

# Central Lancashire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment for Chorley Borough Council, Preston City Council and South Ribble Borough Council

**Final Report**

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# 1. Introduction

- 1.1 In July 2013, arc<sup>4</sup> were commissioned by Chorley Borough Council, Preston City Council and South Ribble Borough Council (“the Councils”), to undertake a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment to identify the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople from across the Central Lancashire area.
- 1.2 The objective of the Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessment is to inform the emerging Local Plan policies and allocations.
- 1.3 The research provides information about the current and future accommodation needs and demands of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople; as well as providing information about their additional support needs.
- 1.4 The study adopts the definition of ‘Gypsies and Travellers’ set out within the Government’s ‘Planning policy for traveller sites’ (March 2012) within which the following definition of Gypsies and Travellers is adopted:

‘Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.’
- 1.5 Similarly, the following definition from the Guidance in respect of Showpeople is used:

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

‘[A] “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.’<sup>1</sup>
- 1.7 For the purposes of this study, Gypsies and Travellers live on pitches on sites, whilst Travelling Showpeople live on plots on yards.
- 1.8 The overall purpose of the study is to assess overall accommodation need and distribution for each participating local authority, undertaken in a manner which conforms to national policy. The objectives of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment are:

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<sup>1</sup> DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites Appendix A Glossary March 2012

- To establish trends and characteristics of the sub regional Traveller population, households and their accommodation, including an assessment of drivers of need and demand;
- To establish provision, supply and characteristics of Traveller accommodation;
- To provide a clear and robust understanding of the permanent, transit and other accommodation needs of Travellers; and
- To identify key criteria for new provision, including broad locations, and optimum site size and number of pitches etc.

## Study Components

1.9 The study comprised five phases, which are set out below:

- Phase 1: Development of methodology and questionnaire. Collation and review of existing information and literature;
- Phase 2: Stakeholder consultation;
- Phase 3: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers across the study area; and
- Phase 4: Data analysis and report production; and
- Phase 5: Dissemination.

## Phases 1 and 2: Literature/desktop review and stakeholder consultation

- 1.10 This phase comprised a review of available literature, including legislative background and best practice information; and available secondary data relating to Gypsies and Travellers.
- 1.11 Relevant regional, sub-regional and local information has been collected, collated and reviewed, including information on:
- The national policy and legislative context;
  - Current policies towards Gypsies and Travellers; and
  - Analysis of existing data sources available from stakeholders.
- 1.12 Views have been sought from a range of stakeholders identified by the Councils, including providers, education officers, housing and planning professionals, and community representatives.

## Phase 3: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers across Central Lancashire

- 1.13 The survey of Gypsies and Travellers across the area was organised and undertaken by Home Space Sustainable Accommodation. Fieldwork interviews commenced in early September and ran for five weeks. Interviews were targeted with households living on a range of sites including authorised local authority and

private sites across the study area, as well as on unauthorised sites and encampments that were in place during the fieldwork period. Additional interviews were held with Gypsy and Traveller respondents living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Authorised and unauthorised site addresses were provided to the team by the three Councils and these were used as a framework sample list for the fieldwork. No bricks and mortar addresses were provided by the Councils for people living within the study area so all bricks and mortar interviews conducted were through the awareness of such households from the HSSA fieldwork team.

- 1.14 The Councils did provide contact details for Travelling Showpeople community members who did not live in the study area. Both contacts were phoned by the HSSA team and were then subsequently contacted again by phone by both the HSSA team and Chorley Council but at that stage calls were not returned. Emails were also sent to one of the contacts who had previously provided their email address to Chorley Council. At the time of draft reporting one of these contacts, Travelling Showperson, did get in touch with Chorley Council saying they wanted to be consulted so a fieldwork survey form was provided to the contact via email for self completion as the fieldwork phase had already been completed. However, no fieldwork survey has been returned.
- 1.15 Interviews were undertaken by trained members of the Gypsy and Traveller community. Using members of the community as interviewers helps secure a good response rate, and ultimately deliver a more comprehensive picture of need. Details of three sites were provided to the fieldwork team and these included final pitch numbers as at 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 of 23 (see Chapter 4, table 4.1a for further details). Therefore using the basic assumption of 1 household per pitch we set out to achieve 23 household interviews with families living on pitches. In the end we achieved 26 such interviews due to additional households being identified. In terms of accuracy then we are satisfied that we have achieved a very strong level of accuracy and this has also meant that no weighting of the survey data responses was required prior to the analysis of these survey questionnaires. Three interviews were also conducted with households living in the study area in bricks and mortar accommodation but as we have no concrete, up-to-date figures, on how many such families exist it is difficult to ascertain what reliability can be attached to this aspect of the survey work.
- 1.16 The cultural needs of Gypsies and Travellers differ from those of the rest of the population and consideration of culturally specific requirements such as the need for additional permanent caravan sites and/or transit sites and/or stopping places (or improvements to existing sites) are key to this study. The research has therefore explicitly sought information from Travelling people across Central Lancashire living in housing on authorised sites and unauthorised encampments.
- 1.17 To maximise the value of the fieldwork, we have also obtained information on housing and housing-related support issues.

#### **Phase 4: Production of report**

- 1.18 The report structure is as follows:



- Chapter 1 Introduction: provides an overview of the study;
- Chapter 2 Methodology: provides details of the study's research methodology;
- Chapter 3 Legislative and policy context: presents a review of the legislative and policy context;
- Chapter 4 The current picture: looks at the current provision of sites across the study area to provide a baseline picture of what is currently available;
- Chapter 5 The current picture: reviews estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across the Central Lancashire area and the scale of existing site provision. A review of the current accommodation situation of Travellers will identify any issues arising;
- Chapter 6 Pitch requirements: focuses on current and future pitch requirements. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, pitch supply and current shortfalls across the study area;
- Chapter 7 Travelling practices and experiences: highlights issues relating to transit sites;
- Chapter 8 Wider service and support needs: considers the wider service and support needs of Travellers including health and education;
- Chapter 9 Stakeholder consultation: reports on the responses of the various stakeholders included in this research;
- Chapter 10 Summary of findings: focuses on key outputs and headlines emerging from the research by authority; and
- Chapter 11 Conclusion and strategic response concludes the report, identifying headline issues, and recommending ways in which these could be addressed.

1.19 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:

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

## 2. Methodology

- 2.1 The methodology for this study has comprised:
- Interviews with Gypsies and Travellers;
  - Desktop analysis of existing documents, data and pitch information; and
  - A Key Stakeholder on-line questionnaire for professionals who have direct contact with local Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- 2.2 The primary fieldwork for this study comprised survey work with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. This work was managed by Home Space Sustainable Accommodation and undertaken by Gypsy and Traveller fieldworkers. Home Space Sustainable Accommodation was involved in the design of the questionnaire and in the recruitment of fieldworkers.
- 2.3 A total of 26 interviews were secured, 9 with households living on a pitch/plot on a private authorised site, 14 with households living on a local authority site, and 3 living in bricks and mortar accommodation. No interviews were undertaken with households living on unauthorised encampments. A total of 26 interviews were achieved with households living on authorised sites (this excludes those living in caravans in gardens).
- 2.4 Within the households interviewed, a total of one additional emerging household was identified. These are households expecting to form and mainly comprise young people intending on forming their own household in the next five years. The survey suggests that this household intends to remain within the Central Lancashire area.

**Table 2.1** Summary of achieved interviews by type of dwelling and area

	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Total
Council Site	0	14	0	14
Private Site	4	5	0	9
Bricks and Mortar	3	0	0	3
Total	7	19	0	26

Note: Census achieved so no weighting used in the report.

- 2.5 The ethnicity of respondents (Table 2.2) indicates there are a range of ethnicities within the Gypsy and Traveller community across Central Lancashire with the biggest single group being Irish Travellers (50.0%), followed by Romany Gypsies (46.2%) and English Gypsies (3.8%).

**Table 2.2** Range of responses achieved by ethnicity and dwelling type

Ethnicity of Head of household	Local Authority (number)				
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire	Total %
Romany Gypsy	6	6	0	12	46.2
English Gypsy	1	0	0	1	3.8
Irish Traveller	0	13	0	13	50.0
<b>Grand Total</b>	7	19	0	26	100.0

- 2.6 In conjunction with interviews with members of the Travelling community, a range of complementary research methods have been used to permit the triangulation of results. These include:
- Desktop analysis of existing documents and data;
  - A database of authorised and unauthorised sites; and
  - A Key Stakeholder on-line questionnaire for professionals who have direct contact with local Gypsy and Traveller communities across the Central Lancashire area.
- 2.7 Good practice guidance and evidence from other studies emphasises that building trust with Travelling communities is a prerequisite of meaningful research. In this case it has been achieved by using interviewers from Gypsy, and Traveller communities to conduct the interviews, by engaging with Gypsy and Traveller groups, by using local resources and workers to make links, and working closely with officers who have already established good relationships with local Travelling communities.
- 2.8 We have also used the following sources of information:
- The bi-annual caravan count for DCLG; and
  - Local Authority information on existing site provision and unauthorised encampments.
- 2.9 The assessment of pitch requirements has been calculated by utilising information on current supply of pitches and the results from the survey. The overall number of pitches has been calculated through Local Authority information but current and anticipated behaviour has been assessed through the survey. A detailed explanation of the analysis of pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 6.

### 3. Legislative and Policy Context

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

#### Legislative background

3.2 Since 1960, three Acts of Parliament have had a major impact on Gypsies and Travellers

- Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960;
- Caravan Sites Act 1968 (Part II); and the
- Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

3.3 The 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act abolished all statutory obligations to provide accommodation, discontinued Government grants for sites and made it a criminal offence to camp on land without the owner's consent.

3.4 Since the 1994 Act, the only places where Gypsies and Travellers can legally park their trailers and vehicles are:

- Council Gypsy caravan sites;
- Privately owned land with appropriate planning permission;
- Land with established rights of use, other caravan sites or mobile home parks by agreement or licence along with land required for seasonal farm workers.

3.5 The 1994 Act resulted in increased pressure on available sites. It eventually resulted in further reviews of law and policy, culminating in the Housing Act 2004 which placed a requirement (s.225) on local authorities to assess Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs.

3.6 More detail on the legislation affecting Gypsies and Travellers can be found at Appendix A.

#### Policy background

3.7 As part of this research we have carried out a literature review. A considerable range of guidance documents have been prepared by central Government to assist local authorities in discharging their strategic housing and planning functions and numerous research and guidance documents have been published by other agencies. This review examines influential guidance and research which relates specifically to Gypsies and Travellers or makes reference to them; more information is provided within Appendices A and B.

3.8 Overall, this range of statutory documentation, advisory and guidance notes and accepted good practice has helped set a broad context within which this research can be positioned.

3.9 Some of the key themes to emerge from the review of relevant literature include:

- Recognising the long-standing role Gypsies and Travellers have played in society and how prejudice, discrimination and legislative change have increasingly marginalised this distinctive ethnic group;
  - A recognised shortage of pitches on Gypsy and Traveller sites;
  - The importance of understanding Gypsy and Traveller issues in the context of recent housing and planning policy development;
  - Recognition that Gypsies and Travellers are one of the most socially excluded group in society and are particularly susceptible to a range of inequalities relating to health, education, law enforcement and quality of accommodation;
  - Recognition of the considerable prejudice and discrimination faced by Gypsy and Traveller communities; and
  - A need for better communication and improved understanding between, and within, Travelling communities themselves, and between Travelling communities and elected members, service providers and permanently settled communities.
- 3.10 In March 2012 the Government published both the National Planning Policy Framework and its Planning policy for traveller sites. These documents replace all previous national planning policy and guidance in respect of Gypsies and Travellers. This new national guidance is now a material consideration in determining local planning applications and its overarching aim is ‘to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers’.
- 3.11 Under this guidance Local authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning, and plan for sites over a reasonable timescale. The policy aims to promote more private Traveller site provision ‘while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites’.
- 3.12 The policy also states that:
- ‘Plan making and decision taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective.’
  - Planning policies need to be fair, realistic and inclusive; and
  - Planning policies should increase the number of Traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under-provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply.
- 3.13 It is within this policy context that local planning authorities have to plan future provision for Gypsies and Travellers across their respective areas. The Framework emphasises the role of evidence and how it should be used within this context. Policy A: Using evidence to plan positively and manage development stresses the need for timely, effective and on-going community engagement (both with Travellers and the settled community); in addition the ‘use of a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of Local Plan and make planning decisions’ is advocated. Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Planning policy for traveller sites state that;

‘Local planning authorities should set pitch targets for gypsies and travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities’.

Local planning authorities should, in producing their Local plan:

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

3.14 Despite the revocation of the North West Regional Spatial Strategy (North West of England Plan – Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021) in May 2013, the need for strategic planning remains, especially to ensure coherent planning beyond local authority boundaries. To this end the Localism Act (2011) introduced on local planning authorities the Duty to Co-operate in relation to planning sustainable development. Under this Duty local planning authorities must engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis in the preparation of development plan documents, other local development documents, and activities that can be considered in any way to prepare the way for development plan documents. Under the Act the sustainable development or use of land that would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas is considered to be a strategic matter falling within the Duty to Co-operate<sup>2</sup>.

3.15 The Duty to Co-operate (the Duty) is set out in Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011). This applies to all local planning authorities, county councils in England and to a number of other “prescribed” bodies. Regulation 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 sets out who those “prescribed” bodies are (see paragraph 16 and 17 below).

3.16 Local planning authorities, county councils and other “prescribed” bodies are required to co-operate with each other to address strategic matters relevant to their areas in the preparation of a development plan document. The duty requires constructive and active engagement on the preparation of development plan documents and other activities relating to the sustainable development and

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<sup>2</sup> The Localism Act 2011 Part 6 Chapter 1 Duty to co-operate in relation to planning of sustainable development Section 110

use of land, in particular in connection with strategic infrastructure or matters that would fall under the remit of a county council.

- 3.17 Paragraph 181 of the National Planning Policy Framework (The Framework) states that “Local planning authorities will be expected to demonstrate evidence of having effectively co-operated to plan for issues with cross-boundary impacts when their Local Plans are submitted for examination”.
- 3.18 Paragraph 181 of the Framework also provides examples of how evidence of co-operation may be demonstrated, such as jointly prepared strategies or planning policies, joint committees with neighbouring authorities to make decisions or memoranda’s of understanding to agree how authorities and bodies will co-operate with each other as they prepare planning policy or strategy.
- 3.19 The Framework also provides further guidance on the duty, focusing on “planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, particularly those which relate to the strategic priorities set out in paragraph 156”. (Para 178, The Framework). The Framework is clear that local planning authorities (LPAs) and other public bodies should work collaboratively on Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople provision and reflect this in Local Plans.
- 3.20 In summary the Planning Advisory Service advises that the Duty to Co-operate :
- Requires councils and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis in relation to planning of sustainable development;
  - Requires councils to consider whether to enter into agreements on joint approaches or prepare joint Local Plans (if a local planning authority); and
  - Applies to planning for strategic matters in relation to the preparation of Local and Marine Plans, and other activities that prepare the way for these activities.
- 3.21 The Localism Act and the National Planning Policy Framework set out a requirement for local authorities to fulfil a Duty to Co-operate on planning issues, including provision for Gypsies and Travellers, to ensure that approaches are consistent and address cross border issues with neighbouring authorities. The new Duty is intended to act as a driver for change in order to enhance co-operation and partnership working to assist in delivering appropriate provision of future accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers, which can be contentious. In addition the National Planning Policy Framework sets out a presumption in favour of sustainable development to guide local authorities in the delivery of new developments whilst the ‘Planning policy for traveller sites’ provides specific advice as detailed above.
- 3.22 In April 2012 the Government published a Progress Report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers, which summarised progress in terms of meeting ‘Government commitments to tackle inequalities and promote fairness for Gypsy and Traveller communities.’<sup>3</sup> The Report covers 28 measures from across Government aimed at tackling inequalities, these cover:
- Improving education outcomes;

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<sup>3</sup> [www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322](http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322)

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

3.23 In respect of provision of appropriate accommodation, the report advises that financial incentives and other support measures have been put in place to help councils and elected members make the case for development of Traveller sites within their areas. Changing perceptions of sites is also identified as a priority, and to this end the Government has made the following commitment:

- ‘The Department for Communities and Local Government will help Gypsy and Traveller representative groups showcase small private sites that are well presented and maintained’; and
- ‘Subject to site owners agreeing to have their homes included we will help produce a case study document which local authorities and councillors, potential site residents and the general public could use. It could also be adapted and used in connection with planning applications.’<sup>4</sup>

3.24 Also aimed at improving provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers, the Government has committed to:

- The provision of support, training and advice for elected members services up to 2015; and
- The promotion of improved health outcomes for Travellers through the planning system; the report states that ‘one of the Government’s aims in respect of traveller sites is to enable provision of suitable accommodation, which supports healthy lifestyles, and from which Travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure.’<sup>5</sup>

3.25 In August 2012, the Government published guidance for local authorities setting out the powers available to them and landowners to remove unauthorised encampments from both public and private land. Commenting on the guidance set out in ‘Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: A summary of available powers’, the Chartered Institute of Housing stated that: ‘Gypsy and Traveller communities are some of the most marginalised communities in modern times. Long standing difficulties in the provision of private and authorised sites, coupled with fewer stopping places across the country, have resulted in increasing numbers of unauthorised sites and the increasing marginalisation of these communities. There is a real need to develop a planning system that enables the provision of well situated, decent and accessible site provision for

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<sup>4</sup> DCLG Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers April 2012 commitment 12 page 18

<sup>5</sup> DCLG Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers April 2012 para 4.13 page 19



Gypsies and Travellers.<sup>6</sup> The disruption caused to the settled community by unauthorised encampments, and the costs of ‘clearing up’ after them, mean that providing authorised sites for Travellers is important. Research by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation<sup>7</sup> found a strong business case for new provision based on cost savings to be made by local authorities in dealing with unauthorised encampment activity.

- 3.26 On 4th May this year (2013) the Government revoked regulations governing the issuing of Temporary Stop Notices (TSNs) by local planning authorities, which had been in place since the introduction of TSNs in 2005. The regulations were originally introduced to mitigate against the likely disproportionate impact of TSNs on Gypsies and Travellers in areas where there is a lack of sites to meet the needs of the Travelling community. Under the regulations, TSNs were prohibited where a caravan was a person’s main residence, unless there was a risk of harm to a serious public interest significant enough to outweigh any benefit to the occupier of the caravan. Under the new arrangements, and in the spirit of Localism, local planning authorities are to determine whether the use of a TSN is a proportionate and necessary response. Concerns have been raised that without the regulations in place TSNs risk violating the Human Rights of Gypsies and Travellers, especially in areas where there is an under-provision of sites/pitches.

### Central Lancashire Planning Policy Context

- 3.27 Together the three Councils are working together to develop housing and planning policies through a joint Central Lancashire Local Development Framework, which includes the Central Lancashire Core Strategy (adopted July 2012). The Core Strategy was the first to be approved under the Government’s National Planning Policy Framework.
- 3.28 The adopted Core Strategy sets out the spatial planning proposals for the three districts and incorporates the Regional Spatial Strategy housing requirements. In its chapter on ‘Homes For All’ the Core Strategy adopts the following strategic objectives in relation to housing:
- Housing delivery SO5: to help make available and maintain within Central Lancashire a ready supply of residential development land over the plan period so as to help deliver sufficient new housing of appropriate types to meet future requirements. This should also be based on infrastructure provision, as well as ensuring that delivery does not compromise existing communities.
  - Housing density SO6: to achieve densities for new housing that respect the local character of surrounding areas, whilst making efficient use of land.
  - Housing quality SO7: to improve the quality of existing housing, especially in Inner East Preston and pockets of poor stock in South Ribble and Chorley Boroughs, and to bring empty homes back into use.

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<sup>6</sup> [www.cih.org](http://www.cih.org) Housing policy: Gypsies and Travellers

<sup>7</sup> Providing Gypsy and Traveller sites: contentious spaces JRF October 2007

- Affordable housing SO8: to significantly increase the supply of affordable and special needs housing particularly in places of greatest need such as in more rural areas; and
  - Traveller accommodation SO9: to guide the provision of pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in appropriate locations if genuine need arises.
- 3.29 The cross cutting themes of achieving good design, promoting health and wellbeing, and tackling climate change are also highlighted as significant.
- 3.30 The Core Strategy sets out guidance for the provision of new Traveller sites, however it does not identify any targets for new provision as no need was identified at the time. Rather, it seeks to provide a mechanism through which new provision can be made should a need be identified. Policy 8: Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation seeks to apply the following criteria to applications for new provision for Travellers:
- *Location in respect of proximity to services including GP and other health care provision, education facilities, shops and public transport as well as the overall need to reduce long distance travelling;*
  - *Suitable road access and sufficient space within the site for parking and turning of vehicles as well as the storage of equipment;*
  - *Avoidance of residential use on contaminated and otherwise unsuitable land although such areas may be suitable for business use and in any event taking account of the opportunities for mixed use; and*
  - *No unacceptable impact on the immediate surrounding areas and the wider landscape.*
- 3.31 It is intended that each authority's emerging local plan will be assessed in the light of the findings of this study with a view to introducing any necessary policy or allocations relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showperson's accommodation needs.

### Central Lancashire - Strategic Housing priorities

- 3.32 The Lancashire Housing Strategy 2010 sets out the strategic housing priorities for the County; this includes those for Central Lancashire. The strategic housing vision for the County is *'to contribute to the creation of sustainable communities and high quality places and to help realise Lancashire's sustainable growth potential.'*
- 3.33 The Strategy aims to:
- Shape Lancashire's housing markets to support sustainable economic growth by attracting and retaining high value workers;
  - Ensure that through the provision of high quality housing and residential environments all places in Lancashire are supported to be the best that they can and provide the highest possible quality of life.
  - Ensure Lancashire's housing markets are balanced and sustainable providing sufficient amounts of the right types and quality of housing including affordable housing to meet housing and wider community needs

- Supporting regeneration to improve the quality of housing and places so we have mixed, inclusive and vibrant communities.
  - Meet the housing need of vulnerable people through overall housing provision and through a strategic approach to supported housing needs.
- 3.34 Specifically in respect of Central Lancashire the Strategy priorities the Central Lancashire and Blackpool Growth Point, and, meeting internal housing needs wherever possible. The Strategy is seen as a ‘value added’ strategy aimed at complimenting area housing strategies such as that adopted for Mid Lancashire.
- 3.35 The Central Lancashire Authorities form part of the Mid Lancashire Partnership alongside the authorities of Lancaster, Ribble Valley, West Lancashire, and Lancashire County Council. The Partnership has developed a housing strategy or Housing Contextual Statement for 2012-2015, which provides a common understanding and set of priorities for the area. These priorities aim to both identify and meet the needs of existing communities, and to support the area’s economic growth by ensuring a housing offer that both retains and attracts people.
- 3.36 The Statement aims to meet housing needs by:
- Working across the key themes of strategic development, housing delivery and community leadership;
  - Working across boundaries to provide better more efficient services to local people;
  - Working with private and public sector partners to deliver sustainable and appropriate housing growth, increased numbers of affordable homes and key regeneration priorities;
  - Ensuring that communities are engaged in proposals to meet growth and regeneration needs and deliver local services; and
  - Working in partnership to ensure that the support needs of the vulnerable and excluded are met.
- 3.37 Priorities for the area are set out within the Statement in the following thematic sections:
- Achieving sustainable housing growth;
  - Improving quality: sustainable communities and decent housing; and
  - Meeting the housing needs of all parts of the community, which includes meeting the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- 3.38 Policy 7 of the Statement seeks to *‘ensure that the housing and housing related support needs of vulnerable individuals, households and socially excluded groups across Mid Lancashire are met and homelessness is prevented.’*<sup>8</sup>
- 3.39 Within this policy a key priority is to *‘establish priority needs of key vulnerable and socially excluded groups and identify scope for Mid Lancashire wide service provision’.*<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Mid Lancashire Housing Contextual Statement 2012-2015 page 25

3.40 Specifically in reference to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople (GTTS) the Statement states that:

*'Meeting the housing needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople falls into two broad categories:*

- *Appropriate pitch provision and provision through bricks and mortar housing; and*
- *Housing related support to enable access to community services for example schools and doctors surgeries.*

*The number of additional pitches required across Lancashire to meet GTTS needs was to be determined by the Partial Review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West. A process leading to the revocation of the RSS is currently in progress and the matter of pitch need and provision will in future be determined locally, based on available evidence through the Local Development Framework process.*

*The issue of accommodation needs is much wider than a consideration of pitch requirements. It should be taken into account that not all travellers are nomadic and not all travellers reside on sites. Policies and actions should be based on an understanding of GTTS culture and accommodation aspirations including proximity to family, tenure choice the significance of life events, cultural celebrations and cultural differences within the various travelling communities.*

*Housing and planning authorities in conjunction with relevant communities and representatives should work together to determine local needs and delivery priorities.'*<sup>10</sup>

3.41 Acting as a sister document to the Housing Contextual Statement, the Mid Lancashire Housing Delivery Plan for 2012-2015 demonstrates how the Authorities will:

- Assess and plan for the current and future housing needs of the local population across all tenures;
- Make best use of the existing housing stock;
- Plan and facilitate new supply;
- Plan and commission housing support services that link homes and housing support services; and
- Work in partnership to secure effective housing and neighbourhood management on an on-going basis.

3.42 Commitments within the Housing Contextual Statement clearly support provision of accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople where a need is identified. The challenge for the Central Lancashire Authorities is to ensure that the needs identified for Gypsies and Travellers by this research are met through new provision across the study area by using Policy 8 of the Core Strategy.

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<sup>9</sup> Mid Lancashire Housing Contextual Statement 2012-2015 page 25

<sup>10</sup> Mid Lancashire Housing Contextual Statement 2012-2015 paras 8.10-8.13

## Local Context – Neighbouring Authorities Progress with GTAA's

3.43 Table 3.1 provides a position statement regarding the progress made with neighbouring authorities in their preparation of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessments.

**Table 3.1** Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments in neighbouring authorities

Authority	NW Partial Review Requirement to 2016			Existing Provision at 2013					GTAA	GTAA Proposed Pitches to 2026		
	P	T	TS	P	TA	UA	T	TS		PT	T	TS
<b>Blackburn with Darwen Council</b>	45	5	5	42		0	0	0	In House	33		0
Progress and Timescale of Provision	Part of Local Plan											
	P	T	TS	P	TA	UA	T	TS		PT	T	TS
<b>West Lancashire Borough Council</b>	15	10	5	1	0	8	0	0	arc <sup>4</sup> Merseyside GTAA Jan 2014	T B D	T B D	T B D
Progress and Timescale of Provision	Preparing Provision for Traveller Sites DPD. Intended date of adoption: March 2015.											
	P	T	TS	P	TA	UA	T	TS		PT	T	TS
<b>Bolton Council</b>	30	10	40	39	0	0	0	91	arc <sup>4</sup> AGMA Study June 2014	T B D	T B D	T B D
Progress and Timescale of Provision	Preparation of Traveller DPD listed in LDS. Work is due to commence during 2014 with examination provisionally timed for September 2015 with adoption early 2016. Timescale dependant on progress on Site Allocations Plan & liable to further slippage from LDS											
	P	T	TS	P	TA	UA	T	TS		PT	T	TS
<b>Wigan Council</b>	30	10	20	35	0	0	0	36	arc <sup>4</sup> AGMA Study June 2014	T B D	T B D	T B D
Progress and Timescale of Provision	Part of Allocations and Development Management Local Plan: Examination September 2015. Adoption expected January 2016.											

**Key:** P = Permanent Gypsy Pitches T = Transit Pitches TS Travelling Showpeople Pitches

TA= Temporary Authorised Gypsy site (has temporary planning consent)

UA = Unauthorised Gypsy Pitches TBD: To Be Determined in the light of the GTAA

## Designing Gypsy & Traveller Sites – Good Practice Guide (2008)

- 3.44 The 'Planning policy for traveller sites' provides no guidance on design for Gypsy and Traveller sites, concentrating instead on the mechanics of the planning process, from using evidence, to plan making and decision taking. The new policy does not therefore add to existing design guidance from DCLG, which suggests that, among other things, there must be an amenity building on each pitch and that this must include, as a minimum:
- Hot and cold water supply;
  - Electricity supply;
  - A separate toilet;
  - A bath/shower room; and
  - A kitchen and dining area.
- 3.45 The access to the toilet should be through a lobbied area. The amenity building must include: secure storage space for harmful substances/ medicines; enclosed storage for food, brooms, washing, cleaning items etc.; and space for connection of cooker, fridge/freezer and washing machine. The inclusion of a day/living room in the amenity unit is recommended. The day/living room could be combined with the kitchen area to provide a kitchen/dining/lounge area. It is desirable that the day/living room should not be part of essential circulation space, nor contain essential storage.
- 3.46 The Guidance also maintains that the design and construction of amenity buildings must meet the requirements of the current Building Regulations, Housing Corporation Design and Quality Standards, the Institution of Electrical Engineers regulations, and the Local Water Authority. Materials used must comply with the relevant British Standard Specifications and Codes of Practice and must provide for durable and low maintenance buildings. Its construction should be sympathetic to local architecture, attractive and of a domestic nature.
- 3.47 It is also recommended that amenity buildings incorporate cost effective energy efficiency measures. The building layout and construction should be designed to maximise energy conservation and the use of passive solar gain. All mechanical and electrical systems should be as energy efficient as possible. Consideration should be given to the insulation of plumbing systems, the use of low energy light fittings and appropriate heating and ventilation systems. Any opportunities for using energy from renewable sources should be considered.
- 3.48 Ideally sites should be small, consisting of between five and fifteen pitches.
- 3.49 A Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) review (January 2012) of Non-Mainstream Housing Design Guidance found that the DCLG Design Guide most 'succinctly outlines the physical requirements for site provision for travellers.' It also identified a number of 'pointers' for future guidance, and these are worth mentioning here:
- The family unit should be considered to be larger and more flexible than that of the settled community due to a communal approach to care for the elderly and for children;

- A distinct permanent building is required on site to incorporate washing and cooking facilities, and provide a base for visiting health and education workers; and
- Clearer diagrams setting out the parameters for design are called for, both in terms of the scale of the dwelling and the site. Incorporating requirements for maintenance, grazing, spacing, size provision, communal spaces, etc. 'would ensure that a set of best practice principles can be established.'<sup>11</sup>

3.50 The HCA Review suggested the following design considerations:

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

3.51 The HCA Review also identified the following best practice suggestions:

- Greater separation between aspects of living and those of cooking/washing;
- Disabilities should be accounted for within provision;
- When determining proposed locations, accessibility and proximity to local amenities and the surrounding community should be considered;
- Issues associated with reducing alienation with the settled community need to be accounted for;
- Measures for emergency sites accommodating a population not accounted for should be outlined;
- The Right to Buy should be taken into account in the provision of permanent sites; and
- Greater guidance for the planning, procurement and consultation process to ensure sites meet the needs of proposed residents, as well as reassuring neighbouring settled communities regarding impact.

3.52 Key criteria that local authorities should consider if they need to search for sites to meet an identified need includes issues such as optimal size of sites, and number of pitches or plots, proximity to key services, access and suitable neighbouring uses. In particular the study, or any follow up work, should try to identify broad locations that might be the preferred location of any site(s). This can often be achieved by conducting additional consultation with the community.

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<sup>11</sup> Non-Mainstream Housing Design Guidance Literature Review, HCA January 2012 page 63

- 3.53 If the site can be used for houses, it should be considered for a Traveller site. Ideally, a site should be close to the local community but pragmatically reasonably distanced from existing housing. If it can be integrated into new build, it gives an opportunity for the site, with appropriate management, to be part of a new community.
- 3.54 In terms of aspects such as site size, proximity to services - these are referred to in the DCLG site design guidance detailed previously. The guidance should be enhanced with best practice from recent developments, for instance by clustering pitches within sites, providing entrance barriers, greenery/landscaping and use of material such as block paving and stone (preferably local materials) rather than concrete/tarmac.
- 3.55 In terms of amenities, depending on the land available, a shed (with a separate kitchen/ bathroom) and storage is a minimum requirement. Subject to availability of space, a dayroom would also be useful. Kitchen windows should face towards the pitch to support interaction with other households. An outside tap should also be provided and where possible every resident should have their own electricity supply which reduces management costs.

### **Funding for new pitches**

- 3.56 The Homes and Communities Agency manage resources to secure the provision of new traveller sites and new pitches on existing sites, as well as improvements of existing pitches. The latest information on funding is available at <http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/ourwork/traveller-pitch-funding>



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

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

### Provision of authorised and unauthorised sites

- 4.2 Data on the provision of sites considers both authorised and unauthorised sites and yards across Central Lancashire. Broadly speaking, authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either local authority or privately owned land. In this instance unauthorised sites are made up of either longer term<sup>12</sup> unauthorised encampments<sup>13</sup>, that have been in existence for some considerable time and so can be considered to be indicative of a permanent need for accommodation (in some instances local authorities class these as tolerated sites and decide not to take enforcement action to remove them); and unauthorised developments, where Travellers are residing upon land that they own and that does not have planning permission (see Appendix E for more detailed definitions).
- 4.3 Overall (see Table 4.1a), there is one Council owned site in the study area (14 pitches) at Leighton Street in Preston. There are two private temporary authorised sites (7 pitches), no private tolerated sites and no private unauthorised sites.
- 4.4 In terms of Travelling Showpeople's yards (see Table 4.1b), there are no yards in the study area.

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<sup>12</sup> Approximately three months or longer

<sup>13</sup> Please note that unauthorised encampments also encompass short-term illegal encampments, which are more indicative of transit need, see para 7.11 for more information on these encampments.

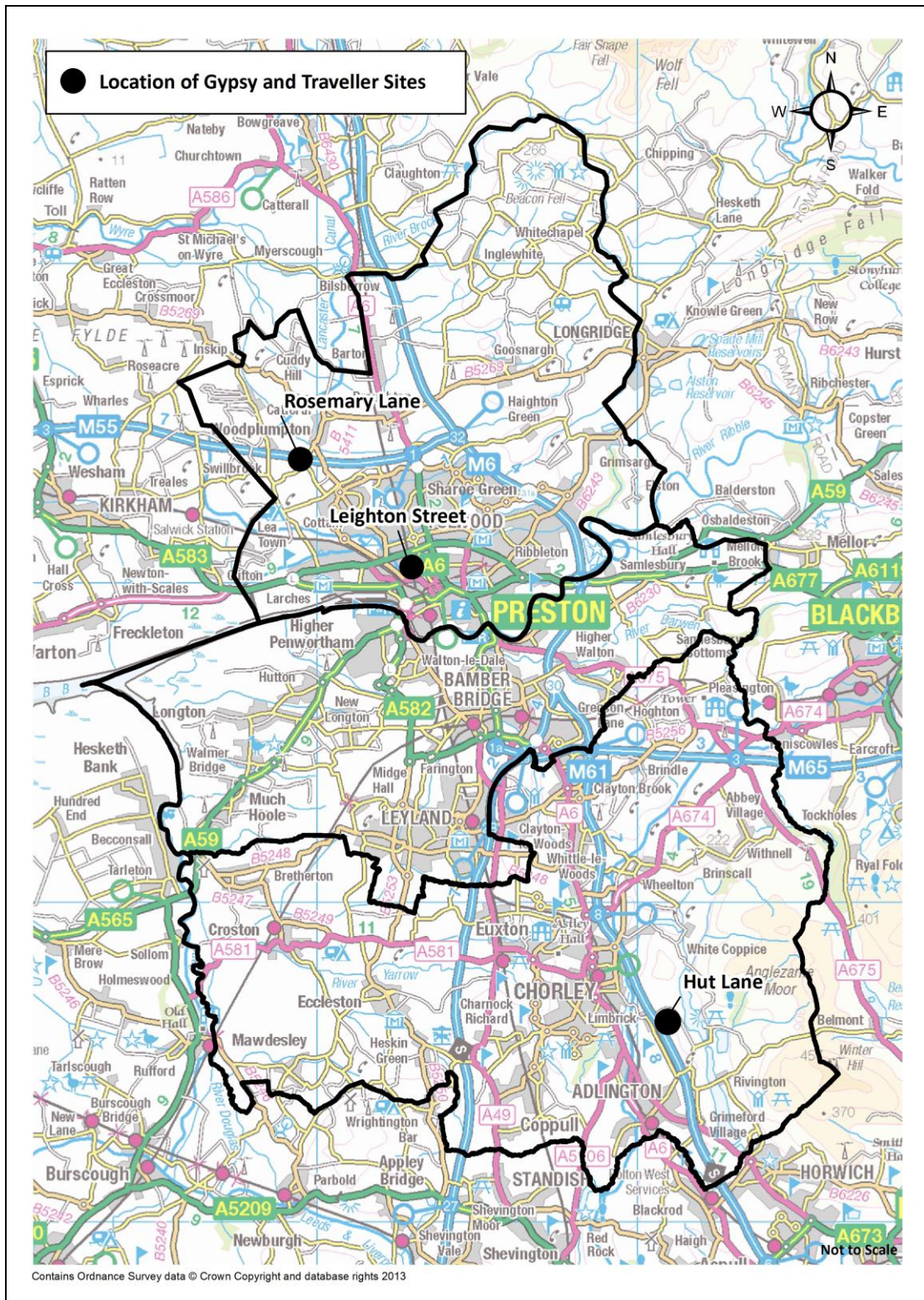
**Table 4.1a** List of sites as at 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013

Site Name	Site Location	Type of Site	Ownership	Original information provided by LAs	Final Pitch Figures	Status of site
2 Heath Paddock Hut Lane	Hut Lane Heath Charnock Chorley PR6 9FP	Temporary: 2 years requiring 2 static mobile homes and 3 touring caravans (commenced 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2013 - ends 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2015)	Private	4 caravans	<b>2</b>	Temporary
Leighton Street	Leighton Street Preston, PR1 2XP	Official Site	Public	14	<b>14</b>	Permanent
Rosemary Lane	Land off Rosemary Lane, Catforth, Preston PR4 0HB	Temporary Authorised (commenced 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2011 – ends 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2014)	Private	No more than 8 caravans (no more than 2 should be static caravans or mobile homes)	<b>5</b>	Temporary

### Summary of Site Provision

	No sites	No pitches
TOTAL AUTHORISED PRIVATE (PERMANENT)	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
TOTAL AUTHORISED LOCAL AUTHORITY (PERMANENT)	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>
TOTAL PRIVATE (TOLERATED)	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>
TOTAL UNAUTHORISED	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>

Map 4.1 Location of Gypsy and Traveller Sites



**Table 4.1b** List of yards as at 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013

Yard Name	Site Location and Housing Market Area	Type of Yard	Ownership	Total Number of Plots on Yard
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>NA</b>
<b>TOTAL AUTHORISED (PERMANENT)</b>				<b>NA</b>
<b>TOTAL AUTHORISED</b>				<b>NA</b>

- 4.5 Consultation with the Showmen’s Guild has confirmed that there is currently no provision for Showpeople in Central Lancashire but that there should be provision based on the findings of their own research conducted in 2007<sup>14</sup>. The data collected was later analysed and reported in 2008 by 4NW. Appendix 3 and 4 of the report indicated broad Council location preferences. Preston was mentioned by 8% of survey respondents (second most preferred area out of 43). Chorley was mentioned by 4% of survey respondents (10<sup>th</sup> out of 43 areas) and South Ribble by 3.2% of survey respondents (13<sup>th</sup> out of 43 areas)<sup>15</sup>.
- 4.6 The North West Plan Partial Review (July 2009) at Table 7.3 indicated that each Council in Central Lancashire should provide a minimum of 10 plots (30 in total) between 2007-2016 to cover the needs of Travelling Showpeople (from a total of 285 plots in total for the North West as a whole) and that following 2016 these numbers should grow by 3% per year<sup>16</sup>.
- 4.7 Given that this information is now significantly out of date, it cannot be assumed to represent an actual need over the next 15 years. The approach was based on a methodology that sought to re-distribute provision across the region irrespective of actual need and it was not accepted by a number of Authorities. The methodology used in this study is entirely compliant with the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites guidance and the Framework and as no Travelling Showpeople live in the area and none have presented themselves as having a need to locate within Central Lancashire during the course of this study, it is appropriate to record no need at this time.
- 4.8 Given that surrounding authorities are all progressing their own GTAAs, their Travelling Showpeople’s needs will be covered by their respective studies and any cross boundary need will be satisfied through the arrangements set up under the duty to cooperate. In addition, a five year review of this study will allow for the ‘need’ assessment to be updated and any necessary policy/allocations implications to be appropriately implemented. Should a need be demonstrated in the future Central Lancashire Authorities would apply their Core Strategy Policy

<sup>14</sup> The Accommodation Situation of Showmen in the Northwest, Dr Colm Power and Showmen’s Guild, Lancashire Section, June 2007.

<sup>15</sup> The North West’s Travelling Showpeople’s Current Base Location, Preferred base Locations and Operating Patterns – 4NW, 2008, Appendices 3 and 4.

<sup>16</sup> Submitted Draft North West Plan Partial Review – 4NW, July 2009, pp 8-13.

8: Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in order to assess the appropriateness of any proposed sites.

## 5. The Current Picture: Gypsy and Traveller population and pitch availability

### Population Estimates

- 5.1 This chapter looks at the current picture in terms of the current population and demography of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Central Lancashire before going on to explore the extent and nature of provision across the area.
- 5.2 According to the 2011 Census, a total of 39 households in Central Lancashire identified as having a White British Gypsy and Traveller ethnicity. This may include residents living in bricks and mortar accommodation. As the number of pitches on sites is known, the main issue is the number of Gypsies and Travellers in housing. Where possible, interviews have been carried out with Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation; three interviews were achieved with such households and these were sourced by the HSSA fieldwork team from their own knowledge and contacts. Where appropriate, the findings of the household survey are presented for Gypsies and Travellers living on sites, and Gypsies and Travellers living in Bricks and Mortar accommodation.

### Caravan Counts and Authorised Pitches

- 5.3 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the Government in 1979, and have since been made by local authorities annually on a voluntary basis every January and July. Their accuracy varies between local authorities and according to how information is included in the process. A major criticism is the non-involvement of Gypsies and Travellers themselves in the counts. However, the counts conducted on a single day twice a year is the only systematic source of information on the numbers and distribution of Gypsy and Traveller trailers. The counts include caravans (or trailers) on and off authorised sites (i.e. those with planning permission) but do not relate necessarily to the actual number of pitches (i.e. capacity) on sites.
- 5.4 A major review<sup>17</sup> of the counting system was undertaken in 2003 by the then Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), which made a number of recommendations and improvements to the process.
- 5.5 The January 2013 Caravan Count<sup>18</sup> nationally found that:
  - There were 18,730 caravans in England, 20 fewer than January 2012;
  - Approximately 6,930 caravans were on authorised socially rented sites, an increase of 130 on the previous year;

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<sup>17</sup> Counting Gypsies and Travellers: A Review of the Caravan Count System, Pat Niner Feb 2004, ODPM

<sup>18</sup> DCLG Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count January 2013  
[http://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/count\\_of\\_gypsy\\_and\\_traveller\\_caravans](http://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/count_of_gypsy_and_traveller_caravans)

- The number of caravans on authorised private sites was just over 9,100, ten less than in January 2012;
- The number of caravans on unauthorised developments<sup>19</sup> was approximately 1,840, 50 less than the previous year;
- The number of caravans on unauthorised encampments was almost 860, approximately 100 less than in the previous January; and
- Overall the January 2013 count indicated that 86% of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were on authorised land and 14% on unauthorised land.

5.6 The figures for the last five caravan counts (January 2011 to January 2013) for the Councils are set out in Table 5.1 overleaf. This indicates that the number of caravans on sites varies widely between authorities. In South Ribble there are no recorded caravans on sites. In Chorley there are no records of permanent caravans being recorded on sites, however, there were on average four caravans recorded on unauthorised sites over this period, with activity dropping from a high of six caravans in July 2012 to five in January 2013.

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<sup>19</sup> 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.

**Table 5.1** Bi-annual Caravan Count figures 2011 to 2013

Count	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised pitches without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
<b>Preston</b>				
Jan 2013	28	8	7	43
Jul 2012	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jan 2012	25	8	7	40
Jul 2011	12	0	7	19
Jan 2011	21	7	0	28
4 count average	22	6	5	33
<b>Chorley</b>				
Jan 2013	0	0	5	5
Jul 2012	0	0	6	6
Jan 2012	0	0	5	5
Jul 2011	0	0	5	5
Jan 2011	0	0	0	0
5 count average	0	0	4	4
<b>South Ribble</b>				
Jan 2013	0	0	0	0
Jul 2012	0	0	0	0
Jan 2012	0	0	0	0
Jul 2011	0	0	0	0
Jan 2011	0	0	0	0
5 count average	0	0	0	0

Source: DCLG Caravan Count

- 5.7 Preston has the highest recorded number of caravans. In Preston the majority of caravans are on the Council owned socially rented site at Leighton Street, 26 on average over the period. The highest number of caravans recorded was 43 in January 2013, followed by 40 in January 2012 and 28 in January 2011. The lowest number recorded in Preston was zero caravans in July 2012.
- 5.8 Based on DCLG published data, the five count average for South Ribble was zero caravans as there are no authorised or unauthorised caravans identified on any of the counts. Please note this means that no interviews with households on pitches were conducted in South Ribble and as such there is a zero count for responses from South Ribble in the fieldwork survey data tables presented in this report.
- 5.9 It should be noted that there may be more than one trailer per pitch, and in the case of households doubling up on pitches there could be several trailers. For obvious reasons Gypsies and Travellers living on sites may not be present on the days on which the counts are conducted.

Tables 5.2a and 5.2b summarise the range of sites and yards known to the Councils across Central Lancashire.



**Table 5.2a** Summary of sites and pitches

Central Lancashire	No. Sites	No. Pitches
Council owned	1	14
Private authorised	2	7
Private unauthorised tolerated	0	0
Private unauthorised	0	0
<b>TOTAL Authorised</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>TOTAL Tolerated</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL Unauthorised</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>

Source: Central Lancashire local authorities

**Table 5.2b** Summary of yards and plots

Central Lancashire	No. Yards	No. Plots
Council owned	0	0
Private authorised	0	0
Private unauthorised	0	0
<b>TOTAL Authorised</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL Unauthorised</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: Central Lancashire local authorities

5.10 Residents across these sites were contacted and asked to participate in the study. A total of 26 interviews were achieved; of these, 23 were with respondents living on a pitch on an authorised site, zero were living on an unauthorised site, and three respondents were living in bricks and mortar accommodation. The achieved interviews also included details of one emerging household (whom intend on remaining in the Central Lancashire area). Emerging households are households expecting to form and mainly comprise young people intending on forming their own household in the next five years.

### Tenure of respondents

5.11 Overall, 69.2% of respondents own their own home and 30.8% rent from a Council. No other tenures were identified in the survey response data (Table 5.3).

**Table 5.3** Tenure of respondents

Tenure	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Rent from Housing Association/Registered provider/Registered Social Landlord	0.0	42.1	0.0	30.8
Own home	100.0	57.9	0.0	69.2
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (valid responses)	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

5.12 According to the responses given by respondents, a minority of those living on pitches rent the land they live on with planning permission (16.7%); over half of respondents said that they rent from a Council (58.3%); a further 4.2% own the land where they live with no planning permission; 4.2% said the question was not applicable and 16.7% stated 'other'.

**Table 5.4** Ownership of land where trailer/caravan located

Land ownership	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Own land where trailer/wagon is normally located (with planning permission)	20.0	15.8	0.0	16.7
Own land where trailer/caravan is normally located (no planning permission)	0.0	5.3	0.0	4.2
Rent pitch from Council	0.0	73.7	0.0	58.3
Not Applicable	20.0	0.0	0.0	4.2
Other	60.0	5.3	0.0	16.7
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Responses)	5	19	0	24
Missing cases	2	0	0	2
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Repairs and improvements

5.13 Overall the vast majority (88.5%) of respondents described the state of repair of their home as being very good (Table 5.5) with the remainder (11.5%) saying the state of repair was 'good'. No respondents described their home as being in a poor or very poor state of repair.

**Table 5.5** State of repair

State of repair	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Very Good	100.0	84.2	0.0	88.5
Good	0.0	15.8	0.0	11.5
Neither Good nor Poor	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poor	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Very Poor	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Space Requirements

5.14 Whilst there is no set pitch size, DCLG guidance states that there should be sufficient space on pitches to allow for:

- Manoeuvrability of an average size trailer of up to 15 metres in length;
- Capacity for larger mobile homes of up to 25 meters on a number of pitches on a site; and
- A minimum of six metres between every trailer, caravan or park home that is separately occupied on a site.

5.15 Good practice would suggest that ideally sites should be small, consisting of between five and fifteen pitches unless there is clear evidence to suggest that either a smaller or larger site is preferred by the Traveller community<sup>20</sup>.

5.16 In terms of space for trailers, wagons and vehicles (Table 5.6), 100% of respondents felt they had enough space.

**Table 5.6** Enough space for trailers, wagons and vehicles

Sufficient space for trailers, wagons, vehicles and loads	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Yes	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
No	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid responses)	5	19	0	24
Non response/not relevant	2	0	0	2
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

<sup>20</sup> Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites – Good Practice Guide, DCLG, May 2008, Chapter 4.

5.17 Overall the majority of respondents felt that there was enough space in their amenity block/shed (80%). However, 10.5% of Preston respondents felt that they did not have sufficient space in this regard. Overall 12% of respondents did not feel the question was relevant to them.

**Table 5.7** Enough space in amenity blocks/sheds on pitch

Enough space in your amenity block/shed	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Yes	66.7	84.2	0.0	80.0
No	0.0	10.5	0.0	8.0
Not Relevant	33.3	5.3	0.0	12.0
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid responses)	6	19	0	25
Non response	1	0	0	1
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

5.18 Overall the majority of respondents felt that there was enough space on their pitch/plot (81.8%). In Chorley a third of respondents did not feel the question was relevant to them (Table 5.8).

**Table 5.8** Enough space on pitch/plot

Enough space in your pitch/plot	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Yes	66.7	100.0	0.0	81.8
No	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not Relevant	33.3	0.0	0.0	18.2
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid responses)	6	5	0	11
Non response	1	14	0	15
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Satisfaction with location of your home

5.19 Satisfaction with the location of the home is very high (Table 5.9), with 92.3% of respondents overall stating that they were very satisfied (7.7% said they were satisfied). No respondents said that they were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with location. Clearly the location of the current permanent and temporary sites in the study area meets the locational requirements of the Traveller community.

**Table 5.9** Satisfaction with the location of your home

Satisfaction with location of your home	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Very satisfied	100.0	89.5	0.0	92.3
Satisfied	0.0	10.5	0.0	7.7
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dissatisfied	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Very dissatisfied	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Response)	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Overcrowding

5.20 A limited number of respondents in Preston felt that their home was overcrowded (5.3%) (Table 5.10). Overall 96.2% said that their home was not over crowded.

**Table 5.10** Do you think your home is overcrowded?

Do you think your home is overcrowded?	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Yes	0.0	5.3	0.0	3.8
No	100.0	94.7	0.0	96.2
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Responses)	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Facilities shared with other households

5.21 Sharing toilet facilities was mentioned by two respondents living in Chorley and five living in Preston, whilst two respondents in Chorley indicated that they shared a bathroom, a kitchen and a laundry (Table 5.11).

**Table 5.11** Do you have to share facilities?

Sharing facilities	Local Authority (#)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Bathroom	2	0	0	2
Toilet	2	5	0	7
Kitchen	2	0	0	2
Laundry	2	0	0	2
Base (Valid Responses)	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Cost of accommodation and services

- 5.22 Overall, 36.4% of respondents have none of their housing costs met by Housing Benefit. The remainder (63.6%) have all of their costs met through Housing Benefit. As Table 5.12 shows there is a clear split between Preston and Chorley respondents with no one in Chorley getting any help with rent costs.
- 5.23 In terms of rent paid, every respondent on the Preston site said that their rent was £80 per week.

**Table 5.12** Housing costs covered by Housing Benefit

Housing costs covered by Housing Benefit	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
None	100.0	22.2	0.0	36.4
Part	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
All	0.0	77.8	0.0	63.6
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Responses)	4	18	0	22
Non response	3	1	0	4
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

- 5.24 Please note that it was not deemed culturally sensitive to ask about income in the survey.

## Location to amenities

- 5.25 Respondents were asked if they felt being near to a range of amenities was important, slightly important or not important to them (Table 5.13). Over 84.6% felt it was important to be close to doctors and 92% said this of cash points/Post Offices; with importance of being close to primary schools (72%) and public transport (73.1%) also noted.

**Table 5.13** Location to amenities

Amenity	Importance	Local Authority (%)			
		Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Primary School nearby	Important	83.3	68.4	0	72.0
	Slightly Important	16.7	31.6	0	28.0
	Not Important	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Secondary School nearby	Important	83.3	57.9	0	64.0
	Slightly Important	16.7	36.8	0	32.0
	Not Important	0.0	5.3	0	4.0
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Doctors nearby	Important	85.7	84.2	0	84.6
	Slightly Important	14.3	15.8	0	15.4
	Not Important	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Shops nearby	Important	33.3	6.3	0	13.6
	Slightly Important	16.7	6.3	0	9.1
	Not Important	50.0	87.5	0	77.3
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Post Office/Cash point nearby	Important	100.0	88.9	0	92.0
	Slightly Important	0.0	11.1	0	8.0
	Not Important	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Pubs nearby	Important	33.3	6.3	0	13.6
	Slightly Important	16.7	6.3	0	9.1
	Not Important	50.0	87.5	0	77.3
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Public Transport nearby	Important	71.4	73.7	0	73.1
	Slightly Important	66.7	7.1	0	17.6
	Not Important	33.3	7.1	0	11.8
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Main Roads nearby	Important	83.3	25.0	0	40.9
	Slightly Important	16.7	62.5	0	50.0
	Not Important	0.0	12.5	0	9.1
	Total	100.0	100.0	0	100.0
Base (all households)		7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Moving

5.26 Respondents were asked whether they planned to move over the next five years. All respondents plan to stay where they are (100%).

**Table 5.14** Respondents planning to move in the next five years

Moving intention	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Planning to stay where you are based now	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Planning to move elsewhere	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Response)	6	19	0	25
Non response	1	0	0	1
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## Household mobility

5.27 The household survey identified a limited degree of mobility, with 14 households out of the 25 responding having lived at their present address for over five years. No respondents had lived in their current home for two years or less.

**Table 5.15** Length of residence

Length of residence	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Up to one year	0	0	0	0
Over 1 and up to 2 years	0	0	0	0
Over 2 and up to 3 years	0	3	0	3
Over 3 and up to 4 years	3	2	0	5
Over 4 and up to 5 years	0	3	0	3
5 years or over	3	11	0	14
Total	6	19	0	25

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

5.28 Of households moving in the past five years, none had moved from within the Central Lancashire area, and five had moved from Blackburn; and one had moved from each of Blackpool, Bolton, Manchester and Standish. Of the nine households who had moved all said that they had lived in the previous location for five years or over. Of these households, six previously lived in a trailer or wagon while 2 had lived in a house and two had lived in a chalet/mobile home (one household had access to both a house and a trailer). There was no main



reason for leaving the previous location with each household providing a different response though generally these were linked to family reasons.

**Table 5.16** Summary of the origin of moving households

Origin	Chorley	Preston	Total
Blackpool	1	0	1
Blackburn	0	5	5
Bolton	1	0	1
Manchester	1	0	1
Standish	1	0	1
Travelling all the time	3	14	17
TOTAL	7	19	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

## 6. Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Requirements

### Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Requirements

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch requirements of Gypsies and Travellers across Central Lancashire. It takes into account current supply and demand, as well as future demand, based on modelling of data, as advocated by the DCLG. Requirements for Gypsies and Travellers are reviewed. This chapter also considers planning issues.
- 6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on DCLG modelling as advocated in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance (DCLG, 2007). The DCLG Guidance requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. **The focus of the calculation of pitch requirements is the need arising from local authorities within the study area.** The Guidance advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information.
- 6.3 The GTAA has modelled current and future demand and current and future supply. The following analysis focuses on Gypsies and Travellers specifically.
- 6.4 In terms of **need**, the model considers:
- The baseline number of households on authorised and unauthorised sites (as at 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 );
  - The number of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation (a minimum baseline based on achieved interviews) and the number wanting to move to a pitch;
  - Existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites);
  - The current shortfall in pitches relative to households on existing sites; and
  - Emerging households currently on sites and planning to stay within the study area; to derive a figure for
  - Total need.
- 6.5 In terms of **supply**, the model considers :
- Total supply of pitches on authorised sites and the unauthorised tolerated site;
  - Turnover on existing authorised sites; and
  - Total supply of authorised pitches based on turnover and existing pitch provision (as set out at Table 4.1a).
- 6.6 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply by summarising:
- Total need for pitches; and
  - Total supply of authorised and unauthorised tolerated pitches.

- 6.7 The assessment of current need should, in line with the guidance, take account of existing supply and demand. In the DCLG model, current residential supply refers to local authority residential sites and authorised privately owned sites.
- 6.8 In this assessment we have reported the existing number of pitches on authorised local authority and private sites (this is the actual number of pitches on sites available for occupancy at 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013).
- 6.9 We have secured interviews from all households living on authorised pitches and therefore data have not been weighted to take into account non-response.

## Description of factors in the model

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

### Need

#### 6.11 **Current pitches (1a to 1e)**

These figures are derived from Local Authority data and confirmed by the site census carried out as part of the fieldwork.

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

This is a minimum figure based on the respondents who were interviewed as part of the fieldwork. There were a total of three households interviewed with none planning to move onto a site within Central Lancashire.

#### 6.13 **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 and unauthorised pitches and respondents in bricks and mortar accommodation who would prefer to live on a site. No households were planning to move in the next five years.

#### 6.14 **Emerging households (4)**

This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next five years based on household survey information from respondents living on authorised and unauthorised pitches and also people living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Over the period 2013/14 to 2017/18 there is expected to be one additional household formed and it is expected to remain on a permanent site

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

This is a total of current households on pitches (authorised and unauthorised), households planning to move in the next five years (either on pitches or in bricks and mortar accommodation) and demand from emerging households.

**Table 6.1** Summary of need and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers

NEED		Central Lancashire	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	
1	Current pitches	1a. On LA Site	14	0	14	0
		1b. On Private Site - Authorised	0	0	0	0
		1c. On Private Site - Temporary Authorised	7	2	5	0
		1d. Unauthorised	0	0	0	0
		<b>1e. TOTAL (1a to 1d)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>
2	Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (baseline information only)	<b>2a. TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	<b>Currently on sites</b>				
		3a. To another pitch/same site	0	0	0	0
		3b. To another site in study area	0	0	0	0
		3c. To Bricks and Mortar	0	0	0	0
		3d. To a site/B&M outside study area	0	0	0	0
		<b>Currently in Bricks and Mortar</b>				
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA	0	0	0	0
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property	0	0	0	0
<b>3g. TOTAL (3a+3b+3c+3e+3f-3d)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	1	0	1	0
		4b. Currently on sites and planning to live on another site in study area	0	0	0	0
		4c. Currently on site and planning to move outside study area	0	0	0	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site	0	0	0	0
		<b>4e. TOTAL (4a+4b-4c+4d)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
5	<b>Total Need</b>	<b>1e+3g+4e</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>
SUPPLY		Central Lancashire	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	
6	Turnover on existing permanent authorised pitches	6a. 5 years	0	0	0	0
7	Total supply of pitches (5 yrs)	7a. Current authorised pitch provision and turnover (1a+1b+6a)	14	0	14	0
		7b. Current vacancies on authorised pitches	0	0	0	0
		<b>7c. TOTAL (7a+7b)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY		Central Lancashire	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	
8	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	22	2	20	0
9	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 7c)	14	0	14	0
<b>5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL (2013/14 TO 2017/18)</b>			<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>

## Supply

### 6.16 Turnover on existing pitches (6)

The model assumes a turnover rate of 0% each year for pitches on authorised sites. This is based on the view that no existing household is planning to move in the next five years so there will be no additional pitch provision from households moving off the permanent sites.

### 6.17 Total supply (7)

This figure is based on the total number of authorised permanent pitches available (14 Council pitches) plus a five year supply based on turnover rates (6a) and any vacant pitch provision identified in the site surveys.

## Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.18 In summary, there is a total shortfall over the next five years (2013/14 to 2017/18) of eight pitches in Central Lancashire. This need relates to the need to provide for households currently living on temporary authorised sites (7) plus the need from one emerging household. Note in the case of Chorley the identified need for permanent pitches is based on the fact that there are two temporary pitches currently in the District. The use of temporary permission is set out in Circular 11/1995: The Use of Conditions in Planning Permission. This states that there is no presumption that a temporary planning permission should become permanent. Therefore, the study assumes that the households living on pitches with temporary planning permission need permanent pitches.
- 6.19 Analysis at this stage does not factor in the potential for additional pitches which are subject to planning permission, nor any expansion of existing sites.
- 6.20 Table 6.2 summarises current supply and future need for the Councils over the period 2013/14 to 2017/18. In summary, there is a total shortfall over the next five years (2013/14 to 2017/18) of 2 pitches in Chorley, 6 in Preston and none in South Ribble, resulting in a sub-regional shortfall of 8. This need generally relates to the need to provide for households currently living on temporary authorised sites (9) plus the need from one emerging household.
- 6.21 This should be viewed as the objectively assessed needs based on the current supply of pitches and the views expressed by Gypsies and Traveller households who have been interviewed. The need for pitches should be regularly reviewed to determine the extent to which this objectively assessed need is changing over time.

**Table 6.2** Summary of current pitch supply and shortfalls 2013/14 to 2017/18

	Current supply <sup>21</sup>	Total shortfall
Chorley	0	2
Preston	14	6
South Ribble	0	0
<b>Central Lancashire Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>

### Longer-term requirements

- 6.22 Modelling assumes a five year time horizon but it is possible to consider requirements over a longer time-frame based on an analysis of the demography of households currently living in Central Lancashire. Analysis would suggest a marked increase in the need for pitches from emerging households over the period 2018/19 to 2027/28. This compares with the period 2013/14 to 2017/18 when there is only household expected to emerge.
- 6.23 Assuming that children currently in households emerge to form new households at the age of 18, analysis suggests a need from 26 people over the period 2018/19 to 2027/28 (six in Chorley, 20 in Preston and zero in South Ribble) for pitches.
- 6.24 It is unlikely there will be a need for 26 additional pitches as some people are likely to move away to form households (around half is assumed) and on this basis the model prudently assumes 13 households requiring pitches (Table 6.3).
- 6.25 Analysis of requirements over the period 2013/14 to 2017/18 indicates no turnover on existing sites. The model assumes this will continue and therefore additional pitches will be required to address emerging need.
- 6.26 Longer-term requirements over 15 years (Table 6.4) are therefore calculated to be 7 additional pitches in the five years 2018/19 to 2022/23 (Chorley 2 and Preston 5) and 6 pitches in the five years 2023/24 to 2027/28 (Chorley 1 and Preston 5). This would result in a 15 year requirement for 23 pitches across Central Lancashire and an annual requirement of 1.53 pitches across the area.
- 6.27 It would be recommended that the requirements from newly-forming households are assessed in five years' time to determine the actual scale of household formation and any change in turnover on existing authorised sites.

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<sup>21</sup> Includes pitches on authorised sites (Council and Private Authorised)

**Table 6.3** People emerging to form new households 2018/19 to 2027/28

Time period	Central Lancashire	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble
2018/19-2022/23 emerging people	14	4	10	0
2023/24-2027/28 emerging people	12	2	10	0
Total 2018/19-2027/28	26	6	20	0
Total 2018/19-2027/28 pitches required (assuming one new household for every two emerging people)	13	3	10	0

6.28 Table 6.4 summarises overall requirements by local authority and Table 6.5 summarises overall requirement for the Plan Period 2013/14 to 2026/27.

**Table 6.4** Summary of overall permanent pitch requirements

District	Pitch requirement			Total requirement (15 year)	Annual requirement
	2013/14 to 2017/18	2018/19 to 2022/23	2023/24 to 2027/28		
Chorley	2	2	1	5	0.33
Preston	6	5	5	16	1.07
South Ribble	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1.4</b>

6.29 As the Local Plan Period covers 14 years to 2026/27, longer-term pitch requirements have been recast to reflect this time period (Table 6.5) which shows an overall shortfall of 20 pitches.

**Table 6.5** Summary of overall permanent pitch requirements for the Local Plan period 2013/14 to 2025/26

District	Total requirement (14 years)
Chorley	5
Preston	15
South Ribble	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>

## Showperson Permanent Plot Requirements

6.30 There are no showperson plot requirements identified as part of research undertaken in the study area.

## 7. Travelling practices and experiences

- 7.1 The purpose of this chapter is to review the travelling patterns associated with respondents across Central Lancashire. Broadly speaking, travelling patterns are seasonal, generally linked to seasonal employment but travelling also takes place to enable visits to family and friends, and attendance at events, such as weddings and funerals. Families require safe and secure places from which to travel, and this home base is usually from where they access GPs, schools and a dentist.
- 7.2 Respondents were asked about their travelling practices in the previous year (Table 7.1). Just under a quarter of respondents (24.0%) had travelled in the previous year. Travelling was more common amongst those respondents in Chorley (57.1%) when compared to respondents in Preston (11.1%).

**Table 7.1** Travelling behaviour by dwelling type

Travelled in last year	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Yes	57.1	11.1	0.0	24.0
No	42.9	88.9	0.0	76.0
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Response)	7	18	0	25
Non response	0	1	0	1
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

- 7.3 Of respondents that have travelled in the previous year and provided information on travelling times, half (50.0%) had travelled for less than one month, a further 33.4% had travelled for between five and 12 weeks and 16.7% said 'all year' (Table 7.2).

**Table 7.2** Length of time travelling

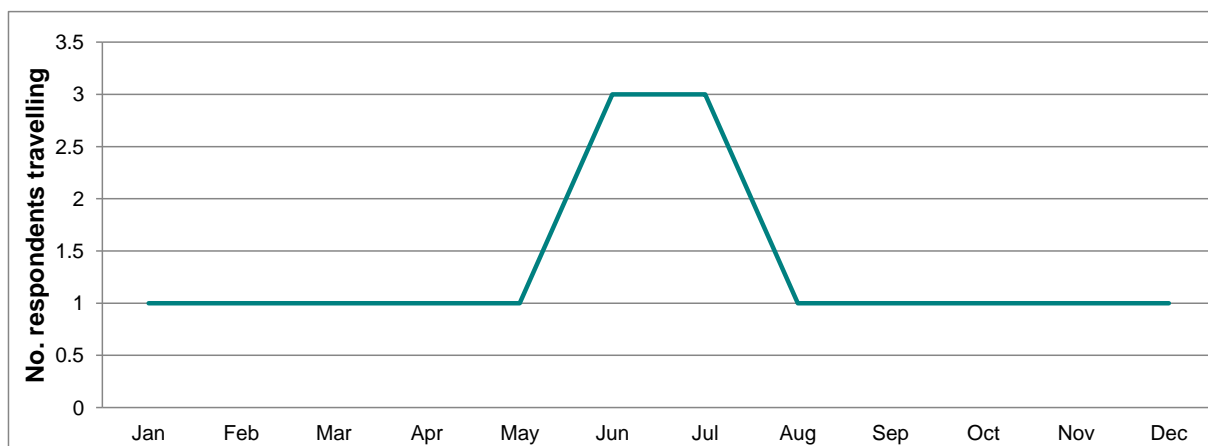
Length of time travelled	Total (%)
Two to four weeks	50.0
5 to 8 weeks	16.7
9 to 12 weeks	16.7
All Year	16.7
Total	100.0
Base (Valid responses)	6
Non Travelling/Non response	20
Grand Total	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013



7.4 Figure 7.1 summarises when respondents travelled. Most travelling activity is between May and August.

**Figure 7.1** Months when travelling takes place



7.5 A range of reasons were given for travelling but the most frequently mentioned were cultural heritage (58.3%) and for visiting family/friends (33.3%) (Table 7.3).

**Table 7.3** Reasons for travelling

Reason for travelling	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Cultural heritage	80.0	52.6	0.0	58.3
Visit family/friends	0.0	42.1	0.0	33.3
Limited opportunity to settle / no pitch on which to live / lack of site provision	20.0	5.3	0.0	8.3
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Responses)	5	19	0	24
Non response	2	0	0	2
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

Note more than one reason for travelling could be expressed

7.6 A range of problems can be experienced whilst travelling and respondents were asked to identify these based on their experiences (Table 7.4). Most frequently the problems mentioned were closing of traditional stopping places (16.3%), police behaviour (14.0%), enforcement officer behaviour (14.0%) and no places to stop over (14.0%).

**Table 7.4** Problems whilst travelling

Problem	Responses	%	% of respondents mentioning
No places to stop over	6	14.0	85.7
Closing of traditional stopping places	7	16.3	100.0
Abuse, harassment or discrimination	6	14.0	85.7
Lack of toilet facilities	3	7.0	42.9
No water facilities	4	9.3	57.1
Problems with rubbish collection	4	9.3	57.1
Police behaviour	6	14.0	85.7
Enforcement officer behaviour	6	14.0	85.7
Behaviour of other travellers	1	2.3	14.3
Total responses	43	100.0	
Total respondents	7		

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

Note more than one problem could be expressed

### Transit sites and stop over places

7.7 The DCLG Guidance suggests that, in addition to the need for permanent provision, an assessment should be made of the need for temporary places to stop-over while travelling. Two types of temporary provision have been identified elsewhere:

- Transit sites: intended for short-term use while in transit. Sites are usually permanent but there is a limit on the length of time residents can stay; and
- Stop-over places: designated temporary camping areas tolerated by local authorities, used for short-term encampments and sometimes with the provision of temporary toilet facilities, water supplies and refuse collection services.

7.8 Views were sought on the current provision of transit sites across the study area. 96.2% said that there was a need for provision of new transit sites across the area, whilst 3.8% said there was no need; there were no non-responses (Table 7.5).

7.9 Respondents were asked where these transit sites should be located. No locations inside the Central Lancashire study area were mentioned.

**Table 7.5** Need for transit sites

Need for a transit site	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Yes	85.7	100.0	0.0	96.2
No	14.3	0.0	0.0	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0
Base (Valid Response)	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

7.10 There is a strong preference for the Council management of transit sites by Gypsy/Travellers living in Preston (78.9%); those living in Chorley were more likely to identify a preference for Registered Social Landlords/Housing Associations (83.3%) (see Table 7.6).

**Table 7.6** Preferred management of transit provision

Management of transit sites	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Councils	16.7	78.9	0.0	64.0
Registered Social Landlords / Housing Associations	83.3	31.6	0.0	44.0
Private (Gypsy/Traveller/ Showperson)	16.7	0.0	0.0	4.0
Base (Valid Responses)	6	19	0	25
Non response	1	0	0	1
Grand Total	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

Note: Respondents could tick more than one response so percentages do not add up to 100%

7.11 In order to establish the potential requirement for transit and stop-over provision in Central Lancashire it is important to understand the extent of short term unauthorised encampment activity across the local authority areas. Generally these unauthorised encampments are ones that are of short duration (anything from one day to 7 days – see Tables 7.8, 7.9 and 7.10). They occur as Gypsies and Travellers pass through an area whilst travelling, and are indicative of a lack of stop over or transit provision. Table 7.7 details the extent of unauthorised encampment activity over the past three years.

7.12 The extent to which transit and stop-over provision is required across Central Lancashire is now explored with reference to the views of survey respondents, the scale of unauthorised encampment activity and discussions and consultation with local authority officers and other key stakeholders.

7.13 Generally speaking, a transit pitch can accommodate up to 2 caravans, although it should be recognised that ‘doubling up’, that is two caravans sharing a pitch, is only generally appropriate where it is a household travelling.

**Table 7.7** Unauthorised encampments 2010 to 2013

Authority	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total	3 year average
Chorley <sup>22</sup>	2	4	3	4	13	3.25
Preston	NA	NA	NA	3	3	3*
South Ribble <sup>23</sup>	2	1	5	10	18	4.5
Total	4	5	8	14	31	7.75

Source: Central Lancashire local authorities

\*only data for 2013 is available

7.14 Across Chorley there were a total of 13 reported unauthorised encampments over the period February 2010 to July 2013 (Table 7.8). There was an average of 4.8 caravans reported at each encampment, with a range of between 1 and 12 caravans. The average length of each encampment was 3 days.

<sup>22</sup> Time period covered is February 2010 through to July 2013.

<sup>23</sup> Time period covered is May 2010 through to August 2013.

**Table 7.8** Unauthorised encampment activity in Chorley

Date	Month	Location	Duration (days)	Number of caravans
18.02.10	February	Land at Buckshaw Village, Euxton	7	12
21.04.10	April	Westway, Chancery Road, Astley Village	1	7
27.04.11	April	Euxton Lane (Pony Field), Astley Village	7	5
14.07.11	July	Land at Buckshaw Village , Euxton	2	3-4
23.07.11	July	Euxton Lane, Euxton	5	6
09.08.11	August	Land at Buckshaw Village, Euxton, then moved 10.08.11 to B & Q car park, North Street, Chorley	1	4
02.03.12	March	Former Comet Site, North Street, Chorley	2	1
02.05.12	May	Former Discover Leisure site, Chapel Lane, Coppull then moved 04.05.12 to Former QS Fashions site, Bolton Street, Chorley then returned 09.05.12 to B & Q car park, North Street, Chorley		4-5
23.07.12	July	Junction of Euxton Lane/Central Avenue, Buckshaw Village, Euxton	5	6
19.02.13	February	Fleet Street car park, Fleet Street, Chorley	1	2 plus 1 motor home
25.03.13	March	Land at MacDonald's, Portland Street, Chorley	2	1 plus 1 motor home
19.06.13	June	Fleet Street car park, Fleet Street, Chorley	2	4 plus 1 motor home
15.07.13	July	Hoghton Cricket Club, Smithy Brow, Hoghton	2	2 plus one motor home

Source: Local Authority data

7.15 Across Preston there were a total of 3 reported unauthorised encampments over the period February to June 2013 were associated with a grouping of 20 caravans and another of 12 caravans (Table 7.9). The average length of each encampment was 2.3 days.

**Table 7.9** Unauthorised encampment activity in Preston

Date	Month	Location	Duration (days)	Number of caravans
02.13	February	Vicarage Lane, Fulwood, Preston	2	20
03.13	March	Bluebell Way, Preston (LCC site: former park and ride)	3	20
06.13	June	Oliver's Place, Fulwood	2	12

Source: Local Authority data

7.16 Unauthorised encampments are mainly associated with travelling to Appleby Horse Fair or family events.

7.17 Across South Ribble, there were a total of 18 reported unauthorised encampments May 2010 to August 2013 (Table 7.10). There was an average of 4.8 caravans reported at each encampment, with a range of between 1 and 20 caravans. Data on the duration of encampments is sketchy, with only 6 recorded durations out of 18 events, with this data indicating an average of 3 days duration.

**Table 7.10** Unauthorised encampment activity in South Ribble

Date	Month	Location	Duration (days)	Number of caravans
19.05.10	May	Wigan Road, Leyland	No Details	6 horse drawn caravans, 2 caravans
24.05.10	May	Todd Lane South, public park close to five a side pitch	2	5 caravans
05.01.11	January	Nook Lane, (Wigan Road end) Junction with B&Q loading bay rear entrance	5	1 caravan
17.04.12	April	Junction Centurion Industrial Estate, Farington, Leyland	No Details	12 caravans
20.06.12	June	Water Street, Bamber Bridge	No Details	No Details
22.06.12	June	Cuerden Valley Park entrance, Wigan Road, Bamber Bridge	No Details	3 horse drawn caravans
25.07.12	July	Open land off Cleveland Road, Leyland)	2	6 caravans
27.07.12	July	Building Land to RHS off 2 <sup>nd</sup> roundabout along Dawson Lane from Wigan Road end	5	3 caravans
25.01.13	January	Clydesdale Place Junction with Comet Road, Leyland	Approx. a few days	2 caravans
25.01.13	January	Park and Ride rear car park, Capitol Way, Walton le Dale	Approx. a few days	3 caravans
28.01.13	January	Paradise Lane, Leyland	2	2 caravans
04.02.13	February	Factory Lane, Penwortham	No Details	20 caravans
28.05.13	May	Cuerden Valley Park entrance, Wigan Road, Bamber Bridge	No details	2 caravans
21.06.13	June	Cuerden Valley Park entrance, Wigan Road, Bamber Bridge	No details	2 horse drawn carriages
19.07.13	July	Wigan Road, Bamber Bridge, entrance to Cuerden Valley Park	1	2 horse drawn caravans
22.07.13	July	Hoghton Lane, Hoghton	No details	2 caravans, 1 motorhome
20.08.13	August	B and Q Car Park, South Rings, Bamber Bridge	No details	3 caravans, 4 vans
27.08.13	August	Matalan Car Park, Holme Road, Bamber Bridge	No details	5 caravans, 1 transit van

Source: Local Authority data. Note: Where 'No details' are reported it assumed that the encampment lasted for two days.

7.18 Table 7.11 summarises the data relating to unauthorised encampments and makes recommendations for transit pitch provision. In summary, analysis would suggest a transit pitch requirement of 15 pitches across Central Lancashire. If this were apportioned to each authority based on the number of illegal encampments it would result in 9 pitches in Preston, 3 in Chorley and 3 in South Ribble. However, as no preference for location was established in the study it is recommended that the Central Lancashire authorities work together to explore the opportunities of a joint provision to satisfy need.

**Table 7.11** Transit site requirements 2013/14 to 2017/18

Locality	Unauthorised Caravan days/month	Average no. caravans on each unauthorised encampment	Average length of stay in days	Transit Pitch requirements (up to 2 vans/pitch)
Chorley	6.63	4.84	2.88	3
Preston	24.80	17.33	2.33	9
South Ribble	4.25	4.82	2.28	3
Central Lancashire			2.54	15

7.19 The transit pitch requirement is based on the average number of caravans reported on unauthorised encampments divided by two and rounded up to the nearest whole number (this assumes that each transit pitch can accommodate up to two caravans). Note that the average length of stay is below 3 days. It is assumed that providing transit pitches would help to address much of the need arising from unauthorised encampment activity as well as from stop-over requirements. It should be borne in mind that pitches could be used multiple times during the year; there may be situations where transit provision is insufficient to meet need, for instance if large numbers of households are travelling to major family events; and community member should be encouraged to use any pitches made available by the local authorities. It is assumed that the level of transit activity will not vary from observed trends and the transit pitch requirement should be addressed in the five year period 2013/14 to 2017/18 and sufficient for the Local Plan period.



## 8. Wider Service and Support Needs

8.1 This research provides a valuable opportunity to review the wider service and support needs of Gypsies and Travellers, and this chapter looks at issues raised through the household survey.

### Services used in the last year

8.2 Interviewees were asked which services they had used in the last year (Table 8.1). The most used services were Doctor (GP) and Dentist. GP services were accessed by 92.3% of respondents, and Dentists were accessed by 84.6% of respondents. Additionally 46.2% had used the Accident and Emergency service.

8.3 The proportion of respondents using other services tended to be considerably lower, with 23.1% using traveller liaison services, and 15.4% accessing a Health Visitor.

**Table 8.1** Services used in past twelve months (%)

Services used in the last year	Local Authority (%)			
	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Gypsy Services	14.3	0.0	0.0	3.8
Traveller Liaison	28.6	21.1	0.0	23.1
Adult Education	14.3	5.3	0.0	7.7
Law Centre	14.3	0.0	0.0	3.8
Citizens Advice Bureau	14.3	10.5	0.0	11.5
Doctor (GP)	100.0	89.5	0.0	92.3
Dentist	100.0	78.9	0.0	84.6
Accident and emergency	85.7	31.6	0.0	46.2
Health visitors	28.6	10.5	0.0	15.4
Base (Total responses)	28	47	0	75
Base (Total households)	7	19	0	26

Source: Survey fieldwork response data 2013

### Adaptations

8.4 Respondents were asked a number of direct questions on this subject and from these no households stated that they needed aids or adaptations.

## 9. Stakeholder Consultation

### Overview

- 9.1 Stakeholders were invited to participate in a survey aimed at identifying a range of information, including establishing the key perceived issues facing Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Central Lancashire, and ways in which these need to be addressed. Stakeholders were asked to respond to any of the questions within the survey. A total of 29 separate responses to the stakeholder consultation were obtained from a variety of organisations. The three Councils provided a list of 68 potential respondents.

**Table 9.1** Summary of invited organisations and number of survey links sent

Organisation	Number of survey links sent
Accent Group	1
Adactus Housing	1
AGMA	1
Blackburn with Darwen Council	2
Bolton Council	2
Chorley Council	8
Chorley Community Housing	1
Community Gateway	1
Fylde Council	2
Homes and Communities Agency	1
Lancashire County Council	10
Lancashire Police	4
Lancashire Fire & Rescue	2
Liberata	1
Places For People	1
Preston City Council	14
Progress Group	2
Ribble Valley Council	1
South Ribble Council	6
Contour/Symphony Housing	1
West Lancashire Borough Council	2
Wigan Council	2
Wyre Council	1
Your Housing Group	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>

**Table 9.2** Summary of respondents

Responding Organisations	Responses	Non-responding Organisations
Lancashire County Council	6	Adactus Housing Group
Preston City Council	3	Fylde Council
South Ribble Borough Council	3	Homes and Community Agency
West Lancashire Borough Council	2	Places for People
Wigan Council	2	Ribble Valley Council
Chorley Council	2	Wyre Council
Accent Group	1	Your Housing Group
Association of Greater Manchester Councils	1	
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	1	
Bolton Council	1	
Chorley Community Housing	1	
Community Gateway Housing	1	
Contour Homes	1	
Lancashire Constabulary	1	
Lancashire Fire & Rescue	1	
Liberata UK Ltd	1	
Progress Housing Group	1	
Total	29	

Source: Stakeholder survey 2013

## General Support for Gypsies and Travellers

- 9.2 There was an overall feeling from stakeholders that there is a lack of understanding of the education, employment, health and support needs of Travellers. It was felt that training, and measures to raise awareness and challenge stereotypes would be helpful. Presentations and e-Learning opportunities were options suggested by stakeholders.
- 9.3 Respondents generally felt that it was difficult to monitor the accommodation and support needs of Travellers and that joint working between agencies in respect of Travellers could be improved, although some agencies were involved in regular meetings and site visits.
- 9.4 Some respondents were not clear whether additional support was needed by Travellers living within Central Lancashire. However, a number of respondents identified that additional support was needed in terms of:
- Helping Travellers access services;
  - Provision of more accessible and easier to read material by service providers;
  - Work on ‘myth busting’; and
  - Trained community champions to help members of the community access the services and support they need.

- 9.5 It was felt that generally there was a lack of awareness across the study area of the cultural, support and accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. Negative portrayals in the media of Travelling communities, and unauthorised encampments exacerbate misconceptions and negative feeling. There is awareness amongst specialists working with communities, but not beyond. There was felt to be a need for positive publicity to address negative perceptions and tackle prejudice.
- 9.6 Some organisations have undertaken work engaging with travelling communities, and some have provided cultural awareness training for their staff; some specific work has also been done around tackling hate crime.

### Provision of Accommodation

- 9.7 Many stakeholders were unaware of the current provision available to Travellers in Central Lancashire. Responses relating to current provision identified that:
- Sites are basic but have recently been upgraded;
  - One site is lacking in secure individual post boxes; and
  - One site is in need of improvements to the shower block, and needs water plumbing into vans.
- 9.8 In terms of site management it was felt that a single consistent control/access point at County level would be helpful to ensure consistency in approach and service delivery.
- 9.9 Stakeholders had limited awareness of Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation, although there were some identified as living in South Ribble and in the Greenlands, 'Preston' area but no details were provided on addresses. Opinion was divided as to whether new pitches should be provided to accommodate the needs of those living in bricks and mortar accommodation but who wanted to live on a pitch on a site: four respondents felt that provision should be made, and four felt that it should not, three respondents did not know.
- 9.10 One stakeholder identified that Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation required additional support due to literacy issues; it was felt that this will be a significant problem with the onset of Universal Credit and the requirement for computer applications for welfare support.
- 9.11 One Registered Provider covering the Preston area identified that their organisation had been approached by 15 Traveller households requesting bricks and mortar accommodation over the past five years; whilst three had been approached for housing related support.
- 9.12 In terms of tensions, stakeholders identified tensions between Travellers and the settled community linked to unauthorised encampments.
- 9.13 Several stakeholders identified issues between Travellers on one site and students in accommodation adjacent to the site; this has been addressed via a joint approach between the Police and the local authority.
- 9.14 The refusal of access of Travellers to certain licensed premises has been a problem in some areas, and this is being addressed by the local authority and Police.

9.15 Stakeholders also identified the following:

- Enforcement action on sites creates tensions;
- The Showman's Guild has requested provision of a separate yard for Showpeople;
- There are issues with Roma Gypsies not wanting to associate with other Travellers; and
- Tensions within the Irish Travelling community.

### **Need for Additional Permanent and Transit Sites**

9.16 Seven out of eight respondents felt that there was insufficient provision of permanent sites/pitches for Travellers in Central Lancashire. A key issue identified by a number of stakeholders is the uneven distribution of supply both across the County and the North West. It was felt to be important to work towards delivering a more even distribution of new supply to:

- Secure more equitable choice for Gypsies and Travellers as to where they can live; and
- Mitigate against disproportionate pressure on support services and infrastructure in areas with historically higher levels of provision.

9.17 In terms of locations for new provision it was felt that sites should be close to facilities and have good access to road networks.

9.18 The vast majority of respondents identified a need for new transit provision across Central Lancashire. Concerns were raised that new transit sites could end up becoming permanent due to the lack of permanent provision available overall. There were also concerns that enforcement could be costly, and furthermore, 'where would people go to?'

9.19 One respondent identified low levels of unauthorised encampments as being indicative of no need for transit provision.

9.20 Stakeholders identified the following barriers to new provision (both permanent and transit):

- NIMBYism;
- Local opposition;
- Lack of political support;
- Preconceptions of antisocial behaviour and fear of crime and nuisance;
- Prejudice;
- Land availability and lack of suitable sites;
- Cost of providing new sites;
- Finding a managing agent for new sites; and
- 'Separatism' within the Travelling community.

## Unauthorised Encampments

- 9.21 Stakeholders are aware of regular unauthorised encampments, and this appears to be monitored.
- 9.22 Unauthorised encampments were identified by a number of respondents as problematic and as being costly in terms of time and money to remove. Issues linked to unauthorised encampments include:
- Causing damage to land;
  - Removal of waste; and
  - Antisocial behaviour.
- 9.23 It was felt that the provision of transit sites would mitigate against the cost of enforcement on highways land in particular, which was identified as an issue.
- 9.24 Unauthorised encampments were felt to reinforce stereotypes and prejudice, and have an overwhelmingly negative impact, increasing litter, nuisance and fear of crime.

## Planning

- 9.25 Stakeholders generally felt that the requirement for local authorities to identify a five year supply of sites was positive, however, it was felt that locational constraints, combined with recent guidance against provision of sites in the Greenbelt, would negatively impact upon finding new deliverable sites. Funding constraints were also identified as a significant barrier to new provision.
- 9.26 There was a feeling amongst stakeholders that if authorities comply with National guidance it will not be necessary for more to be done in terms of identification of future sites. The adoption of a robust provision target, informed by evidence and supported by an appropriate policy approach, should ensure delivery of new sites across the sub region. However, one respondent identified that planning does not physically deliver sites, and that, whilst new supply may be identified, the physical delivery of such sites will still be challenging.

## Duty to Cooperate

- 9.27 A key aspect of the new policy approach being the Duty to Cooperate, stakeholders from neighbouring areas stressed the need for all local authorities to work collaboratively with an emphasis on fairness, and effective strategies. It was felt strongly that Traveller requirements should be addressed regionally, rather than reinforcing historic patterns of provision, which are seen as inequitable.
- 9.28 A number of stakeholders identified the need for Central Lancashire to make a robust assessment of the needs of Gypsies and Travellers in order that the displacement of need to other areas is minimised, with evidence of unauthorised encampment activity in neighbouring areas being cited as evidence of displaced need.

- 9.29 The partial review of the North West Regional Spatial Strategy was repeatedly cited as providing a sound basis for future policy approaches, and as addressing the historic and unsustainable concentrations of provision across a small number of local authority areas.
- 9.30 In terms of the key outcomes of the GTAA, stakeholders wanted to see the following:
- An understanding of current provision;
  - A robust assessment of need;
  - Consideration of cross boundary issues and how these should be addressed; and
  - An evidence base to inform wider debate and fit with other emerging studies, especially Merseyside and Greater Manchester.
- 9.31 Overall respondents felt that the stakeholder survey contributed to the requirements under the Duty to Cooperate; however, it was felt that further discussion will be necessary. This consultation needs to be followed up with fuller debate, and clear evidence that the policy approach ultimately proposed respects the cross boundary issues identified by stakeholders. Respondents look forward to exploring the implications of the study's results and the policy responses for Central Lancashire under the Duty to Cooperate.

## 10. Summary of Findings

- 10.1 This section of the report summarises the headline findings from the research, and identifies the main issues for Central Lancashire; it also summarises key findings for each local planning authority.

### Headline findings from the research

#### Current conditions

- 10.2 Across Central Lancashire there are a total of three authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites (one Council and two private temporary) which have a total of 23 pitches. Across the study area there are no permanent or temporary Showperson yards.
- 10.3 Overall, 69.2% of respondents own their own home, 30.8% rent from a Council. 100% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the location of their home.
- 10.4 No respondents identified the state of repair of their home as 'poor' or 'very poor'. 100% of respondents described their home as being in a 'very good' or 'good' state of repair.
- 10.5 Overcrowding and lack of space were not identified as problems at all. Very few respondents felt that they were overcrowded (3.8%); and 100% felt like they had sufficient space for their trailers, wagons and vehicles; and 80% felt that they had enough space in amenity blocks while 81.8% said that they had enough space on their pitch/plot.

#### Pitch Requirements

- 10.6 Since the obligation to provide Gypsy and Traveller sites was abolished in 1994, a gap in the provision of permanent sites has emerged nationally. This study has provided robust estimates of the size of the population of these communities, and establishes their current and future accommodation requirements.
- 10.7 Using the DCLG-approved model for calculating pitch requirements, the research has demonstrated that across Central Lancashire there is a shortfall of 8 Gypsy and Traveller pitches over the five year period 2013/14 to 2017/18.
- 10.8 DCLG guidance advocates smaller permanent sites of up to 15 pitches. There is a need to take a long-term view of the site management as it is more intensive and demanding than most conventional housing management, and it would be sensible to look at this issue in greater depth. Different management models may be appropriate for different sites, with mainstream approaches to recruitment and selection of managers needing to reflect cultural sensitivities.
- 10.9 For all communities, the method of analysis is such that it is possible to periodically update the assessment of accommodation need through the careful recording of key data. For Gypsy and Traveller Communities, the number of



extant authorised pitches and a summary of the number of households on sites needs to be regularly updated from the baseline information provided in this assessment.

## Travelling Practices and Requirements

- 10.10 The current understanding of travelling patterns and the associated requirements of the Gypsy and Traveller communities is more limited. The communities continue to travel because it is part of their cultural heritage, for work, social and religious reasons.
- 10.11 Survey respondents did express a need for transit provision but no study area locations were identified or mentioned. This need for new transit provision across the area is confirmed by the level of unauthorised encampment activity over the past three years in all three Council areas.
- 10.12 Overall there is an estimated need for 15 transit pitches across the study area over the next five years. If this were apportioned to each authority based on the number of illegal encampments it would result in 9 pitches in Preston, 3 in Chorley and 3 in South Ribble. However, as no preference for location was established in the study it is recommended that the Central Lancashire authorities work together to explore the opportunities of a joint provision to satisfy need.

## Adaptations

- 10.13 No respondents stated a need for adaptations even though a direct question was asked about this in the survey questionnaire. No needs or requirements were mentioned by any survey respondents.

## Headline findings by local authority

### Chorley Borough Council

10.14 There is currently one temporary private site within Chorley.

10.15 The research findings show a 2 pitch shortfall for the period 2013/14 to 2017/18.

**Table 10.1** Chorley Summary

Chorley	Total
2013 Baseline number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches/households	2
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2017/18	2
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2018/19 to 2022/23	2
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2023/24 to 2027/28	1
Total 15 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2027/28	5
Total 14 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches to fit to Local Plan timeframe 2013/14 to 2026/27	5
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2013/14 to 2017/18	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2018/19 to 2022/23	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2023/24 to 2027/28	0

### Preston City Council

10.16 In Preston there is one permanent local authority site with 14 pitches and one temporary private site with 5 pitches.

10.17 The research findings show a pitch shortfall of 6 for 2013/14 to 2017/18.

**Table 10.2** Preston Summary

<b>Preston</b>	<b>Total</b>
2013 Baseline number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches/households	19
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2017/18	6
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2018/19 to 2022/23	5
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2023/24to 2027/28	5
Total 15 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2027/28	16
Total 14 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches to fit to Local Plan timeframe 2013/14 to 2026/27	15
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2013/14 to 2017/18	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2018/19 to 2022/23	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2023/24to 2027/28	0

### South Ribble Borough Council

10.18 There are no sites in the South Ribble area.

10.19 The research findings show no shortfall as no need can be identified for permanent sites.

**Table 10.3:** South Ribble Summary

South Ribble	Total
2013 Baseline number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches/households	0
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2017/18	0
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2018/19 to 2022/23	0
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2023/24to 2027/28	0
Total 15 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2027/28	0
Total 14 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches to fit to Local Plan timeframe 2013/14 to 2026/27	
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2013/14 to 2017/18	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2018/19 to 2022/23	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2023/24to 2027/28	0

### Central Lancashire Summary

- 10.20 There are currently two temporary private sites and one permanent local authority site across Central Lancashire providing a total of 21 pitches.
- 10.21 The research findings show an 8 pitch shortfall for the period 2013/14 to 2017/18.
- 10.22 A need for areas for up to 15 transit pitches was identified across Central Lancashire.

**Table 10.4** Central Lancashire Summary

Central Lancashire	Total
2013 Baseline number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches/households	21
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2017/18	8
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2018/19 to 2022/23	7
Identified five year shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2023/24 to 2027/28	6
Total 15 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches 2013/14 to 2027/28	21
Total 14 year additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches to fit to Local Plan timeframe 2013/14 to 2026/27	20
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2013/14 to 2017/18	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2018/19 to 2022/23	0
Identified five year shortfall of Travelling Showperson plots 2023/24 to 2027/28	0
Identified need for transit pitches	Areas for 15 pitches

## 11. Conclusion and Strategic Response

11.1 This concluding chapter looks at the key challenges and issues facing the Councils in respect of meeting the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers in Central Lancashire. The chapter provides:

- A brief **summary of key issues** emerging from the research, and the challenges these pose;
- Advice on the **strategic responses available** to the local authorities to address identified issues, including examples of good practice; and
- Recommendations and next steps.

### Key issues and how to tackle them

11.2 Chapter 10 provides a summary of the headline findings from the research, so these will not be reiterated here. This section of the report focuses on the key issues emerging from the research, and looks at how these challenges might be addressed by the local authorities. Recommendations are highlighted throughout the chapter.

11.3 The key priority issues identified by the research include:

- Meeting pitch/plot requirements;
- Addressing poor conditions on existing sites;
- Tackling wider service and support needs;

### Meeting pitch/plot requirements

11.4 The research has evidenced:

- An overall five year requirement (2013/14 to 2017/18) of eight Gypsy and Traveller pitches; and
- A recommendation to identify areas for up to 15 transit pitches across Central Lancashire based on past trends (over the period 2010 to 2013) of unauthorised encampment activity.

11.5 Over the longer-term (14 years 2013/13 to 2026/26), the research would suggest a requirement of :

- seven additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches over the period 2018/19 to 2022/23 and five pitches over the period 2023/24 to 2026/27; and
- No Showperson plots over the period 2018/19 to 2022/23 and no plots over the period 2023/24 to 2026/27.

11.6 Therefore, over the 14 year (Local Plan) period 2013/14 to 2026/27, there is a total requirement for:

- 20 Gypsy and Traveller pitches plus areas for up to 15 transit pitches and no Showperson plots across Central Lancashire.

- 11.7 In order to meet future requirements the Councils need to review the potential to increase the number of pitches on available sites, and secondly to ensure they have an adequate supply of additional sites identified in their respective Local Plans to address immediate and longer-term need. The Councils will need to work closely with both settled and Travelling communities to do this. The Councils, in partnership with Travelling communities, need to consider the options available to help meet identified need, including the expansion of existing sites, re-designation of unauthorised sites, use of Community Land Trusts and exceptions site policies. Each of these areas is now looked at in more detail, alongside good practice in planning for Gypsy and Traveller provision.
- 11.8 Local planning authorities have a duty to identify land for traveller and travelling showpeople development (Housing Act 2004 S225). Planning authorities are best placed to do this as they are most likely to know the current status of the land and the probability of securing planning permission.

### *New site identification*

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

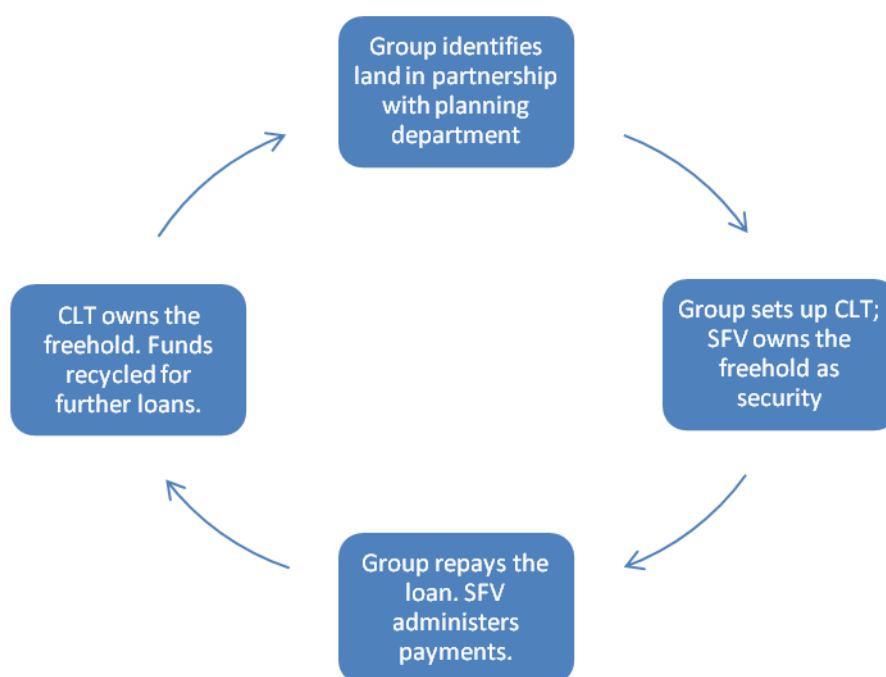
### *Community Land Trusts*

- 11.11 The 2008 Housing and Regeneration Act established Community Land Trusts as an option for local communities to acquire and manage land to address a social, environmental or economic interest.

11.12 Community Land Trusts (CLTs) are now emerging as an option to help meet the need for more sites for Gypsies and Travellers (Figure 11.1). This approach has successfully been adopted by Mendip District Council in Somerset, which has committed funding to developing a CLT locally, despite Government cuts in funding.

11.13 In the Mendip model, the Council has worked with Travellers and community groups to develop a CLT which facilitates Gypsies and Travellers purchasing land at low cost with a loan made available through a specific funding vehicle (SFV). Travellers develop a business plan for their proposal. Land owners are needed to sell small parcels of land for sites; this land cannot be sold for profit but is retained in perpetuity for provision of Traveller site accommodation. To incentivise landowners an upfront deposit is provided. The following diagram illustrates how the model works. A fundamental challenge with this approach is resourcing the model in the absence of Government subsidy; in Mendip the local authority has provided £100,000 to get their scheme off the ground.

**Figure 11.1** How does CLT model work?



### *Planning gain*

11.14 Use of planning obligations to deliver sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople could be explored further by the Councils. The approach has been used successfully elsewhere. Planning obligations to address Traveller requirements on sites other than trailer parks could also be considered. However, it is important that, where this approach is adopted, regular monitoring takes place to ensure that the requisite pitches are being made available to, and



are being used by, Travellers; enforcement action will be necessary where this is not the case.

*Good practice in planning for Gypsy and Traveller provision*

- 11.15 There are a number of resources available to local planning authorities to assist them in planning for Gypsy and Traveller provision, including resources from the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) and the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), which are presented in Appendix B. In addition, the Local Government Agency and Local Government Association have resources available for local authorities working with Traveller communities to identify sites for new provision, these include dedicated learning aids for elected members<sup>24</sup>.
- 11.16 Work undertaken by PAS<sup>25</sup> identified ways in which the planning process can increase the supply of authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches. The RTPI has developed a series of Good Practice notes for local planning authorities. Both are summarised at Appendix B.

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<sup>24</sup> I&DeA (now Local Government Agency) local leadership academy providing Gypsy and Traveller sites

<sup>25</sup> PAS spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help

## Recommendations for meeting pitch requirements

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

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

## Addressing poor conditions on sites

11.17 Information in Chapter 3 provides a useful starting point for the Councils when considering good practice advice in respect of any new site and potential pitch provision.

### Recommendations for addressing poor conditions on sites

To enable the Councils to address issues linked to poor site condition it is recommended that consideration is given to the following:

- That all planning applications ensure decent site design and layout, that is developed in partnership with the Traveller communities, and is in accordance with DCLG Design Guidance as a minimum;
- That Authorities review the viability of improving conditions on their sites where necessary;
- That appropriate planning policy guidance in respect of site design and layout is adopted within the Local Plans; and
- That improvements in conditions on existing pitches are encouraged through on-going dialogue and partnership working with Traveller communities.

### Tackling wider service and support needs

11.18 Consideration could be given to the ways in which the Councils and other statutory agencies engage with Traveller communities that struggle with high levels of illiteracy and social exclusion. Attendance at meetings, especially in local authority offices, is not to be expected. The only way to achieve an effective, meaningful and on-going dialogue with Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities is to invest time and resources in this, either directly or by working in partnership with an appropriate community group or organisation. It is possible to make information available to Travellers in a number of different ways (see Appendix B for more information on good practice in planning for Gypsy and Traveller provision) and these methods need to be adopted as standard practice when working with Traveller communities.

## Recommendations for tackling wider service and support needs

To enable the Councils to tackle wider service and support needs it is recommended that consideration is given to the following:

- That, in line with the best practice set out within this chapter, the Authorities review how they engage with Traveller communities locally, and develop new methods of long-term, on-going engagement;
- Provision of additional support to Traveller communities to enable them to better access services and support where required;
- That the Authorities liaise with local colleges and schools to identify opportunities to support and facilitate opportunities to improve literacy amongst Traveller communities; and
- Continue to work with healthcare professionals to improve health outcomes for Travellers, including working to improve property conditions, which adversely impact upon the health of those living on pitches on sites.

## Concluding comments

11.19 The overarching purpose of this study has been to identify the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Central Lancashire. Overall shortfalls of both pitches and plots have been identified, and these need to be addressed (Tables 11.1 and 11.2). It is also recommended that this evidence base is refreshed on a regular basis to ensure that the level of pitch and plot provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Central Lancashire.

**Table 11.1** Summary of overall pitch and plot requirements over five years and over Local Plan periods

District/Local Planning Authority		Gypsy and Traveller Pitch requirements	Showperson Plot requirements
Chorley	5 yr shortfall 2013/14 to 2017/18	2	0
	Longer-term requirements 2018/19 to 2026/27	3	0
Preston	5 yr shortfall 2013/14 to 2017/18	6	0
	Longer-term requirements 2018/19 to 2026/27	9	0
South Ribble	5 yr shortfall 2013/14 to 2017/18	0	0
	Longer-term requirements 2018/19 to 2026/27	0	0
Central Lancashire	5 yr shortfall 2013/14 to 2017/18	8	0
	Longer-term requirements 2018/19 to 2026/27	12	0

**Table 11.2** Summary of transit requirements 2013/14 to 2017/18

District/Local Planning Authority	Pitch requirements to address unauthorised encampment activity
Central Lancashire Total	Area for up to 15 pitches

**Table 11.3** Summary of Showperson requirements 2013/14 to 2017/18

District/Local Planning Authority	Pitch requirements to address Showperson need identified in the Study Area
Chorley	0
Preston	0
South Ribble	0
Central Lancashire Total	0

Note: No travelling showpeople were identified as residing in the study area at the time of the survey fieldwork and as such no need has been identified from within the study area at this stage. Anecdotal evidence was provided that families living outside the study area may have some preferences to move into Central Lancashire but this need will be picked up by current and future GTAA's being conducted in surrounding local authority areas.

## Appendix A: Legislative Background

### Overall approach

- A.1 Between 1960 and 2003, three Acts of Parliament had a major impact upon the lives of Gypsies and Travellers. The main elements of these are summarised below.
- A.2 The **1960 Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act** enabled Councils to ban the siting of caravans for human occupation on common land, and led to the closure of many sites.
- A.3 The **Caravan Sites Act 1968 (Part II)** required local authorities 'so far as may be necessary to provide adequate accommodation for Gypsies residing in or resorting to their area'. It empowered the Secretary of State to make designation orders for areas where he was satisfied that there was adequate accommodation, or on grounds of expediency. Following the recommendations of the Cripps Commission in 1980, provision began to grow rapidly only after the allocation of 100% grants from central government. By 1994 a third of local authorities had achieved designation, which meant that they were not required to make further provision and were given additional powers to act against unauthorised encampments. The repeal of most of the Caravan Sites Act under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act in 1994 led to a reduction in provision, with some sites being closed over a period in which the Gypsy and Traveller population was increasing.
- A.4 The **1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (CJ&POA)**:
- Repealed most of the 1968 Caravan Sites Act;
  - Abolished all statutory obligation to provide accommodation;
  - Discontinued government grants for sites; and
  - Under Section 61 made it a criminal offence to camp on land without the owner's consent.
- A.5 Since the CJ&POA the only places where Gypsies and Travellers can legally park their trailers and vehicles are:
- Council Gypsy caravan sites; by 2000 nearly half of Gypsy caravans were accommodated on council sites, despite the fact that new council site provision stopped following the end of the statutory duty;
  - Privately owned land with appropriate planning permission; usually owned by Gypsies or Travellers. Such provision now accommodates approximately a third of Gypsy caravans in England; and
  - Land with established rights of use, other caravan sites or mobile home parks by agreement or licence, and land required for seasonal farm workers (under site licensing exemptions).

- A.6 By the late 1990s the impact of the 1994 Act was generating pressure for change on both local and national government. There was a major review of law and policy, which included:
- A Parliamentary Committee report (House of Commons 2004).
  - The replacement of Circular 1/94 by Circular 1/2006 (which has since been cancelled and replaced by the Planning policy for traveller sites 2012).
  - Guidance on accommodation assessments (ODPM 2006).
  - The Housing Act 2004 which placed a requirement (s.225) on local authorities to assess Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs.
- A.7 More recent legislation with a direct impact on the lives of Gypsies and Travellers includes the Housing Act 2004 and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- A.8 **Section 225: Housing Act 2004** imposes duties on local authorities in relation to the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers:
- Every local housing authority must as part of the general review of housing needs in their areas under section 8 of the Housing Act 1985 assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers residing in or resorting to their district;
  - Where a local housing authority are required under section 87 of the Local Government Act 2003 to prepare a strategy to meet such accommodation needs, they must take the strategy into account in exercising their functions;
  - A local housing authority must have regard to section 226 ('Guidance in relation to section 225') in:
    - carrying out such an assessment, and
    - preparing any strategy that they are required to prepare.
- A.9 **The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004** set out to introduce a simpler and more flexible planning system at regional and local levels. It also introduced new provisions which change the duration of planning permissions and consents, and allow local planning authorities to introduce local permitted development rights using 'local development orders'. It made the compulsory purchase regime simpler, fairer and quicker, to support major infrastructure and regeneration initiatives.
- A.10 The Act introduced major changes to the way in which the planning system operates. Local planning authorities are required to prepare a Local Development Framework; however, the term Local Plan was reintroduced following the National Planning Policy Framework in March 2012.
- A.11 which was subsequently amended to a Local Plan document with the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework in March 2012.
- A.12 Part 8 of the Act contains a series of measures to reform the compulsory purchase regime and make it easier for local planning authorities to make a case for compulsory purchase orders where it will be of economic, social or environmental benefit to the area. This section also brings in amended procedures for carrying out compulsory purchase orders, including a widening of

the category of person with an interest in the land who can object, and deals with ownership issues and compensation.

- A.13 **The Localism Act 2011** introduced a number of reforms, including changes to planning enforcement rules, which strengthen the power of local planning authorities to tackle abuses of the planning system. The changes give local planning authorities the ability to take actions against people who deliberately conceal unauthorised development, and tackle abuses of retrospective planning applications. The Act also introduced the Duty to Co-operate (see Section 3) on all local planning authorities planning sustainable development. The Duty requires *'neighbouring local authorities, or groups of authorities, to work together on planning issues in the interests of all their local residents. ... the Government thinks that local authorities and other public bodies should work together on planning issues in ways that reflect genuine shared interests and opportunities to make common cause. The duty requires local authorities and other public bodies to work together on planning issues.'*<sup>26</sup> The provision of Gypsy and Traveller sites falls within the Duty to Co-operate; which aims to ensure that neighbouring authorities work together to address issues such as provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers in a planned and strategic way.
- A.14 **Statutory Instrument 2013 No 830 Town and Country planning Act, England (Temporary Stop Notice) (England) (Revocation) Regulations 2013** came into force on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2013. This Instrument revoked the regulations governing Temporary Stop Notices, which were in place to mitigate against the disproportionate impact of Temporary Stop Notices on Gypsies and Travellers in areas where there was a lack of sufficient pitches to meet the needs of the Travelling community.

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<sup>26</sup> DCLG A plain English guide to the Localism Act Nov 2011



## Appendix B: Policy and Guidance

### Introduction

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

B.2 **Common Ground: Equality, good race relations and sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers, Commission for Racial Equality, May 2006**

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

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

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

Strategic recommendations affecting local authorities include:

- developing a holistic corporate vision for all work on Gypsies and Irish Travellers,
- reviewing all policies on accommodation for Gypsies and Irish Travellers,
- designating a councillor at cabinet (or equivalent) level, and an officer at no less than assistant director level, to coordinate the authority's work on all sites;

- emphasising that the code of conduct for councillors applies to their work in relation to all racial groups, including Gypsies and Irish Travellers;
- giving specific advice to Gypsies and Irish Travellers on the most suitable land for residential use, how to prepare applications, and help them to find the information they need to support their application;
- identifying and reporting on actions by local groups or individuals in response to plans for Gypsy sites that may constitute unlawful pressure on the authority to discriminate against Gypsies and Irish Travellers; and
- monitoring all planning applications and instances of enforcement action at every stage, by type and racial group, including Gypsies and Irish Travellers, in order to assess the effects of policies and practices on different racial groups.

Among other recommendations, the Report states that police forces should

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

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

### **B.3 A Decent Home: Definition and Guidance for Implementation Update, DCLG, June 2006**

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

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

- Housing Health and Safety.

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

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

#### **B.4 Guide to Effective Use of Enforcement Powers - Part 1: Unauthorised Encampments, ODPM, 2006**

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

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

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

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

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

- Qualitative methods such as focus groups and group interviews;
- Specialist surveys of those living on authorised sites that are willing to respond; and
- Existing information, including local authority site records and the twice yearly caravan counts.
- The guidance recognises that there are challenges in carrying out these assessments, and accepts that while the approach should be as robust as possible it is very difficult to exactly quantify unmet need.

## B.6 RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers 2007

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

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

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

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

- **Define potentially confusing terminology** used by professionals working in the area;
- **Use appropriate methods of consultation:** oral exchanges and face-to-face dealings are essential to effectively engage with Gypsy and Traveller communities, whilst service providers tend to use written exchanges;
- **Consultees and participants need to be involved in the entire plan making process;** this includes in-house participants, external organisations, Gypsy and Traveller communities, and settled communities. The RTPI concludes that:
  - 'Local authorities should encourage Gypsy and Traveller communities to engage with the planning system at an early stage. However, they may request other agencies that have well-established relationships with members of Gypsy and Traveller communities to undertake this role.' and
  - 'In the past, settled communities have often only become aware of the intention to develop Gypsy and Traveller accommodation when the local authority issues a notice or consultation. ... cultivating the support of the settled community for the development of sites should start as soon as possible. ... There is a sound case for front-loading and sharing information with small groups in the [settled] community, rather than trying to manage large public gatherings at the start of the process. Again, it may be beneficial for the local authority to work in partnership with organisations with established links in the community. The settled community is not a homogeneous whole. There will be separate groups with different perceptions and concerns, which the local authority must take account of.'<sup>27</sup>
- **Dialogue methods:** the RTPI correctly identify that the experience of many Gypsies and Travellers of liaising with both public sector agencies and the settled community is both frightening and negative. As a result 'there should be no expectation that Gypsies and Travellers will participate in open meetings. Stakeholders should investigate suitable methods of bringing

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<sup>27</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part A page 8

together individuals from the respective communities in an environment that will facilitate a constructive exchange of information and smooth the process of breaking down animosity and hostility.<sup>28</sup> The use of public meetings is discouraged, and the use of organisations with experience of working within both Gypsy and Traveller, and settled communities encouraged – advice and support groups, assisted by the latter, holding regular local meetings can be an effective means of engaging constructively with both communities. Representatives from these groups can also be included on appropriate forums and advisory groups. The location and timing of meetings needs to be carefully considered to maximise participation, with a neutral venue being preferable.

- **The media** has an important role to play in facilitating the delivery of sites locally, with past reporting being extremely damaging. Positive media liaison is important and requires:
  - A single point of contact with the local authority;
  - A liaison officer responsible for compilation and release of briefings, and for building positive relationships with editors, journalists, radio and television presenters;
  - All stakeholders to provide accurate and timely briefings for the liaison officer;
  - Provision of media briefings on future activities;
  - Officers to anticipate when and where the most sensitive and contentious issues will arise and use of a risk assessment to mitigate any negative impact;
  - Use of the media to facilitate engagement with both settled and Gypsy and Traveller communities; and
  - Stakeholders to provide politicians with clear, accurate and comprehensive briefings.
- **On-going communication, participation and consultation** are important. The continued use of the most effective methods of engagement once an initiative is completed ensures the maximum use of resources:
  - ‘The delivery of some services, such as the identification of sites in development plan documents, is the end of one process and the start of another. The various committees and advisory groups established to participate in the process of site identification and the accommodation needs assessment will have considerable background information and expertise embedded in their membership. This will prove useful in the management and monitoring of subsequent work. ... Whilst on-going engagement with all service users is important, it is especially important with regard to Gypsies and Travellers, given their long history of marginalisation.’<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part A page 13

<sup>29</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part A page 18

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

However, the RTPI point out that, due to the contentious nature of Gypsy and Traveller provision, the use of a criteria based approach to the selection of development sites is unlikely to be successful 'in instances where considerable public opposition to the development might be anticipated.' The paper concludes that it is not appropriate to rely solely on criteria as an alternative to site allocations where there is an identified need for the development.<sup>30</sup>

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

- 'The local authority and Gypsy and Traveller communities are both able to bring forward their suggested sites during this process, and the distribution and location of transit as well as permanent sites can be covered. The practicable options would then go forward for discussion with the local community, interest groups, and other stakeholders before the selection of preferred sites is finalised. The advantages of this approach are its transparency and the certainty it provides both for Gypsies and Travellers and for settled communities.'<sup>31</sup>

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

- Needs assessment evidence base;
- Design principles; and
- A design brief for the layout of sites.

#### **B.7 DCLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide, May 2008**

The Guide attempts to establish and summarise the key elements needed to design a successful site. In particular, the guidance intends to assist:

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

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<sup>30</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part C page 11

<sup>31</sup> RTPI Planning for Gypsies and Travellers Good Practice Note 4 Part C page 11

## **B.8 The National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012**

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

## **B.9 Planning policy for traveller sites, March 2012**

In March 2012 the Government also published Planning policy for traveller sites, which together with the NPPF replaces all previous planning policy guidance in respect of Gypsies and Travellers. The policy approach encourages provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers where there is an identified need, to help maintain an appropriate level of supply. The policy also encourages the use of plan making and decision taking to reduce unauthorised developments and encampments.

## **B.10 Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers, April 2012**

In April 2012 the Government published a Progress Report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers, which summarised progress in terms of meeting 'Government commitments to tackle inequalities and promote fairness for Gypsy and Traveller communities.'<sup>32</sup> The report covers 28 measures from across Government aimed at tackling inequalities, these cover:

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

## **B.11 Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers, DCLG August 2012**

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

- Injunctions to protect land from unauthorised encampments;
- Licensing of caravan sites;
- Tent site licences;

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<sup>32</sup> [www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322](http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2124322)

- Possession orders;
- Interim possession orders;
- Local byelaws;
- Power of local authorities to direct unauthorised campers to leave land;
- Addressing obstructions to the public highway;
- Planning contravention notice;
- Temporary stop notice;
- Enforcement notice and retrospective planning;
- Stop notice;
- Breach of condition notice; and
- Powers of entry onto land.

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

**B.13 Planning Advisory Service spaces and places for Gypsies and Travellers: how planning can help September 2013**

The Planning Advisory Service (PAS) list the following as key to successful delivery of new provision:

- **Involve Gypsy and Traveller communities:** this needs to happen at an early stage, innovative methods of consultation need to be adopted due to low levels of literacy and high levels of social exclusion within Gypsy and Traveller communities and members of the Gypsy and Traveller community should be trained as interviewers on Accommodation Assessments (Cambridgeshire, Surrey, Dorset and Leicestershire). Other good practice examples include distribution of material via CD, so that information can be 'listened to' as opposed to read. The development of a dedicated Gypsy and Traveller Strategy is also seen to be good practice, helping agencies develop a co-ordinated approach and so prioritise the issue. The report also recommends the use of existing Gypsy and Traveller resources such as the planning guide published in Traveller's Times, which aims to explain the planning process in an accessible way to members of the Gypsy and Traveller community. As well as consulting early, PAS also flags the need to consult often with communities;



- **Work collaboratively** with neighbouring authorities to address the issues and avoid just ‘moving it on’ to a neighbouring local authority area. With the new Duty to Co-operate established within the NPPF, working collaboratively with neighbouring local authorities has never been more important. Adopting a collaborative approach recognises that local authorities cannot work in isolation to tackle this issue;
- **Be transparent:** trust is highly valued within Gypsy and Traveller communities, and can take a long time to develop. The planning system needs to be transparent, so that members of the Gypsy and Traveller community can understand the decisions that have been taken and the reasoning behind them. PAS states that ‘ideally council work in this area should be led by an officer who is respected both within the Council and also within Gypsy and Traveller communities: trust is vital and can be broken easily.’<sup>33</sup> Local planning authorities also need to revisit their approach to development management criteria for applications for Gypsy and Traveller sites ‘to ensure that criteria make it clear what applications are likely to be accepted by the council. Authorities need to ensure that these are reasonable and realistic. Transparent and criteria-based policies help everyone to understand what decisions have been made and why.’<sup>34</sup> Kent and Hertsmere councils are listed as examples of good practice in this regard.
- **Integration:** accommodation needs assessments need to be integrated into the Local Plan evidence base, with site locations and requirements set out within specific Development Plan Documents (DPDs); dedicated Gypsy and Traveller DPDs are advocated as a means of ensuring that the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers are fully considered and addressed within the local planning process; and
- **Educate and work with councillors:** members need to be aware of their responsibilities in terms of equality and diversity and ‘understand that there must be sound planning reasons for rejecting applications for Gypsy and Traveller sites’<sup>35</sup>. It is helpful for members to understand the wider benefits of providing suitable accommodation to meet the requirements of the Gypsy and Traveller community, such as:
  - An increase in site provision;
  - Reduced costs of enforcement; and
  - Greater community engagement and understanding of community need.

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<sup>33</sup> PAS *spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help page 8*

<sup>34</sup> PAS *spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help page 8 & 14*

<sup>35</sup> PAS *spaces and places for gypsies and travellers how planning can help page 10*

# Appendix C: Fieldwork Questionnaire

## Central Lancashire Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Survey

### Introduction

I am an independent researcher doing a study on the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. This work is being conducted on behalf of all of the Central Lancashire Councils. I don't work for any of the Councils (Chorley, Preston and South Ribble) but they have asked me to do this study on their behalf.

We want to find out:

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

### Interviewed before?

1. Have you been interviewed for this survey before?

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

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

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

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

### Interview details

Attach label with interviewer details and URN

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

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

Property type

1. Unauthorised Encampment [ ] 1
2. Unauthorised Development [ ] 2
3. Caravan in Garden [ ] 3
4. Local Authority Site [ ] 4
5. Private Site [ ] 5
6. House (Bricks and Mortar) [ ] 6

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

1. [ ] 1
2. [ ] 2
3. [ ] 3
4. [ ] 4
5. [ ] 5 or more

### Home base

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

1. [ ] Yes
2. [ ] No

1b. Do you have any other home bases?

1. [ ] Yes Go to Q1c
2. [ ] No Go to Q2

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

1. [ ] Trailer or wagon
2. [ ] Chalet/mobile home (or similar)
3. [ ] House
4. [ ] Bungalow
5. [ ] Flat
6. [ ] Sheltered/Extra care housing
7. [ ] Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

1e. Do you have any other home bases?

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

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

1.  Trailer or wagon
2.  Chalet/mobile home (or similar)
3.  House
4.  Bungalow
5.  Flat
6.  Sheltered/Extra care housing
7.  Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

2. Why do you live here (at the location of interview)?

(Select all that apply.)

1.  Close to family and friends
2.  Near to place of work
3.  Nowhere else that is suitable
4.  Choose to travel
5.  Simply chose this place/No particular reason
6.  Other **[please state]**  
: \_\_\_\_\_

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

1.  up to 1 year
2.  Over 1 and up to 2 years
3.  Over 2 and up to 3 years
4.  Over 3 and up to 4 years
5.  Over 4 and up to 5 years
6.  5 years or over

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

1.  Trailer or wagon
2.  Chalet/mobile home (or similar)
3.  House
4.  Bungalow
5.  Flat
6.  Sheltered/Extra Care housing
7.  House and yard with or without trailers
8.  Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

6. If you would prefer to live in a different type of home please tell us about your reasons for this?

(Select all that apply.)

1.  Health/Old age/Illness
2.  Lifestyle/Belief
3.  Prefer bricks and mortar
4.  Prefer Caravan/trailer/wagon/pitch
5.  Want to travel
6.  Want to settle down
7.  Other **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you rent or own the home where you normally live?

(Select only one.)

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

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

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

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

9. How many pitches/plots are there currently on the site/yard where you are living?  
.....
10. Are these all occupied?  
1.  Yes  
2.  No  
3.  Don't know
11. If no, how many pitches/plots are vacant?  
[ ]
12. How long have these been empty? If more than one vacant pitch/plot please comment on the one that has been vacant for the longest time.  
1.  up to 1 year  
2.  1 to 2 years  
3.  2 to 3 years  
4.  3 to 4 years  
5.  4 to 5 years  
6.  over 5 years
13. In your opinion, is there capacity for further development in the site/yard on which you live to incorporate new pitches/plots?  
1.  Yes  
2.  No
14. If yes, how many new pitches/plots?  
[ ]
15. Do you have development option(s) for land adjacent to the site? (select one only)  
1.  Yes, including ownership or lease for the land. If 'Yes' please go to Q16  
2.  Yes, with no ownership or lease for the land. If 'Yes' please go to Q16  
3.  No. If 'No' please go to Q17a
16. If you do have options for land around the site where are these and how many additional pitches could potentially be accommodated?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 17a. Do you have an option(s) for a new site? (i.e. on land that would not be an extension to your existing site)  
1.  Yes Go to Q17b  
2.  No Go to Q18
- 17b. If you do have option(s) for a new site where are these and how many additional pitches could potentially be accommodated?  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. Do you have any other comments about the capacity of the site/yards you are currently living on?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ALL RESPONDENTS**

19. Do you think your home/trailer/pitch is overcrowded?  
(Select only one.)  
1.  Yes  
2.  No
20. If yes, please tell us in what way the home is overcrowded (i.e. number of caravans/households living on pitch)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
21. What repairs or improvements, if any, are needed to your home? (Select all that apply.)  
1.  none  
2.  more space on pitch  
3.  slab/drive  
4.  roof  
5.  doors/windows  
6.  kitchen facilities  
7.  bathroom facilities  
8.  Other **[please state]:**  
\_\_\_\_\_
22. How would you describe the state of repair of your home? (Select only one.)  
1.  Very Good  
2.  Good  
3.  Neither Good nor Poor  
4.  Poor  
5.  Very Poor
23. Do you feel you have enough space:  
a) for your trailers, wagons, horse boxes, vehicles and loads?  
Yes 1.  No 2.   
b) in your own amenity block (shed) - if relevant?  
Yes 1.  No 2.  Not relevant 3.   
c) on your pitch - if relevant?  
Yes 1.  No 2.  Not relevant 3.   
d) for travelling show people only, room to repair equipment - if relevant?  
Yes 1.  No 2.  Not relevant 3.
24. Do you have to share any of the following facilities with another household (this could be a family in another trailer/pitch)? (Select all that apply.)  
1.  Bathroom  
2.  Toilet  
3.  Kitchen  
4.  Laundry
25. How many bedrooms/sleeping trailers or wagons do you have?  
Number: \_\_\_\_\_
26. How much does your home cost per week (excluding water, heating and lighting; including rent, mortgage, and ground rent)?  
Please state amount £ \_\_\_\_\_

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

1.  None
2.  Part
3.  All

**Neighbourhood and local services**

28. How satisfied are you with the location of your home?

(By home we mean the location where the interview is taking place and this covers questions 28-29.

Location can mean the street/road/site) (Select only one.)

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

29. Please say if being near to the following is important, slightly important or not important to you?

(Near can be classed as having easy/quick access)

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

**Housing History**

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

1.  Please state town/district \_\_\_\_\_
2.  Travelling all the time (no permanent home) - **go to Q35**
3.  Homeless - **go to Q35**

31. How long did you live there?

(Select only one.)

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

32. What kind of home did you have there?

(Select only one.)

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

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

33. Why did you leave that place? \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

**Travelling**

35. In the last year, have you travelled?

(Select only one.)

1.  Yes
2.  No - **go to Q39**

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

(Select only one.)

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

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

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

38. What problems do you have while travelling?

(Select all that apply.)

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

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

Is there a need for transit sites in Central Lancashire?

1.  Yes
2.  No

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

Where are transit sites needed?	How big does the site need to be? (no pitches)	Who needs this transit site?	When is this transit site needed? (all the time/certain times of year – please specify)	
Chorley Council area [please specify]				<b>1</b>
Preston Council area [please specify]				<b>2</b>
South Ribble Council area [please specify]				<b>3</b>
Other local authority area bordering Central Lancashire [please specify]				<b>4</b>

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

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

42. Why do you travel?

(Select all that apply.)

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

**Advice, support, health and other services**

43a. Have you used any of the following services in the last year?

(Select all that apply.)

1.  Gypsy services
2.  Traveller Education
3.  Adult education
4.  Law Centre
5.  Citizens Advice Bureau
6.  Other welfare rights advice
7.  Doctor (G.P.)
8.  Dentist
9.  Accident and emergency
10.  Health visitors
11.  Social services
12.  Other **[please state]:**

\_\_\_\_\_

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

	R (a)	P2 (b)	P3 (c)	P4 (d)	P5 (e)	P6 (f)	P7 (g)
Arthritis	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]	1 [ ]
Asthma	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]	2 [ ]
Depression/anxiety disorders	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]	3 [ ]
Diabetes	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]	4 [ ]
Problems with hearing	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]	5 [ ]
Learning difficulties/dyslexia	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]	6 [ ]
Problems with mobility	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]	7 [ ]
Problems with vision	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]	8 [ ]
Respiratory condition/bronchitis	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]	9 [ ]
Other <b>[please state]:</b>	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]	10 [ ]
_____							

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

1.  Yes Go to Q43d
2.  No Go to Q44e

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

1.  Language
2.  Hours the service were open
3.  Transport
4.  Knowledge of services offered
5.  Lack of privacy
6.  Getting an appointment
7.  Other **[please state]:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Adaptation 1	
Adaptation 2	
Adaptation 3	

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

#### The future

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

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

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

1.  Another pitch/plot on the same site/yard in a trailer/wagon go to Q50
2.  Another pitch/plot on the same site/yard in a chalet/mobile home go to Q50
3.  Onto another site/yard (if so, where) \_\_\_\_\_ go to Q50
4.  Into bricks and mortar accommodation go to Q49
5.  From bricks and mortar accommodation onto a site/yard (if so, where?) go to Q50
6.  Other [please specify]: \_\_\_\_\_ go to Q50

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

- a. Where would it be ? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. What type of accommodation?
  1.  House
  2.  Bungalow
  3.  Flat
  4.  Sheltered/extra care housing
- c. Would you be renting or buying?
  1.  Rent from Council
  2.  Rent privately
  3.  Rent from Housing Association/RP/RSL
  4.  Buy
  5.  Other
  6. **[please state]:** \_\_\_\_\_

50. How do you think sites should be managed?

(Select only one.)

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

51. Is there a need for new permanent site(s) in Central Lancashire?

1.  Yes
2.  No



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

Where are permanent sites needed?	Why this location?	How big does the site need to be? (no pitches)	
Chorley Council area [please specify]			1
Preston Council area [please specify]			2
South Ribble Council area [please specify]			3
Other local authority area bordering Central Lancashire [please specify]			4

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

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

(Select only one.)

- Yes  
 No

#### Emerging Families

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

(Select only one.)

1.  1  
2.  2  
3.  3  
4.  4

Q57 (Select only one.)	✓
1. Respondent is part of emerging household	
2. Respondent is not part of emerging household	

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

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

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

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

60. If planning to move to another location, where would you (they) prefer to live? Please state town/district. This can be an area out with the study area.

HH1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 HH2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 HH3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 HH4 \_\_\_\_\_

61. If planning to move to another location, what is the main reasons for this?

HH1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 HH2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 HH3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 HH4 \_\_\_\_\_

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

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Trailer or wagon go to Q63	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]	1	[ ]
Chalet/mobile home or similar go to Q63	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]	2	[ ]
House - go to Q64	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]	3	[ ]
Bungalow - go to Q64	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]	4	[ ]
Flat - go to Q64	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]	5	[ ]
Sheltered housing go to Q64	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]	6	[ ]
Extra Care Housing – go to Q64	7	[ ]	7	[ ]	7	[ ]	7	[ ]
No permanent base required	8	[ ]	8	[ ]	8	[ ]	8	[ ]
Other (please specify)	9	[ ]	9	[ ]	9	[ ]	9	[ ]

Interviewer note: **Sheltered housing** is usually a group of bungalows or flats and you have your own front door. Schemes usually have a manager/warden to arrange services and are linked to a careline/alarm service. **Extra Care housing** is designed with the needs of frailer older people in mind. It includes flats, bungalows and retirements villages. You have your own front door. Domestic support and personal care are available.)

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

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

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

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

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

		HH1 (a)		HH2 (b)		HH3 (c)		HH4 (d)
Yes	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your Household (Respondent)

66. Family type (Select only one.)

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

Number of Households sharing a pitch

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

Number of households:

1.  0
2.  1
3.  2
4.  3
5.  4
6.  Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

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

1.  0
2.  1
3.  2
4.  3
5.  4
6.  Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

69. Over the next 15 years do you have dependents who would want to live on a pitch on a site and who will need additional pitches? Number of dependent households needing pitches or a pitch in the next 15 years:

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

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

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

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

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

		R (a)		P2 (b)		P3 (c)		P4 (d)		P5 (e)		P6 (f)		P7 (g)
Male	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Female	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>

72. Age

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

**IF NO SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN GO TO Q74**

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

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

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

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

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

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

76. Do you know of a household in bricks and mortar accommodation, could you provide some contact details as we may approach them for an interview to better understand their needs?

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77. Anything else you would like to tell us?

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

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

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

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

# Appendix D: Stakeholder Consultation

## Approach

- D.1 Stakeholders were invited to participate in a survey aimed at identifying a range of information, including establishing the key perceived issues facing Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople within the Central Lancashire area, and ways in which these need to be addressed. Stakeholders were asked to respond to any of the questions within the survey.
- D.2 A total of 29 separate responses to the stakeholder consultation were obtained from 68 stakeholder contact provided by the three Councils.
- D.3 The questions and a summary of Stakeholders’ responses are set out below. As a general observation, it is useful to note that there was not a comprehensive response to every question. The responses to each question therefore do not represent a proportional representation of the 29 Stakeholders who took part. The comments received represent only an expression of the views of those who participated in that specific question, or had a specific point to make.

## Stakeholder questions and responses

### General

- D.4 *Which Local Authority areas do you work in? Please tick all that apply*
  - Below is a summary of the responses received. Note that some Stakeholders identified multiple areas; hence there are more than 29 counts:

Area	Number who operate in that area
Chorley	13
Preston	15
South Ribble	11
Central Lancashire	39
Other: Lancashire; Hyndburn; Blackburn; Lancaster; Morecambe; West Lancashire; Fylde; Wyre; Bolton; Wigan; Greater Manchester.	12

- D.5 *Do you think that there is sufficient understanding of the education, employment, health and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople within the area(s) in which you work? What could be done to improve the current position?*
  - The majority of stakeholders responding to this question felt that there was insufficient understanding of the needs of Travellers. There were several suggestions as to what could be done to improve matters including:
    - Training sessions;



- An e-learning module that would be mandatory for all workers;
  - Regular face to face presentations to challenge stereotypes;
  - Addressing information gaps on the health and education needs of Travellers;
  - Addressing under representation of Travelling communities in local decision making; and
  - Newly formed Supporting People CCGs to explore the needs of Travellers to identify issues and responses that stakeholders could contribute too.
- One respondent identified that within certain partner agencies a reasonable level of understanding of community needs exists, although it was felt that more could be done especially in relation to delivering health, welfare, debt advice services on site;
  - A couple of respondents raised concerns that the previous GTAA had failed to identify needs in Central Lancashire effectively. Examples were cited of Travellers wishing to live within Central Lancashire but being prevented by a lack of sites.
  - There was felt to be a limited engagement with other agencies in terms of health, education and support needs;
  - There is a need to understand whether or not a lack of support prevents Travellers from locating within Central Lancashire and therefore acts as a constraint on choice.

D.6 *Are the health, education, accommodation and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople adequately monitored? If not, what more could be done?*

- Most respondents were unaware or were unsure of anything being in place to monitor this.
- One respondent was aware of monthly site visits being made and that there was a regular joint agency meeting.
- A few respondents thought that this should be done and would be happy to attend meetings if they were convened.
- One respondent felt that having such a meeting would help with them their strategic approach to Travellers.
- One group mentioned that children are monitored from their community into school and that it would be useful to see what other local communities were doing on this.

D.7 *In your opinion, is additional support required to assist Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople families living within the study area? If yes, please expand?*

- Many stakeholders were unsure or stated that they did not know.

- Of those who did provide a response most were in agreement that additional support and services around this were required. Summary responses are provided below:
  - As a planner I can assist with allocating a site, but once on site, Travellers need services in the same way that people living in bricks and mortar do.
  - There is some provision for floating Housing related support.
  - In terms of accessing service we need more easy read, plain English material for them (travellers).
  - We need more partnership working to look at issues such as hate crime and prejudice – we need to break myths that surround the community.
  - We need more frequent information on the community to help us provide services – it need to be more proactive and less reactive.
  - Could an organisation like Help Direct provide more signposting (for example).
  - Families can miss out on key messages and maybe something like a trained community champion might work.

D.8 *Do you think that there is adequate awareness of the cultural, support and accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area? If not, what more could be done to raise awareness?*

- Many Stakeholders were unsure and did not provide a response to this question.
- Of those of who did provide a response most wanted to see more done in the study area. Comments are provided below:
  - The negativity of current TV shows does not help the situation nor does the unauthorised encampments with resultant mess and nuisance.
  - It depends whom you are asking - the general public are probably unaware, but specialist professionals will be aware. Publicity can help, both generally, and within the relevant professional fields.
  - No. I work predominately within the South Ribble area & discussions about cultural awareness are rarely discussed due to the low demographics of communities who fall outside that of White, British.
  - I do not believe that there is enough awareness of the culture and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople.
  - The Fire Service can be seen as an organisation of authority, which often results in barriers to communication. We would welcome the opportunity to interact with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople on an informal basis.
  - Chorley's Equality Forum does provide some limited opportunity for this kind of interaction, but the meetings take place in a quite formal setting.

- This is difficult to do without speaking to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the area, and has been done to some extent recently. More could be known especially from bricks and mortar travellers, but this cohort is difficult to identify
- Reasonable awareness amongst some agencies but more needs to be done in terms of raising awareness amongst wider community.
- The media does not help and more needs to be done to counter some misleading articles
- No. There is no central hub of information or linked professionals that could support awareness raising.
- No we need basic information and awareness training across the area.

D.9 *Has your organisation undertaken any action to raise awareness of the cultural, support and accommodation requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area? If so, please expand?*

- Many Stakeholders were unable to comment or were not aware of anything being done on this. However some comments were made and these include the following:
  - Lancashire County Council have tended to respond to this but the community engagement team has been involved in our traveller site in working with the residents to resolve issues.
  - No - we have held other cultural awareness events.
  - Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service has taken action in the Lancaster and Morecambe area of the County to encourage fire safety amongst Gypsies and Travellers.
  - There has been cultural awareness training with staff recently.
  - The site that I work with backs onto student accommodation, the students are carefully placed with the more mature being housed in the flats backing directly onto the site. Visits are made to these people when they move in and advice regarding noise levels and behaviour is given. Managers at the site are very helpful with identifying problem students and they are quickly dealt with.
  - We have supported a joint project (GRT community, Lancashire Police, Home Office and Racial Equality Project) to tackle hate crime. This project targeted specific student accommodation blocks. We are supporting a project for this year's in-take at the moment.
  - Information in this area is reviewed on these issues on a periodic basis by individual officers I am not aware of any recent formal trainings or updates to raise awareness of the issues under consideration.
  - We have hosted awareness raising sessions for early years practitioners and staff from services which have contact with the community. They have been delivered by Traveller Education Service.

- Bolton Council has raised formal concerns about the lack of provision being made in Chorley for travelling communities through opportunities provided at the preferred options and publication stages of Chorley's Site Allocations Plan<sup>36</sup>. In doing this Bolton pointed to the need to consider wider evidence including on-going site specific matters within Chorley.

## Provision of Accommodation

D.10 *Do you think that there is sufficient provision of permanent sites/pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Central Lancashire?*

- Only a handful of responses provided to this question.
- Of those who did respond, most were uncertain and were awaiting the findings from this study. Of those who did comment their responses are detailed below:
  - No. As far as I understand, the GTAA is being undertaken following the Chorley and South Ribble Local Plan examinations, where a local Traveller expressed the view that there was not enough accommodation, and in response the Inspector has asked that a GTAA be commissioned.
  - There are sufficient permanent sites however I think there is a lack of space for those that are actively travelling.
  - People say they don't leave Leighton Street for fear they can't get back onto site.
  - I am aware that there are sites in Lancashire - but not aware of levels of availability of pitches or demand.
  - See former RSS document.
  - Not sure. Aware of sites and that we have travellers passing through the Borough but that is about it.
  - Planning and other activity needs to work towards a more even distribution of Gypsy and Traveller pitch provision across Lancashire and the North West. This is necessary in order to a) secure a more equitable choice for the Gypsy and Traveller community as to where to live, and b) to mitigate against disproportionate pressure on support services and infrastructure in specific areas with historically higher levels of provision.

D.11 *If new permanent sites/pitches are needed in Central Lancashire, where do you think that these should be located? Which location is best and why?*

- Nearly half of the stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did their comments are noted below:

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<sup>36</sup> Note this was in fact Chorley Local Plan and not the Site Allocations Plan

- I think there should be a small pitch in each area within reasonable access of the M6
- The location should encourage integration so they should be located close to existing community facilities.
- Near main road networks, there are no specific sites known to me.
- Close to main transport networks but also in reasonable distance to facilities e.g. shops and schools.
- As with any community near to good infrastructure, schools, shops etc.
- Rural locations away from local residents.
- Within settlement areas outside of the Green Belt in sustainable locations.
- I am not aware of numbers of pitches available or demand therefore cannot comment on where sites might be required. The level of encampments reported to this office is not particularly high or frequent.
- This is difficult to answer as there is likely to be great opposition locally to such sites. Ideally somewhere which has easy access to local shops and services and is acceptable to those who will be living there.
- Bolton Council has no specific comments on locations for sites other than that they comply with national and local planning policy and does not have knowledge to suggest specific sites.

D.12 *Do you think there are barriers to the provision of new permanent sites? If so, what do you consider the main barriers to be?*

- Barriers mentioned were:
  - Local opposition perhaps?
  - NIMBY syndrome is usually an issue!
  - Lack of political support for this group and NIMBYISM.
  - Yes - landowner / neighbour / local community / (perhaps) political opposition because of the perceived disadvantages (unfair or otherwise) of such a site in any given location.
  - I would presume that the barriers are around bad publicity within the press and the perceptions that it has created of these communities bringing problems to an area.
  - Local residents' pre-conceptions of anti-social behaviour.
  - Suitable land being identified for sites would always be a barrier.
  - Land availability. Little suitable land held in the public sector.
  - Local communities seem to have a stereotypical view of travellers which could affect their willingness to allow a permanent site in their area.

- The settled community. Lots of work needs to be done to counter negative stereotyping of the Traveller community
- Yes, perception of crime and nuisance.
- Yes. Opposition from local residents who fear loss in property values and loss of amenity due to in some cases the activities of site occupants.
- Concern for impact on area. It is common for travellers to create a considerable mess when in occupation and after they leave a site. The need for others to deal with this, including the cost, creates a very negative impression.
- Many barriers exist from community opposition to landowner and political concern. Additionally there are also some issues with separatism from gypsy families not wishing to mix which creates issues with assessing demand for sites.
- Yes. Cost, management, antisocial behaviour, NIMBY.
- Public opposition to sites.
- Suitable available space.
- Local residents/ political views and perceptions.
- General public hostility to traveller sites and probable unwillingness of landowners to bring forward sites for unpopular uses.

D.13 *Do you think that transit sites are needed in Central Lancashire. If so, why, and where do you think these should be located? Please note: Transit provision is a pitch or site intended for short-term use whilst in transit; such provision is usually permanent and authorised, but there is a limit on the length of time that residents can stay there.*

- Nearly half of the stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did their comments are noted below with most saying that transit sites were needed – but for a number of various reasons:
  - Yes - we have had several unauthorised encampments in West Lancashire over previous years, and as Central Lancashire is adjacent, I would suspect such Travellers would want to / be prepared to visit there as well.
  - The location should encourage integration so they should be located close to existing community facilities.
  - Whilst transit sites are likely to be needed to reduce wayside travellers in theory. In practice they can just end up being extra permanent pitches, as there is a national shortage of pitches of all types.
  - Transit pitches would need to be managed carefully in order to ensure they remain transit, and this may be resource intensive.

- There has to be a short limit on the transit sites like 3 months, but it needs to be considered where the household would move to afterwards.
- Uncertain, study should provide this evidence of need.
- Yes.
- Yes, to maintain the culture of the traveller community.
- Yes, to prevent local green areas being taken over.
- There may be movement through the area which would suggest a need for temporary transit sites. Need to have good connection to road network to facilitate movement between areas.
- The report of encampments is not very high that would suggest that the demand is not high for a transit site.
- I believe it is beneficial to deliver transit sites if this alone supports better and speedier management of unauthorised encampments. I would not have the knowledge of the geography of the study area to propose locations.
- Yes, near motorway junctions.
- Yes. There are some families who are unable to find suitable places to stay and so are forced onto the wayside. Ideally somewhere which has easy access to local shops and services and is acceptable to those who will be living there.
- Yes.
- If needs are identified through the review of evidence for transit sites then Central Lancashire authorities should work together potentially with adjoining Greater Manchester authorities to seek best and most appropriate provision.
- The increased number of illegal encampments in Lancashire (see numbers below) would suggest a need for these. Environment Directorate deals with unauthorised encampments on highway land, the numbers since 2008 are: April 2008-March 2009 (14); April 2009 - March 2010 (29); April 2010 - March 2011 (39); April 2011 - March 2012 (64); April 2012 - March 2013 (49).

**D.14** *Do you think there are barriers to new transit sites provision? If so, what do you consider the main barriers to be?*

- Nearly half of the stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did their comments are noted below with most saying their responses would be identical to those provided to Q8 of the survey (detailed at D.12 above):
  - Funding, local acceptance, political will...there are others.
  - Yes - landowners / neighbours / local communities / (perhaps) political opposition because of the perceived disadvantages (unfair or otherwise) of such a site in any given location.

- Barriers are that residents do not tend to want sites nearby to residential areas. However, it is not practical to put these sites away from infrastructure.
- Local residents' pre-conceptions of anti-social behaviour.
- Suitable land being identified for sites would always be a barrier, and also finding a managing agent. The site tenure would be unlikely to be private owned (which the permanent could be) so there would be a capital cost too.
- Land available in the right place, outside the green belt.
- Again, the local community
- Fear of crime and nuisance.
- Yes. Cost, management, antisocial behaviour, NIMBY syndrome.
- Public opposition and lack of suitable available land.
- Uncertainty, potential for it to become permanent, local perceptions...
- Identifying the need for transit sites and appropriate management.
- Barriers for transit sites will be similar to permanent i.e. finance, location, etc

**D.15** *What are your views on the standard of facilities on existing sites in the Central Lancashire area?*

- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question – usually as they had no experience or knowledge of sites. Of those who did provide comments these are noted below:
  - Basic, but recently upgraded.
  - From my knowledge the provisions are good, however the issue that has been raised quite a number of times is the lack of individual secure post boxes on permanent sites.
  - Leighton Street, Preston, facilities: Shower blocks could be better. Community would like water plumbed into vans and highlight that the site has been there for 27 years and they don't see it as a transit site!
  - One existing site in Chorley with temporary planning permission for 2 years. Site has good facilities with utility block with toilet and washing facilities.
  - I am only familiar with Leighton Street site as it is in our children's centre reach area. It is badly situated between the railway line and the University halls of residence. It seems cramped/lacking in space.

**D.16** *Do you have any views on how existing sites are managed in Central Lancashire?*

- Only a couple of stakeholders had a view on this question:



- There should be one central control point at County Council level across the county to ensure consistency in approach and service delivery.
- No, however in SRBC I understand that they have a proactive policy to make contact and provide advice and support?

D.17 *Are you aware of any issues/tensions between Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and the settled community, on existing sites within Central Lancashire? If so, has your organisation addressed this in any way?*

- Only a few stakeholders had a view on this question. Most said they were not aware of any issues:
  - The showman's Guild have asked for their own sites as they see themselves as being different from G&T.
  - Roma gypsy families do not want to be associated with travellers per se. Irish travellers have issues within their family structures which result in ongoing feuds and so individual families need to be kept apart.
  - Not specifically; I guess this is a general issue nationwide.
  - Tensions on illegal encampment.
  - Leighton Street site issues with proximity to university students. Additionally we are working with the police at the moment to look into licensing issues relating to traveller community being refused access to certain venues in the town.
  - Yes. The Council has intervened between Gypsies and local residents to diffuse situations and manage conflict.
  - Ongoing enforcement action on site in the Borough. Aware of tensions between settled community and travellers.
  - I am aware of issues between the students living in university halls of residence and the residents of Leighton Street. The University and Traveller education service have worked together to address these issues.

D.18 *Do you know of any Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living in bricks and mortar accommodation in Central Lancashire? Can you provide any additional information?*

- Only a few stakeholders had a view on this question. Most said they were not aware of any:
  - No, although we do collect this information within the Select Move choice based lettings scheme & could provide a further breakdown of applicants for re-housing who define themselves as such.
  - Whilst there inevitably are, and they can usually be contacted through charities and churches, there are none identified.
  - Yes aware of some in South Ribble.

- I am aware that there are some living in this accommodation however I do not know the details
- Yes, in Greenlands area.
- Yes. Over the years we have housed a number of gypsies and travellers from Preston sites across our stock.

D.19 *Do you think that additional provision of sites/pitches needs to be made to accommodate the requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople currently living in settled (i.e. bricks and mortar) accommodation across Central Lancashire? Why do you think this?*

- Only a few stakeholders had a view on this question:
  - No. People who are "settled" are exactly that and if they travel surely it is likely to be outside of Lancashire i.e. Appleby etc
  - If such people express a need / desire to have sites provided, then yes, within reason.
  - No, limited numbers in the Borough.
  - Yes, some people have moved into bricks and mortar housing because they have been unable to find adequate provision on the road.
  - I do not think that this is necessary.
  - If they wish to live on a site then I would say yes but they do not always come forward or make themselves known to the Council which makes assessment of needs difficult.
  - It is crucial that there is consistency between how this issue is both investigated and resolved in GTAA studies which cover adjoining areas for example Central Lancashire and Greater Manchester. Otherwise very different levels of apparent need may result with consequences for site allocations and working effectively together under the Duty to Co-operate.

D.20 *Is there sufficient support available to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living in settled accommodation to help them manage their housing effectively (i.e. help in dealing with practical tenancy issues, such as paying rent, bills and making benefit applications)?*

- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did provide comments these are noted below:
  - No more so than other vulnerable groups within the community.
  - We provide Financial Inclusion support for all of our tenants, from money management to advice on benefits & have been actively contacting all tenants in light of welfare reform. We have not researched further if there are additional needs that we are not meeting for these communities.
  - DISC floating support.

- Yes , existing systems and advice in place is adequate.
- What there is enough.
- Yes we provide a welfare benefits and tenancy support service
- I suspect they would need additional support given literacy and other skill shortages. Additionally the move to computer applications for benefits under Universal Credit will also be a barrier.

D.21 *Are you aware if Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople feel safe in settled accommodation? If you have any information please provide. Are their specific cultural needs given consideration by the local authority when offering conventional accommodation, in your opinion?*

- There was a mixture of responses to this question, though few in number:
  - We have not identified specific issues with these communities in relation to safety concerns. The allocations scheme allows applicants to choose where they wish to live, so there should be no issues with LAs placing households in unsuitable areas.
  - Have no knowledge of whether they feel safe in settled accommodation. I am aware of issues with adjoining neighbours caused by the number of vehicles parked on the properties, concerns about running businesses from home, nuisance issues.
  - I have no evidence to suggest that they do not feel safe in settled accommodation.

D.22 *If your organisation provides accommodation in Central Lancashire, how many Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households have approached you for housing during the past five years?*

- One Registered Provider provided a response to this question – 15 was the response and these were specifically for bricks and mortar accommodation.

D.23 *If your organisation provides accommodation in Central Lancashire, how many Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households have approached you for HOUSING RELATED SUPPORT during the past five years?*

- One Registered Provider provided a response to this question – 3 was the response.

D.24 *If you are a local housing authority in Central Lancashire how many unauthorised encampments do you have each year in your area? Please note: An unauthorised encampment refers to land where Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople reside in vehicles or tents without permission. Unauthorised encampments can occur in a variety of locations and constitute trespass. The 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act made it a criminal offence to camp on land without the owner's consent?*

- Chorley – 1 encampment a constant issue since 2009.
- South Ribble – approx. 4 encampments.

- Preston – no mention made.
- Lancashire County Council - numbers since 2008 are<sup>37</sup>:
  - April 2008 - March 2009 14;
  - April 2009 - March 2010 29;
  - April 2010 - March 2011 39;
  - April 2011 - March 2012 64;
  - April 2012 - March 2013 49.

D.25 *Are unauthorised encampments problematic for your organisation? If so, please expand?*

- Chorley – Take up resources, damage to land, removal of waste, anti-social behaviour. Yes - ongoing court action since 2009 on the one encampment.
- Rarely, however recently a site on Ashton Park resulted in residents feeling concerned for their safety.
- South Ribble – We have a number of encampments that have been very temporary not sure they have caused major issues. Yes, because of the need to assess responsibility for dealing with unauthorised encampments, needs and clearing site afterwards as necessary.
- We work in partnership with Chorley Council in response to reports of illegal encampments and act on the Council's instructions to secure possession when Council land is the subject of trespass.
- Preston – no mention made.
- Wigan – Yes – time and money is an issue for us and others I am sure.
- Lancashire County Council - When an unauthorised encampment occurs on highway land the Authority takes legal action to obtain a Possession Order to move the travellers on. Highway land is excluded from the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act. Each occupation can cost between £200 and £1,000 for the Environment Directorate (including Legal Services costs) depending on how long the travellers stay, in addition there are Police costs and District/Borough Council clean up costs. Provision of transit site in the County would mean that Police could direct travellers to these.
- Bolton is subject to intermittent and therefore very short term unauthorised encampments by the gypsy and traveller communities.
- Unauthorised sites have the potential to be unsafe in respect of fire safety. This is partly due to the unsafe positioning of caravans and vehicles too close together on sites of limited space, but also the unsafe practices of individuals lighting open fires and burning hazardous materials.

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<sup>37</sup> It is assumed that these figures are County-wide

D.26 *Have you a view on how unauthorised encampments affect local perceptions?*

- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did provide comments these are noted below:
  - They reinforce the stereotype (as far as I am aware) of the travelling community being "undesirable" neighbours.
  - Local residents often feel as though travellers are outside the community and don't follow the rules.
  - Generally have a negative effect.
  - Fear of crime, increased litter and nuisance.
  - Same view as provided to Q8 – these things are a constant.
  - They re-enforce community prejudice and create problems that often are subsequently dealt with by the Council or businesses locally that have cost implications, for example, removal of waste etc.
  - Yes, cause concern about damage to property, anti-social behaviour and waste arising.
  - Clearly they have a very negative impact on local and public perceptions.
  - When unauthorised encampments occur there are inevitably concerns raised by residents, local Councillors and County Councillors and the County Council s always put under pressure to deal with these as quickly as possible, however to obtain a Possession Order from the County Court can take between 2-3 weeks.

## Planning

D.27 *Are there any areas within planning policy that you consider have restricted the provision of new sites/pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? If so, can you think of any way in which this can be overcome in the future?*

- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did provide comments these are noted below:
  - On the one hand, the requirement to provide a five year supply aids the provision of new sites. However, the locational constraints, and recent government statements against provision of sites in the Green Belt will make it more difficult to locate appropriate deliverable sites.
  - Difficult controversial area for planning policy to tackle.
  - Not aware of any
  - Ensuring a supply needs to be done over a longer achievable timeframe. Constraints on funding and use of the green belt will exacerbate the delivery of pitch provision.

- The difficulties of finding appropriate sites within built up areas mean inevitably (not least to avoid conflict with the settled local community) that Green Belt and other countryside sites enter consideration. Statements at the national level by Mr Pickles would suggest that these sources may be more strongly resisted.

D.28 *Do you think that more could be done through planning policy to identify and bring forward new sites for the provision of pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople? If so, please expand?*

- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did provide comments these are noted below:
  - If LPAs comply with national guidance, then there would be no need to do more, as national guidance requires that a five year supply of deliverable sites be identified and provided.
  - More work on allocating specific sites.
  - No, not really.
  - I am aware that the Council has considered the demand for provision of pitches.
  - If national guidance is complied with there would not be a need for further requirements.
  - Identification of robust provision target informed by an evidence base and policy approach which is consistent across the wider sub-region.
  - The process set out in national guidance is clear, where need is identified sites should follow. However planning does not of course deliver physical sites, that is either up to the travelling communities themselves or local authorities to provide and/or manage sites. Of course in this politically very challenging area it is not that simple.

D.29 *What impact do you think that the Government's recent change to planning policy (set out in DCLG's publication 'Planning Policy for traveller sites', 23 March 2012) will have on future provision?*

*The key points made in the Policy guidance are:*

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

- *for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies*
  - *to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply*
  - *to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions*
  - *to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure*
  - *for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment.*
- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Of those who did provide comments these are noted below:
    - It should help increase provision as there is a requirement to provide a five year supply of deliverable sites for Travellers.
    - Will lead to the identification of more sites, although the lack of any accepted methodology for determining need could lead to delays in plan provision.
    - It should ensure adequate provision where needed.
    - I understand that these matters and issues have been considered by the Council as part of their existing planning process. The reduction of tensions between the settled and traveller communities is a key part of the process. It is difficult to see how changes might come about without co-operation from both sides
    - It should support the local delivery of sites
    - Guidance emphasises the need for a joined-up approach across local authority boundaries.
    - It is very difficult to see how this guidance, other than the potential stick of temporary permissions being granted by inspector, in the absence of the required 5 year supply of sites, will bring forward more sites. It does provide a generally useful policy approach.
    - Particularly Bolton Council welcomes the emphasis in the guidance on authorities working together collaboratively on the traveller issue with an emphasis on fairness and effective strategies.
    - Clearly the key point in Bolton's position on Chorley's Local Plan and indeed AGMA's view is that the traveller issues should be addressed across the region, rather than reinforcing existing historic patterns, the result of which is that authorities that have provision are expected to take more.

D.30 *Are you aware of any regular movements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople from neighbouring areas, in or out of Central Lancashire?*

- Anecdotal evidence but nothing concrete.

- Showpeople from Bolton and Salford going back and forth from Fylde Coast and up to Scotland.
- Leyland through Preston up to Appleby Fair.
- Evidence submitted to the RSS partial review.
- Travellers going up to Appleby Fair.

D.31 *Are you aware of any sites/locations close to the boundary of Central Lancashire where difficulties have arisen?*

- There were only 'no' responses to this question..

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

- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question. Those who did respond often had a fair bit to comment on and as such these views have been fully detailed below:
  - West Lancashire BC considers it very important to make a robust assessment of the need for Travellers in Central Lancashire, and for their needs to be met in full in Central Lancashire, to minimise the likelihood of Travellers having to find accommodation elsewhere, including in West Lancashire (as it will be challenging enough for WLBC to meet its own accommodation needs). We are aware of unauthorised encampments / sites, or desires for such, in West Lancashire, where the occupants have previously expressed an interest in or preference for locating in Central Lancashire.
  - Yes, need to consider need on a wider than local basis due to the transient nature of the need which is spread throughout the region.
  - There are large numbers of Show People's pitches in Bolton and Salford, and need was identified in the Greater Manchester GTAA on a mainly need where need arises basis in the Greater Manchester area. Accounting for need in Central Lancs. from the Greater Manchester sub-region would be double counting. There is a large show people site in Altham near Accrington (Hyndburn BC) which is near the M65 and the M66, can need not be met with vacancies there? Or does tenure choice mean the said site is not popular?
  - Not aware of any issues.
  - There are but there is no hard evidence. Travellers use the motorway network so travel through our borough often stopping before they get to Central Lancashire
  - Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers is a policy area where there are significant cross-boundary issues, and a need for a joined-up approach, as was historically recognised through its inclusion within the partial review of the North West Regional Spatial Strategy. In the absence of regional strategic policy we would now see it as being within the remit of the Duty to Cooperate, and will expect to



present evidence as such to the Planning Inspector when our Local Plan is submitted for public examination. Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council has written to the Chief Executive of every local authority in Lancashire, and those in the northern part of Greater Manchester, to set out the basis on which Blackburn with Darwen is proposing to take forward policy in its Local Plan, and to invite the other authorities to confirm whether or not they were intending to take forward a similar approach. An objective of the RSS Partial Review, which was supported by Blackburn with Darwen, was to achieve a more even distribution of gypsy and traveller pitch provision across the region. This was intended to address historic and unsustainable concentrations of provision within a small number of authorities, which had resulted in issues including cohesion issues in authorities with higher levels of provision; an exponential increase in pressure on public resources within these authorities; and, equally as important, a lack of meaningful choice for the gypsy and traveller community as to where they would live. The need to begin the process of addressing these issues was a theme running through all stages of the RSS Partial Review process, including the original Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAs), which contained an acknowledgement that the methodology used identified “need where it was seen to arise” and as a result would, if translated directly into policy, inevitably reinforce existing patterns of provision. The approach that the RSS Partial Review took to these issues was tested very extensively through the public examination process. Although the Partial Review was abandoned as a result of the policies of the new Government coming to power in 2010, the examination panel had by that point undertaken all their reasoning and completed their report, which was subsequently released for information. The panel’s report included a table, at Appendix A, setting out what would have become the RSS policy on gypsy and traveller pitch provision, including authority-by-authority pitch targets to be taken forward through Local Plans. In Blackburn with Darwen’s view, the proposed targets represented a shift towards a more equitable and sustainable pattern of provision. We are also of the view that in light of the extensive scrutiny that the policy underwent and the panel’s conclusion that its proposed approach was sound, the targets set out in the report represent a robust and defensible interpretation of the evidence. In taking forward its Local Plan therefore, Blackburn with Darwen intends to apply the approach adopted by the panel. We intend to refresh the baseline information and assumptions on the basis of the most recent information available, but we do not expect this to change the target very significantly. Hence the approach adopted in Blackburn with Darwen will be focused on providing for local needs first, while assuming that provision will also be made elsewhere in Lancashire at a higher level overall than has historically been the case – in effect by the targets set out in the report being taken forward consistently across all authorities.

- Greater Manchester has re-commissioned an update of its own GTAA (2008) and it is important that there is consistency between the methodological approaches between the studies for adjoining areas to ensure that needs are derived in a consistent manner. This will provide clarity around the underlying evidence base for policy and where necessary site allocations. It will also be helpful to ensure requirements of Duty to Co-operate are met. As mentioned in earlier questions wider regional evidence should also be examined such as that submitted to the RSS partial review.

## Other Issues

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

- Around half of the stakeholders made comments here and these are fully detailed below:
  - A robust assessment of the accommodation needs for the Travelling community (sites, pitches, plots, both permanent and transit, both now and over coming years) in Central Lancashire.
  - An assessment of cross-boundary issues and how they can be addressed.
  - To provide a better understanding for agencies of how they can consider the needs of these groups in relation to housing, support and education.
  - Information about the numbers of people in these groups who need consideration for services. Awareness sessions for staff about the issues identified.
  - Better understanding of the culture and support needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
  - Specific locational plot numbers.
  - Identification of need but also tenure needs to be considered.
  - Assessment of the needs in Central Lancashire.
  - The findings from this study combined with the engagement with the GRT community itself be made available.
  - If study finds that for GRT provision is not adequate then additional spaces should be identified and consultation with wider community undertaken
  - To establish whether, on the evidence available, this demonstrates a need for permanent and transit sites.
  - Establish levels of demand to inform provision in the future.
  - Provide a realistic and deliverable programme of permanent and transit pitch provision that takes into account cross boundary flow that is over a timeline that reflects the current financial and planning constraints.

- How many sites are there currently? How many gypsy etc pitches are needed and where. What is the take up of bricks and mortar and future need.
- Better understanding of what we have. Issues and how these can be addressed.
- An evidence base which is capable of being fed into a wider debate within and beyond the Lancashire sub-region about future patterns of provision for Gypsies and Travellers.
- Ultimately this debate needs to be informed by a) realistic and transparent assessments of need, b) an understanding of the issues that underlie the current unbalanced pattern of provision, including barriers and constraints on choice, and c) clear options for addressing these issues, both through the planning system and more widely.
- A clear and up to date statement of needs within the Central Lancashire area together with a robust and easy to understand methodology. An examination of how this fits with emerging studies in other parts of the region particularly Greater Manchester.

D.34 *We consider that this questionnaire contributes to our requirement on the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities as set out in Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (as amended by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011) and described in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as an integral part of the Local Plan-making process and its assessment at Examination. Do you have any views on this?*

- Most stakeholders had no view or did not provide a response to this question as it did not directly relate to them. Neighbouring authorities did provide their feedback and this is noted below:
  - I agree that this questionnaire contributes to the Duty to Co-operate requirement, although of course it is important to state that the questionnaire on its own does not on its own fulfil the DtC. Further liaison by Central Lancashire authorities with WLBC over coming months will be necessary (and in turn, liaison instigated by WLBC with Central Lancashire as we carry out our own GTAA and prepare a DPD to address accommodation needs of Travellers in / visiting our own Borough).
  - Given the boundary issues the questionnaire represents one element of the duty as there will need to be further dialogue on developing pitches across Lancashire and linked to both Manchester and Merseyside.
  - Gypsy and Traveller provision is a key Duty To Cooperate issue in Lancashire. The opportunity to engage in this survey is a necessary step in complying with the Duty, but this stage needs to be followed by a fuller debate and clear evidence that the policy approach ultimately proposed responds to the cross-boundary issues identified.

- Bolton Council welcomes the opportunity to play its part in inputting into the Central Lancashire GTAA review. I understand that AGMA too is likely to respond on behalf of Greater Manchester. This does provide us with key opportunity to ensure consistency at this vital evidence gathering stage. Bolton looks forward to exploring the implications of the results and the Central Lancashire districts policy responses to it in due course under the Duty to Cooperate.

D.35 *If you are interested do you want to be informed of the results of the study? If you do then we will keep a note of the contact details that you provided (above) and get in touch with any appropriate outputs?*

- 26 respondents confirmed an interest.

## Appendix E: Glossary of Terms

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

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

**CRE:** Commission for Racial Equality.

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

**Gypsies and Travellers:** Defined by DCLG 'Planning policy for traveller sites' (March 2012) as 'Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependants' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.'

**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.

**Plot:** see pitch

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

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

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

**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)

**Showpeople:** Defined by DCLG 'Planning policy for traveller sites' (March 2012) 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 or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.'

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

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

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

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

**Unauthorised 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.

**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.

**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.