had lived in their current home less than one year; 22% (7 respondents) had lived in their home for between one and three years; and 9% (three respondents) had lived in their home for between three and five years.

**Table 5.19 Length of residence in current home**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Up to 1 year	Count	2
	Col %	6%
Over 1 and up to 2 years	Count	5
	Col %	16%
Over 2 and up to 3 years	Count	2
	Col %	6%
Over 3 and up to 4 years	Count	2
	Col %	6%
Over 4 and up to 5 years	Count	1
	Col %	3%
5 years or over	Count	19
	Col %	61%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

5.32 The fieldwork survey asked respondents where they had lived before moving to their current home (Table 5.20). Of 31 responses: 16 (52%) said that they had been travelling with no permanent home; 14 (45%) stated a “town / district” and one (3%) said homeless. 14 respondents provided an indication of the location of their previous home, including:

- Middlesbrough: mentioned by three respondents;
- Hinckley: mentioned by two respondents;
- Leicestershire: mentioned by two respondents;
- Other locations identified by one respondent each: Bedworth; Derby; Doncaster; Hammersmith; Suffolk; Tamworth and Walsall.

Table 5.20 Place of residence before moving to current home		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Town / District	Count	14
	Col %	45%
Travelling at the time (no permanent home)	Count	16
	Col %	52%
Homeless	Count	1
	Col %	3%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

5.33 The survey found that respondents had typically lived in their previous home for longer periods (Table 5.21). 53% had lived in their previous home for over five years. Less than one-quarter (22%) of respondents had lived in their previous home for less than two years.

Table 5.21 Length of residence in previous home		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	17
	Col %	100%
Up to 1 year	Count	1
	Col %	6%
1 to 2 years	Count	3
	Col %	18%
2 to 3 years	Count	3
	Col %	18%
3 to 4 years	Count	1
	Col %	6%
Over 5 years	Count	9
	Col %	53%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## New provision

- 5.34 From 16 respondents responding to the relevant question in the fieldwork survey (Table 5.22), over half (56%) said that sites should be managed privately by a Council, 25% said that they should be managed privately by Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople and 13% said privately by non-Gypsies/Travellers/Travelling Showpeople.
- 5.35 From a total of 31 households, almost half (48%) of respondents felt that their site or yard had capacity for further development to incorporate new pitches or plots (Table 5.23).

**Table 5.22 Preferred management of sites**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	16
	Col %	100%
Councils	Count	9
	Col %	56%
Private (Gypsy / Traveller / Showman)	Count	4
	Col %	25%
Private (non-Gypsy / Traveller / Showman)	Count	2
	Col %	13%
Other	Count	1
	Col %	6%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

**Table 5.23 Perceived capacity for further development on the site**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	15
	Col %	48%
No	Count	16
	Col %	52%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## 6. Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements, Travelling Showperson plot requirements and Bargee Traveller requirements

### Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and across Nuneaton and Bedworth. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data, as advocated by the DCLG. This chapter also considers planning issues.
- 6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on DCLG modelling as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). The DCLG Guidance requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. The Guidance advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information.
- 6.3 The GTAA has modelled current and future demand and current and future supply. The following analysis focuses on Gypsies and Travellers specifically.

### Model overview

- 6.4 In terms of **need**, the model considers:
- The baseline number of households on authorised and unauthorised sites (as at April 2016);
  - Existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites) and where they are planning to move to;
  - The current shortfall in pitches relative to households on existing sites; and
  - Emerging households currently on sites and planning to stay within the study area; to derive a figure for
  - Total need.
- 6.5 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
- Total supply of current pitches on authorised sites;
  - Turnover on existing authorised sites; and
  - Total supply of authorised pitches based on turnover and existing pitch provision (as set out at Table 4.1).
- 6.6 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply by summarising:
- Total need for pitches; and
  - Total supply of authorised and unauthorised tolerated pitches.

- 6.7 The assessment of current need should, in line with the guidance, take account of existing supply and demand. In the DCLG model, current residential supply refers to local authority residential sites and authorised privately owned sites.
- 6.8 We secured interviews from 14 out of 24 households on the Council site and 15 out of 41 households on private sites. Therefore, the needs analysis has used weighted data, with Council site households weighted by 1.71 and private site households by 2.73.

## Description of factors in the model

- 6.9 Table 6.1 provides a summary of the future pitch requirement calculation. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

### Need

#### 6.10 **Current households living on pitches (1a to 1d)**

These figures are derived from local authority data and the site assessment carried out as part of the fieldwork. No household stated that they were overcrowded and it is assumed that there was no doubling up of households on pitches which was confirmed by site observation.

#### 6.11 **Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)**

Analysis assumes that there are 16 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation based on the 2011 Census.

#### 6.12 **Existing Households planning to move in the next five years (3)**

This was derived from information from the household survey for respondents currently on authorised pitches. Nine (weighted) existing households plan to move in the next five years and these all plan to remain either on the same site or move elsewhere in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Five (weighted) households plan to move to a site outside the Council area or to bricks and mortar accommodation. Therefore, the overall net impact of existing households planning to move is a requirement for 4 pitches.

#### 6.13 **Emerging households (4)**

This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next five years based on household survey information from respondents living on Council and private sites. A total of 24 households expect to form in the next five years and all expect to remain on their current site or another site in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

#### 6.14 **Total need for pitches (5)**

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 93 pitches.

### Supply

#### 6.15 **Current supply of pitches (6)**

This is a summary of the total number of authorised pitches and the number of vacant authorised pitches. This shows a total supply of 65 occupied authorised pitches. There is currently 1 vacant pitch on the Council site. Additionally, the model assumes a supply of 20 pitches in Parrotts Grove. This area comprises five sites, three of which are unoccupied and two are occupied. The unoccupied sites have planning permission and there is potential capacity for around 20 pitches. Further details on Parrotts Grove are presented in the notes accompanying Table 4.1.

#### 6.16 **Need minus supply (excluding turnover) (7)**

This is a summary of pitch need minus current supply and presents the underlying mismatch between supply and need. This suggests a shortfall of 27 pitches across Nuneaton and Bedworth.

#### 6.17 **Turnover on existing pitches (8)**

Turnover needs to be considered as part of modelling, but this element of analysis needs to be carefully evaluated. Over the past 5 years, 42.3% of households interviewed on the Council site and 40% on private sites had moved onto their current pitch. However, none of these households stated that they originated from within Nuneaton and Bedworth. Further discussion with a representative from Warwickshire County Council confirms that turnover of this magnitude has taken place on the Council site. It was also confirmed that households moving onto the site had not originated from within Nuneaton and Bedworth. However, this was because no families living in Nuneaton and Bedworth came forward through the waiting list and the pitches were offered to households from outside the Borough. Therefore, the model does assume that turnover will take place and this has the potential to provide pitches for households from within Nuneaton and Bedworth. Over the past year, Warwickshire County Council has identified 6 pitches have become available which represents 24% of pitches and these could have been let to households from within the Borough. The model makes a prudent assumption that 9% of pitches come available each year based on household survey evidence which results in an annual supply of 2 pitches or 10 over a 5 year period for occupancy by households from within Nuneaton and Bedworth.

6.18 A total of 14 households (weighted) intend on leaving their pitch in the next 5 years which is also in line with the assumed turnover rate of 9%.

#### 6.19 **Total supply including turnover (9)**

This figure is based on the total number of authorised permanent pitches available, vacant pitches and likely turnover. The model assumes a total supply of 96 pitches.

### Reconciling supply and demand

6.20 There is a total demand over the next five years (2016/17 to 2020/21) for 93 pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth (Table 6.1) compared with a supply of 96 authorised pitches (65 occupied plus 1 vacant pitch on the Council site plus 10 pitch capacity through turnover on the Council site plus 20 pitch capacity at Parrotts Grove). The result is an overall capacity of -3 pitches across Nuneaton and Bedworth.

**Table 6.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – 2016/17 to 2020/21**

NEED			Nuneaton and Bedworth G&T
1	Total households living on pitches	1a. On LA Site	24
		1b. On Private Site – Authorised	41
		1c. On Private Site – Tolerated/Unauthorised/Temporary	0
		<b>1d. TOTAL (1a to 1c)</b>	<b>65</b>
2	Estimate of households in bricks and mortar accommodation	<b>2a. TOTAL</b>	<b>16 (2011 Census)</b>
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	<b>Currently on sites</b>	
		3a. To another pitch/same site	2
		3b. To another site in LA area	7
		3c. From site to Bricks and Mortar	0
		3d. To a site/B&M outside study area/Plan to travel	5
		<b>3e. TOTAL net impact (3a+3b-3c-3d)</b>	<b>4</b>
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	24
		4b. Currently on site and planning to live on another site in LA	0
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live on site outside study area	0
		<b>4d. TOTAL (4a+4b+4c)</b>	<b>24</b>
5	<b>Total Need</b>	<b>1d+3e+4g</b>	<b>93</b>
SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a. Current occupied authorised pitches	65
		6b. Current vacancies on authorised pitches (including Parrotts Grove sites)	21
		<b>6c. TOTAL current authorised supply (6a+6b)</b>	<b>86</b>
7	Summary of need and authorised supply excluding turnover	7a. Need – supply (5-6c)	7
8	Turnover on authorised sites	8a. Turnover on LA pitches which will provide for residents moving within or having a connection with the LA area	10
9	Total supply of pitches over 5 yrs (including turnover)	9a. Current authorised pitch provision, vacant pitches and turnover (6c+8a)	96
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
10	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	93
11	Total supply of authorised pitches (including turnover)	5 years (from 9a)	96
<b>5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2016/17 TO 2020/21</b>			<b>-3</b>

6.21 The above should be viewed as a pitch requirement based on the current supply of pitches and the views expressed by Gypsy and Traveller households who have been interviewed. The analysis does not include an allowance for

households living in bricks and mortar but based on other arc<sup>4</sup> studies, this would result in a need from an additional 3 households (based on a need of 18 pitches per 100 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation, with 16 households identified from the 2011 Census).

## Longer-term pitch requirements

- 6.22 Modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey and Council data. 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<sup>36</sup>.
- 6.23 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 2021-2031, with the assumption that they remain in Nuneaton and Bedworth and that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 (which is a reasonable assumption that takes account of gender). Analysis would suggest a total requirement for 22 additional pitches over the period 2021-2031 (Table 6.2).

**Table 6.2 Future pitch requirements based on the assumption that 50% of children form households on reaching 18**

Time period	No. children	Expected household formation
2021/22 – 2025/26	24	12
2026/27 – 2031/32	19	10
<b>Total (2021/22 to 2031/32)</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>22</b>

- 6.24 It should be recognised that in the longer-term, vacancy and turnover rates may change but have not been applied to longer-term projections. Pitch requirements beyond 2021/22 are therefore indicative and there will be a need to monitor occupancy and turnover and adjust assumptions as appropriate in future time periods. It is recommended that the evidence base be updated regularly to inform future adjustments to pitch requirement analysis.

## Local Plan recommendations – Gypsies and Travellers

- 6.25 The net total pitch requirement is 19 additional permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches for the period 2016/17 to 2031/32. This is based on a shortfall of -3 pitches (2016/17 to 2020/21) plus a need for an additional 22 pitches (2021/22 to 2031/32).
- 6.26 The annualised pitch requirement over the period 2016/17 to 2031/32 is 1.3.
- 6.27 The overall shortfall assumes that there are 20 pitches made available at Parrott Grove and a modest turnover of 2 pitches each year on the Council Site.

<sup>36</sup> Travellers are more likely to establish their own household at a relatively early age; it is not uncommon for a Traveller to be living in their own household by the age of 18.

- 6.28 This calculation assumes that households satisfy the latest planning definition of Gypsies and Travellers. However, of households interviewed, only 23% had travelled in the previous year, 35.5% had travelled previous to the past year and only 42% intended on travelling in the next year or over the longer term.

## Travelling Showperson plot requirements

- 6.29 There is one Showperson's yard in Nuneaton and Bedworth which accommodates four households. One household includes two children who are likely to require a plot during the Local Plan period. However, given the demographics of households living on the yard, it is likely that sufficient plots will be available to accommodate Showpeople in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

## Bargee Travellers in Nuneaton and Bedworth

- 6.30 The definition of Gypsy and Travellers includes Bargee travellers and therefore Councils have a duty to consider their needs. arc<sup>4</sup> was made aware of at least one Bargee Traveller family living within Nuneaton and Bedworth. An interview ascertained that the household was licenced by the Canal and Rivers Trust as a 'continuous cruiser' and the following key points were made:
- Affordable permanent moorings are required by households choosing to live on waterways (priced at around £150 each month);
  - Having permanent mooring allows the potential for households to have a postal address (which is needed to access the electoral registration system, health service and the potential to improve credit worthiness); and
  - Improved service points including water, toilets, dustbins, shower facilities are required.
- 6.31 It was suggested that the residential use of canals should be acknowledged in the Local Plan and that there is a need for at least one affordable permanent mooring in the Borough<sup>37</sup>. It is therefore recommended that the Council:
- liaise with the Canals and Rivers Trust and local marina owners to establish the practical steps and policy tools required to meet the needs of Bargee Travellers in the area;
  - explore the potential of establishing at least one affordable permanent mooring within Nuneaton and Bedworth;
  - relevant agencies and the Council should consider whether further facilities along canals should be encouraged to provide services to households using riverboats/barges as their living accommodation;
  - liaise with CRT to better understand the implications and enforcement of their policies, and where the Council and the CRT may be able to work together; and

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<sup>37</sup> Existing moorings can be viewed at <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/directory> but these are primarily aimed at leisure use rather than for long-term residential use

- consider the needs of Bargee Travellers in any future policy documents relating to both Gypsies and Travellers and housing need.

## 7. Travelling practices, experiences and transit requirements

7.1 The purpose of this chapter is to review the travelling patterns and experiences of respondents across Nuneaton and Bedworth. The chapter also looks at unauthorised encampment activity within the Borough and identifies a transit requirement for Nuneaton and Bedworth.

### Travelling practices and experiences

- 7.2 Broadly speaking, travelling patterns are seasonal, generally linked to seasonal employment but travelling also takes place to enable visits to family and friends, and attendance at events, such as weddings and funerals. Families require safe and secure places from which to travel, and this home base is usually from where they access GPs, schools and a dentist.
- 7.3 Respondents were asked about their travelling practices in the previous year and previous to the past year (Tables 7.1 and 7.2). Overall, 23% of respondents had travelled in the previous year and 35.5% had travelled previous to the last year.

Table 7.1 Travelled in the previous year		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	7
	Col %	23%
No	Count	24
	Col %	77%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

Table 7.2 Travelled previous to last year		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	11
	Col %	35.5%
No	Count	20
	Col %	64.5%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 7.4 Respondents were asked if they plan to travel in the next year (Table 7.3). Of the 31 responses, 12 (39%) said that they are intending to travel in the next twelve months. The fieldwork survey also asked households how long they would typically travel for, during the course of a year (Table 7.4). Of the 14 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople who provided information, eight respondents (58%) typically travel for between five and twelve weeks; two respondents (14%) travel between 13 and 26 weeks; and three respondents (21%) typically travel for six to ten months.

Table 7.3 Plan to travel in the next year		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	12
	Col %	39%
No	Count	19
	Col %	61%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

Table 7.4 Duration of travel		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	14
	Col %	100%
No more than thirteen days	Count	1
	Col %	7%
5 to 8 weeks (or 2 months)	Count	4
	Col %	29%
9 to 12 weeks (or 3 months)	Count	4
	Col %	29%
13 to 26 weeks (or 6 months)	Count	2
	Col %	14%
Over 6 months but less than 10 months	Count	3
	Col %	21%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 7.5 The questionnaire asked respondents to provide information on the time of year that they usually travel and the location of travel. Seven of the respondents provided information on the time of year that they travel (Table 7.5). Of these; five (71%) travel in the summer period, one (14%) said September to May and one (14%) said 'various' times. In terms of location, seven of the Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople provided information (some mentioned several locations). Locations included: Appleby; Cambridge; Coastal Areas; East Coast; Epsom; Gloucestershire; Kenilworth; Leeds; Lincoln; the Midlands; Norfolk; Suffolk; the West County and 'anywhere' or 'various' locations. The respondents also mentioned the following routes: M1; M5; M6; M40 and A46, while some were not sure.

		<b>TOTAL</b>
TOTAL	Count	7
	Col %	100%
July	Count	1
	Col %	14%
July/August	Count	1
	Col %	14%
June	Count	1
	Col %	14%
May/June	Count	1
	Col %	14%
Summertime	Count	1
	Col %	14%
Sept to May	Count	1
	Col %	14%
Various	Count	1
	Col %	14%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 7.6 A range of problems can be experienced whilst travelling and respondents were asked to identify these based on their experiences (Table 7.6). Twelve respondents gave feedback to this question. The most frequently mentioned problems were no places to stop over (58%), enforcement officer behaviour (50%), lack of toilet facilities (42%) and police behaviour (42%).

**Table 7.6 Problems experienced while travelling**

		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	12
	Col %	100%
No places to stop over	Count	7
	Col %	58%
Closing of traditional stopping places	Count	3
	Col %	25%
Abuse, harassment or discrimination	Count	4
	Col %	33%
Lack of toilet facilities	Count	5
	Col %	42%
No water facilities	Count	3
	Col %	25%
Problems with rubbish collection	Count	1
	Col %	8%
Police behaviour	Count	5
	Col %	42%
Enforcement officer behaviour	Count	6
	Col %	50%
Behaviour of other travellers	Count	1
	Col %	8%
Other	Count	1
	Col %	8%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

Note more than one problem could be expressed so figures do not add up to 100%

## Transit sites and stop over places

- 7.7 The DCLG Guidance suggests that, in addition to the need for permanent provision, an assessment should be made of the need for temporary places to stop while travelling. Temporary, or transit, sites are intended for short-term use while in transit. These sites are authorised and usually permanent but there is a limit on the length of time residents can stay. In practice the length of stay on a transit pitch is generally limited to a maximum of 12 weeks (three months); however, no time limits are set out in any Government guidance.
- 7.8 Local authorities have a legal duty to provide emergency accommodation within their own areas if Travellers present themselves in that area. Whilst a local authority does not have a duty to find an authorised pitch or site, they are expected to facilitate the traditional (Traveller) way of life. A number of other requirements<sup>38</sup>, in relation to welfare of children, access to essential services and right to private and family life, make it important that local authorities seek to provide sufficient pitches in their own area to reflect current, and meet possible future, transit needs.
- 7.9 The two key elements used in validating a need for transit provision were:

<sup>38</sup> These are set out in a number of acts and regulations, including The Housing Act 1996; The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994; and The Human Rights Act 1998

- Unauthorised encampment data; and
- Contextual information from the Council regarding local unauthorised encampment activity.

### Unauthorised encampment activity

7.10 In order to establish the potential requirement for transit provision in Nuneaton and Bedworth it is important to understand the extent of short term unauthorised encampment activity across the area. Encampments occur as Gypsies and Travellers pass through an area either for the purposes of visiting or travelling through en route to an alternative destination; they are indicative of a lack of stop over or transit provision. Table 7.7 summarises unauthorised encampments across Nuneaton and Bedworth for the period January 2013 to December 2015; there were a total of 60 encampments during this 36-month period.

7.11 The majority of unauthorised encampments are of short duration, most (93.3%) were two weeks or less. In terms of length of duration, 21.7% lasted one day, 46.7% between 2 and 6 days, 25% between 7 and 13 days. A minority of encampments (6.7%) lasted for 14 days or more. The median duration of encampments over this period was 5 days.

Date	Location	Duration (days)	Number of caravans	No. caravan days (duration x no. caravans)
28/01/2013	Pingles Carpark, Avenue Road. CV11 4LX	1	4	4
07/02/2013	Heckley Playing Fields, Coventry Road, Exhall, Coventry	6	7	42
04/03/2013	Not stated	1	5	5
29/05/2013	Mallory Way, Coventry	1	3	3
20/08/2013	A444 Footbridge, Nuneaton	30	1	30
08/01/2014	Pool Bank St. Recreation Ground, Nuneaton	7	8	56
09/01/2014	Miners Welfare Park, Bedworth	9	1	9
09/01/2014	Spitalfields Car Park, Bedworth. CV12 8NF	15	1	15
10/01/2014	Hemdale Business Park, Nuneaton	36	1	36
09/04/2014	Vernons Lane, Nuneaton, CV10 8BB	1	3	3
12/04/2014	Bermuda, Nuneaton, CV10 7SG	4	17	68
16/04/2014	Days Inn Car park, Bermuda, Nuneaton. CV10 7SG	1	4	4
04/07/2014	Silverstone Drive, Coventry	1	1	1
24/07/2014	Pingles Carpark, Avenue Road. CV11 4LX	6	8	48
30/07/2014	Eastboro Way, Nuneaton	2	1	2
12/08/2014	Pingles Carpark, Avenue Road. CV11 4LX	3	17	51
21/08/2014	Hemdale Business Park, Nuneaton	1	1	1
03/09/2014	Holman Way, Nuneaton	1	3	3
25/09/2014	Walsingham Drive, Nuneaton	4	4	16
28/11/2014	Riversley Park, Nuneaton	3	1	3

**Table 7.7 Unauthorised encampments January 2013 – December 2015**

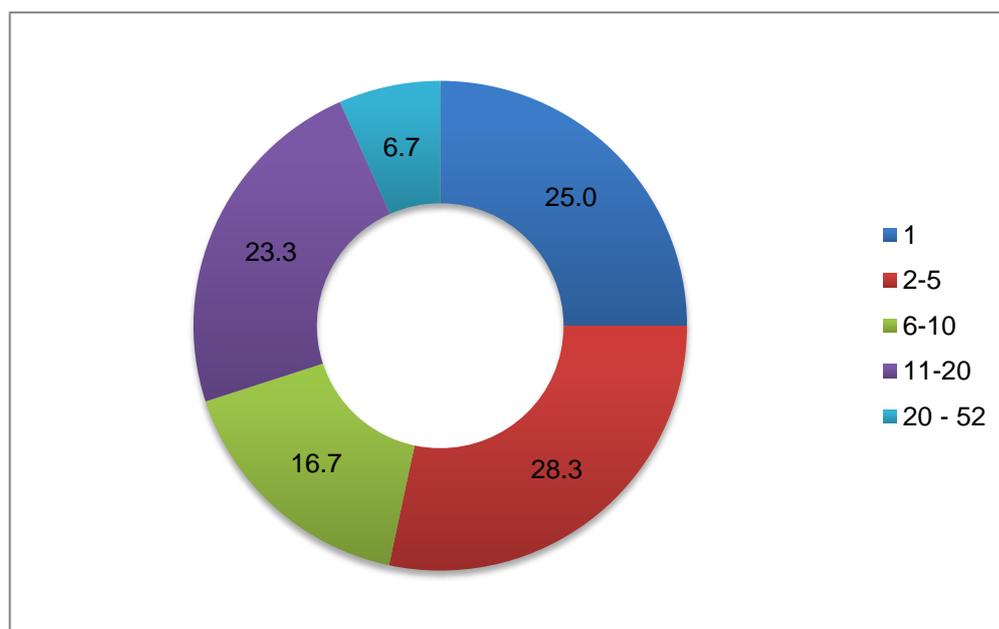
Date	Location	Duration (days)	Number of caravans	No. caravan days (duration x no. caravans)
12/12/2014	Bermuda, Nuneaton CV10 7SG	4	1	4
16/12/2014	Silverstone Drive, Coventry	8	17	136
24/12/2014	Bermuda, Nuneaton CV10 7SG	9	1	9
06/01/2015	The Waterfront, Exhall	1	3	3
06/01/2015	Lymington Drive, Coventry	1	3	3
09/01/2015	Jubilee Centre, Greenmoor Road, Nuneaton, CV10 7EL	3	14	42
10/01/2015	Slingsby Close, Nuneaton	1	1	1
17/02/2015	Stevenson Road, Exhall, Coventry CV7 9EQ	6	3	18
23/02/2015	Barling Way, Nuneaton	3	4	12
26/02/2015	Pingles Carpark, Avenue Road. CV11 4LX	11	9	99
02/03/2015	Silverstone Drive, Coventry	23	1	23
11/03/2015	Marston Lane, Nuneaton	3	14	42
09/04/2015	Pauls Land, Lutterworth Road, Nuneaton	5	10	50
15/04/2015	Pool Bank St. Recreation Ground, Nuneaton	8	6	48
08/05/2015	Pringles Old Running Track, Avenue Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4LX	12	45	540
05/06/2015	Upper Abbey Street car park, Nuneaton	5	3	15
10/06/2015	Bermuda Phoenix Centre, Nuneaton CV10 7HU	1	15	15
15/06/2015	Silverstone Drive, Coventry	3	3	9
15/06/2015	Pool Bank St. Recreation Ground, Nuneaton	7	10	70
22/06/2015	Pingles Carpark, Avenue Road. CV11 4LX	9	11	99
26/06/2015	Abbey Green, Corporation Street, Nuneaton	10	4	40
10/07/2015	Bermuda, Nuneaton CV10 7SG	1	15	15
21/07/2015	Pringles Old Running Track, Avenue Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4LX	7	5	35
23/07/2015	Tiverton Drive Public Open Space, Nuneaton	4	15	60
29/07/2015	Tiverton Drive Public Open Space, Nuneaton	5	9	45
29/07/2015	Jubilee Centre, Greenmoor Road, Nuneaton, CV10 7EL	6	38	228
29/07/2015	Queen Elizabeth Road Recreation Ground, Nuneaton	5	8	40
10/08/2015	Arbury Avenue, Bedworth	5	17	85
17/08/2015	Blackberry Lane Playing Field, Ash Green, Coventry	7	52	364
24/08/2015	Queen Elizabeth Road Recreation Ground, Nuneaton	8	15	120
31/08/2015	Ash Green School Playing Fields, Ash Green, Coventry, CV7 9AH	4	50	200
11/09/2015	Leekes Car Park, Silverstone Drive,	3	1	3

Table 7.7 Unauthorised encampments January 2013 – December 2015				
Date	Location	Duration (days)	Number of caravans	No. caravan days (duration x no. caravans)
	Coventry			
16/09/2015	Asda Car Park, Nuneaton CV11 4FL	5	8	40
18/09/2015	Victoria Street Car Park, Nuneaton	6	2	12
21/09/2015	Victoria Street Car Park, Nuneaton	3	3	9
14/10/2015	Donnithorne Avenue, Nuneaton	5	14	70
20/10/2015	Craft Centre Field, Avenue Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4LT	6	13	78
26/10/2015	Buttermere Drive, Nuneaton	3	15	45
11/12/2015	Silverstone Drive, Coventry	7	1	7
28/12/2015	Silverstone Drive, Coventry	7	1	7
28/01/2013	Pingles Carpark, Avenue Road. CV11 4LX	1	4	4

Source: Nuneaton and Bedworth Council data

- 7.1 Data on the number of caravans on each encampment is reported up to the end of December 2015, and shows that the number of caravans on each encampment ranges from 1 to 52 (Figure 7.1). The median number of caravans on each encampment was 4.5. 25% of all encampments comprised a single caravan, 28.3% comprised 2 to 5 caravans and 40% comprised 6 to 20 caravans, with a minority (6.7%) comprising 20 or more caravans.
- 7.2 The level of unauthorised encampment activity has been markedly increasing over the period 2013-2015, from 5 in 2013, 18 in 2014 and 37 in 2015.

**Figure 7.1** Number of caravans on unauthorised encampments Jan 2013 to December 2015



## Need for transit

- 7.3 Overall, analysis of unauthorised encampment data and contextual information indicates that new transit provision is needed across the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. It is recommended that provision for a minimum of five transit pitches be made across the study area.
- 7.4 The transit requirement is based on the median number of caravans over the period for which comprehensive unauthorised encampment data is available (the 36-month period January 2013 to December 2015). Table 7.8 below summarises the unauthorised encampment data analysis which shows that the median number of caravans on unauthorised encampments was five (rounded).
- 7.5 For short periods or for family groups it is possible that the provision of five transit pitches could accommodate up to 10 caravans. This would have been sufficient to accommodate 70% of all encampments that occupied between January 2013 and December 2015).

<b>Table 7.8 Unauthorised encampment data summary</b>	
<b>No. of months (Jan 2013 – December 2015)</b>	
No encampments	60
Total caravan days	3,141
Average caravan days each month	15.3
Average caravan days each year	183.7
Median duration (days)	5
Range of caravans	1 to 52
<b>Median no. caravans</b>	<b>4.5 (5 rounded)</b>
<b>Average no. caravans</b>	<b>9.2 (9 rounded)</b>

- 7.6 As part of the household survey, views were sought on the current provision of transit sites across Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough (Table 7.9). 58.6% of respondents said that there was a need for provision of new transit sites across the Borough. Few mentioned any specific location for transit sites.

<b>Table 7.9 Perceived need for transit sites in Nuneaton and Bedworth</b>		
		<b>TOTAL</b>
TOTAL	Count	29
	Col %	100.0
Yes	Count	17
	Col %	58.6
No	Count	12
	Col %	41.4

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 7.7 The questionnaire asked respondents what their preferences were for the management of transit sites. There was a strong preference for transit sites to be managed by Councils (57%) or privately by Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople (38%).

		<b>TOTAL</b>
TOTAL	Count	21
	Col %	100%
Councils	Count	12
	Col %	57%
Private (Gypsy/Traveller / Showman)	Count	8
	Col %	38%
Private (non-Gypsy or Traveller / Showman)	Count	2
	Col %	10%
Other	Count	1
	Col %	5%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

Note: More than one preference could be expressed so responses do not total 100%

### Summary of transit need

- 7.8 Overall, analysis of unauthorised encampment data and contextual information indicates that new transit provision is needed across Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. It is recommended that provision for five transit pitches be made across the study area.
- 7.9 The need for transit provision is supported by survey findings which show that 58.6% of respondents felt that more transit pitches were needed across the study area; the preference of respondents is for these sites to be managed privately by Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople.
- 7.10 Note that by definition the transit pitches would only be used for some parts of the year and it is not assumed that the scale of transit need reflects recent trends. By definition transit pitches are provided to meet the needs of those households travelling through an area, or visiting it temporarily. As the scale of unauthorised encampment activity has been increasing, it is recommended that the Council continues to monitor this situation closely.
- 7.11 Provision of transit accommodation in line with the identified target (see Table 7.11 below) should address the majority of regular and on-going annual transit requirements of Travellers visiting or travelling through Nuneaton and Bedworth. The actual occupancy levels of households using transit pitches should be monitored by the Council and compared with the anticipated need for transit pitches evidenced in this report.
- 7.12 It is assumed that each transit pitch would accommodate one caravan, however, established practice within the Travelling community means that pitches could accommodate up to two vans if the pitch is being occupied by the same household or members of a family group.

- 7.13 It should be noted that an emergency stopping place is being progressed by Warwickshire County Council at Oldbury Road near Hartshill which will provide capacity for up to 12 caravans<sup>39</sup>. Emergency stopping places are sites where Gypsies and Travellers are permitted temporarily (up to 28 days) if the Council deems it appropriate. Use of this site should be monitored as this could count towards meeting the need of transit provision for Nuneaton and Bedworth.

<b>Table 7.11 Summary of transit requirements in Nuneaton and Bedworth</b>	
<b>Five year pitch requirement (single van use)</b>	<b>Total maximum caravans that could be accommodated</b>
5	10

<sup>39</sup> Warwickshire County Council considered an application for a change of use of land to use for an emergency stopping place. This was legally challenged but the Council was found to have acted lawfully in its consideration of the application for planning permission

## 8. Wider Service and Support Needs

8.1 This research provides a valuable opportunity to review the wider service and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, and this chapter discusses issues raised through the household survey and stakeholder consultation.

### Services used in the last year

8.2 Interviewees were asked which services they had used in the last year (Table 8.1). The most used services were doctor and dentist. Of the 25 households who responded to this question, GP services were accessed by 92%, dentists by 52% and Accident & Emergency (A&E) by 28% in the previous year. Two respondents (8%) had accessed Health Visitors. Other services used by one household each (4%) were Traveller Education, Adult Education, the Citizens Advice Bureau, Children's Centres and the Law Centre.

		<b>TOTAL</b>
TOTAL	Count	25
	Col %	100%
Traveller Education	Count	1
	Col %	4%
Adult education	Count	1
	Col %	4%
Citizens Advice Bureau	Count	1
	Col %	4%
Doctor (G.P.)	Count	23
	Col %	92%
Dentist	Count	13
	Col %	52%
Accident and emergency	Count	7
	Col %	28%
Health visitors	Count	2
	Col %	8%
Children's Centres	Count	1
	Col %	4%
Law Centre	Count	1
	Col %	4%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

Note: Some respondents identified more than one service so results do not total 100%

8.3 Respondents were asked if they experienced any problems accessing health services in the previous year (Table 8.2). From a full response (31 households), three households (10%) stated that they had faced problems. Two respondents said this related to getting an appointment, one a lack of privacy and one said it

related to knowledge of services offered (households could mention more than one problem).

Table 8.2 Problems accessing health service in previous year		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	3
	Col %	10%
No	Count	28
	Col %	90%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## Adaptations

- 8.4 Respondents were asked whether living at their present home had affected their physical or mental health in any way (Table 8.3). Seven respondents (23%) said that their health has been affected in some way by their current accommodation situation. In providing additional information, four respondents indicated that their health has benefitted in some way from their current home situation ('improved it, relaxing', 'made better', 'stable home' and 'settled down a bit'). However, three respondents explained that their health has got worse since being in their current dwelling place ('health is deteriorating', 'too small, need more space' and 'I used to be sane').

Table 8.3 Health affected by current location / address / site		
		TOTAL
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100%
Yes	Count	7
	Col %	23%
No	Count	24
	Col %	77%

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

- 8.5 The fieldwork survey asked respondents if any adaptations were required in their homes (Table 8.4). 93.5% of respondents stated that they did not need any adaptations or assistance in their home. Two respondents (6.5%) identified a need for adaptations. In terms of specific assistance or adaptations required, 'electric on site', 'need help with step' and 'shower blocks' were mentioned.

<b>Table 8.4    Need for adaptations in the home</b>		
		<b>TOTAL</b>
TOTAL	Count	31
	Col %	100.0
Yes	Count	2
	Col %	6.5
No	Count	29
	Col %	93.5

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2016

## 9. Stakeholder consultation

### Overview

- 9.1 Stakeholder consultation in respect of the GTAA was undertaken in partnership with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. A stakeholder survey was distributed to a list of key stakeholders operating in and around the Nuneaton and Bedworth area. The findings of this consultation exercise are summarised in this chapter, with a full summary of stakeholder feedback set out at Appendix D.
- 9.2 Stakeholders were invited to participate in a survey aimed at identifying a range of information, including establishing the key perceived issues facing the Gypsy and Traveller and Showpeople community within Nuneaton and Bedworth, and ways in which these need to be addressed. Stakeholders were asked to respond to any of the questions within the survey.
- 9.3 A total of 12 separate responses to the stakeholder consultation were obtained from representatives from district, borough and county councils and the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups. Respondents were asked to answer only the questions that they felt were relevant to their knowledge and experience. This is a qualitative summary of the views expressed by stakeholders responding to the online survey.

### General support for Gypsies and Travellers

- 9.4 Generally, respondents felt that there was a broad understanding of the education, employment, health and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople among stakeholders and agencies who work within this sector. However, it was considered that the general public are unlikely to share this understanding as there has been negative publicity as a result of illegal encampments. A number of respondents emphasised the need for ongoing liaison and consultation with the Travelling community themselves.
- 9.5 Respondents felt that the health, education, accommodation and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are monitored through different assessments and surveys, but via a range of bodies and information is not always brought together to provide an overview. Several respondents made reference to other research which has relevance to the monitoring of the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Nuneaton and Bedworth, including a Heath Needs Assessment (Warwickshire North Clinical Commissioning Group, July 2015) and previous GTAAs for North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth (2013) and Southern Staffordshire and Northern Warwickshire (2008).
- 9.6 Some respondents were unaware of what support is available to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople within Nuneaton and Bedworth. Others felt that more support is required, as available support is “*spread very thinly*”. Access to pitches, education and health services were specifically noted as areas for additional support development. The need for members of the Travelling community to identify their support needs was also commented upon by one respondent.

- 9.7 There was a general view amongst respondents that awareness of the cultural, support and accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Nuneaton and Bedworth was inadequate. It was suggested that education is important; positive information needs to be disseminated, including promotion in local publications.
- 9.8 There was little evidence of stakeholder organisations taking action to raise awareness of the cultural, support and accommodation requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area. However, one representative from a nearby local authority said that they had arranged for a member of the Travelling community to speak with Council Members, the public and interest groups about their experiences, priorities and needs.

## Provision of accommodation

- 9.9 Stakeholders were asked to respond to a series of questions relating to the need for new pitch provision (both permanent and transit), existing pitch provision, households living in bricks and mortar accommodation, and unauthorised encampment activity. Their responses are summarised below.

### New permanent

- 9.10 Two of the respondents felt that there was sufficient provision of permanent pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area, but four felt that there was not. Several respondents were not sure, or did not feel they had enough information to answer the question.
- 9.11 In terms of locations for new provision, the following points were made by respondents:
- In accordance with planning policy and guidance included in the NPPF and *Planning policy for traveller sites*;
  - In sustainable locations;
  - Close to the edges of towns and villages but not isolated;
  - Close to services and good transport links;
  - Not within or immediately adjoining the settled community; and
  - Sites need to be kept small, generally no more than 15 pitches, and spread across the Borough.
- 9.12 Respondents identified the following barriers to new site provision:
- Community perception, concern and opposition (NIMBYism);
  - Sometimes local political opposition;
  - Site availability and release;
  - High housing growth requirements could limit sites available for Gypsies and Travellers;
  - Lack of school places and location of services;

- Preference for Green Belt sites or locations that are no longer considered suitable; and
- Poor planning policies, both national and local.

## Transit

- 9.13 The majority of respondents considered that transit sites are needed, either in the Nuneaton and Bedworth area or elsewhere in the County. The location of such sites is considered particularly important; close to major roads and related to migration/travel routes. Unauthorised occupation of open space, brownfield sites and highway verges/laybys was cited as a key reason for making transit provision.
- 9.14 One respondent noted that *“with the Government putting the emphasis on those who are actually travelling, more will have to take to the road to prove their nomadic way of life. This will increase the pressure on those existing transit sites and increase roadside and illegal encampments”*. Another stakeholder also made this point in their response.
- 9.15 Most respondents also felt that more emergency stopover sites are needed in the wider area, although this may not be within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough itself.
- 9.16 Similar barriers to transit and stopover provision were identified as with new site provision (above), including:
- Attitudes and hostility of local residents;
  - Site availability;
  - Resources, including the management required to run sites; and
  - Poor planning policies, both national and local.

## Existing sites

- 9.17 Some respondents had little direct experience of existing sites and did not comment on the standard of facilities. None of the stakeholders made negative comments, while two respondents considered the facilities to be very good. Recent improvements to the Council site were noted.
- 9.18 Several of the stakeholders commented on the existence of tensions between Travellers and the settled community, but this was predominantly in relation to unauthorised encampments rather than permanent Gypsy and Traveller sites.

## Bricks and mortar

- 9.19 Only one of the stakeholder respondents said that they had been aware of a member of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople community living in bricks and mortar accommodation within the study area. None of the other respondents had any knowledge of members of the community living in conventional housing in Nuneaton and Bedworth.

- 9.20 Stakeholders were asked whether additional pitches should be made available for Travelling families living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Of the stakeholders who commented, there was a general acknowledgement that some Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople may live in bricks and mortar because of a lack of alternatives. One respondent mentioned ‘cultural aversion’ and another commented that across the country some Gypsies and Travellers are forced into bricks and mortar accommodation to enable them to send their children to school, provide a permanent address for registering with GP services, etc, although they would rather not choose this lifestyle. The need for a choice was identified.
- 9.21 The majority of respondents did not have enough knowledge on whether sufficient support is available to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living in settled accommodation in the study area to help them manage their housing effectively. Likewise, stakeholders were asked if they were aware of whether Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople feel safe in bricks and mortar accommodation in the study area, and if they have specific cultural needs, but there was limited feedback to this question, with the majority of respondents unaware of any issues.
- 9.22 The stakeholder survey asked whether the respondents’ organisation provides accommodation in Nuneaton and Bedworth, and whether any Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople have approached them for accommodation during the past five years. One respondent identified that their organisation has been approached by members of the travelling community in relation to the provision of bricks and mortar housing.

### Unauthorised encampments

- 9.23 Several respondents were aware of unauthorised encampment activity within the study area and surrounding districts. It was noted that this activity is monitored by Warwickshire County Council.
- 9.24 Several respondents felt that unauthorised encampment activity could generally be dealt with and resolved. A strong relationship with the Multi Agency Traveller Units was referred to by one stakeholder. Some respondents felt that unauthorised encampments could be problematic; reasons for this were:
- Financial costs;
  - Officer time;
  - Clear up, including damage; and
  - Public upset.
- 9.25 A number of respondents identified that unauthorised encampments create a negative impression with the community and local Councillors. This perception then impacts upon the public’s views of other Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites and the community as a whole.

## Planning policy

- 9.26 Several respondents commented on changes to planning policies that have taken place at national level and consequently restricted the provision of Gypsy and Travellers sites. One respondent identified problems for Gypsies and Travellers in terms of how they prove that they are on the road and maintaining their way of life when there is inadequate pitch provision, particularly of transit sites for while they are travelling. Several respondents made reference to the Government's approach of being against the provision of sites in the Green Belt, whilst at the same time bringing in a more relaxed policy towards other built development on brownfield sites in the Green Belt.
- 9.27 The need to deliver increased general housing supply, and the impact on land values, was considered to have a particular impact on edge-of-urban locations with fewer potential Gypsy and Traveller sites being made available in appropriate locations.
- 9.28 In terms of the role of planning policy to identify and bring forward new sites for pitch provision, one respondent mentioned the ability to make Traveller site allocations, although acknowledging that land ownership (not planning policy) remains the ultimate control on development. Other respondents highlighted the crucial role of national government in setting guidelines and developing financial incentives to enable more sites to be allocated at a local level.
- 9.29 Stakeholders were asked to identify what impact they thought the *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites* would have on future provision. Several respondents had a very poor view of the August 2015 update to this national planning policy, with the general view that it will further restrict the location of Traveller sites. One stakeholder highlighted the importance of the need to identify a five-year supply and suggested that this should increase the provision of sites, whilst however also identifying further restrictive policies towards Gypsy and Traveller sites

## Cross-boundary issues

- 9.30 Stakeholders were aware of a number of GTAA studies in the surrounding area to Nuneaton and Bedworth. One respondent made reference to the 2013 GTAA for North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth. Another said that a GTAA is being undertaken for Leicester and the Leicestershire Districts (excluding Hinckley and Bosworth).
- 9.31 No specific movements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople were identified by stakeholders in terms of migration routes into and out of Bedworth and Nuneaton.
- 9.32 There was limited knowledge of any sites in neighbouring authorities that are close to the boundary with Bedworth and Nuneaton Borough.
- 9.33 In terms of cross-boundary issues, one respondent made the general point that on sites that straddle the boundary, it is vital that the number of pitches for each authority is clearly defined (and the need that has arisen for them) so that there is no double counting.
- 9.34 Overall, stakeholders considered that the key outcomes of the study should be:

- An understanding of the need for provision, including evidence across the Local Plan timeframe and a five-year supply of sites;
  - A consideration of the types of provision required including both permanent and transit;
  - A forecast of future requirements;
  - An understanding of any key location issues, including where land is available and how it can be brought forward, with reference to landowner agreement;
  - Agreement with neighbouring authorities to meet the duty to cooperate.
- 9.35 The overall feeling amongst stakeholders was that the stakeholder survey contributes to the requirement under the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities. Several respondents additionally noted the importance of local authorities continuing an ongoing process of consulting and engaging with one another.

## 10. Conclusion and Strategic Response

- 10.1 This concluding chapter looks at the key challenges and issues facing the Council in respect of meeting the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers in Nuneaton and Bedworth. The chapter provides a brief summary of key issues emerging from the research, and the challenges these pose; advice on the strategic responses available, including examples of good practice; and recommendations and next steps.

### Meeting pitch/plot requirements

- 10.2 The research has evidenced:
- An overall five-year requirement (2016/17 to 2020/21) of -3 Gypsy and Traveller pitches;
  - A need for 5 transit or stop-over pitches across Nuneaton and Bedworth over the next five years (based on unauthorised encampment activity 2013-2015).
- 10.3 Over the longer-term (2021/22 to 2031/32), the research would suggest a requirement of:
- 22 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches over the period 2021/22 to 2031/32
- 10.4 The overall pitch shortfall is 19 pitches which assumes that 20 pitches are made available in Parrotts Grove and an annual turnover of 2 pitches on the Council site (10 over 5 years) for occupancy by households from Nuneaton and Bedworth.
- 10.5 The above would previously have been viewed as a minimum requirement based on the current supply of pitches and assumptions regarding need from households living in bricks and mortar dwellings. However, with the new revised guidance altering the definition of Travellers it is actually more likely that these may be seen as a maximum given that the new definition focuses on the needs of those who are actually Travelling or planning to travel. This calculation assumes that households satisfy the latest planning definition of Gypsies and Travellers. However, of households interviewed, only 35.5% had travelled in the previous year and only 42% intended on travelling in the next year or over the longer term.
- 10.6 In order to meet future requirements, the Council can consider the potential to increase the number of pitches on available sites, and needs to ensure that they have an adequate supply of additional sites identified in their Local Plan to address immediate and longer-term need. The Council will need to work closely with both settled and Travelling communities to do this. The Council, in partnership with Travelling communities, needs to consider the options available to help meet identified need, including the expansion of existing sites, use of Community Land Trusts and exceptions site policies. Some of these areas are now looked at in more detail, alongside good practice in planning for Gypsy and Traveller provision. Of particular note, analysis assumes that 20 pitches can be made available on authorised and currently unoccupied sites in Parrotts Grove.

- 10.7 Local planning authorities have a duty to identify land for Traveller and Travelling Showpeople development. Planning authorities are best placed to do this as they are most likely to know the current status of the land and the probability of securing planning permission.

### New site identification

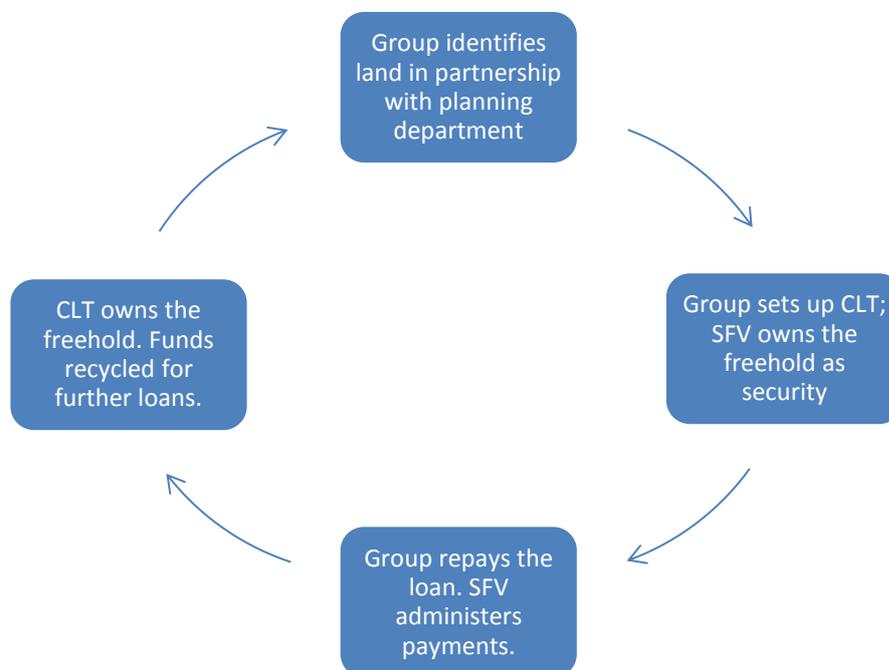
- 10.8 The Council should look to their land banks for suitable and appropriate land for development that is not in need of remediation, as this may well incur more financial investment than site provision itself. The Council should be looking to review releasing land for development rather than seeing this as an opportunity for fiscal reward. The Homes and Communities Agency also have a land bank and this should also be explored. Local land owners should also be approached as there may be 'set aside' land that is not economically viable to the landowner, but would be suitable for a small family unit and could 'reap' a dividend, thus making it attractive as a business venture. There has been suggestion of some local authorities 'gifting' land for development which should be given consideration.
- 10.9 The idea of local community members 'knowing' what land is available or suitable is a misnomer that has been indicated by research carried out by HSSA that shows Travellers are usually unaware of planning restrictions and current/past land use. However, where land is already owned by Travellers, support could be offered to bring these sites forward for planning permission as permanent sites where this is appropriate. Where Travellers own land and have a temporary permission, any decision to take it forward as a permanent site needs to be done in the context of the appropriateness of the location and all other relevant planning policies. Planning policies state that such sites are inappropriate in the Green Belt except in exceptional circumstances. Land ownership itself cannot be a deciding factor on whether planning permission is granted.

### Community Land Trusts

- 10.10 The 2008 Housing and Regeneration Act established Community Land Trusts as an option for local communities to acquire and manage land to address a social, environmental or economic interest.
- 10.11 Community Land Trusts (CLTs) are now emerging as an option to help meet the need for more sites for Gypsies and Travellers (Figure 10.1). This approach has successfully been adopted by Mendip District Council in Somerset, which has committed funding to developing a CLT locally, despite Government cuts in funding.
- 10.12 In the Mendip model, the Council has worked with Travellers and community groups to develop a CLT which facilitates Gypsies and Travellers purchasing land at low cost with a loan made available through a specific funding vehicle (SFV). Travellers develop a business plan for their proposal. Land owners are needed to sell small parcels of land for sites; this land cannot be sold for profit but is retained in perpetuity for provision of Traveller site accommodation. To incentivise landowners an upfront deposit is provided. The following diagram illustrates how the model works. A fundamental challenge with this approach is

resourcing the model in the absence of Government subsidy; in Mendip the local authority has provided £100,000 to get their scheme off the ground.

**Figure 10.1 How does CLT model work?**



## Planning gain

- 10.13 Use of planning obligations to deliver sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople could be explored further by the Council. The approach has been used successfully elsewhere. Planning obligations to address Traveller requirements on sites other than trailer parks could also be considered. However, it is important that, where this approach is adopted, regular monitoring takes place to ensure that the requisite pitches are being made available to, and are being used by, Travellers; enforcement action will be necessary where this is not the case.

## Good practice in planning for Gypsy and Traveller provision

- 10.14 There are a number of resources available to local planning authorities to assist them in planning for Gypsy and Traveller provision, including resources from the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) and the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), which are presented in Appendix B. In addition, the Local Government Agency and Local Government Association have resources available for local authorities working with Traveller communities to identify sites for new provision, these include dedicated learning aids for elected members<sup>40</sup>.

<sup>40</sup> I&DeA (now Local Government Agency) local leadership academy providing Gypsy and Traveller sites

- 10.15 Work undertaken by PAS<sup>41</sup> identified ways in which the planning process can increase the supply of authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches. The RTPI has developed a series of Good Practice Notes for local planning authorities. Both are summarised at Appendix B.

### Recommendations for meeting pitch requirements

To enable the Council to meet the identified pitch requirements it is recommended that consideration is given to the following:

- That the Council works collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities to meet identified need;
- That mechanisms are established to enable effective engagement with both settled and Traveller communities about identifying future sites;
- That existing sites are reviewed to ascertain the scope for extension and increasing the number of pitches available;
- That appropriate sites are identified to meet requirements;
- That consideration be given to the development of additional transit provision as identified across the study area;
- That links are made with the Showmen's Guild to ensure that the future needs of Travelling Showpeople are fully considered and addressed;
- That needs are monitored on an on-going basis;
- That options to secure provision of pitches through planning gain and exception sites are pursued;
- That the use of CLTs to meet needs is explored;
- That consideration is given to disposal of publicly owned land to meet pitch requirements;
- That consideration is given as to the ways in which Travellers can be supported through the planning application process;
- That a key point of contact is identified by the Council to deal with all matters relating to Travellers;
- That key stakeholders are kept up-to-date and fully briefed on progress;
- That resources are identified to develop a proactive communications strategy, starting with dissemination of these research findings, to enable positive media coverage of Traveller issues; and
- That, where necessary, training is provided for staff and elected members to promote better cultural understanding, counter prejudice and aid communication.

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<sup>41</sup> PAS spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help

## Concluding comments

- 10.16 The overarching purpose of this study has been to identify the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Nuneaton and Bedworth. Overall a shortfall of -3 pitches has been identified over the next five years (2016/17 to 2021/22) and a total need for 19 pitches over the period 2016/17 to 2031/32, and a recommendation for the provision of 5 transit pitches (Tables 10.1 and 10.2). There is currently one Travelling Showperson's Yard in Nuneaton and Bedworth and this has sufficient capacity to accommodate current and future needs.
- 10.17 At least one Bargee Traveller family lives in Nuneaton and Bedworth and at least one affordable permanent mooring was identified.
- 10.18 It is recommended that this evidence base is refreshed on a five-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and pitch provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Nuneaton and Bedworth.

**Table 10.1 Summary of additional pitch/plot requirements over five years and longer term**

		Gypsy and Traveller Pitch additional requirements	Showperson Plot additional requirements
Nuneaton and Bedworth	Five year shortfall 2016/17 to 2020/21	-3	0
	Longer-term requirements 2021/22 to 2031/32	22	0
	Total	19	0

**Table 10.2 Summary of transit requirements over Plan Period 2016/17 to 2031/32**

	Pitch requirements to address unauthorised encampment activity
Nuneaton and Bedworth Total	5

## Appendix A: Legislative Background

### Overall approach

- A.1 Between 1960 and 2003, three Acts of Parliament had a major impact upon the lives of Gypsies and Travellers. The main elements of these are summarised below.
- A.2 The **1960 Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act** enabled councils to ban the siting of caravans for human occupation on common land, and led to the closure of many sites.
- A.3 The **Caravan Sites Act 1968 (Part II)** required local authorities '*so far as may be necessary to provide adequate accommodation for Gypsies residing in or resorting to their area*'. It empowered the Secretary of State to make designation orders for areas where he was satisfied that there was adequate accommodation, or on grounds of expediency. Following the recommendations of the Cripps Commission in 1980, provision began to grow rapidly only after the allocation of 100% grants from central government. By 1994 a third of local authorities had achieved designation, which meant that they were not required to make further provision and were given additional powers to act against unauthorised encampments. The repeal of most of the Caravan Sites Act under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act in 1994 led to a reduction in provision, with some sites being closed over a period in which the Gypsy and Traveller population was increasing.
- A.4 The **1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (CJ&POA)**:
- Repealed most of the 1968 Caravan Sites Act;
  - Abolished all statutory obligation to provide accommodation;
  - Discontinued government grants for sites; and
  - Under Section 61 made it a criminal offence to camp on land without the owner's consent.

Since the CJ&POA the only places where Gypsies and Travellers can legally park their trailers and vehicles are:

- Council Gypsy caravan sites; by 2000 nearly half of Gypsy caravans were accommodated on council sites, despite the fact that new council site provision stopped following the end of the statutory duty;
- Privately owned land with appropriate planning permission; usually owned by Gypsies or Travellers. Such provision now accommodates approximately a third of Gypsy caravans in England; and
- Land with established rights of use, other caravan sites or mobile home parks by agreement or licence, and land required for seasonal farm workers (under site licensing exemptions).

By the late 1990s the impact of the 1994 Act was generating pressure for change on both local and national government. There was a major review of law and policy, which included:

- A Parliamentary Committee report (House of Commons 2004).
  - The replacement of Circular 1/94 by Circular 1/2006 (which has since been cancelled and replaced by the *Planning policy for traveller sites* 2012 and updated in 2015).
  - Guidance on accommodation assessments (ODPM 2006).
  - The Housing Act 2004 which placed a requirement (s.225) on local authorities to assess Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs.
- A.5 More recent legislation with a direct impact on the lives of Gypsies and Travellers includes the Housing Act 2004 and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- A.6 **Section 225: Housing Act 2004** imposes duties on local authorities in relation to the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers:
- Every local housing authority must as part of the general review of housing needs in their areas under section 8 of the Housing Act 1985 assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers residing in or resorting to their district;
  - Where a local housing authority are required under section 87 of the Local Government Act 2003 to prepare a strategy to meet such accommodation needs, they must take the strategy into account in exercising their functions;
  - A local housing authority must have regard to section 226 ('Guidance in relation to section 225') in:
    - carrying out such an assessment, and
    - preparing any strategy that they are required to prepare.
- A.7 **The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004** set out to introduce a simpler and more flexible planning system at regional and local levels. It also introduced new provisions which change the duration of planning permissions and consents, and allow local planning authorities to introduce local permitted development rights using 'local development orders'. It made the compulsory purchase regime simpler, fairer and quicker, to support major infrastructure and regeneration initiatives.

The Act introduced major changes to the way in which the planning system operates. Local planning authorities are required to prepare a Local Development Framework; however, the term Local Plan was reintroduced following the National Planning Policy Framework in March 2012.

This Act was subsequently amended to a Local Plan document with the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework in March 2012.

Part 8 of the Act contains a series of measures to reform the compulsory purchase regime and make it easier for local planning authorities to make a case for compulsory purchase orders where it will be of economic, social or environmental benefit to the area. This section also brings in amended procedures for carrying out compulsory purchase orders, including a widening of the category of person with an interest in the land who can object, and deals with ownership issues and compensation.

- A.8 **The Localism Act 2011** introduced a number of reforms, including changes to planning enforcement rules, which strengthen the power of local planning authorities to tackle abuses of the planning system. The changes give local planning authorities the ability to take actions against people who deliberately conceal unauthorised development, and tackle abuses of retrospective planning applications. The Act also introduced the Duty to Co-operate (see Section 3) on all local planning authorities planning sustainable development. The Duty requires *‘neighbouring local authorities, or groups of authorities, to work together on planning issues in the interests of all their local residents. ... the Government thinks that local authorities and other public bodies should work together on planning issues in ways that reflect genuine shared interests and opportunities to make common cause. The duty requires local authorities and other public bodies to work together on planning issues.’*<sup>42</sup> The provision of Gypsy and Traveller sites falls within the Duty to Co-operate; which aims to ensure that neighbouring authorities work together to address issues such as provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers in a planned and strategic way.
- A.9 **Statutory Instrument 2013 No 830 Town and Country planning Act, England (Temporary Stop Notice) (England) (Revocation) Regulations 2013** came into force on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2013. This Instrument revoked the regulations governing Temporary Stop Notices, which were in place to mitigate against the disproportionate impact of Temporary Stop Notices on Gypsies and Travellers in areas where there was a lack of sufficient pitches to meet the needs of the Travelling community.

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<sup>42</sup> DCLG A plain English guide to the Localism Act Nov 2011

## Appendix B: Policy and Guidance

### Introduction

B.1 As part of this research, we have carried out a review of literature, which is presented in this Appendix. A considerable range of guidance documents has been prepared by Central Government to assist local authorities discharge their strategic housing and planning functions. In addition, there is considerable independent and academic research and guidance on these issues; some of the key documents are summarised here. The documents are reviewed in order of publication date.

B.2 **A Decent Home: Definition and Guidance for Implementation Update, DCLG, June 2006**

Although not primarily about the provision of caravan sites, facilities or pitches, the June 2006 updated DCLG guidance for social landlords provides a standard for such provision. The guidance is set out under a number of key headings:

- Community-based and tenant-led ownership and management;
- Delivering Decent Homes Beyond 2010;
- Delivering mixed communities;
- Procurement value for money; and
- Housing Health and Safety.

The guidance defines four criteria against which to measure the standard of a home:

- It meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing;
- It is in a reasonable state of repair;
- It has reasonably modern facilities and services; and
- It provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.

B.3 **Guide to Effective Use of Enforcement Powers - Part 1: Unauthorised Encampments, ODPM, 2006**

The Guide (now cancelled) was the Government's response to unauthorised encampments which cause local disruption and conflict. Strong powers are available to the police, local authorities and other landowners to deal with unauthorised encampments. It provided detailed step-by-step practical guidance to the use of these powers, and sets out advice on:

- Choosing the most appropriate power;
- Speeding up the process;
- Keeping costs down;
- The eviction process; and
- Preventing further unauthorised camping.

#### B.4 **Common Ground: Equality, good race relations and sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers, Commission for Racial Equality, May 2006**

This report was written four years after the introduction of the statutory duty on public authorities under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act to promote equality of opportunity and good race relations and to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination. The CRE expressed concerns about relations between Gypsies and Irish Travellers and other members of the public, with widespread public hostility and, in many places, Gypsies and Irish Travellers leading separate, parallel lives. A dual concern about race relations and inequality led the Commission in October 2004 to launch the inquiry on which this report was based.

The Report's recommendations include measures relating to Central Government, local authorities, police forces and the voluntary sector. Among those relating to Central Government are:

- developing a realistic but ambitious timetable to identify land for sites, where necessary establishing them, and making sure it is met;
- developing key performance indicators for public sites which set standards for quality and management that are comparable to those for conventional accommodation;
- requiring local authorities to monitor and provide data on planning applications, outcomes and enforcement, and on housing and homelessness by racial group, using two separate categories for Gypsies and Irish Travellers; and
- requiring police forces to collect information on Gypsies and Irish Travellers as two separate ethnic categories.

Strategic recommendations affecting local authorities include:

- developing a holistic corporate vision for all work on Gypsies and Irish Travellers,
- reviewing all policies on accommodation for Gypsies and Irish Travellers,
- designating a councillor at cabinet (or equivalent) level, and an officer at no less than assistant director level, to coordinate the authority's work on all sites;
- emphasising that the code of conduct for councillors applies to their work in relation to all racial groups, including Gypsies and Irish Travellers;
- giving specific advice to Gypsies and Irish Travellers on the most suitable land for residential use, how to prepare applications, and help them to find the information they need to support their application;
- identifying and reporting on actions by local groups or individuals in response to plans for Gypsy sites that may constitute unlawful pressure on the authority to discriminate against Gypsies and Irish Travellers; and
- monitoring all planning applications and instances of enforcement action at every stage, by type and racial group, including Gypsies and Irish Travellers, in order to assess the effects of policies and practices on different racial groups.

Among other recommendations, the Report states that police forces should:

- include Gypsies and Irish Travellers in mainstream neighbourhood policing strategies, to promote race equality and good race relations;
- target individual Gypsies and Irish Travellers suspected of anti-social behaviour and crime on public, private and unauthorised sites, and not whole communities;
- treat Gypsies and Irish Travellers as members of the local community, and in ways that strengthen their trust and confidence in the police;
- provide training for all relevant officers on Gypsies' and Irish Travellers' service needs, so that officers are able to do their jobs more effectively;
- review formal and informal procedures for policing unauthorised encampments, to identify and eliminate potentially discriminatory practices, and ensure that the procedures promote race equality and good race relations; and
- review the way policy is put into practice, to make sure organisations and individuals take a consistent approach, resources are used effectively and strategically, all procedures are formalised, and training needs are identified.

Other recommendations relate to Parish and Community councils the Local Government Association, the Association of Chief Police Officers and the voluntary sector.

#### **B.5 Guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments, DCLG, October 2007**

This Guidance sets out a detailed framework for designing, planning and carrying out Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs assessments. It includes the needs of Showpeople. It acknowledges that the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers are likely to differ from those of the settled community, and that they have hitherto been excluded from accommodation needs assessments.

The guidance stresses the importance of understanding accommodation needs of the whole Gypsy and Traveller population; and that studies obtain robust data. It recognises the difficulty of surveying this population and recommends the use of:

- Qualitative methods such as focus groups and group interviews;
- Specialist surveys of those living on authorised sites that are willing to respond; and
- Existing information, including local authority site records and the twice yearly caravan counts.

The guidance recognises that there are challenges in carrying out these assessments, and accepts that while the approach should be as robust as possible it is very difficult to exactly quantify unmet need.

#### **B.6 Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide, DCLG, May 2008**

The Guide (now cancelled) attempted to establish and summarise the key elements needed to design a successful site. In particular, the guidance intended to assist:

- Local authorities or Registered Providers looking to develop new sites or refurbish existing sites;
- Architects or developers looking to develop sites or refurbish existing sites; and
- Site residents looking to participate in the design/refurbishment process.

#### **B.7 The National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012**

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) came into effect in March 2012 and sets out the Government's planning policies for England. It condenses previous guidance and places a strong emphasis on 'sustainable development'. It provides more focussed guidance on plan-making and refers to 'Local Plans' rather than Local Development Frameworks or Development Plan Documents. Despite the difference in terminology it does not affect the provisions of the 2004 Act which remains the legal basis for plan-making.

#### **B.8 DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites, March 2012 (subsequently updated August 2015)**

In March 2012 the Government also published *Planning policy for traveller sites*, which together with the NPPF replaced all previous planning policy guidance in respect of Gypsies and Travellers. The policy approach encouraged provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers where there is an identified need, to help maintain an appropriate level of supply. The policy also encouraged the use of plan making and decision taking to reduce unauthorised developments and encampments. This site has now been updated (see below).

#### **B.9 Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers, April 2012**

In April 2012 the Government published a Progress Report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers, which summarised progress in terms of meeting 'Government commitments to tackle inequalities and promote fairness for Gypsy and Traveller communities.'<sup>43</sup> The report covers 28 measures from across Government aimed at tackling inequalities, these cover:

- Improving education outcomes;
- Improving health outcomes;
- Providing appropriate accommodation;
- Tackling hate crime;
- Improving interaction with the National Offender Management Service;
- Improving access to employment and financial services; and
- Improving engagement with service providers.

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<sup>43</sup> [www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322](http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322)

**B.10 Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers, DCLG August 2012**

This guidance note summarises the powers available to local authorities and landowners to remove encampments from both public and private land. Powers available to local authorities being:

- Injunctions to protect land from unauthorised encampments;
- Licensing of caravan sites;
- Tent site licences;
- Possession orders;
- Interim possession orders;
- Local byelaws;
- Power of local authorities to direct unauthorised campers to leave land;
- Addressing obstructions to the public highway;
- Planning contravention notice;
- Temporary stop notice;
- Enforcement notice and retrospective planning;
- Stop notice;
- Breach of condition notice; and
- Powers of entry onto land.

**B.11 Statutory Instrument 2013 No.830 Town and Country Planning (Temporary Stop Notice) (England) (Revocation) Regulations 2013:** Made on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2013 and laid before Parliament on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2013 this Instrument revoking the regulations applying to Temporary Stop Notices (TSNs) in England came into force on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2013. The regulations were originally introduced to mitigate against the likely disproportionate impact of TSNs on Gypsies and Travellers in areas where there is a lack of sites to meet the needs of the Travelling community. Under the regulations, TSNs were prohibited where a caravan was a person's main residence, unless there was a risk of harm to a serious public interest significant enough to outweigh any benefit to the occupier of the caravan. Under the new arrangements local planning authorities are to determine whether the use of a TSN is a proportionate and necessary response.

**B.12 Ministerial Statement 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013 by Brandon Lewis<sup>44</sup>** highlighted the issue of inappropriate development in the Green Belt and revised the appeals recovery criteria issued on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008 to enable an initial six-month period of scrutiny of Traveller site appeals in the Green Belt. This was so that the Secretary of State could assess the extent to which the national policy, *Planning policy for traveller sites*, was meeting the Government's stated policy intentions. A number of appeals have subsequently been recovered. The Statement also revoked the

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<sup>44</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/planning-and-travellers>

practice guidance on ‘Diversity and equality in planning’<sup>45</sup>, deeming it to be outdated; the Government does not intend to replace this guidance.

**B.13 Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers 9<sup>th</sup> August 2013.** This Guidance replaces that published in August 2012, and updates it in respect of recent changes to Temporary Stop Notices. The Guidance lists powers available to local authorities, including:

- More powerful temporary stop notices to stop and remove unauthorised caravans;
- Pre-emptive injunctions that protect vulnerable land in advance from unauthorised encampments;
- Possession orders to remove trespassers from land;
- Police powers to order unauthorised campers to leave land;
- Powers of entry onto land so authorised officers can obtain information for enforcement purposes;
- Demand further information on planning works to determine whether any breach of the rules has taken place;
- Enforcement notices to remedy any planning breaches; and
- Ensuring sites have valid caravan or tent site licences.

It sets out that councils should work closely with the police and other agencies to stop camps being set up when council offices are closed.

**B.14 DCLG Consultation: Planning and Travellers, September 2014.** This consultation document sought to:

- Amend the Planning policy for Traveller sites’ definition of Travellers and Travelling Showpeople to exclude those who have ceased to travel permanently;
- Amend secondary legislation to bring the definition of Gypsies and Travellers, set out in the Housing (Assessment of Accommodation Needs)(Meaning of Gypsies and Travellers)(England) Regulations 2006 in line with the proposed changed definition set out above for the Planning policy for Traveller sites;
- Make the intentional unauthorised occupation of land be regarded by decision takers as a material consideration that weighs against the granting of planning permission. In other words, failure to seek permission in advance of occupation of land would count against the grant of planning permission;
- Protect ‘sensitive areas’ including the Green Belt;
- Update guidance on how local authorities should assess future Traveller accommodation requirements, including sources of information that authorities should use. In terms of future needs assessments the consultation suggests that authorities should look at:
  - The change in the number of Traveller households that have or are likely to have accommodation needs to be addressed over the Plan period;

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<sup>45</sup> ODPM Diversity and Equality in Planning: A good practice guide 2005

- Broad locations where there is a demand for additional pitches;
  - The level, quality and types of accommodation and facilities needed (e.g. sites and housing);
  - The demographic profile of the Traveller community obtained from working directly with them;
  - Caravan count data at a local level; and
  - Whether there are needs at different times of the year.
- The consultation closed on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2014.

**B.15 Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers, March 2015.** This Guidance sets out the robust powers councils, the police and landowners have to deal quickly with illegal and unauthorised encampments. The Guidance lists a series of questions that local authorities will want to consider including:

- Is the land particularly vulnerable to unlawful occupation/trespass?
- What is the status of that land? Who is the landowner?
- Do any special rules apply to that land (e.g. byelaws, statutory schemes of management, etc.) and, if so, are any of those rules relevant to the occupation/trespass activity?
- Has a process been established for the local authority to be notified about any unauthorised encampments?
- If the police are notified of unauthorised encampments on local authority land, do they know who in the local authority should be notified?
- If the power of persuasion by local authority officers (wardens/park officers/enforcement officers) does not result in people leaving the land/taking down tents, is there a clear decision making process, including liaison between councils and local police forces, on how to approach unauthorised encampments? At what level of the organisation will that decision be made? How will that decision-maker be notified?

The Guidance also states that to plan and respond effectively local agencies should work together to consider:

- Identifying vulnerable sites;
- Working with landowners to physically secure vulnerable sites where possible;
- Preparing any necessary paperwork, such as applications for possession orders or injunctions, in advance;
- Working with private landowners to inform them of their powers in relation to unauthorised encampments, including advance preparation of any necessary paperwork;
- Developing a clear notification and decision-making process to respond to instances of unauthorised encampments;

- The prudence of applying for injunctions where intelligence suggests there may be a planned encampment and the site of the encampment might cause disruption to others;
- Working to ensure that local wardens, park officers or enforcement officers are aware of who they should notify in the event of unauthorised encampments;
- Working to ensure that local wardens or park officers are aware of the locations of authorised campsites or other alternatives; and
- Identifying sites where protests could be directed / permitted.

#### B.16 **DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites, August 2015**

To be read alongside the NPPF (March 2012), this national planning policy document replaces the original document of the same name (published in March 2012). *Planning policy for traveller sites* sets out that, “the Government’s overarching aim is to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.”<sup>46</sup>

The document sets out a series of nine policies (Policy A to Policy I), which address different issues associated with traveller sites:

- Policy A: Using evidence to plan positively and manage development,
- Policy B: Planning for traveller sites,
- Policy C: Sites in rural areas and the countryside,
- Policy D: Rural exception sites,
- Policy E: Travellers sites in Green Belt,
- Policy F: Mixed planning use traveller sites,
- Policy G: Major development projects,
- Policy H: Determining planning applications for traveller sites, and
- Policy I: Implementation.

#### B.17 **DCLG Planning policy statement on Green Belt protection and intentional unauthorised development (31<sup>st</sup> August 2015)**

Issued as a letter to all Chief Planning Officers in England, this planning policy statement sets out changes to make intentional unauthorised development a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, and also to provide stronger protection for the Green Belt. The statement explains that the Planning Inspectorate will monitor all appeal decisions involving unauthorised development in the Green Belt, and additionally the DCLG will consider the recovery of a proportion of relevant appeals for the Secretary of State’s decision “to enable him to illustrate how he would like his policy to apply in practice”, under the criteria set out in 2008.

In addition, the planning policy statement of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015 announced that the Government has cancelled the documents *Guide to the effective use of*

<sup>46</sup> DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites*, August 2015, paragraph 3

enforcement powers, Part 1 (2006) and Part 2 (2007) and *Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites – Good Practice Guide* (2008).

#### B.18 **Planning Advisory Service (PAS) Spaces and places for Gypsies and Travellers: how planning can help (2006)**

PAS list the following as key to successful delivery of new provision:

- **Involve Gypsy and Traveller communities:** this needs to happen at an early stage, innovative methods of consultation need to be adopted due to low levels of literacy and high levels of social exclusion within Gypsy and Traveller communities and members of the Gypsy and Traveller community should be trained as interviewers on Accommodation Assessments (Cambridgeshire, Surrey, Dorset and Leicestershire). Other good practice examples include distribution of material via CD, so that information can be 'listened to' as opposed to read. The development of a dedicated Gypsy and Traveller Strategy is also seen to be good practice, helping agencies develop a co-ordinated approach and so prioritise the issue. The report also recommends the use of existing Gypsy and Traveller resources such as the planning guide published in Traveller's Times, which aims to explain the planning process in an accessible way to members of the Gypsy and Traveller community. As well as consulting early, PAS also flags the need to consult often with communities;
- **Work collaboratively** with neighbouring authorities to address the issues and avoid just 'moving it on' to a neighbouring local authority area. With the new Duty to Co-operate established within the NPPF, working collaboratively with neighbouring local authorities has never been more important. Adopting a collaborative approach recognises that local authorities cannot work in isolation to tackle this issue;
- **Be transparent:** trust is highly valued within Gypsy and Traveller communities, and can take a long time to develop. The planning system needs to be transparent, so that members of the Gypsy and Traveller community can understand the decisions that have been taken and the reasoning behind them. PAS states that *'ideally council work in this area should be led by an officer who is respected both within the Council and also within Gypsy and Traveller communities: trust is vital and can be broken easily.'*<sup>47</sup> Local planning authorities also need to revisit their approach to development management criteria for applications for Gypsy and Traveller sites *'to ensure that criteria make it clear what applications are likely to be accepted by the council. Authorities need to ensure that these are reasonable and realistic. Transparent and criteria-based policies help everyone to understand what decisions have been made and why.'*<sup>48</sup> Kent and Hertsmere councils are listed as examples of good practice in this regard.
- **Integration:** accommodation needs assessments need to be integrated into the Local Plan evidence base, with site locations and requirements set out within specific Development Plan Documents (DPDs); dedicated Gypsy and Traveller DPDs are advocated as a means of ensuring that the

<sup>47</sup> PAS *Spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help*, page 8

<sup>48</sup> PAS *spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help* page 8 & 14

accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers are fully considered and addressed within the local planning process; and

- **Educate and work with councillors:** members need to be aware of their responsibilities in terms of equality and diversity and *‘understand that there must be sound planning reasons for rejecting applications for Gypsy and Traveller sites’*<sup>49</sup>. It is helpful for members to understand the wider benefits of providing suitable accommodation to meet the requirements of the Gypsy and Traveller community, such as:
  - An increase in site provision;
  - Reduced costs of enforcement; and
  - Greater community engagement and understanding of community need.

#### B.19 RTPI Good Practice Note 4, *Planning for Gypsies and Travellers (2007)*

The RTPI has developed a series of Good Practice notes for local planning authorities ‘Planning for Gypsies and Travellers’; the notes cover four key areas:

- Communication, consultation and participation;
- Needs assessment;
- Accommodation and site delivery; and
- Enforcement.

Whilst the notes were developed prior to the NPPF and the introduction of the new Planning policy for traveller sites, they remain relevant, and it is worth considering some of the papers’ key recommendations.

In terms of **communication, consultation and participation** the RTPI highlight the following good practice:

- **Define potentially confusing terminology** used by professionals working in the area;
- **Use appropriate methods of consultation:** oral exchanges and face-to-face dealings are essential to effectively engage with Gypsy and Traveller communities, whilst service providers tend to use written exchanges;
- **Consultees and participants need to be involved in the entire plan making process;** this includes in-house participants, external organisations, Gypsy and Traveller communities, and settled communities. The RTPI concludes that:
  - *‘Local authorities should encourage Gypsy and Traveller communities to engage with the planning system at an early stage. However, they may request other agencies that have well-established relationships with members of Gypsy and Traveller communities to undertake this role.’* and
  - *‘In the past, settled communities have often only become aware of the intention to develop Gypsy and Traveller accommodation when the local authority issues a notice or consultation. ... cultivating the support of the settled community for the development of sites should start as soon as*

<sup>49</sup> PAS spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help page 10

*possible. ... There is a sound case for front-loading and sharing information with small groups in the [settled] community, rather than trying to manage large public gatherings at the start of the process. Again, it may be beneficial for the local authority to work in partnership with organisations with established links in the community. The settled community is not a homogeneous whole. There will be separate groups with different perceptions and concerns, which the local authority must take account of.*<sup>50</sup>

- **Dialogue methods:** the RTPI correctly identify that the experience of many Gypsies and Travellers of liaising with both public sector agencies and the settled community is both frightening and negative. As a result *‘there should be no expectation that Gypsies and Travellers will participate in open meetings. Stakeholders should investigate suitable methods of bringing together individuals from the respective communities in an environment that will facilitate a constructive exchange of information and smooth the process of breaking down animosity and hostility.’*<sup>51</sup> The use of public meetings is discouraged, and the use of organisations with experience of working within both Gypsy and Traveller, and settled communities encouraged – advice and support groups, assisted by the latter, holding regular local meetings can be an effective means of engaging constructively with both communities. Representatives from these groups can also be included on appropriate forums and advisory groups. The location and timing of meetings needs to be carefully considered to maximise participation, with a neutral venue being preferable.
- **The media** has an important role to play in facilitating the delivery of sites locally, with past reporting being extremely damaging. Positive media liaison is important and requires:
  - A single point of contact with the local authority;
  - A liaison officer responsible for compilation and release of briefings, and for building positive relationships with editors, journalists, radio and television presenters;
  - All stakeholders to provide accurate and timely briefings for the liaison officer;
  - Provision of media briefings on future activities;
  - Officers to anticipate when and where the most sensitive and contentious issues will arise and use of a risk assessment to mitigate any negative impact;
  - Use of the media to facilitate engagement with both settled and Gypsy and Traveller communities; and
  - Stakeholders to provide politicians with clear, accurate and comprehensive briefings.

<sup>50</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part A page 8

<sup>51</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part A page 13

- **On-going communication, participation and consultation** are important. The continued use of the most effective methods of engagement once an initiative is completed ensures the maximum use of resources:
  - *‘The delivery of some services, such as the identification of sites in development plan documents, is the end of one process and the start of another. The various committees and advisory groups established to participate in the process of site identification and the accommodation needs assessment will have considerable background information and expertise embedded in their membership. This will prove useful in the management and monitoring of subsequent work. ... Whilst on-going engagement with all service users is important, it is especially important with regard to Gypsies and Travellers, given their long history of marginalisation.’<sup>52</sup>*

Whilst the RTPI’s Good Practice Note Planning for Gypsies and Travellers predates the NPPF, the principles that it establishes at Part C remain largely relevant in terms of the role of local plan making. The Note advises that whilst the use of the site specific DPDs to identify sites for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation may seem less divisive, subsequent to identification of sufficient sites to meet identified need, local planning authorities should seek to integrate provision for Gypsies and Travellers within their general housing strategies and policies. Early involvement of stakeholders, the community and special interest groups will help achieve a consensus.

However, the RTPI point out that, due to the contentious nature of Gypsy and Traveller provision, the use of a criteria based approach to the selection of development sites is unlikely to be *successful ‘in instances where considerable public opposition to the development might be anticipated.’* The paper concludes that it is not appropriate to rely solely on criteria as an alternative to site allocations where there is an identified need for the development.<sup>53</sup>

The RTPI advocate adopting a pragmatic approach, whereby local planning authorities work with the Gypsy and Traveller communities within their areas to identify a range of potentially suitable sites:

- *‘The local authority and Gypsy and Traveller communities are both able to bring forward their suggested sites during this process, and the distribution and location of transit as well as permanent sites can be covered. The practicable options would then go forward for discussion with the local community, interest groups, and other stakeholders before the selection of preferred sites is finalised. The advantages of this approach are its transparency and the certainty it provides both for Gypsies and Travellers and for settled communities.’<sup>54</sup>*

The RTPI also advocates the use of supplementary planning guidance to provide additional detail on policies contained within a Local Plan; in terms of Gypsies and Travellers this could include:

- Needs assessment evidence base;

<sup>52</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part A page 18

<sup>53</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part C page 11

<sup>54</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part C page 11

- Design principles; and
- A design brief for the layout of sites.

## Appendix C: Fieldwork Questionnaire

### Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Survey

#### Introduction

I am an independent researcher doing a study on the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. This work is being conducted on behalf of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council.

We want to find out:

- What sort of homes – sites, yards and houses – Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople need.
- What you think of existing sites, yards and homes
- Whether you think new permanent and temporary sites and yards are needed
- Whether you think easier access to bricks and mortar accommodation is needed
- Whether you travel and if so whether you've had problems while travelling
- What you think about the costs of your homes – houses, yards and sites
- What other services you feel you need to support you

#### Interviewed before?

1. Have you been interviewed for this survey before?

- *If 'Yes' and in same location as previous interview, politely decline interview and find new respondent.*
- *If 'Yes' on roadside and in different location from previous interview carry on with introduction*
- *If 'No' carry on with introduction*

Do you have time to talk with me about these things – it will take about 30 to 40 minutes?

Your answers are completely confidential – I won't use your name in any report that I write and no one will be able to trace any answer back to you. You don't have to answer everything - if you don't want to answer any particular questions, just tell me to skip them.

[For most answers, check the boxes most applicable or fill in the blanks.]

#### Interview details

Attach label with interviewer details and URN

Date and time \_\_\_\_\_

Location (site name and address)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of caravans on pitch

---

4.  4

5.  5 or more

Number of people in household

---

Number of households on pitch

---

Property type

1. Unauthorised Encampment  1

2. Unauthorised Development  2

3. Caravan in Garden  3

4. Local Authority Site  4

5. Private Site  5

6. House (Bricks and Mortar)  6

No. of separate **respondent** self identified households living on pitch [this is to be added to site census sheets after all interviews completed]

1.  1

2.  2

3.  3

### Home base

1a. Do you usually live here? Is this your primary home base?

1.  Yes

2.  No

1b. Do you have any other home bases?

1.  Yes Go to Q1c

2.  No Go to Q2

1c. Please tell us about your other home base (record details of next most used home base). What type of home is it? (Select only one.)

1.  Trailer or wagon

2.  Chalet/mobile home (or similar)

3.  House

4.  Bungalow

5.  Flat

6.  Sheltered/Extra care housing

7.  Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

1d. How much time do you spend there (other home base)?  
(Select only one.)

1.  up to 1 month a year
2.  Over 1 and up to 2 months a year
3.  Over 2 and up to 3 months a year
4.  Over 3 and up to 4 months a year
5.  Over 4 and up to 5 months a year
6.  5 months or over a year

1e. Do you have any other home bases?

1.  Yes Go to Q1f
2.  No Go to Q2

1f. Please tell us about your other home base (record details of next most used home base). What type of home is it?  
(Select only one.)

1.  Trailer or wagon
2.  Chalet/mobile home (or similar)
3.  House
4.  Bungalow
5.  Flat
6.  Sheltered/Extra care housing

7.  Other ***[please state]:***

\_\_\_\_\_

1g. How much time do you spend there (other home base)?  
(Select only one.)

1.  up to 1 month a year
2.  Over 1 and up to 2 months a year
3.  Over 2 and up to 3 months a year
4.  Over 3 and up to 4 months a year
5.  Over 4 and up to 5 months a year
6.  5 months or over a year

2. Why do you live here (at the location of interview)?  
(Select all that apply.)

1.  Close to family and friends
2.  Near to place of work
3.  Near to child(rens) school/nursery
4.  Close to hospital
5.  Close to church
6.  Nowhere else that is suitable
7.  Choose to travel
8.  Simply chose this place/No particular reason
9.  Other **[please state]**  
: \_\_\_\_\_

3. How long have you lived here (at the location of interview)? (Select only one.)

1.  up to 1 year
2.  Over 1 and up to 2 years
3.  Over 2 and up to 3 years
4.  Over 3 and up to 4 years

5.  Over 4 and up to 5 years

6.  5 years or over

4. What do you normally live in (at the location of interview)?  
(Select only one.)

1.  Trailer or wagon

2.  Chalet/mobile home (or similar)

3.  House

4.  Bungalow

5.  Flat

6.  Sheltered/Extra Care housing

7.  House and yard with or without trailers

8.  Other **[please state]:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Are you happy with your main home base/house or would you prefer to live in a different type of home? (Select only one.)

- 1.  Happy with house/bungalow/flat/sheltered/other Go to Q7
- 2.  Happy with trailer/wagon/chalet/mobile home Go to Q7
- 3.  Prefer trailer Go to Q6
- 4.  Prefer caravan Go to Q6
- 5.  Prefer wagon Go to Q6
- 6.  Prefer chalet Go to Q6
- 7.  Prefer house/bungalow/flat/sheltered/other Go to Q6
- 8.  Prefer Trailer/Mobile Home/Chalet or similar with support for older people Go to Q6
- 9.  Other **[please state]:** Go to Q6

- 3.  Prefer bricks and mortar (Got to Q6b)
- 4.  Prefer Caravan/trailer/wagon/pitch (Got to Q6b)
- 5.  I don't like where I currently live (Got to Q6b)
- 6.  Want to travel (Got to Q7d)
- 7.  Want to settle down (Got to Q7d)
- 8.  Other **[please state]:**

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6b. If you would prefer a different type of home such as moving from a caravan to bricks and mortar/moving from bricks and mortar to a caravan or if you do not like where you currently live please tell us more about this:

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6. If you would prefer to live in a different type of home please tell us about your reasons for this? (Select all that apply.)

- 1.  Health/Old age/illness (Got to Q7d)
- 2.  Lifestyle/Belief (Got to Q7d)

7a. In your view is the place where you live a popular place/location/site for Travellers to live?

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No

7b. Why do you say this?

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7c. Does the place where you currently live have any anti-social behaviour issues?

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No

7d. What do you think can be done to prevent anti-social behaviour?

- 1.  Nothing
- 2.  Don't know/Not sure
- 3.  Other

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7e. Do you rent or own the home where you normally live? (Select only one.)

- 1.  Rent from Council
- 2.  Rent privately
- 3.  Rent from Housing Association/Registered Provider/Registered Social Landlord
- 4.  Own home
- 5.  Not applicable
- 6.  Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you own or rent the land you live on? (Select only one.)

- 1.  Own land where trailer/wagon is normally located (with planning permission)
- 2.  Own land where trailer/caravan is normally located (no planning permission)
- 3.  Own land where trailer/wagon is normally located seeking planning permission
- 4.  Rent pitch from Council
- 5.  Rent pitch from Housing Association/Registered Provider/Registered Social Landlord
- 6.  Rent pitch privately (with planning permission)
- 7.  Rent pitch privately (no planning permission)
- 8.  Neither own or rent the land (unauthorised)
- 9.  Tolerated site
- 10.  Not applicable
- 11.  Other **[please state]** \_\_\_\_\_

**[ONLY FOR PEOPLE LIVING ON SITES/YARDS]**

9. How many pitches/plots are there currently on the site/yard where you are living?

.....

10. Are these all occupied?

- 1.  Yes (Go to Q13)
- 2.  No (Go to Q11)
- 3.  Don't know (Go to Q13)

11. If no, how many pitches/plots are vacant?

12a. How long have these been empty? If more than one vacant pitch/plot please comment on the one that has been vacant for the longest time.

- 1.  up to 1 year
- 2.  1 to 2 years
- 3.  2 to 3 years
- 4.  3 to 4 years
- 5.  4 to 5 years
- 6.  over 5 years

12b. In your opinion why is it that these pitches are vacant:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. In your opinion, is there capacity for further development in the site/yard on which you live to incorporate new pitches/plots?

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No

14. If yes, how many new pitches/plots?

[     ]

15. Do you have development option(s) for land adjacent to the site? (select one only)

- 1.  Yes, including ownership or lease for the land. If 'Yes' please go to Q16a
- 2.  Yes, with no ownership or lease for the land. If 'Yes' please go to Q16a
- 3.  No. If 'No' please go to Q17a

16a. If you do have options for land around the site where are these and how many additional pitches could potentially be accommodated?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17a. Do you have an option(s) for a new site? (i.e. on land that would not be an extension to your existing site)

- 1.  Yes    Go to Q17b
- 2.  No      Go to Q18

17b. If you do have option(s) for a new site where are these and how many additional pitches could potentially be accommodated?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**INTERVIEWER NOTE:** If the respondent would like to make the Council aware of their land/potential site or redevelopment please ask them if they would like a form to complete on behalf of the Council.

18. Do you have any other comments about the capacity of the site/yards you are currently living on?

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**ALL RESPONDENTS**

19. Do you think your home/trailer/pitch is overcrowded? (Select only one.)

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No

20. If yes, please tell us in what way the home is overcrowded (i.e. number of caravans/households living on pitch)

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21. What repairs or improvements, if any, are needed to your home? (Select all that apply.)

- 1.  none
- 2.  more space on pitch
- 3.  slab/drive
- 4.  roof
- 5.  doors/windows
- 6.  kitchen facilities
- 7.  bathroom facilities
- 8.  Other **[please state]:**

---

22. How would you describe the state of repair of your home? (Select only one.)

- 1.  Very Good
- 2.  Good
- 3.  Neither Good nor Poor
- 4.  Poor
- 5.  Very Poor

23. Do you feel you have enough space:
- a) for your trailers, wagons, horse boxes, vehicles and loads?  
Yes 1.  No 2.
- b) in your own amenity block (shed) - if relevant?  
Yes 1.  No 2.  Not relevant 3.
- c) on your pitch - if relevant?  
Yes 1.  No 2.  Not relevant 3.
- d) for travelling show people only, room to repair equipment - if relevant?  
Yes 1.  No 2.  Not relevant 3.

24. Do you have to share any of the following facilities with another household (this could be a family in another trailer/pitch)? (Select all that apply.)

1.  Bathroom
2.  Toilet
3.  Kitchen
4.  Laundry

25. How many bedrooms/sleeping trailers or wagons do you have in this home?

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

26. How much does your home cost per week (excluding water, heating and lighting; including rent, mortgage, and ground rent)?

Please state amount

£ \_\_\_\_\_

27. How much of your housing costs, if any, are covered by housing benefit? (Select only one.)

1.  None
2.  Part
3.  All

## Neighbourhood and local services

28. How satisfied are you with the location of your home? (By home we mean the location where the interview is taking place and this covers questions 28-29. Location can mean the street/road/site) (Select only one.)

1.  Very Satisfied
2.  Satisfied
3.  Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied
4.  Dissatisfied
5.  Very Dissatisfied

29. Please say if being near to the following is important, slightly important or not important to you? (Near can be classed as having easy/quick access)

	Important	Slightly Important	Not important
a) Primary schools	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
b) Secondary schools	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
c) Doctors	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
d) Shops	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
e) Post Office/ cash point machine	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
f) Pubs	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
g) Public Transport	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
h) Main roads	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]
i) Other (specify)	1 [ ]	2 [ ]	3 [ ]

## Housing History

30. Where did you live before you came here (or moved to your existing home)?

1. [ ] Please state town/Borough \_\_\_\_\_
2. [ ] Travelling all the time (no permanent home) - **go to Q35a**
3. [ ] Homeless - **go to Q35a**

31. How long did you live there?  
(Select only one.)

1. [ ] up to 1 year
2. [ ] 1 to 2 years
3. [ ] 2 to 3 years
4. [ ] 3 to 4 years
5. [ ] 4 to 5 years
6. [ ] over 5 years

32. What kind of home did you have there?  
(Select only one.)

- 1.  Trailer or wagon
- 2.  Chalet/mobile home (or similar)
- 3.  House
- 4.  Bungalow
- 5.  Flat
- 6.  Sheltered
- 7.  Other

**[please state]** \_\_\_\_\_ :

33. Why did you leave that place?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

34. How many times have you moved pitch (not including travelling) in the last 2 years

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Or**  b. Travelled for the whole time

**Or**  c. None/Have not moved

### Travelling

35a. In the last year, have you travelled?  
(Select only one.)

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No - **go to Q35b**

35b. Previous to the last year, did you travel?  
(Select only one.)

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No - **go to Q35c**

35c. Do you plan to travel next year?  
(Select only one.)

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No - **go to Q35d**

35d. Do you think you will travel each year for the next five years and/or beyond?  
(Select only one.)

- 1.  Yes

2.  No - **go to Q39a**

36a. How many days or weeks do you normally travel every year?

(Select only one.)

- 1.  No more than thirteen days
- 2.  2 to 4 weeks (or one month)
- 3.  5 to 8 weeks (or 2 months)
- 4.  9 to 12 weeks (or 3 months)
- 5.  13 to 26 weeks (or 6 months)
- 6.  Over 6 months but less than 10 months
- 7.  Over 10 months but less than 12 months
- 8.  All year

36b. How many days or weeks do you plan to travel in any given year in the future?

(Select only one.)

- 1.  No more than thirteen days
- 2.  2 to 4 weeks (or one month)
- 3.  5 to 8 weeks (or 2 months)

- 4.  9 to 12 weeks (or 3 months)
- 5.  13 to 26 weeks (or 6 months)
- 6.  Over 6 months but less than 10 months
- 7.  Over 10 months but less than 12 months
- 8.  All year

37. Where would you normally go when you are travelling, when and why? And what is the main route you would take to get there (please specify main roads taken /towns passed through)

Location	Month	Reason	Route
a.			
b.			
c.			
d.			

38a. What problems, if any, do you have while travelling?  
(Select all that apply)

- 1.  No places to stop over
- 2.  Closing of traditional stopping places
- 3.  Abuse, harassment or discrimination
- 4.  Lack of toilet facilities
- 5.  No water facilities
- 6.  Problems with rubbish collection
- 7.  Police behaviour
- 8.  Enforcement officer behaviour
- 9.  Behaviour of other Travellers
- 10.  Other ***[please state]:***

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Please now go to Q39b unless you do not or will not be travelling now or in the future. If this is the case then go to Q39a.

39a. What reasons do you have for not travelling now or in the future? (Select all that apply or write in your reasons in the space provided)

- 1.  To many problems related to travelling
- 2.  Long-term health reasons
- 3.  Short-term health reasons
- 4.  Prefer not to travel
- 5.  Family commitments
- 6.  Work/Job commitments
- 7.  Do not need to travel
- 8.  Other members of my household travel
- 9.  Other [please state] for example if you have different reasons for not travelling now compared to the future:

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39b. Transit sites are intended for short-term use while in transit. Sites are usually permanent and authorised, but there is a limit on the length of time residents can stay.

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No

Is there a need for transit sites in the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council area?

40. If yes, where should the transit site(s) be located? (Select all that apply.)

Where are transit sites needed?	How big does the site need to be? (no pitches)	Who needs this transit site?	When is this transit site needed? (all the time/certain times of year – please specify)	
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council area [please specify]				<b>1</b>
Other local authority area bordering Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council [please specify]				<b>2</b>

45. What type of facilities do you think would be needed on transit sites?

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41. Who should manage transit sites? (Select all that apply.)

- 1.  Councils
- 2.  Registered Social Landlords/Housing Associations
- 3.  Private (Gypsy/Traveller/Showman)
- 4.  Private (non-Gypsy or Traveller/Showman)
- 5.  Other **[please state]:**

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42. Why do you travel? (Select all that apply.)

- 1.  Cultural heritage
- 2.  Personal preference
- 3.  Work related
- 4.  Visit family/friends
- 5.  Only way of life I know
- 6.  Limited opportunity to settle/no pitch on which to live/lack of site provision
- 7.  Other **[please state]**

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## Advice, support, health and other services

43a. Have you used any of the following services in the last year? (Select all that apply.)

1.  Gypsy services
  2.  Traveller Education
  3.  Adult education
  4.  Housing Options service/Nuneaton and Bedworth Homefinder/Housing Advice Service
  5.  Citizens Advice Bureau
  6.  Other welfare rights advice
  7.  Doctor (G.P.)
  8.  Dentist
  9.  Accident and emergency
  10.  Health visitors
  11.  Healthy Living Services (e.g. Health Trainers, Food and Health Team)
  12.  Children's Centres
  13.  Social services
  14.  Law Centre
  15.  Other ***[please state]:***
-

43b. Do you or anyone in your household have any health problems (Select all that apply for each person.)

	R (a)	P2 (b)	P3 (c)	P4 (d)	P5 (e)	P6 (f)	P7 (g)
Arthritis	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]
Asthma	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]
Stress/Depression/anxiety disorders	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]
Diabetes (Type 1/Type 2)	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]
Problems with hearing	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]
Learning difficulties/dyslexia	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]
Problems with mobility	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]
Problems with vision	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]
Respiratory condition/bronchitis	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]
Weight Problem (want to lose weight)	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]
High Blood Pressure	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]
Heart Disease/CVD/ Angina	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]
Other <i>[please state]:</i>	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]

43c. Has living here at this location/address/site affected your physical or mental health in anyway?

- 1.  Yes (Go to Q43d)
- 2.  No (Go to Q43e)

43d. In what way(s) has it affected you?

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43e. Have you experienced any problems accessing health services in the past year?

- 1.  Yes Go to Q43f
- 2.  No Go to Q43g

43f. Have these problems been due to any of the following? (Select all that apply.)

- 1.  Language
- 2.  Hours the service were open
- 3.  Transport
- 4.  Knowledge of services offered
- 5.  Lack of privacy

- 6.  Getting an appointment
- 7.  Other **[please state]:**

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43g. Does your home need adapting in any way, for instance to help with mobility around the home?

- 1.  Yes Go to **Q44**
- 2.  No Go to **Q45**

44. In your opinion, what assistance/adaptations are required to help? e.g. Handrails, re-positioned sockets etc

Adaptation 1	
Adaptation 2	
Adaptation 3	

45. What type of services (other than those you currently receive) would help you with your health care needs?

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46. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about your health or health services?

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### The future

47. ***In the next five years, is your household:***

- 1.  Planning to stay where you are based now – **go to Q50**
- 2.  Plan to move elsewhere - **go to Q48**

48. If you are planning to move elsewhere, are you planning to move to (select one):

- 1.  Another pitch/plot on the same site/yard in a trailer/wagon go to Q50
- 2.  Another pitch/plot on the same site/yard in a chalet/mobile home go to Q50
- 3.  Onto another site/yard (if so, where)

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\_\_\_\_\_ go to Q50

4.  Into bricks and mortar accommodation go to Q49

5.  From bricks and mortar accommodation onto a site/yard (if so, where?) go to Q50

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6.  Other [please specify]: \_\_\_\_\_ go to Q50

49. If you are planning to move to bricks and mortar accommodation

a. Where would it be (town/village/local authority area)?

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b. What type of accommodation?

- 1.  House
- 2.  Bungalow
- 3.  Flat
- 4.  Sheltered/extra care housing

c. Would you be renting or buying?

- 1.  Rent from Council
- 2.  Rent privately
- 3.  Rent from Housing Association/RP/RSL
- 4.  Buy
- 5.  Other
- 6. **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

49d. What are your reasons for wanting to move to bricks and mortar accommodation?

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49e. If planning to move to bricks and mortar accommodation would you use (or have you used) the Housing Options Service/Nuneaton and Bedworth Homefinder/Housing Advice Service

- 1.  Yes, would use or have used (Go to Q50)
- 2.  No (Go to Q49f)
- 3.  Don't know/not sure

49f. If you said you would not use the service please can you tell us why this is the case?

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51. Is there a need for new permanent site(s) in the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council area or in another area?

- 1.  Yes
- 2.  No

52. If yes, in which of the following locations? (Tick all that apply)

Where are permanent sites needed?	Why this location ?	How big does the site need to be? (no pitches)	
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council area [please specify]			1
Other local authority area bordering Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council [please specify]			2

50. How do you think sites should be managed?  
(Select only one.)

- 1.  Councils
- 2.  Private (Gypsy/Traveller/Showman)
- 3.  Private (non-Gypsy/Traveller/Showman)
- 4.  Registered Social Landlords/Housing Associations
- 5.  Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

53. Is there anything else that you want to tell us about the future need for homes and sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople?

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54. Do you have children or grandchildren who want to live in a similar way to you (e.g. Travelling lifestyle)?

(Select only one.)

Yes

No

## Emerging Families

55. How many members of your family who are living with you now, if any, are likely or need to move on and set up by themselves in the next five years? ***[IF POSSIBLE, ASK THOSE WHO ARE LIKELY TO MOVE ON THE 'EMERGING FAMILIES' QUESTIONS DIRECTLY - PLEASE TICK THE APPROPRIATE BOX]***

(Select only one.)

1.  1

2.  2

3.  3

4.  4

Q56 (Select only one.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1. Respondent is part of emerging household	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Respondent is not part of emerging household	<input type="checkbox"/>

57. What type of household (HH) are you (or they) likely to form? (Select only one for each household.)

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Single person (under 60 years)	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
Single person (60 years and over)	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]
Lone parent	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]
Young couple (under 30) with no children	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]
Young couple (under 30) with child(ren)	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]
Couple (aged 30-under 60) with no children	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]
Couple (aged 30-under 60) with children.	7	[ ]	7	[ ]	7	[ ]	7	[ ]
Older Couple (at least one over 60 years)	8	[ ]	8	[ ]	8	[ ]	8	[ ]
Other <i>[please state]:</i>	9	[ ]	9	[ ]	9	[ ]	9	[ ]

58. What would you (or they) want as a permanent base?

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Continue to live on current site/yard	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
Move to another site/yard	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]
Move to bricks and mortar accommodation	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]
Other (please specify)	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]

59. If planning to move to another location, where would you (they) prefer to live? Please state town/Borough. This can be an area outside Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough.

HH1 \_\_\_\_\_

HH2 \_\_\_\_\_

HH3 \_\_\_\_\_

HH4 \_\_\_\_\_

60. If planning to move to another location, what are the main reasons for this?

HH1 \_\_\_\_\_

HH2 \_\_\_\_\_

HH3 \_\_\_\_\_

HH4 \_\_\_\_\_

61. What type of home do you (or do you think they would) want as a permanent base?  
(Select only one for each household.)

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Trailer or wagon go to Q62	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
Chalet/mobile home or similar go to Q62	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]
House - go to Q63	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]
Bungalow - go to Q63	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]
Flat - go to Q63	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]
Sheltered housing go to Q63	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]
Extra Care Housing – go to Q63	7	[ ]	7	[ ]	7	[ ]	7	[ ]
No permanent base required– go to Q62	8	[ ]	8	[ ]	8	[ ]	8	[ ]
Other (please specify) – go to Q62	9	[ ]	9	[ ]	9	[ ]	9	[ ]

Interviewer note:

**Sheltered housing** is usually a group of bungalows or flats and you have your own front door. Schemes usually have a manager/warden to arrange services and are linked to a careline/alarm service

**Extra Care housing** is designed with the needs of frailer older people in mind. It includes flats, bungalows and retirements villages. You have your own front door. Domestic support and personal care are available.)

62. Which of the following options would you (or do you think they would) require? (Select only one.)

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Rent pitch/plot from Council	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
Rent pitch/plot from Registered Provider/Housing Association	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]
Rent pitch/plot privately	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]
Own land where trailer/ caravan is normally located	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]
To travel/Use multiple/various sites	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]
Other <b><i>[please state]:</i></b>	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]

63. If in a house, which of the following options would you (or do you think they would) require?  
(Select only one.)

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Rent house/flat from Council	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
Rent house/flat privately	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]
Rent house/flat from Registered Provider/Housing Association	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]
Own house	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]
Other <i>[please state]:</i>	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]

64. Do you (or do you think they will) want to travel for some time of the year? (Select only one.)

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Yes	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
No	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]

## Your Household (Respondent)

65. Family type (Select only one.)

1.  Single person (under 60 years)
2.  Single person (60 years and over)
3.  Lone parent
4.  Young couple (aged under 30) – no children
5.  Young Couple (aged under 30 years) - with children
6.  Couple (aged 30 to under 60) - no children
7.  Couple (aged 40 to under 60) - with children
8.  Older Couple (at least one of 60 years or over)
9.  Other [please state]: \_\_\_\_\_

## Number of Households sharing a pitch

66. How many **other** households are **currently** living on your pitch/plot with you? (i.e. grandparents, parents, children and their respective spouses)

Number of households:

1.  0 Just a single household
2.  1 More households
3.  2 More households
4.  3 More households
5.  4 More households
6.  Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

67. Of these households, how many want to live on their own pitch/plot on a site/yard?

1.  0 – None of them
2.  1 – One of them
3.  2 – Two of them
4.  3 – Three of them
5.  4 – Four of them
6.  Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

68. Over the next 15 years do you have dependents/children who would want to live on a pitch on a site and who will need additional pitches? If you do then please tell us the number of dependents/children/new households needing pitches or a pitch in the next 15 years:

1.  Not applicable/No pitch on a site requirement
2.  Dependents would prefer another type of home
3.  1
4.  2
5.  3
6.  4
7.  Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

69. If you do have dependents who will need additional pitches could you tell us their age?

	Dependent (a)	Dependent (b)	Dependent (c)	Dependent (d)	Dependent (e)	Dependent (f)	Dependent (g)
Age							

**IF RESPONDENT HAS A SPOUSE OR PARTNER THEN RECORD INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PERSON IN THE SECOND COLUMN.**

70. For each person in your household, starting with yourself and then your spouse (partner, husband or wife) please could you tell us their sex and age? (Select only one for each person.)

		R (a)		P2 (b)		P3 (c)		P4 (d)		P5 (e)		P6 (f)		P7 (g)
Male	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
Female	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]

71. Age

	R (a)	P2 (b)	P3 (c)	P4 (d)	P5 (e)	P6 (f)	P7 (g)
Age							

**IF NO SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN GO TO Q73**

72. What type of education are your children receiving? (Select all that apply.)

1. [ ] Nursery education
2. [ ] State school
3. [ ] Private school
4. [ ] Home schooled
5. [ ] College or university
6. [ ] Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

73. Employment status (Select only one for each person.)

	R (a)	P2 (b)	P3 (c)	P4 (d)	P5 (e)	P6 (f)	P7 (g)
Full-time employee	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]
Part-time employee	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]
Self-employed	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]
Retired	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]
No paid work	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]
Disability benefit	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]
In education	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]
Other <b>[please state]:</b>	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]

## 74. How would you describe yourself (ethnic or cultural identity)? (Select all that apply)

	R (a)	P2 (b)	P3 (c)	P4 (d)	P5 (e)	P6 (f)	P7 (g)
Romany Gypsy	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]
English Gypsy	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]
English Traveller	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]
Irish Traveller	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]
Welsh Gypsy	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]
Welsh Traveller	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]
Scottish Gypsy	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]
Scottish Traveller	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]
New Traveller	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]
Showman	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]
Circus Traveller	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]	11 [ ]
DK/No answer	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]	12 [ ]
None of the above	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]	13 [ ]
Other <i>[please state]:</i>	14 [ ]	14 [ ]	14 [ ]	14 [ ]	14 [ ]	14 [ ]	14 [ ]

75. **IMPORTANT:** Do you know of any households/family/friends in bricks and mortar accommodation? Could you provide some contact details as we may approach them for an interview to better understand their needs?

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76. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

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77. Would you be happy to be contacted again? Yes [ ] No [ ].

If yes, record contact details on SEPARATE SHEET and **please now take a note of the respondents FULL TELEPHONE number for quality assurance purposes.** We may use the number provided to check the response to a small number of questions as part of our internal quality processes. FULL TELEPHONE NUMBER:-

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78. If you would like us/the Council to contact you with the results of this research please provide either an email or postal address for us to advise you of the results. Yes [ ] No [ ]. If yes, record contact details on SEPARATE SHEET TO THE ONE ABOVE

79. Are there any housing needs issues raised in this questionnaire that you would like your Council to contact you about? If so do we have your permission to pass on your contact details to your Council for this purpose only? Yes [  ] No [  ]. If yes, record contact details on SEPARATE SHEET TO THE ONE ABOVE

## Appendix D: Stakeholder Consultation

- D.1 *Which Local Authority areas do you work in? Please tick all that apply. If you work in an area outside the study area (such as a neighbouring local authority who is responding as part of the duty to co-operate guidance) then please detail where you are from by using the list below or by using the 'other' option.*

Area	Response percent
Nuneaton and Bedworth	27.27%
Rugby	18.18%
Coventry	9.09%
North Warwickshire	18.18%
Hinckley and Bosworth	9.09%
Solihull	0%
Blaby	9.09%
Warwick	18.18%
Birmingham	0%
Other: please tell us which local authority area/Council you operate in:	18.18%

*Other areas included:*

- Harborough
- Throughout England

- D.2 *If you are interested do you want to be informed of the results of the study? If you do then we will keep a note of the contact details that you provided above and get in touch with any appropriate outputs.*

Response	Response percent
Yes, I would like to be kept informed of the GTAA such as results, reports or stakeholder events	100%
No, I would not like to be kept informed of the GTAA	0%

## General questions

D.3 Q1. *Do you think that there is sufficient understanding of the education, employment, health and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople within the study area? If not, what could be done to improve the current position?*

- I am unaware of the information that you hold or have access to, but it is important to obtain the views and experiences of the travelling community themselves when carrying out such surveys. It also needs to be acknowledged that unless the travelling community are asked for this information by their own community members, they are unlikely or unwilling to give complete or totally honest responses. It must be borne in mind that not all have been able to take advantage of full time, settled education over a period of years and may therefore not be able to complete questionnaires etc. without assistance. On the question of employment, it is unlikely that everyone will wish to discuss this with those who are not totally trusted with the information.
- In meeting the planning definition of a gypsy and traveller, Councils do not have a sufficient understanding of the education, employment, health and support need of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople to decide whether the definition is met or not.
- Harborough District Council is not an adjoining Local Planning Authority to Nuneaton and Bedworth BC, and is unaware of the support in place for the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. However, Leicestershire operates a Multi Agency Traveller Unit (MATU), that seeks to raise awareness of the education, employment, health and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, and it is assumed similar access is available in Warwickshire.
- Probably not enough information although the information available from the County Council and via the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) for North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth (SHUSU/University of Salford, 2013) and the Southern Staffordshire and Northern Warwickshire area Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (2008) will provide much of the background information necessary. Closer liaison and consultation with the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople and agents/representatives would be beneficial although it is often difficult to realise.
- No – greater engagement and less hostility needed.

D.4 Q2. *Are the health, education, accommodation and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople adequately monitored? If not, what more could be done?*

- It is an almost impossible task to do this, especially for those who are travelling and therefore not easily followed up in future. The best way to tackle it is through any willing volunteers who are happy to report back the results of their own section of the community, but whether this would be reliable is questionable.

- There is not a centralised body that monitors health, education, accommodation and support needs. There have been efforts in the past to do so however this has not been fruitful for one reason or another.
  - In Leicestershire, whilst adequate monitoring takes place, this could be further increased through greater awareness, and greater involvement of the Local Planning Authorities.
  - Again probably not, due primarily to the difficulty of monitoring an active, mobile population with limited links to the Local Authority and other agencies. See response above.
  - No comment
- D.5 *Q3. In your opinion, is additional support required to assist Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople families living within the study area? If yes, please expand.*
- Not aware of what is available in the study area.
  - Unknown.
  - Harborough District Council is not an adjoining Authority and therefore has no comments.
  - Insufficient information to provide a clear answer but more support is probably required.
  - Yes. Available support is spread very thinly.
- D.6 *Q4. Do you think that there is adequate awareness of the cultural, support and accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area? If not, what more could be done to raise awareness.*
- Not aware of what is available in the study area.
  - Unknown.
  - Harborough District Council is not an adjoining Authority and therefore has no comments.
  - No. A future update of the GTAA for the wider sub-region would be helpful/useful.
  - No – national government sets a poor example and without a greater awareness at national level, there is little scope for improvement
- 10.19 *Q5. Has your organisation undertaken any action to raise awareness of the cultural, support and accommodation requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area? If so, please expand.*
- Yes. We have arranged for a willing member of the travelling community to speak with our Members and the public and interest groups about their experience of living this lifestyle, the importance to them of maintaining their culture and traditions and outline what they need by way of land and location in order to set up and manage their own sites
  - No

- Harborough District Council has not, however the Leicestershire Multi Agency Traveller Unit do raise awareness and provide training course for local government staff across Leicestershire, across a range of disciplines, including planning staff.
- Limited. Only in so far as our involvement with the GTAA study, addressing Equalities duties/requirements in reports/studies and sub-regional work on accommodation and housing/health/social needs with adjoining local authorities and the County Council, being noted or referred to in relevant documents, where necessary and appropriate.
- Yes – too much to explain here.

## Provision of Accommodation

### Site Provision

- D.7 *Q6. Do you think that there is sufficient provision of permanent sites/pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough? Please give us your views*
- No.
  - Unable to answer fully, what is the current level of need and is it being met?
  - N/A - however Harborough District Council's Travelling Showpeople sites are concentrated to the Lutterworth and A5 corridors.
  - Yes, in so far as the needs identified in the GTAA (2013) are addressed by the Borough's consultation document - Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Development Plan Document Preferred Options document 2015.
  - No.
- D.8 *Q7. If new permanent sites/pitches are needed in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough, where do you think that these should be located? Which location is best and why?*
- I am not aware of the current provision and location of such sites, but the advice is to locate close to the edge of towns and villages with facilities to allow the travelling community easy access to meet their needs, whilst maintaining a discreet distance between them and the settled community. Sites need to be kept small so enlarging existing sites to more than 15 pitches will lead to a less harmonious environment for all concerned.
  - In accordance with the PPTS and NPPF.
  - In sustainable locations reasonably close to services and facilities. Not isolated, easy to manage (if publically delivered and maintained/managed) and with good access to road network, but not necessarily close/adjoining to existing settled community. In consultations with the Gypsy and Travellers community they expressed concerns and resistance to sites located within or immediately adjoining the settled community. This approach may make some sites difficult to deliver.

- Small sites spread across the District

D.9 *Q8. Do you think there are barriers to the provision of new permanent sites? If so, what do you consider the main barriers to be?*

- Perceived views of what the community will bring to the area, largely influenced by negative media coverage or experience of some who may have come across those who are less respectful than the vast majority of the travelling community.
- Site availability is an issue but so too is the individual's preference for a site in Green Belt locations.
- Local opposition, and sometimes local political opposition.
- Main barriers are availability and release of land. Resistance to sites being made available to address Gypsy and Traveller needs in suitable locations. Lack of management and maintenance of sites can be seen as an issue.
- Local hostility. Poor planning policies, both national and local. Lack of commitment by Local Authorities

D.10 *Q9a. Do you think that transit sites are needed in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. If so, why, and where do you think these should be located? Please note: Transit provision is a pitch or site intended for short-term use whilst in transit; such provision is usually permanent and authorised, but there is a limit on the length of time that residents can stay there.*

- Yes. There are very few transit sites in the country and with the government putting the emphasis on those who are actually travelling, more will have to take to the road to prove their nomadic way of life. This will increase the pressure on those existing transit sites and increase roadside and illegal encampments. WCC are only providing a very nominal number of emergency stopping places to serve the whole of Warwickshire. These pitches are in any case, to be used for those parked up on WCC land and therefore will not serve the requirement throughout the whole County. Moreover, emergency stopping places cannot be utilised for more than 28 days whereas a transit site can be utilised for up to three months.
- Unknown do not have information on encampments however nationally there has been an increase of such activities. The changes to the PPTs does also lend more to such transient movement which would increase the need for such sites.
- Transit pitches are required, however on a wider scale and do not necessarily need to be located in the Borough if there is sufficient supply of transit sites is nearby Districts/Boroughs. We are not in a position to comment on location of sites.
- Yes. Recent unauthorised occupation of open space and brownfield sites or highway verge/laybys indicates a need and demand for sites. Accessible sites well related to highway network and migration/travel routes (where known) would be the preferred locations.
- Yes

D.11 Q9b. Do you think that emergency stopover sites are needed in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough. If so, why, and where do you think these should be located? Please note: Emergency stopover provision is a pitch(s)/site intended for very short-term use whilst in transit (often overnight stays) and is often linked to busier times of the year. Facilities are more basic and limited compared to transit sites.

- See above.
- Warwickshire County Council and the community can advise on this matter.
- As above, these are required but on a wider scale, and not necessarily in the Borough, however there should be provision across a wider geographical area.
- Possibly, but limited information available on need. See County Council for provision and need.
- Yes

D.12 Q10. Do you think there are barriers to new transit sites/emergency stopover provision? If so, what do you consider the main barriers to be?

- Management necessary to run such sites, particularly a transit site which needs similar facilities to the permanent sites, but also needs to be vacated at the end of the time period. A charge needs to be made for staying at either to ensure that those accommodated there are responsible for keeping the site clean and tidy and leave it in the same way. Public perception of the running of such sites and the likelihood of them as taxpayers having to foot the bill for any clearing up operations necessary once the transitory travellers have moved off the site.
- Site availability
- At Harborough District Council we have experienced significantly less opposition to transit sites than permanent pitches/plots.
- Yes, as noted above, main barriers are availability of suitably located sites for transit sites/emergency stopovers. Possible opportunity of using Public owned land/sites (Local Authority or Health/NHS/Public agency controlled) but these will not necessarily be in appropriate or accessible locations. Local objections and resistance to site provision for this use is also a barrier to achieving release of potential sites.
- Local hostility. Poor planning policies, both national and local. Lack of commitment by Local Authorities.

### Existing sites

D.13 Q11. What are your views on the standard of facilities on existing sites in the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough area?

- Not known
- Unknown
- No particular knowledge or views on current standard of provision.

- No comment.
- D.14 Q12. Do you have any views on how existing sites are managed in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough?
- Not known
  - Unknown
  - No particular knowledge or views on current site management.
  - No.
- D.15 Q13. Are you aware of any issues/tensions between Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and the settled community, on existing sites within Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough? If so, has your organisation addressed this in any way?
- Not know.
  - No.
  - Only aware of issues relating to unauthorised sites in N&BBC, via local media and news items. North Warwickshire are not involved in addressing any issues in Nuneaton and Bedworth's administrative area.
  - No.

### Bricks and Mortar Accommodation

- D.16 Q14. Do you know of any Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living in bricks and mortar accommodation in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough? Can you provide any additional information?
- Not known.
  - No.
  - No knowledge. See 2013 GTTAA for further information. The GTAA noted that for families specifically within the Nuneaton and /Bedworth and North Warwickshire areas (where each area is looked at separately) "Movement from housing to sites: No household currently accommodated within bricks and mortar housing expressed an intention to move onto site-based accommodation". However, it noted that in North Warwickshire "there were two households accommodated in housing in North Warwickshire who were seeking site based accommodation in Nuneaton and Bedworth".
  - Not known.
- D.17 Q15. Do you think that additional provision of sites/pitches needs to be made to accommodate the requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople currently living in settled (i.e. bricks and mortar) accommodation across Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough? Why do you think this?
- Yes. There are Gypsies and Travellers throughout the country forced into bricks and mortar accommodation to enable them to send their children to

school, provide themselves with a permanent address and register with a GP etc. for services. Many do not choose this lifestyle and it can cause illness in individuals if they see themselves as hemmed in by four walls in ordinary houses. This is not their chosen way of living and they should have the choice. They do not have this choice if there are insufficient sites to accommodate them.

- Depending on whether the resident meets the Planning definition.
- The Leicestershire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) does take into account additional provision required for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople currently in bricks and mortar accommodation. This may take account of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople that may currently be in bricks and mortar accommodation due to a lack of suitable pitch/plot provision.
- Not clear as to the necessity for this. Refer back to the 2013 GTAA for information on addressing accommodation needs. If the existing accommodation needs of families/individuals has been addressed through use/occupation of settled accommodation/built housing it will be difficult to justify additional mobile accommodation sites for their use if their current needs are addressed, particularly if the house site has sufficient area to accommodate a pitch or similar caravan storage area. It will depend on individual circumstances and whether such needs can be better serviced through transit sites. Note that the GTAA 2013 also indicated that "No site-based household expressed an intention to move into bricks and mortar accommodation".
- Yes. Gypsies are often forced to accept traditional accommodation despite their cultural aversion

D.18 *Q16. Is there sufficient support available to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living in settled accommodation to help them manage their housing effectively (i.e. help in dealing with practical tenancy issues, such as paying rent, bills and making benefit applications)?*

- Not known
- Unknown
- No knowledge. Refer back to the 2013 GTAA for information on addressing accommodation needs.
- No

D.19 *Q17. Are you aware if Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople feel safe in settled accommodation? If you have any information please provide. Are their specific cultural needs given consideration by the local authority when offering conventional accommodation, in your opinion?*

- See Q15. This may be answered best by the medical authorities, including mental health practitioners.
- Unknown
- Not aware of any issues in N&BBC. See 2013 GTAA for further information.

- Not known.

### Both Bricks and Mortar and Pitches

D.20 Q18. *If your organisation provides accommodation in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough, how many Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households have approached you for housing during the past five years?*

- No reportable responses

D.21 Q19. *If your organisation provides accommodation in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough, how many Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households have approached you for HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT during the past five years?*

- No reportable responses

### Unauthorised Encampments

D.22 Q20. *If you are a local housing authority in the wider sub region of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough how many unauthorised encampments do you have each year in your area? Please note: An unauthorised encampment refers to land where Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople reside in vehicles or tents without permission. Unauthorised encampments can occur in a variety of locations 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.*

- We normally have around 3 or 4 unauthorised encampments per year but most of them are of short duration.
- Monitored by Warwickshire County Council Gypsy Liaison Team contact Rob Leahy
- Harborough District is not an adjoining Authority, however we have approx 1-2 unauthorised encampments each year.
- Between two or three per annum, sometimes less.

D.23 Q21. *Are unauthorised encampments problematic for your organisation? If so, please expand.*

- They require officer time to deal with them but we have a strong working relationship with the Multi Agency Traveller Units and generally are able to resolve any issues peacefully.
- Encampments do occur, though the occurrence in comparison to other authorities and where the group move to next are unknown. Like other authorities there are hotspots where encampments occur with the most recent one disrupting the opening of a new school and following this bollards have been erected to deter such activities from occurring again.
- Have been very problematic in the past, with a significant unauthorised encampment, since permitted, in 2007. No significant problems in the past few years.

- Action to address unauthorised encampments has only been necessary once or twice over recent years. No particular problems were raised.
- Unauthorised encampments are the direct consequence of long term failure to make adequate provision.

D.24 Q22. *Have you a view on how unauthorised encampments affect local perceptions?*

- It could have a negative impact on residents perception of the community.
- Create a negative impression with the community and local Councillors.
- No specific views. Can generate local objections particularly around the cost of addressing unauthorised encampments and repair/clearing of sites this generates. Unfortunately this does not seem to translate locally into pressure of, or understanding of the need to address the problem through, for instance, the provision of managed transit sites.
- Not as negatively as national government would have us believe.

## Planning Policy

D.25 Q23. *Are there any areas within planning policy that you consider have restricted the provision of new sites/pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? If so, can you think of any way in which this can be overcome in the future?*

- The main policy barriers are those imposed by central government. There are new guidance papers issued constantly and the change in definition of a Gypsy and Traveller makes it very difficult for local authorities to decipher exactly how they are supposed to bring these policies and this definition into planning practice. Who is to prove who is travelling and who is not? How is a Traveller supposed to prove that they are on the road for the requisite time? The requirement is on local authorities to find accommodation for all of their communities includes Gypsies and Travellers, but there are barriers put in their way when it comes to accommodating them. Travellers are urged to stop travelling but then there are no permanent sites for them to inhabit and they then become part of the settled community with no rights to specific sites which are suitable to meet their needs. Travellers in the government's definition of the term, need transit sites, but as most of these are likely to be found outside towns and villages, the Green Belt would be a good location in many instances. The government has come down very much against locating sites for Gypsies and Travellers, of any description, in the Green Belt. The guidance relating to the design of Gypsy and Traveller sites has been withdrawn, but nothing has replaced it. This type of omission leaves holes in the guidance which have to be responded to in the best way possible, but this can then fail if a Planning Inspector for example, holds the opposite view.
- The policies are not the issue but it is site availability with the preference being for urban edge sites being promoted for residential development as opposed to traveller sites. There is also the fact that travellers may not wish to live in such areas therefore they do not actively seek to identify sites in

such locations should they come forward. The full impact of the PPTS and NPPF changes for sites is also unknown to comment further on this matter.

- Not necessarily planning policy, instead a drive for more housing has increased land prices to edge of settlement locations, resulting in landowners holding out for speculative residential development and higher revenue, rather than see sites come forward for pitches/plots.
- The strengthened restraint controls over National Green Belt policy for sites for addressing Gypsy and Travellers needs seems at odds with the relaxations the Government is bringing in for brownfield sites in the Green Belt for other built development. Whether such sites may also be an option for transit or residential sites should also be an option to consider? This approach is likely to face significant national and local resistance/objections though.
- More relaxed approach to countryside locations.

D.26 Q24. *Do you think that more could be done through planning policy to identify and bring forward new sites for the provision of pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? If so, please expand.*

- Not unless the government publishes some very specific guidelines that enable more sites to be allocated and more acceptance to satisfy the desires of both the settled and transient population that land in the Green Belt in many areas will have to be made available for this use.
- Some authorities have made traveller site allocations within urban extension allocations though a willing landowner would be required to enable this.
- Further weight attached to the need to identify and allocate sites, and further government financial incentives to support this.
- As planners do not have control over land (in ownership terms) it is difficult to see what else could be done to bring forward new sites.
- Yes but too complicated to address in this survey

D.27 Q25. *What impact do you think that the Government's changes to planning policy (set out in DCLG's publication 'Planning Policy for traveller sites': 23rd March 2012) will have on future provision? The key points made in the Policy guidance are:*

- *-that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning;*
- *to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites;*
- *to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable time-scale;*
- *that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development;*
- *to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites;*

- *that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective;*
- *for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies;*
- *to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply;*
- *to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions;*
- *to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure;*
- *for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment.*
- See above There also needs to be more support (including financial) for social landlords who take ownership of, set up and manage such sites.
- Reference should be made to the changes to the PPTS 2015 instead which seems to further restrict site location for traveller sites.
- The requirement of a 5yr supply should increase the provision of sites, however further restrictive policies, and a drive towards further housing have resulted in few sites being brought forward for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- Limited impact expected as Local Authorities already undertake much of the work listed above and much of the changes referred to above lie outside the remit of planning authorities' responsibilities and control in delivering the Development Plan. Wider links and relationships perhaps need to be made between public agencies, authorities and service providers in the plan and programmes produced but also greater resources will need to be provided to address lack of site provision, availability and understanding or conflict between communities.
- Replaced in 2015. This 2015 document is a dreadful and discriminatory policy document

## Cross Boundary issues

D.28 Q26. *For neighbouring Local Authorities, given the locality of Nuneaton and Bedworth's existing sites (map attached), please can you advise how your recently updated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment has taken this into account i.e. migration between the authorities?*

- Most recent update undertaken by ARC4 November 2014 which contained no reference to migration.
- See the 2013 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment: North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth for further information. This study indicated that "there was no equivalent intention

articulated by households in Nuneaton and Bedworth towards moving into North Warwickshire". See also the North Warwickshire Borough Council's Gypsy & Traveller Development Plan Document - Issues & Options – June 2012.

D.29 Q27. *Are you aware of any regular movements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople from neighbouring areas, in or out of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough?*

- No
- No
- Yes

*If Yes which routes have you noted?*

- In applications residents have highlighted that they use services within Bulkington or family live in the community.

D.30 Q28. *Do any Gypsy and Traveller sites within your local authority straddle the boundary with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough? If yes has the landowner expressed an interest in expanding the site into Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council?*

- No
- No
- No, please advise if this has been expressed in the opposite direction.
- Not that I am aware of.

D.31 Q29. *Are you aware of any sites/locations close to the boundary of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough where difficulties have arisen in terms of sites, planning constraints or other issues in respect of Gypsies, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople?*

- No
- No
- Yes
- Yes

*If Yes, what type of difficulties and have you any thoughts on how these could be overcome?*

- On sites that straddle the boundary, it is vital that number of pitches for each authority is clearly defined and the need that has arisen for them so there is no double counting.
- Relationship and consistency/conflict with adjoining Boroughs criteria based planning policies for addressing gypsy and travellers site applications.

D.32 Q30. *Are there any cross boundary issues, in respect of Gypsies, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople that should be considered as part of this study? If yes, please provide information.*

- Not known.

- None known.
- On sites that straddle the boundary, it is vital that number of pitches for each authority is clearly defined and the need that has arisen for them so there is no double counting.
- See the 2013 GTAA for further information.

D.33 Q31. *What do you think should be the key outcomes of this study?*

- A realistic understanding of the community needs of both the travelling and the settled communities. The numbers requiring pitches both permanent and transient. A forecast of future requirements based on projections which have been realistically derived from the survey. A better understanding for where there is land available to meet this need and how it can be brought forward. The agreement of landowners to assist with the process and make suitable, sustainable, deliverable sites available in the short and longer term. Agreement with neighbouring authorities to meet the duty to cooperate. What sites will provide and how they will be expected to be designed, funded and managed.
- Robust evidence of need for permanent and transient need.
- Provide evidence to support site provision to meet needs, across a Local Plan timeframe including a 5yr supply of sites.
- Better understanding and appreciation of needs and the difficulties faced in addressing them?
- An acceptance that more provision is required.

D.34 Q32. *We consider that this questionnaire contributes to our requirement on the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities as set out in Section 33A 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. Do you have any views on this?*

- The survey results will provide the answer to this.
- HBBC consider the questionnaire assists with satisfying the duty to cooperate but would like to ensure the two authorities continue to work together throughout the plan making process to ensure the duty continues to be met.
- No, if matters arise during the study that are of strategic matter then DTC discussions should take place.
- Whilst not a neighbouring Authority, Harborough District Council does consider that the questionnaire contributes to the Duty to Cooperate requirement.
- Agreed.

## Appendix E: 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

**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/pitch. 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:** 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.