

Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2021 Update

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Final Report
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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) provides the latest available evidence to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the borough.

The GTAA updates the study of 2016 and has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data.
- Stakeholder consultation; and
- A household survey. Survey data for 46 out of 52 Gypsy and Traveller households living on pitches (an 88.5% response rate) and a survey response from the Travelling Showperson household living in the borough were obtained.

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

Population and current accommodation provision

The 2011 Census identified a total of 29 households in Nuneaton and Bedworth where the Household Reference Person had a 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' ethnicity. Of these 13 lived in a caravan and 16 in bricks and mortar housing.

The bi-annual DCLG Traveller caravan count (July 2019 reported a total of 85 caravans (54 social rented and 31 private) and an average of 58 caravans over the last nine counts starting in January 2016. The annual Travelling Showperson caravan count (undertaken each January) has consistently showed zero caravans on Travelling Showperson's yards but there is one occupied Showperson's yard which currently has 1 occupied caravan.

In terms of Gypsy and Traveller site provision there is one county council site (25 pitches), 12 private authorised sites (41 pitches). There is one Travelling Showperson yard (4 plots).

Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

The 2019 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states in Paragraph 61 '*the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policy (including travellers)*'. A footnote in the NPPF then states '*Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers' housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document*'.

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

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

‘Cultural’ and ‘PPTS need’

In order to reconcile the requirements of national policies, the GTAA establishes an overall ‘cultural’ need for pitches which accords with the overall need for the Travelling community and takes into account the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equalities Act 2010 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016 section 124. A PPTS ‘policy filter’ is then applied to identify the level of need associated with those households meeting the definitions set out in the PPTS Annex 1. It is our understanding that the needs arising from the PPTS analysis establishes the level of need against which a 5-year land supply is assessed, but the Council should be mindful of a wider obligation to consider overall ‘cultural’ need.

Analysis of the travelling behaviour of households or emerging households planning to move residential location indicates that 80% meet the nomadic habit of life/travelling behaviour criteria set out in PPG.

Plan periods

Need has been assessed over a short-term 2021/22 to 2025/26 and longer-term 2025/26 to 2036/37.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

Overall need

For the period (2021/22 to 2036/37) the GTAA has identified the following Gypsy and Traveller pitch needs: a cultural need of 20 pitches of which the PPTS need is 16 pitches. Needs figures are broken down into time periods as show in Table ES1.

The main drivers of need are net-in migration and household formation. This level of need should be recognised in the Local Plan.

Table ES1 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: Nuneaton and Bedworth 2021/2 – 2036/37		
	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS NEED
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	8	6
Longer-term need		
<i>Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (B)</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Over period 2031/32 to 2036/37 (C)</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>7</i>
Longer-term need TOTAL 2021/22 to 2036/37 (11 years) D=(B+C)	12	10
NET SHORTFALL 2020/21 to 2036/37 (A+D) (17 years)	20	16

Meeting the need

The GTAA analysis needs to take account of the potential additional supply of pitches before a final shortfall figure is calculated. This supply can come through turnover of pitches on The Griff County Council site – that is pitches becoming vacant and available for new households to move onto them; through existing sites being extended or intensified (more pitches within the site); and through new site development.

Turnover

Based on household survey evidence, 7 pitches became available on The Griff County Council site in the past 5 years, or 1.4 pitches each year. Over the next five years and estimated 7 pitches will come available based on past trends and over the period 2026/7 to 2036/7, a further 15 pitches are expected to become available to meet identified need.

Expansion/intensification of existing sites

There is potential for an additional 11 to 13 pitches across Nuneaton and Bedworth through site expansion (increasing the size of a site to accommodate new pitches) or site intensification (increasing the number of pitches on an existing site).

Overall impact on need

Table ES2 considers the impact of turnover and site expansion/intensification on overall pitch need to 2036/37.

Table ES2 Addressing Gypsy and Traveller pitch need		
Nuneaton and Bedworth	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS NEED
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	8	6
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (B)	7	7
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (C)	6	6
Residual need 2021/22 to 2025/26 after turnover and potential intensification/expansion (D) = A-B-C	-5 Need met	-7 Need met
Longer-term need 2026/27 to 2036/37 (E)	12	10
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (F)	15	15
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (G)	5	5
Residual need 2025/26 to 2036/37 after turnover (H) = E-F-G	-8 Need met	-10 Need met
Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover and potential pitch development considered (I) = D+H	-13 (Need Met)	-17 Need met
Summary	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS NEED
Plan period Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2036/37) (J = A+E)	20	16
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (K) = B+F	22	22
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (L)=C+G	11	11
Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover (M=J-K-L)	-13 Need met	-17 Need met

Transit site/stop over need

There is currently no provision to address transit need but given unauthorised encampment activity, the Council will need to consider appropriate responses. These include transit pitches, stopover places and negotiated stopping arrangements. The Council should work with other Warwickshire local authorities to establish a coordinated response to the delivery of appropriate temporary accommodation options. The need to identify land for negotiated stopping¹ is a priority.

Travelling Showperson plot requirements

There is currently one Travelling Showperson yard in the borough accommodating 1 household on 4 plots. The GTAA has evidenced no additional need but it does

¹ See <https://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk> for further details

recommend that the Council safeguards the current yard for Travelling Showperson use.

Temporary stopping places and transit provision

There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. There is currently no provision to address transit need but given unauthorised encampment activity, the Council will need to consider appropriate responses. These include transit pitches, stopover places and negotiated stopping arrangements. The Council should work with other Warwickshire local authorities to establish a coordinated response to the delivery of appropriate temporary accommodation options. The need to identify land for negotiated stopping² is a priority.

Regarding Bargee Travellers, the 2016 GTAA identified at least one family and the council needs to explore the potential of establishing at least one affordable permanent mooring within Nuneaton and Bedworth

Policy recommendations

The Local Plan should recognise an overall cultural need for 20 pitches of which 16 is from households who meet the PPTS household definition over the period to 2036/37. However, anticipated turnover on The Griff and the potential expansion and intensification of existing private sites is expected to meet the identified need.

The level of turnover on The Griff should be monitored through site management data. The Council should also carry out technical appraisals of the expansion/intensification of existing sites to confirm that additional pitches can be delivered.

The analysis would indicate there is no overall strategic need for additional sites. It is however recommended that the Local Plan sets out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for small private sites.

The Council should work with other Warwickshire local authorities to establish a coordinated response to the delivery of appropriate temporary accommodation options. This includes identifying land for Negotiated Stopping arrangements.

Although there is no additional need for Travelling Showperson plots, it is recommended that the existing yard is safeguarded for Travelling Showperson use.

² See <https://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk> for further details

1. Introduction

Overview

- 1.1 In January 2021, arc⁴ was commissioned by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to update the 2016 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment which had also been carried out by arc⁴.
- 1.2 The overall scope of the study is to ensure that the Council has a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision over the period to 2036/37 and to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers to meet both the PPTS-defined need and the Council's obligations under Section 124 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016.
- 1.3 The Council are also looking to develop a site allocations documents to sit alongside the Borough Plan which is based on up to date evidence. The 2021 GTAA replaces the 2016 GTAA.
- 1.4 The 2021 GTAA will:
 - Inform the development of future pitches across the borough.
 - Provide information on Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople's accommodation needs – both temporary and permanent (including bricks and mortar accommodation).
 - Help gain a better understanding of the pattern of movements and encampments in the Council's administrative area.
 - Consider key health, education, employment and social care considerations to feed into a community development strategy.
- 1.5 The needs of Bargee Travellers/Houseboat dwellers will also be considered in this GTAA and build upon the evidence base established in the 2016 GTAA.
- 1.6 This GTAA has assessed pitch needs based on the overall requirements of the Gypsy and Traveller community. It then takes into account the definitions in Annex 1 of the PPTS relating to travelling behaviour in line with government guidance. This is discussed in further detail in Chapter 2 of this report.
- 1.7 This GTAA forms part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Plan.
- 1.8 This study has been carried out during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown. We are extremely grateful to the help and support provided by the Council in preparing this GTAA.

Who the study covers

- 1.9 This GTAA adopts the definition of 'Gypsies and Travellers' set out within *Planning policy for traveller sites (PPTS)*, which was published by the government in August 2015. This sets out the following definition of 'Gypsies and Travellers':

‘Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.’³

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

‘In determining whether persons are “gypsies and travellers” for the purposes of this planning policy, consideration should be given to the following issues amongst other relevant matters:

- a) *whether they previously led a nomadic habit of life*
- b) *the reasons for ceasing their nomadic habit of life*
- c) *whether there is an intention of living a nomadic habit of life in the future, and if so, how soon and in what circumstances.’⁴*

- 1.11 The following definition of ‘Travelling Showpeople’ is set out in PPTS 2015:

‘Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.’⁵

- 1.12 In addition:

‘For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use pitches for “travelling showpeople”, which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.’⁶

- 1.13 For the purposes of this study, therefore, Gypsies and Travellers live on pitches on sites, whilst Travelling Showpeople live on plots on yards.

- 1.14 This GTAA expresses two levels of need for pitches: a ‘cultural’ and ‘PPTS’ need. This is to ensure that the overall needs of the Travelling community are fully reflected in the evidence base which needs to accord with planning and wider policies.

³ DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 1

⁴ DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 2

⁵ DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 3

⁶ DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 5

Report structure

1.15 The GTAA 2021 report structure is as follows:

- **Chapter 1 Introduction:** provides an overview of the study.
- **Chapter 2 Policy and local context:** presents a review of the national policy context which guides the study and the key findings from the 2016 GTAA.
- **Chapter 3 Methodology:** provides details of the study's research methodology.
- **Chapter 4 Review of current Gypsy and Traveller population and provision of pitches/plots:** reviews estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across the study area and existing site/yard provision.
- **Chapter 5 Household survey:** presents relevant data obtained from the household survey research.
- **Chapter 6 Pitch/plot/transit requirements:** focuses on current and future pitch/plot requirements. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, supply and current shortfalls across the study area.
- **Chapter 7 Conclusion and strategic response:** concludes the report, providing brief summary of key findings and recommendations.

1.16 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:

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

2. Policy and local context

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

Government policy and guidance

- 2.3 The 2019 National Planning Policy Framework states in Paragraph 61 *'the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies'* It then lists a number of groups including Travellers. A footnote to the paragraph states *'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers' housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document'*.
- 2.4 The 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Site (PPTS) document states that *'local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning'* and *'ensure that their Local Plan includes a fair, realistic and inclusive policies to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply'*.
- 2.5 Policy A of the 2015 PPTS relates to evidence needed to plan positively and manage development. This states *'in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:*
 - *pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities (including discussing travellers' accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups);*
 - *co-operate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups; other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas over the lifespan of their development plan, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities; and*
 - *use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions.*
- 2.6 In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc⁴ reflect Policy A of the PPTS; build upon those methods established through previous guidance; our practical experience and findings from planning inquiries and appeals.
- 2.7 The calculation of pitch/plot requirements is based on established DCLG modelling methodology, as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). Although this guidance was

formally withdrawn in December 2016, in the absence of any updated guidance on the subject, it continues to provide a good practice approach for needs modelling.

- 2.8 Policy B of the 2015 PPTS relates to planning for traveller sites and requires Local Plans:
- to be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and consistent with the policies of the NPPF; and
 - to set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople as defined in Annex 1 which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.
- 2.9 Policy B (paragraph 10) sets out that local authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:
- a. identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
 - b. identify a supply of specific, developable sites, or broad locations for growth, for years 6 to 10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;
 - c. consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);
 - d. relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density; and
 - e. protect local amenity and environment.
- 2.10 Policy B (paragraph 13) sets out that local authorities should ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally and therefore ensure that their policies:
- a. promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
 - b. promote, in collaboration with commissioners of health services, access to appropriate health services;
 - c. ensure that children can attend school on a regular basis;
 - d. provide a settled base that reduces both the need for long-distance travelling and possible environmental damage caused by unauthorised encampment;
 - e. provide for proper consideration of the effect of local environmental quality (such as noise and air quality) on the health and well-being of any travellers who may locate there or on others as a result of new development;

- f. avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;
- g. do not locate sites in areas at high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains, given the particular vulnerability of caravans; and
- h. reflect the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

Intentional unauthorised development

- 2.11 The planning policy statement issued with PPTS 2015⁷ (and confirmed by Ministerial Statement⁸) makes clear that if a site is intentionally occupied without planning permission this would be a material consideration in any retrospective planning application for that site. Whilst this does not mean that retrospective applications will be automatically refused, it does mean that failure to seek permission in advance of occupation will count against the application.
- 2.12 In addition, PPTS 2015 (Paragraph 12) makes clear that in exceptional cases where a local authority is burdened by a large-scale unauthorised site that has significantly increased their need, and their area is subject to strict and special planning constraints, then there is no assumption that the local authority will be required to meet their Gypsy and Traveller site needs in full. This is intended to protect local planning authorities with significant land constraints from being required to provide for additional needs arising directly from large sites such as Dale Farm (a large unauthorised site in Essex).

PPTS Definitions

- 2.13 The PPTS 2015 Annex 1 sets out definitions of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople for the purposes of planning policy:
- “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.”⁹*
- 2.14 In addition, PPTS 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*

⁷https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457632/Final_Chief_Planning_Officer_letter_and_written_statement.pdf

⁸<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2015-12-17/HCWS423/>

⁹ DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 1

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.*¹⁰

- 2.15 The following definition of ‘Travelling Showpeople’ is used, also taken from PPTS 2015:

“Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.”¹¹

- 2.16 In addition:

“For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use pitches for “travelling showpeople”, which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.”

Considering ‘Cultural’ and ‘PPTS’ need

- 2.17 Paragraph 61 of the 2019 NPPF recognises the need to assess a range of community needs including those of Travellers. The February 2019 Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) which accompanies the NPPF states, ‘the household projections that form the baseline of the standard method are inclusive of all households including Gypsies and Travellers as defined with Planning Policy for Travelling Sites’¹². The NPPF states that the PPTS sets out how travellers’ housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document. The planning policy therefore differentiates between ‘travelling’ and ‘non travelling’ Gypsies and Travellers.
- 2.18 For non-travelling Travellers, their needs should also be met by the requirements of the NPPF as non-travelling households are a component of overall housing need. The needs of non-travelling Gypsies and Travellers are therefore effectively contained within the general housing requirement that Local Plans will set out. Additionally, the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equalities Act 2010 protects the cultural choice of Gypsies and Travellers to live in mobile accommodation and therefore there is a need to plan for this type of accommodation. The Housing and Planning Act 2016 section 124 also makes specific reference to the needs of households living in caravans.
- 2.19 Therefore, our GTAA establish an overall ‘cultural’ need for pitches which accords with the overall need for the Travelling community and takes into account the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equalities Act 2010 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016 section 124. A PPTS ‘policy filter’ is then applied to identify the level of need associated with those households meeting the definitions set out in the PPTS Annex 1. It is our understanding that the needs

¹⁰ DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 2

¹¹ DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* August 2015 Annex 1, para 3

¹² 2019 PPG Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 2a-017-20190220

arising from the PPTS analysis establishes the level of need against which a 5-year land supply is assessed but the Council should be mindful of a wider obligation to consider overall 'cultural' need.

- 2.20 Our assessment methodology is set out in Chapter 3 and the outworking of this approach for Nuneaton and Bedworth is set out in Chapter 7.

Previous GTAA

- 2.21 A Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment was prepared in 2016. This evidenced an overall need for 19 pitches over the period 2016/17 to 2031/32. However, this took into account potential supply of 20 pitches at Parrotts Grove which had been verified by Warwickshire County Council as potential pitches for occupancy. The need also assumed that 2 pitches would come available each year on The Griff, the County Council run site. A need for 5 transit pitches was also identified. There was no additional need for Travelling Showperson plots identified.

Responding to challenges

- 2.22 GTAAs are subject to intense scrutiny, particularly at planning inquiries and hearings. The methodological approaches taken by arc⁴ aim to maximise the robustness of evidence and measures include:
- An up-to-date assessment of the number of pitches on sites and the number of households living on pitches and any vacancies.
 - Maximising response rates from households.
 - Carefully considering the relationship between households and the pitches they occupy.
 - Sensitive analysis of the flows of existing households from and to districts.
 - Consideration of overcrowding and concealed households.
 - Careful consideration of turnover on council/housing association pitches, with clear assumptions over future potential capacity from households moving away from pitches.
 - Longer-term modelling of need using detailed demographic information contained from household survey work.
 - Reasonable assumptions around the number of households in bricks and mortar accommodation who may want to move to a pitch.

3. Methodology

Introduction

- 3.1 The GTAA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirement of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.
- 3.2 The methodology has comprised:
- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including data on pitches/sites, plots/yards and unauthorised encampments;
 - the collection of primary data, including a household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople; and
 - an assessment of accommodation needs taking into account all available data and information.
- 3.3 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:
- Phase 1: Literature/desktop review.
 - Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the districts.
 - Phase 3: Survey of stakeholders.
 - Phase 4: Needs assessment and production of the GTAA 2021 report.

Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions

- 3.4 We have reviewed relevant literature, including legislative background and best practice information; and analysis of available secondary data relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the borough.

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

- 3.5 Our aim is to obtain interviews from all households living on sites using a standard questionnaire (Appendix A). This questionnaire has been carefully designed in consultation with councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents. Letters were sent to residents advising them that the study was taking place and inviting people to contact arc⁴ directly if they wanted the interview done over the phone. Site visits took place during early March 2021 and some interviews were conducted with appropriate social distancing taking place. Most interviews took place during late April following

the easing of lockdown restrictions, but social distancing measures were maintained.

- 3.6 Regarding the PPTS definition, the questionnaire asks if households have been travelling in the preceding year or within the past 5 years and/or intend to travel in the next year or in any year in the next five years. Note that households who cannot travel due to age or health limitations are excluded from analysis. If eligible households answer 'yes' to either question the household meets the travelling criteria set out in PPTS. By contrast, all households identifying as part of the Gypsy and Traveller or Travelling Showpeople community are contained within a broader 'cultural' definition.
- 3.7 Analysis of the travelling behaviour of households or emerging households planning to move residential location indicates that 76.2% meet the nomadic habit of life/travelling behaviour criteria set out in PPG, These households meet the criteria by either travelling in the preceding year or within the past 5 years and/or intend to travel in the next year or in any year in the next five years. This is discussed further in the analysis in Chapter 7.

Phase 3: Stakeholder survey

- 3.8 The survey of stakeholders was conducted during January to March 2021, each stakeholder was contacted and provided with a questionnaire and invited to answer questions they felt were relevant to their knowledge and experience.
- 3.9 Stakeholders included representatives from all of the neighbouring local authorities, who were requested to provide information regarding their local situation and provision, including issues such as unauthorised encampment activity. This approach assists the Council in meeting their requirements under the Duty to Cooperate.
- 3.10 A total of three responses to the stakeholder survey were obtained and the findings of the online stakeholder survey are set out in Chapter 6 of this report.

Phase 4: Needs assessment and production of report

- 3.11 A detailed explanation of the analysis of pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 6 but briefly comprises analysis of the following:
- current pitch supply, households living in bricks and mortar accommodation; households planning to move in the next five years, and emerging households to give total need for pitches; and
 - supply based on the number of authorised pitches and turnover on sites on public pitches.
- 3.12 The overall need for pitches is then compared with the overall supply.
- 3.13 The need for transit pitches was calculated using unauthorised encampment data which set out how many encampments had taken place and the number of caravans on them. The survey also asked households if they felt there was a need for transit pitches.

Pitches and households

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

Site and pitch size

- 3.18 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes. Previous Design Guidance (DCLG, 2008) states in paragraph 4.4 that *'Gypsy and Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building, together with space for parking. Sites of various sizes, layouts and pitch numbers operate successfully today and work best when they take into account the size of the site and the needs and demographics of the families resident on them'*.
- 3.19 Paragraph 4.47 states that *'to ensure fire safety it is essential that every trailer, caravan or park home must be not less than 6 metres from any other trailer, caravan or park home that is occupied separately'*.
- 3.20 Paragraph 7.12 states that *'as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area'*.
- 3.21 Paragraph 4.13 states that *'smaller pitches must be able to accommodate at least an amenity building, a large trailer, drying space for clothes and parking for at least one vehicle'*.
- 3.22 As a general guide, it is suggested by arc⁴ that the minimum pitch size is 25m by 25m (625 square meters or 0.0625 hectares). This would support a twin-unit chalet/mobile home (15m x 6.5m), a tourer, an amenity shed/building (5m x 4m), two vehicle spaces (minimum 2.4m x 4.8m for each space) and turning circle for vehicles, amenity space and a small garden area/play space. Residential units need to be 3m from the pitch boundary and at least 6m apart. A slightly larger pitch of 25m by 30m (750 square meters or 0.075 hectares)

would be appropriate for larger household units requiring several residential units.

- 3.23 There is no guidance on the maximum size of a site but it is generally accepted amongst the Travelling community that sites of 6-10 pitches are appropriate.

Occupancy

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

Response

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

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

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

2011 Census population and household estimates

- 4.2 The 2011 Census (Tables 4.1 and 4.2) identified a total of 75 people and 29 households in Nuneaton and Bedworth with a Household Reference Person who identified as having a White Gypsy or Irish Traveller ethnicity. 46.7% of households who identified as Gypsy/Traveller lived in bricks and mortar accommodation.

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

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

Source: 2011 Census CT127

Table 4.2 Households identifying as Gypsy Traveller by accommodation type

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

Source: 2011 Census CT0128

Caravan Count information

- 4.3 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the government in 1979 and have since been undertaken every January and July by local authorities. An annual count of Travelling Showperson caravans takes place every January. The counts provide a source of information on the number of caravans located on authorised and unauthorised sites but do not record the actual number of pitches on sites/yards.
- 4.4 The figures for the last nine Traveller caravan counts for Nuneaton and Bedworth are set out in Table 4.3. Data shows that an average of 58 caravans have been recorded on sites across the borough during the nine-count period. Of these, 63.8% have been on the county council site, 35.2% on private sites and 1% on unauthorised sites.

Table 4.3 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures January 2016 to January 2020 Nuneaton and Bedworth

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2016	28	20	1	49
Jul 2016	37	17	0	54
Jan 2017	28	20	1	49
Jul 2017	28	3	1	32
Jan 2018	28	20	1	49
Jul 2018	54	31	0	85
Jan 2019	*	*	*	0
July 2019	54	31	0	85
Jan 2020	*	*	*	0
Nine-Count Average (excluding missing counts)	37	20	1	58
Nine-Count % Average	63.8	35.2	1.0	100.0

Source: MHCLG Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1 (January 2020)

*No data reported in MHCLG tables

Source: MHCLG Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1

- 4.5 Over the period 2015 to 2020 there were no reported Travelling Showperson caravans across Nuneaton and Bedworth in the MHCLG caravan count

statistics (Table 4.4). However, there is one Showperson’s yard at Whittlesford which currently has 1 caravan .

Table 4.4 Annual Travelling Showpeople caravan count figures January 2015 to January 2020

Count	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
Six-Count Average	0	0	0	0
Six-Count % Average	0	0	0	0

Source: MHCLG Travelling Showpeople Caravan Count, Live Table 3 (January 2019)

Local site and yards

- 4.6 Broadly speaking, authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either public or privately-owned land. Unauthorised sites are made up of either longer term¹³ unauthorised encampments¹⁴, 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 B for more detailed definitions).
- 4.7 Table 4.5 sets out the range of sites and Travelling Showpersons yards across Nuneaton and Bedworth. The table also shows the number of household survey responses obtained. In summary there is one county council site (25 pitches), 12 private authorised sites (41 pitches) and one Travelling Showperson yard (4 plots).

¹³ Approximately three months or longer

¹⁴ 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 4.5 List of Gypsy & Traveller Pitches on Sites and Showperson Plots on Yards (as at April 2021)

Site Reference	Site Name	Site Location	Type of Site	Ownership	Total Number of Pitches	Total Occupied Pitches	Total Vacant Pitches	Number of households	Household interview achieved*	Household interviews not achieved	Reason why household interview not achieved	
											Residents not present	Unable to contact
Priv1	Tides Reach, Smorrall Lane	Smorrall Lane, Bedworth, CV12 0NL	Permanent	Private	1	1	0	2	2	0		
Priv2	Bottom Meadow, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	8	8	0	3	3	0		
Priv3	Fella's Acre, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	5	5	0	3	3	0		
Priv4	Rosewood, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	1	1	0	1	1	0		
Priv5	The Haven, Mile Tree Lane	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	3	3	0	3	3	0		
Priv6	The Poppy's Mobile Caravan Park	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	6	5	1	5	5	0		
Priv7	Two Trees	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	2
Priv8	Plot 5, Parrotts Grove	Parrotts Grove, Coventry, CV2 1NQ	Permanent	Private	2	2	0	1	1	0		

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Priv9	Boundary Paddock, Withybrook Road	Withybrook Road, Bulkington, CV12 9JW	Permanent	Private	2	2	0	3	3	0		
Priv10	Watling Street (also known as Winter Oak and The Paddock)	Watling Street, Nuneaton, CV11 6BQ	Permanent	Private	6	6	0	4	4	0		
LA1	The Griff, Coventry Road	Coventry Road, Nuneaton, CV10 7PE	Permanent	Council	25	20	5	20	19	1	1	0
Priv11	Tara Park	Coventry Road, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	2	2	0	1	1	0		
Priv12	Sunrise Cottage	Mile Tree Lane, Bulkington, CV2 1NT	Permanent	Private	3	3	0	3	1	2	0	2
Gypsy and Traveller TOTAL					66	60	6	51	46	5	1	4

Yard Reference	Site Name	Site Location	Type of Site or Yard	Ownership	Total Number of Plots on Yard	Total Occupied Plots	Total Vacant Plots	Number of households	Household interviews achieved	Household interviews not achieved	Reason why household interview not achieved	
											Residents not present	Unable to contact
TSP1	Fairways Showman's Site	Spinney Lane/Whittlesford Road, Whittlesford, Nuneaton, CV10 9HU	Permanent	Private	4	1	3	1	1	0		

* The total number of completed surveys was 38. For some sites, one survey covered multiple households (Priv1 Tides Reach 1 survey covered 2 households; Priv 2 Bottom Meadow 1 survey covered 3 households; Priv 3 Fellas Acre 1 survey covered 3 households; Priv 5 The Haven 1 survey covered 3 households; Priv 9 Boundary Paddock 1 survey covered 3 households. This results in data from 46 Gypsy and Traveller households being obtained out of 51 households (90.2%)

Table 4.6 Summary of Gypsy, Traveller pitches and Travelling Showperson plots

Summary		Total number of pitches/plots	Total occupied pitches/plots	Total vacant pitches/plots	Number of households on pitches/plots	Household interviews achieved	Household interviews not achieved	Reason for not achieving interview	
								Residents not present	Unable to contact
Gypsy and Traveller	Private	41	40	1	31	27	4	0	4
	Council	25	20	5	20	18	1	1	0
	Total	66	60	6	51	46	5	1	4
Travelling Showperson	Private	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	0

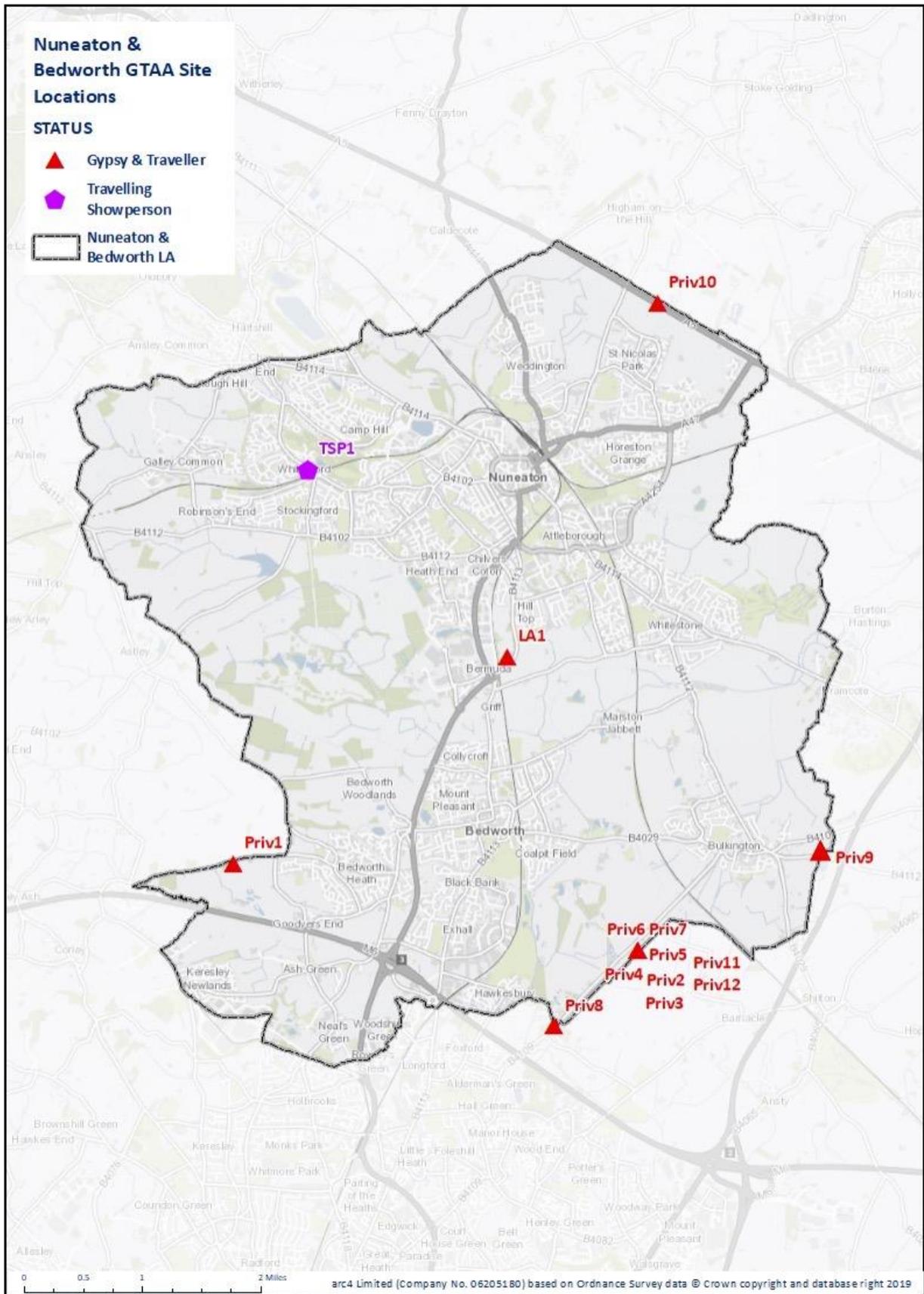
Source: Council data 2021, site survey fieldwork 2021

Note: the following sites are no longer assumed to be part of supply:

Parrots Grove CV2 1NQ: Sunny Acre, Half Acre, Plot 3, Gypsy Site No, 4

Punch Bowl Bridge, Stoney Road, Nuneaton, CV10 0JS

Map 4.1 Location of sites and yards in Nuneaton and Bedworth



5. Household survey and stakeholder findings

5.1 This chapter presents the findings of the household survey, which was carried out to provide primary data to inform this GTAA. The survey aimed to reach as many Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople living in the study area as possible. It was conducted using the questionnaire presented in Appendix A. Data from site management information is also included in the analysis where appropriate.

Gypsy and Traveller households living in Nuneaton and Bedworth

5.2 There were a total of 38 responses to the household survey. Of these:

- 19 surveys were completed by households living in the Griff County Council site.
- 19 were surveys completed by Gypsy and Traveller households living on private sites. Some of these surveys included information for multiple households living on family sites. Information for 8 households was collected in this way.
- The total number of Gypsy and Traveller household responses was therefore 46.
- 1 survey was completed by a Travelling Showperson family.

5.3 It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household survey data findings from all 47 households are presented below in order to maintain respondent confidentiality. Each question includes a 'base' number which is the number of households responding to a particular question.

5.4 Of household representatives interviewed (base=38), 34.2% described themselves as Gypsy (including Romany, Romany Gypsy and English Gypsy), 34.2% as English Traveller, 28.9% as Irish Traveller and 2.8% as Travelling Showperson.

5.5 Data from the household survey provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on pitches/plots.

5.6 In terms of household size (base=38): 18.4% of households were single person; 15.8% were two person; 18.4% were three person; 7.9% were four person, 18.4% were five person, 13.2% were six person and 7.9% were six or more person households.

5.7 Regarding household type (base=38), 18.4% were singles, 15.8% couples, 31.6% couples with children, 18.4% lone parents and 15.8% other household types (for instance extended families).

- 5.8 Across the sites/plots there were a total of 132 people recorded living in 47 households. Overall, 34.1% of the Travelling population living on pitches/plots were aged 13 or under and 7.6% were aged 14-17. In addition, 22% were aged 18-34, 15.2% aged 35-49, 11.4% aged 50-64 and 9.8% aged 65 and over.
- 5.9 In terms of length of residence (base=35), 51.4% had lived at their current place of residence for less than 5 years, 11.4% between 5 and less than 10 years, 17.1% between 10 and less than 20 years and 20% for 20 years or more.
- 5.10 When asked about overcrowding (base=38), 18.4% of respondents said that their home is overcrowded and 23.1% said their pitch was overcrowded.
- 5.11 The consensus amongst respondents was that more pitches were needed (71.9%, base = 32). 15 respondents stated a number: 11 (73.3%) said less than 10 pitches, 2 (13.3%) between 10 and 20 pitches and 2 (13.3%) between 20 and 25 pitches.
- 5.12 19 respondents provided information on why they travel and they could state one or more reason for travelling. The most frequently mentioned reasons for travelling were work (52.6% mentioned) or cultural reasons (52.6%). Other reasons included visiting family/friends (15.8%), to attend fairs (5.3%) and limited opportunities to settle down (5.3%).
- 5.13 17 respondents provided further information on where they travel. Respondents tend to give general answers, with 6 saying 'all over' and 5 saying they travel to where fairs and religious conventions are taking place. Some gave specific responses such as Manchester and the North, Nottingham and Wales. But there was no specific pattern of travelling behaviour that could be ascertained from the responses.

Health and support needs

- 5.14 The household survey asked if the respondent or members of their family had particular health issues (base=38). The most frequently mentioned were: asthma (26.3% of respondents), depression (15.7%) and arthritis (7.9%).
- 5.15 The survey also asked if households needed their home to be adapted in any way (base=38). The need for insulation was most frequently mentioned (18.4%) followed by better heating (15.7%). There was one response for each of the following needs: adaptations relating to sensory needs, internal grab rails, external grab rails, lever door handles and wheelchair adaptations.
- 5.16 Regarding support needs, the survey (base=38) found that 15.7% of households included someone with the need for hospital medical treatment and 5.3% counselling. There was one response for each of the following: pregnancy support, post-natal support and occupational therapy.

Education and training support needs

- 5.17 Regarding educational support (base=38), 28.9% of respondents stated they needed educational support for primary school aged children and 13.2% required support for secondary school aged children.

- 5.18 Support was also needed for job-related training (base=38). 13.2% of respondents wanted help with English, maths and/or IT skills; 5.3% help with applying for an apprenticeship and 2.6% help with applying for a course at college/university.
- 5.19 As part of stakeholder consultation, the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison officer at Warwickshire police commented:
- “Many of the families that have established in the Borough are registered with health care providers Children are either home educated monitored by the County Traveller education team or attend local primary schools. There are challenges to secondary education that remains an issue to many families and then further education becomes difficult due to the often lack of literacy skills. Often this can lead to youngsters becoming bored and getting involved in less constructive activities leading to a more destructive path within the community. This impact on other parts of the community has been evidenced as detrimental to the cohesion process.”

Questions on site locations

- 5.20 The survey asked, when thinking about new residential sites, what was important to the respondent. The most frequently mentioned things of importance (base=38) were locations within walking distance of primary schools (42.1%), close to doctors (36.8%), walking distance to secondary schools (26.3%) and walking distance to shops (21%).
- 5.21 Regarding other important factors, 15.7% said visitors parking and room for visitors. 10.5% said child friendly/safe places to play and proximity to main roads. 7.9% said easy access to public transport/bus stops and community spaces/buildings. 5.3% said making sites accessible for people with disabilities and having different sizes of pitches for different types of household.

Stakeholder consultation

- 5.22 As part of the GTAA a range of stakeholders were contacted. The key points raised in consultation are now summarised.
- 5.23 Feedback from Rugby Borough Council:
- Nationally there is a shortage of provision for Gypsies and Travellers so there is likely to be a need in Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough.
 - The land Gypsy and Travellers can afford to buy is often in the green belt where policy indicates provision should not be made. There is often conflict between the settled community and the Travelling community, so sites need to be close enough to facilities but far enough away from the settled community.
 - Council were not aware of any regular movements between the Rugby and Nuneaton and Bedworth council areas.
 - Council agreed that this questionnaire contributes to the requirement on the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities.

5.24 Feedback from Coventry City Council

- Not aware of any regular movement between Coventry and Nuneaton and Bedworth.
- Evidence base needs to comply with the NPPF.
- Council agreed that this questionnaire contributes to the requirement on the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities.

5.25 Feedback from Warwickshire Police Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer

- Over the last few years I have dealt with numerous families in Warwickshire some on unauthorised encampments and some who have a desire to settle in Nuneaton and Bedworth. There has often been no permanent provisions available and even with a waiting list this only provides limited prospects of availability for families to be near to relatives already residing in the area.
- The one County Council site in the borough is full and has a waiting list. Some of these families have had to take up residency in other areas due to the lack of permanent pitch availability. I would estimate that in addition to the pitches currently in the borough the identified 39 further pitches needed would greatly assist in meeting the short fall although that is at the present time. As time goes on this requirement will almost certainly increase as families themselves grow in size and youngsters become adults and need their own units but traditionally keeping close to family which often provide a reliable support mechanism.
- Permanent sites ideally should be located within the urban boundaries of the borough and giving access to services within a proportionate distance in line with that of other housing developments.
- Local Authority owned and managed sites need to be sited with easy access to schools, shops and recreational facilities. Where land is being purchased and developed privately there should not be a distance parameter in place that prevents the freedom of choice to families who may wish to be located in a more rural location where planning legislation is able to be conformed to. It is the freedom of choice that is important and one which is afforded to other communities.
- There are families who would be happy to reside in urban areas with easy access to facilities but as with all communities this is not the ideal for all and the planning criteria should ensure that it caters for the needs of all where possible within the parameters of legality.
- Key barriers to new site provision include the challenge of families obtaining planning permission; political pressure when local authorities try to identify suitable land for permanent and transit provision; a greater

understanding of the Travelling community as a whole may assist with understanding their accommodation needs.

- The officer provided useful background to transit need which is presented in Chapter 6.
- Nuneaton and Bedworth has well-established Gypsy and Traveller communities with families that have resided in the borough for generations. There are a mixture of Romany and Irish Traveller families on The Griff caravan site in Nuneaton. There are numerous private sites which are in the main English families and make up the largest visible Traveller community in the Bulkington area of the borough.
- There is transient movement between settled families and neighbouring districts and boroughs. There are many family links between the community residing in Nuneaton and Bedworth and neighbouring districts and boroughs which means a significant amount of travel across borders.
- With regards to unauthorised encampments in the past we have seen families moving in and out of the borough sometimes only just over the border within the county. This pattern seems to have changed over the last couple of years since numerous families have settled across the border into North Warwickshire or other areas of the country.

5.26 Key strategic messages from the Warwickshire Police Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer include:

- A realistic timescale for the delivery of new residential pitches.
- Some Traveller families would be happy to go into bricks and mortar and still lead a nomadic habit of life and this should be considered when new residential building is taking place.
- Delivery of a transit site is likely to take some time. Work should be undertaken to identify land to provide suitable transit site provision in the north and south of the county.
- In the meantime I believe that it is a priority to identify land that can be used for Negotiated Stopping and can be incorporated into the Warwickshire Countywide protocol for managing unauthorised encampments. This will allow for the temporary accommodation for suitable families. This process has many benefits and is something that can be achieved very easily by countywide partners with the relevant expertise.

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

Introduction

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Nuneaton and Bedworth. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data. This chapter also considers transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers. Finally, it presents planning policy recommendations.
- 6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on modelling as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). Although now formally withdrawn, the former DCLG Guidance still provides the best-practice approach towards the assessment of pitch and plot needs (see Chapter 2 for further discussion).
- 6.3 This approach requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. It advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information.
- 6.4 The GTAA has modelled current and future need and current and future supply separately for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. For both groups, the modelling shows an overall ‘cultural’ need and then a ‘policy-on’ ‘PPTS need which takes into account those households who met the PPTS planning definition.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

- 6.5 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next 5 years (2021/22 to 2025/26). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2036/37) arising from children likely to need a pitch.
- 6.6 In terms of **cultural need**, the 5-year model considers:
 - the baseline number of households on all types of site (authorised, unauthorised and temporary authorised sites) as at April 2021;
 - existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
 - emerging households currently on sites and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a pitch; to derive a figure for
 - total pitch need.
- 6.7 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
 - total supply of current pitches on authorised sites; and

- vacant pitches on authorised sites.
- 6.8 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next 5 years by summarising:
- total need for pitches; and
 - total supply of authorised pitches.
- 6.9 The longer-term model then considers the cultural need over the period to 2036/37. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches (the longer-term model).
- 6.10 For each model, the likely pitch need from households meeting the PPTS definition is also calculated.

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

- 6.11 Table 6.1 provides a summary of the 5-year pitch need calculation. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

Need

6.12 **Current households living on pitches (1a to 1e)**

These figures are derived from planning data and site observation data. There are a total of 20 households on the county council site and 31 households on private pitches. No households were identified as being concealed/doubled up on pitches.

6.13 **Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)**

The 2011 Census suggested there were 16 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

6.14 **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.

Of existing households currently on sites, 12 plan to move and in the next 5 years.

For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc⁴ studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate to 1 household. A need from 1 household is therefore included within the modelling at 3e.

Regarding in-migration, analysis of household survey data indicates that 16 households have moved into the borough and onto a pitch in the past 5 years and shown at row 3g.

The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of +6 pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years which includes an allowance for in-migration.

6.15 **Emerging households (4)**

This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on household survey information. The total number is +9 of whom 2 plan to live outside the district. This results in a net need from 7 emerging households.

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

6.16 **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 64 pitches (51 existing households on pitches plus a net need for 6 pitches from existing households planning to move including in-migration and a need for 7 pitches from emerging households).

Supply

6.17 **Current supply of authorised pitches (6)**

This is a summary of the total number of occupied authorised pitches and the number of vacant authorised pitches. This shows a total supply of 51 authorised pitches plus 5 vacant pitches on the county council site resulting in a total supply of 56 authorised pitches. Note that some households on private sites occupy more than one pitch.

Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.18 There is a total need over the next five years (2021/22 to 2025/26) for 64 additional pitches in Nuneaton and Bedworth (Table 6.1) compared with a supply of 56 authorised pitches (including vacant pitches). The result is an overall cultural shortfall of 8 pitches.

Table 6.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – 2021/22 to 2025/26			
CULTURAL NEED		Nuneaton and Bedworth	
1	Households living on pitches	1a. On County Council Site	20
		1b. On Private Site - Authorised	31
		1c. Unauthorised	0
		1d. Total (1a to 1c)	51
2	Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation	2011 Census	16
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	Currently on sites	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	0
		3b. To another site in district (no net impact)	1
		3c. From site to Bricks and Mortar (-)	0
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside borough	11
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	1
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0
		In-migrant households	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	16
3h. TOTAL Net impact (3g+3e-3c-3d)	6		
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	5
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the borough	2
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the borough (no net impact)	2
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	7
5	Total Need	1d+3h+4g	64
SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a Current supply of authorised pitches	51
		6b. Current unoccupied authorised pitches	5
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	56
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	64
8	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 6c)	56
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2021/22 TO 2025/26			8

Longer-term pitch requirement modelling

- 6.19 Longer-term pitch need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on pitches. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to

determine the extent of ‘likely emergence’, which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.

- 6.20 The year when a child reaches 18 has been calculated and it is possible to assess how many newly forming households may emerge over the period 2026/27 to 2036/37. A reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage. The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in Nuneaton and Bedworth¹⁵. Analysis would suggest a total cultural need for 12 additional pitches over the period 2026/27-2036/37 (Table 6.2).

Table 6.2 Future pitch requirements in Nuneaton and Bedworth based on the assumption that 50% of children form households on reaching 18

Time period	No. children	Expected household formation
2026/27 to 2030/31	9	4
2031/32 to 2036/37	15	8
Total (2026/27 to 2036/37)	24	12

Planning Policy for Traveller Site definition

- 6.21 Analysis of household survey data establishes that from a total of 21 existing or emerging households who are planning to move :
- 1 household is exempt from the PPTS definition test because someone has a health issue which prevents them from travelling.
 - 4 households do not meet the PPTS travelling definition because they have not travelled in the past 5 years and do not intend to travel in the next 5 years.
 - 16 households meet the PPTS travelling definition.
- 6.22 Therefore 80% of respondents who are planning to move (either as an existing or emerging household) meet the PPTS travelling definition.

Overall plan period pitch need

- 6.23 Table 6.3 summarises the overall need for pitches across Nuneaton and Bedworth over the plan period to 2036/37. It presents the overall cultural need based on households identifying as Gypsy and Traveller and a ‘policy on’ PPTS need which is a subset of the cultural need and is based on those eligible households who meet the PPTS definition of need. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2021/22 to 2025/26 and longer-term 2026/27 to 2036/37

¹⁵ This approach has been tested at inquiry and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees

period. The overall need is 20 pitches of which 16 is PPTS need. The main driver of need in the first five years net in-migration and emerging households.

Table 6.3 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2021/22 to 2036/37

	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	8	6
Longer-term need		
<i>Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (B)</i>	4	3
<i>Over period 2031/32 to 2036/37(C)</i>	8	7
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2036/37 (12 years) D=(B+C)</i>	12	10
NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2036/37 (A+D) (11 years)	20	16

Potential capacity for Gypsy and Traveller pitches on existing sites

Turnover on sites

- 6.24 Turnover relates to the number of pitches that are expected to become available for occupancy. Analysis only includes expected turnover on public sites as this is referenced in (former) CLG guidance and more accurate data on changes in pitch occupancy is likely to be available. Although there is likely to be turnover on private sites, the ability of households to move onto private sites may be more restrictive (for instance the site may be restricted to a particular family) and less likely to be recorded.
- 6.25 Household survey data indicates that in the past 5 years to April 2021, 7 households moved onto vacant pitches on the Griff or an average of 1.4 each year. Based on 20 occupied pitches, this is a turnover rate of 7% each year.

Potential capacity for additional pitches on existing sites

- 6.26 There is no additional capacity on the existing county council site. Across three private sites, additional potential capacity has been identified through the household survey:
- Priv 3 Fellas Acre – 2 additional pitches through site expansion.
 - Priv 10 Winter Oak – 6 additional pitches through site intensification.
 - Priv 12 Sunrise cottage – 3 to 5 additional pitches through site intensification.

There is potential for an additional 11-13 pitches on existing private sites through expansion and intensification. The council should carry out further investigation and a technical assessment of the feasibility of increasing supply from these sites.

Impact of turnover and intensification on pitch need

6.27 Table 6.4 illustrates the impact of a pitch turnover on overall pitch need. This includes an allowance for anticipated turnover which result in all cultural, and therefore PPTS need, being met.

Table 6.4 Addressing Gypsy and Traveller pitch need		
Nuneaton and Bedworth	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS NEED
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	8	6
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (B)	7	7
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (C)	6	6
Residual need 2021/22 to 2025/26 after turnover and potential intensification/expansion (D) = A-B-C	-5 Need met	-7 Need met
Longer-term need 2026/27 to 2036/37 (E)	12	10
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (F)	15	15
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (G)	5	5
Residual need 2025/26 to 2036/37 after turnover (H) = E-F-G	-8 Need met	-10 Need met
Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover and potential pitch development considered (I) = D+H	-13 (Need Met)	-17 Need met
Summary	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS NEED
Plan period Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2036/37) (J = A+E)	20	16
Anticipated minimum turnover on council site (K) = B+F	22	22
Potential intensification/expansion of existing sites (L)=C+G	11	11
Residual need 2021/22 to 2036/37 after turnover (M=J-K-L)	-13 Need met	-17 Need met

Tenure preferences

- 6.28 Respondents planning to move and form new households were asked to consider their preferred tenure of pitches (social rented or private). Responses tended to relate to their current place of work, with social renters preferring council sites and those on private sites seeking private site options.

Transit requirements

- 6.29 There are a number of ways to delivery temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit pitches, stop over places and negotiated stopping arrangements¹⁶.
- 6.30 Transit sites are permanent sites intended for temporary use by Gypsies and Travellers. The length of stay is usually limited to a maximum of three months. In terms of pitches, 'Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites: Good Practice Guide' (CLG, 2008) states:
- Size of pitch – sufficient to accommodate two touring caravans, two parking spaces and private amenities;
 - Amenities should include electricity supply, toilet, wash basin and shower with hot and cold water supply for each pitch;
 - Depending on the level of use, portable facilities may be more appropriate, particularly if the sites are empty for lengthy periods of time and therefore at risk of vandalism.
- 6.31 A temporary stop over area is land which can be used on a temporary basis if unauthorised encampments occur or likely to occur. They can be fields, areas of hardstanding or a mixture of both. Temporary facilities can be provided when the temporary stop over is in use, for instance portable toilets and rubbish collection.
- 6.32 Negotiated stopping involves councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tends to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site.
- 6.33 Data on unauthorised encampment activity helps to establish the extent to which transit provision is needed.
- 6.34 The Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Office at Warwickshire Police provided a useful overview of unauthorised encampment activity across the borough which is now set out.

¹⁶ See <https://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk> for more information

“Nuneaton and Bedworth have experienced a significant number of unauthorised encampments over the last few years, in the main these have been on the highway or on NBBC owned land. A small number have been on private land. Numbers of encampments and their general size has reduced over the last year and this is partly due to several families roadside acquiring land to settle. Last year saw the lowest number of encampments in Nuneaton and Bedworth at 12 compared to 24 in 2019 and 33 in 2018.

One of the main challenges is identifying land where negotiated stopping or transit provision can be offered for short stays and facilities provided. Another challenge is the political element that tries to influence the way that unauthorised encampments are dealt with contrary to the protocol.

Where disruptive groups trespassing on a highway there are currently limited powers available to expedite evictions. However consultation with government is in process and anticipated that further powers to deal with this will be brought into play in the near future. This will most likely provide additional powers under the criminal justice and public order act.”

- 6.35 A majority of household respondents (56.3%, base=32) said there was a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling.
- 56.2% (base=32) said transit pitches are needed, with 7 respondents saying up to 10 are needed and 3 more than ten, with council ownership favoured.
 - 43.8% (base=32) said stop over places are needed, with 6 respondents saying up to 10 are needed and 1 saying more than ten, with council ownership favoured.

- 6.36 Regarding transit site provision, the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Office at Warwickshire police commented:

“Like within the rest of the county, there is a need to provide transit provision for families who desire to travel to or through the borough and have nowhere else to set down for a short period effectively disadvantaging these recognised ethnic minority groups. It is recognised nationally and by government that Gypsies and Travellers have a right to a nomadic lifestyle, yet it becomes impossible for them to travel and set down with minimal provisions provided, meaning that families who wish to visit relatives or attend family or traditional events are forced to trespass. Transit provision would allow families to book on to established transit sites.

Transit provision also enables the ability for the police to instigate police powers under Sec 623A CJPO Act and enables the direction to groups who are occupying unsuitable land and having an evidenced negative impact on the local community to either accommodate the transit facility or vacate the county. This power is more effective than Sec 61 CJPO act that merely gives the police the power to move a group from a particular piece of land should it be proportionate.

Ideally a transit site with up to 15 pitches would suffice and should be located in an area that affords easy access to local facilities. The design and layout of such a site is something that needs to be considered carefully in the planning and consideration needs to be given to how the site will effectively be managed. With the relatively small number of transit sites nationally there are only a few that are effectively managed.”

- 6.37 Regarding stop over provision and negotiated stopping, the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Office at Warwickshire police commented:

“Temporary stopping places or negotiated stopping are a priority across the county including in Nuneaton and Bedworth, they are something that is relatively cheap and simple to establish. The land should ideally be hard standing although this could include grassed areas during the summer period. Basic provisions would need to be supplied in fresh water, toilets and refuse disposal units.

Negotiated stopping places have been successful across other parts of the country and when choosing the right families and locating appropriately there are many benefits. Nuneaton and Bedworth have had unauthorised encampments with families that would have been suitable for this type of temporary accommodation.

The benefits including removing unauthorised encampment, meeting the needs of the families wishing to reside in the area temporarily and this includes effectively engagement from service providers to the families. It also provides an environment to help build community cohesion.”

- 6.38 Regarding barriers to delivering transit/stop over provision, the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Office at Warwickshire police commented:

“The barriers to this provision is effectively political and based on negative perceptions of the Travelling community. This is understandable based on the continuous negative press that is afforded to a minority within this minority community.

Applications to transit provision are often objected to and it is difficult identifying suitable land to be put forward for this purpose. Land that is often identified is clearly not suitable.

A lack of understanding on the how to create and effectively manage a transit site is also a barrier but there are excellent examples of transit provision across the county that can be learnt from. I believe that within Warwickshire there is the skill and expertise to make negotiated stopping work.”

Nuneaton and Bedworth: Showperson plot requirements

- 6.39 There is currently one Travelling Showperson’s yard occupied by one family. The household living on the Travelling Showperson’s yard is actively engaged in Showperson related work and therefore all meet the PPTS definition.

- 6.40 The yard has 4 plots and only one is currently occupied. There is sufficient capacity on the yard over the plan period to 2036/37 for 3 additional households. Having spoken to the residents on the yard, the only emerging need will be from within the household and they could be accommodated on the yard. There is therefore no additional Showperson need in the borough.

Nuneaton and Bedworth: Bargee Travellers

- 6.41 The definition of Gypsy and Travellers includes Bargee travellers and therefore Councils have a duty to consider their needs. arc⁴ was made aware of at least one Bargee Traveller family living within Nuneaton and Bedworth in 2016. 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.
 - 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 Borough¹⁷. 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

¹⁷ 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

7. Conclusion and response

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

Current accommodation

- 7.2 There are well-established Gypsy and Traveller communities living in Nuneaton and Bedworth. Culturally appropriate provision includes one county council site (with 25 pitches) and 12 private authorised sites (with 41 pitches). There is one Travelling Showperson yard (4 plots).

Future residential need

- 7.3 The Local Plan should recognise an overall cultural need for 20 pitches of which 16 is from households who meet the PPTS household definition over the period to 2036/37. However, anticipated turnover on The Griff and the potential expansion and intensification of existing private sites is expected to meet the identified need.
- 7.4 The level of turnover on The Griff should be monitored through site management data. The Council should also carry out technical appraisals of the expansion/intensification of existing sites to confirm that additional pitches can be delivered.
- 7.5 The analysis would indicate there is no overall strategic need for additional sites. It is however recommended that the Local Plan sets out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for small private sites.
- 7.6 Although there is no additional need for Travelling Showperson plots, it is recommended that the existing yard is safeguarded for Travelling Showperson use.

Transit site/stop over need

- 7.7 There is currently no provision to address transit need but given unauthorised encampment activity, the Council will need to consider appropriate responses. These include transit pitches, stopover places and negotiated stopping arrangements. The Council should work with other Warwickshire local authorities to establish a coordinated response to the delivery of appropriate temporary accommodation options. The need to identify land for negotiated stopping¹⁸ is a priority.

¹⁸ See <https://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk> for further details

Future updating

- 7.8 It is recommended that this evidence base is refreshed on a 5-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and pitch provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Nuneaton and Bedworth.

Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire

	Date and Time			
	Site Reference			
	Address			
	General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection	GDPR came into effect from 25th May 2018. This provides new rights for EU citizens to control personal data held about them by organisations		
		This study is being done for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council to identify if there is a need for more residential pitches and transit provision in the area. A report will be prepared based on the findings of these surveys. The information you provide will not be used for any other purpose.		
		The information you provide will not be used to identify you personally, will be kept strictly confidential		
		Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	Yes	No
1	Pitch/Property Type (and tenure if B&M)			
2	No. Statics/mobiles/chalets or bricks and mortar			
3	No. tourers/caravans			
4	Description of pitch occupancy			
5	No. households			
6	No. concealed households			
7	No. doubled up hhs			
8	Anyone else use this pitch as their home? If so, who			
9	Household characteristics			
		Gender	Age	Relationship to respondent
	Respondent			
	Person 2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			
10	Ethnicity			
11	How many bedspaces are there on your pitch?			
12	Overcrowding of home	Y / N		
13	Overcrowding of pitch	Y / N		
14	Thinking back to when you were 15, were you living on a site, on the roadside or living in bricks and mortar housing	S, R, B&M		
15	Where were you living? Record district/settlement name			

Travelling questions					
	In 2015, the Government changed its definition of Gypsies and Travellers for planning purposes. To be recognised as a Gypsy Traveller you or someone in your household has to travel. I'm now going to ask a few questions about whether you or someone in your household travels				
16	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled	Y / N			
17	Previous to the last year, did you or someone in your household travel?	Y / N			
18	Reason(s) for travelling				
19	Please describe when and where do you travel? (if relevant)				
20	Do you or a member of your household plan to travel next year?	Y / N			
21	Do you think you or a member of your household will travel in the next two to five years?	Y / N			
22	What reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?				
Where you plan to live in the future					
23	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N			
24	Why are you planning to move ?				
25	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
26	What type of dwelling (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
If in B&M housing					
27	If you live in bricks and mortar housing, are you happy to live here or would you prefer to live on a pitch?	Happy Here / Prefer pitch			
28	If you would prefer to live on a pitch is this because you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar (this means it affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y / N			
Emerging households					
29	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own pitch in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N			
		HH1	HH2	HH3	HH4
30	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
31	What type of dwelling (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
32	Have they travelled / plan to travel	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N
33	If living in bricks and mortar do you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar? (this means it affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N
Additional residential pitches					
34	Scope to expand site (extend the boundary of the site)	Y / N			
35	No. additional pitches				
36	Scope to intensify pitches (put more pitches on the existing site)	Y / N			
37	No. additional pitches				
38	Are there any vacant pitches on the site which could be used by another family? If so how many pitches				
39	In general, is there a need for more authorised pitches (for people to live on all the time?) in this district?	Y / N			
40	If so, how many are needed?				
41	Who should own them (Council, people from the Traveller Community, non-Travellers)				
42	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a site?				

Transit and temporary stopover need				
43	Is there a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling through the district? This can include transit pitches or stopover places	Y / N		
44	Is there a need for transit pitches (for people stopping over temporarily) in the district? A transit pitch is intended for short-term use and usually includes space for two caravans, parking space and access to electricity, a toilet, washing facilities	Y / N		
45	If so, how many are needed?			
46	Who should manage them (Council, Traveller Community)			
47	Where should they be located?			
48	Is there a need for stopover places? A stopover place is land which can be used on a temporary basis and usually include access to porta-loos, waste disposal and water	Y / N		
49	If so, how many are needed?			
50	Who should manage them (Council, Traveller Community)			
51	Where should they be located?			
Residential history				
52	How many years have you lived here?			
Routing	If more than five years	Go to Q58		
	If five years or less	Go to Q53		
53	Where did you move from? (District)			
54	Were you living on a Private Site, Council Site, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?			
55	When you moved here, was the pitch vacant, a brand new pitch or had the pitch been created by dividing up an existing pitch?			
56	What were the reasons for moving here?			
57	Did you already have a connection with the area (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)			
Support needs				
58	Is there a need for your home to be adapted in any way?	Go through list of adaptations		
59	Are you or someone in your household in need of any support because of health reasons?	Go through list of support		
60	IF RELEVANT: Do you need any support with the education of your child(ren)	Go through list of support		
61	IF RELEVANT: Do you require any support with job-related training	Go through list of support		
Final questions				
62	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your housing or support needs?			
63	Do you know anyone in bricks and mortar housing looking to live on a pitch? If so, can you provide contact details			

Note: A similar questionnaire was prepared for Travelling Showpeople, replacing 'pitch' with 'plot' and 'site' with 'yard'

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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

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

CRE: Commission for Racial Equality.

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

Gypsies and Travellers: Defined by DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (August 2015) as “Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such”. The planning policy goes on to state that, “In determining whether persons are “gypsies and travellers” for the purposes of this planning policy, consideration should be given to the following issues amongst other relevant matters: a) whether they previously led a nomadic habit of life b) the reasons for ceasing their nomadic habit of life c) whether there is an intention of living a nomadic habit of life in the future, and if so, how soon and in what circumstances”.

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

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

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

Plot: see pitch

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

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

Romany: Member of one of the main groups of Gypsies and Travellers in England. Romany Gypsies trace their ethnic origin back to migrations, probably from India, taking place at intervals since before 1500. Gypsies have been a recognised ethnic group for the purposes of British race relations legislation since 1988 (CRE V Dutton).

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

Showpeople: Defined by DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (August 2015) as “Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Yards: Showpeople travel in connection with their work and therefore live, almost universally, in wagons. During the winter months these are parked up in what was traditionally known as ‘winter quarters’. These ‘yards’ are now often occupied all year around by some family members.