

# Derbyshire, Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2014

Final Report

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*RRR Consultancy Ltd*







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## The Authors

*RRR Consultancy Ltd* was founded by Dr Alan Rust-Ryan and Dr Kate Rust-Ryan. They undertake research and consultancy in all areas of social policy from small-scale projects to long-term research studies.

The *RRR Consultancy* team has a proven successful track record in research and training relating to children, young people and adults, policy and practice, families and communities, housing, community development, hard to reach people and groups, education, multi-agency working, and service users and service provision.

*RRR Consultancy* also offer 'best practice' training courses to help ensure that public, voluntary and private organisations understand and successfully implement policies in areas such as domestic violence, children and families.



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# Glossary

## **Authorised site**

A site with planning permission for use as a Gypsy and Traveller site. It can be privately owned (often by a Gypsy or Traveller), leased or socially rented (owned by a council or registered provider).

## **Average**

The term 'average' when used in this report is taken to be a mean value unless otherwise stated.

## **Bargee Traveller**

The term Bargee Traveller is used to describe people living and working on the waterways of Europe. Many Bargees have a nomadic lifestyle and may use their boat for living, working or both.

## **Bedroom standard**

The bedroom standard is that used by the General Household Survey to determine the number of bedrooms required by families. For this study, a modified version of the bedroom standard was applied to Gypsies and Travellers living on sites to take into account that caravans or mobile homes may contain both bedroom and living spaces used for sleeping. The number of spaces for each accommodation unit is divided by two to provide an equivalent number of bedrooms. Accommodation needs were then determined by comparing the number (and age) of family members with the number of bedroom spaces available.

## **Bricks and mortar accommodation**

Permanent housing of the settled community, as distinguished from sites.

## **Caravan**

Defined by Section 29 (1) of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 a caravan is defined as:

"... any structure designed or adapted for human habitation which is capable of being moved from one place to another (whether by being towed, or by being transported on a motor vehicle or trailer) and any motor vehicle so designed or adapted."

**Concealed household**

A household or family unit that currently lives within another household or family unit but has a preference to live independently and is unable to access appropriate accommodation (on sites or in housing).

**Development Plan Documents (DPD)**

Local Development Framework documents that contain policies and are subject to external examination by an Inspector.

**Doubling up**

More than one family unit sharing a single pitch.

**Emergency stopping places**

Emergency stopping places are pieces of land in temporary use as authorised short-term (less than 28 days) stopping places for all travelling communities. They may not require planning permission if they are in use for fewer than 28 days in a year. The requirements for emergency stopping places reflect the fact that the site will only be used for a proportion of the year and that individual households will normally only stay on the site for a few days.

**Family unit**

The definition of 'family unit' is used flexibly. The survey assumes that a pitch is occupied by a single household or family unit although it acknowledges that this may also include e.g. extended family members or hidden households.

**Gypsy**

Member of one of the main groups of Gypsies and Travellers in Britain. In this report it is used to describe English (Romany) Gypsies, Scottish Travellers and Welsh Travellers. English Gypsies were recognised as an ethnic group in 1988.

**Gypsy and Traveller**

As defined by CLG Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (March 2012):

*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.*

## **Household**

The definition of 'household' is used flexibly. The survey assumes that a pitch is occupied by a single household or family unit although it acknowledges that this may also include e.g. extended family members or hidden households.

## **Irish Traveller**

Member of one of the main groups of Gypsies and Travellers in Britain. Distinct from Gypsies but sharing a nomadic tradition, Irish Travellers were recognised as an ethnic group in England in 2000.

## **Mobile home**

For legal purposes it is a caravan. Section 29 (1) of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 defines a caravan as:

"... any structure designed or adapted for human habitation which is capable of being moved from one place to another (whether by being towed, or by being transported on a motor vehicle or trailer) and any motor vehicle so designed or adapted."

## **Negotiated Stopping**

The term 'negotiated stopping' is used to describe agreed short term provision for Gypsy and Traveller caravans. It does not describe permanent 'built' transit sites but negotiated agreements which allow caravans to be sited on suitable specific pieces of ground for an agreed and limited period of time, with the provision of limited services such as water, waste disposal and toilets. Agreements are made between the authority and the (temporary) residents regarding expectations on both sides.

## **Net need**

The difference between need and the expected supply of available pitches (e.g. from the re-letting of existing socially rented pitches or from new sites being built).

## **New Traveller**

Members of the settled community who have chosen a nomadic or semi-nomadic lifestyle (formerly New Age Traveller).

**Newly forming families**

Families living as part of another family unit of which they are neither the head nor the partner of the head and who need to live in their own separate accommodation, and/or are intending to move to separate accommodation, rather than continuing to live with their 'host' family unit.

**Overcrowding**

An overcrowded dwelling is one which is below the bedroom standard. (See 'Bedroom Standard' above).

**Permanent / residential site**

A site intended for long-stay use by residents. They have no maximum length of stay but often constraints on travelling away from the site.

**Pitch**

Area on a site developed for a family unit to live. On socially rented sites, the area let to a tenant for stationing caravans and other vehicles.

**Plot**

Area on a yard for Travelling Showpeople to live. As well as dwelling units, Travelling Showpeople often keep their commercial equipment on a plot.

**Primary data**

Information that is collected from a bespoke data collection exercise (e.g. surveys, focus groups or interviews) and analysed to produce a new set of findings.

**Private rented pitches**

Pitches on sites which are rented on a commercial basis to other Gypsies and Travellers. The actual pitches tend to be less clearly defined than on socially rented sites.

**Psychological aversion**

An aversion to living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Symptoms can include: feelings of depression, stress, sensory deprivation, feeling trapped, feeling cut off from social contact, a sense of dislocation with the past, feelings of claustrophobia. Proven psychological aversion to living in bricks and mortar accommodation is one factor used to determine accommodation need.

### **Registered Provider**

A provider of social housing, registered with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) under powers in the 2008 Housing and Regeneration Act. This term replaced 'Registered Social Landlord' (RSL) and encompasses housing associations, trusts, cooperatives and companies.

### **Secondary data**

Existing information that someone else has collected. Data from administrative systems and some research projects are made available for others to summarise and analyse for their own purposes (e.g. Traveller Caravan Count).

### **Settled community**

Used to refer to non-Gypsies and Travellers who live in housing.

### **Site**

An area of land laid out and/or used for Gypsy and Traveller caravans for residential occupation, which can be authorised (have planning permission) or unauthorised. Sites can be self-owned by a Gypsy and Traveller resident, or rented from a private or social landlord. Sites vary in type and size and can range from one-caravan private family sites on Gypsies' and Travellers' own land, through to large local authority sites. Authorised private sites (those with planning permission) can be small, family-run, or larger, privately-owned rented sites.

### **Socially rented site**

A Gypsy and Traveller site owned by a council or registered provider.

### **Tolerated**

An unauthorised development or encampment may be tolerated by the local authority meaning that no enforcement action is currently being taken.

### **Trailer**

Term commonly used by Gypsies and Travellers for a moveable caravan.

### **Transit site/pitch**

A site/pitch intended for short-term use, with a maximum period of stay.

### **Travelling Showpeople**

People who organise circuses and fairgrounds and who live on yards when not travelling between locations. Most Travelling Showpeople are members of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain.

### **Unauthorised development**

Land which is developed or occupied by Gypsies or Travellers, but without the appropriate planning permission to station caravans.

### **Unauthorised encampment**

Where Gypsies and Travellers reside on land they do not own and without permission from the owners. The land can be public or privately owned.

### **Unauthorised site**

Land occupied by Gypsies and Travellers without the appropriate planning or other permissions. The term includes both unauthorised development and unauthorised encampment.

### **Utility block**

A small permanent building on a pitch with bath/shower, WC, sink and (in some larger ones) space to eat and relax. Also known as a utility shed or amenity block.

### **Winter quarters**

A site occupied by Travelling Showpeople, traditionally used when not travelling to provide fairs or circuses. Many now involve year-round occupation.

### **Yard**

A term used for a site occupied by Travelling Showpeople. They are often rented by different families with clearly defined plots.

# Executive Summary

## Introduction

- S1. This report details the findings from the Derbyshire, Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). The report was commissioned by Derbyshire County Council, together with its constituent authorities<sup>1</sup>, Derby City Council, the Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire Borough Council.
- S2. The report considers a range of English Romany Gypsy and Irish Traveller groups<sup>2</sup> found in the study area as well as Travelling Showpeople across different tenure types. It draws on primary and secondary data sources including:
- **Primary data:** face-to-face surveys of Gypsies and Travellers
  - **Secondary information:** including a literature review and secondary data analysis
  - **Stakeholder consultation:** with local organisations involved with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
- S3. The report includes qualitative data based on views and experiences of accommodation provision and wider service issues.
- S4. The aim of the study is to quantify the accommodation and housing related support needs of Gypsies, Travellers, and Travelling Showpeople in the study area for the period 2014/15-2034/35.
- S5. This is in terms of residential and transit/emergency sites and bricks and mortar accommodation. The results will be used to inform the allocation of local authority resources as an evidence base for policy development in housing and planning.

## Local context

- S6. There is a long history of Gypsies and Travellers residing in the study area with some families claiming a local heritage of over three hundred years. Although historically, Gypsy families lived in the hills of the Peak District, over time they gradually migrated throughout the study area, to be located closer to main transport routes and to work more accessible land.

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<sup>1</sup> Amber Valley Borough Council, Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Erewash Borough Council, High Peak Borough Council, North East Derbyshire District Council and South Derbyshire District Council.

<sup>2</sup> Please note that throughout this report the term 'Gypsies' is used to refer to Romany and English Gypsies and the term 'Travellers' is used to refer to Irish Travellers.



- S7. Around 30 years ago the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) began to campaign for a site in Derby City. Soon, similar campaigning groups emerged across the county and joined forces to become what is now known as the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group. The Gypsy and Traveller site in Derby City was finally developed in 2011. During the last 30 years a mix of public and privately owned Gypsy and Traveller sites of various sizes has developed throughout the study area. The study area now contains a total provision of 170 permanent and temporary pitches.
- S8. Despite a proactive approach by the local authorities in encouraging new private provision, a substantial proportion of planning applications for new private sites are rejected (although some gain permission on appeal). There currently are 2 potential pitches in South Derbyshire and 2 in East Staffordshire. They are currently undergoing development and estimate completion and occupancy within the next one to three years.
- S9. There are three sites in the study area (located in Bolsover, East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire) which contain some pitches leased to members of the settled community. This means that the local authorities either need to acknowledge these mixed used sites or ensure reinstatement of full access to Gypsy and Traveller families.
- S10. There is a long history of Travelling Showpeople residing and working within the study area, particularly on yards in Bolsover, and in housing in both Bolsover and Derbyshire Dales. Families own and run businesses such as amusements, restaurants and cafes.

## **Literature review**

- S11. Existing national research into Gypsies and Travellers indicates that the legislation implemented since the 1960s has negatively impacted on Gypsy and Traveller communities, with the Housing Act 2004 and subsequent guidance designed to address this imbalance. The Equalities Act 2010 affords Gypsies and Irish Travellers legal protection against discrimination, including from housing authorities.
- S12. Nationally, research suggests that education, health and employment remain key issues for the Gypsy and Traveller community. There is evidence of good practice within the county with the Traveller Education Advisory and Support Team (TEAST) working to support local authorities and schools in carrying out statutory responsibilities. The West Midlands Education Service for Travellers supports Gypsy and Traveller children in East Staffordshire.
- S13. Locally, the Derbyshire Traveller Issues Working Group was formed in response to the need for all agencies to work together to make sure that all services are delivered fairly to Gypsies and Travellers in compliance with the law, government guidance and local authorities' equalities policies.

- S14. However, there is the potential for further community development work with local Gypsy and Traveller communities. Similarly, case studies suggest that establishment of Gypsy and Traveller tenant and resident associations (TRAs) may help further empower local communities whilst group housing schemes could be considered for Gypsies and Travellers wanting to live in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- S15. It is apparent from the research that the most pressing issue remains the inadequate permanent and transit/emergency site provision. Nationally, around one fifth of Gypsies and Travellers reside on unauthorised developments or encampments. Locally, the number of unauthorised encampments within the study area has gradually decreased over recent years.
- S16. As such, unauthorised encampments are comparatively less problematic within the study area compared with nationally. Nonetheless, there is a need for local authorities to consider how issues around unauthorised encampments can be resolved, including adopting the 'negotiated stopping' model.
- S17. Despite increased powers for local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour and to evict where necessary, the Government has acknowledged that increased site provision is the most effective means of dealing with unauthorised developments and encampments. However, the £60m Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) fund for 2011-2015 is now fully committed, although local authorities can now apply for funds via the 2015-18 Affordable Homes Programme.

## **Policy context**

- S18. Recent national policy has been reflected in the region with more responsibility moving to local rather than regional planning authorities, through local Housing Strategies and new style Local Plans. Some local authorities acknowledge in their local plans a shortage of authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites in the study area.
- S19. Although to some extent study area local authorities already coordinate responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues there is room for improvement in relation to liaison and information sharing. Whilst it is acknowledged that the planning policies of the study area local authorities are at differing stages of development, potential exists for local authorities to collaborate on specific issues such as the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers.
- S20. There are two examples of good practice regarding cross-border cooperation which partner local authorities could adopt: first, Nottinghamshire has a Gypsy and Traveller Partnership system where representatives from key agencies working with Gypsies and Travellers share information and data and work together; second, local authorities in Leicestershire have established a Multi-Agency Travellers Unit (MATU) which coordinates responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues.

S21. Additionally, study area local authorities should consider the Housing Market Area (HMA) approach to delivering Gypsy and Traveller accommodation provision across the study area. Current HMAs provide good examples of how local authorities undertake cross boundary work regarding planning and housing issues. Whilst there are no established 'sub-markets' in terms of Gypsy and Traveller site needs, there is potential for local authorities to undertake collaborative work on meeting accommodation needs.

## **Population Trends**

S22. While there are deficiencies in the Traveller Caravan Count, it remains the only national source of secondary data on caravan levels and is useful for determining trends in the number of Gypsies and Travellers living on sites. This has been used in conjunction with data collected locally by Derbyshire County Council and East Staffordshire Borough Council in order to look at Gypsy and Traveller population trends and estimates in the study area.

S23. However, Derbyshire's count is one of the lowest in the East Midlands region, and is low compared to some neighbouring counties such as South Yorkshire and Leicestershire. When population is taken into account the density of caravans within the study area varies widely with Bolsover, North East Derbyshire and South Derbyshire containing relatively high densities of Gypsy and Traveller caravans.

S24. Data collected as part of the GTAA indicates a total provision of 168 permanent, temporary, transit, and unauthorised pitches across the study area. There are substantially more permanent private pitches (109) than local authority pitches (26), although some private pitches are occupied by single families and not commercially available for rent. The 3 pitches which have temporary planning permission are located in Derbyshire Dales. The study area also contains 9 unauthorised development pitches and 21 transit pitches.

S25. Between January 2008 and September 2013 there were 98 instances of unauthorised encampments within Derbyshire (including Derby City) a total of 1,557 days (although no records are available for the period October 2011 to June 2012). The number of caravan days per quarter varies widely. A large proportion of unauthorised encampments were due to the movements of a small number of families. These factors combined with evidence derived from stakeholders suggest the need for emergency stopping places rather than transit sites. East Staffordshire recorded 19 instances of unauthorised encampments taking place during the period December 2010 to September 2013.

## **Stakeholder Consultation**

S26. In recognition that Gypsy and Traveller issues transcend geographical boundaries and the need to cooperate two focus groups were undertaken with stakeholders and representatives from Derbyshire and East Staffordshire local authorities and neighbouring local authorities including: County and District council officers with responsibility for Gypsy

and Traveller issues, planning policy officers, planning officers, housing strategy officers and enforcement officers.

- S27. It was generally acknowledged that there is a lack of accommodation provision throughout the study area. Also, it was noted that whilst provision throughout the study area is uneven there was unmet demand even in those areas where provision was relatively high. Stakeholders reported differences in terms of demand for accommodation across the study area.
- S28. It was felt that a lack of transit provision can lead to unauthorised encampments. Some stakeholders suggested that local authorities have a duty of care to support families residing on unauthorised encampments.
- S29. It was suggested that local authorities should consider adopting the 'negotiated stopping' model which had been adopted by Leeds City Council. This allows caravans to be sited on suitable specific pieces of ground for an agreed and limited period of time, with the provision of limited services such as water, waste disposal and toilets
- S30. Although the preferred accommodation type for many Gypsy and Traveller families may be small sites located on land owned by themselves, the focus group acknowledged difficulties in Gypsies and Travellers either buying or developing land for new accommodation.
- S31. Stakeholders acknowledged the needs of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Stakeholders agreed that it is very difficult to measure or estimate the number of Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- S32. The focus groups acknowledged many of the barriers faced by Gypsies and Travellers. Some stakeholders suggested that the attitude towards Gypsies and Travellers had hardened in recent years. There is a need for service providers and elected members to be educated regarding the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and to foster better relations between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled community.
- S33. Also, as part of the GTAA, extensive consultation with members of the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) took place including the undertaking of a focus group in December 2013. The aim of the focus group was to obtain views on key issues experienced by Gypsies and Travellers within the study area.
- S34. They recommended that large sites are managed by Gypsies or Travellers who understand the needs of the community. Members suggested that ideally, sites should contain reasonably sized pitches with space for at least two caravans and parking spaces, with utility blocks containing toilets, washing facilities, kitchens and day rooms.

- S35. All DGLG members felt there is a need for more transit and emergency sites throughout the study area and across the country. However, it was agreed that there is a need to prioritise the provision of permanent sites.
- S36. DGLG members stated that as well as determining the need for more sites it was important to consider whether current sites could be expanded. This is particularly important as there is a cultural desire for Gypsy and Traveller children to reside with parents on the same site.

### **Gypsies and Travellers living on sites**

- S37. Reflecting historical factors, the majority of respondents described themselves as Romany Gypsies compared with Irish Travellers. Reflecting national trends, it is apparent that respondent Gypsy and Traveller households tend to be larger and contain a younger age composition compared with families in the settled community.
- S38. Respondents displayed longevity of tenure with more than half of respondents having lived on site for more than five years, and nearly two thirds stating that they did not intend to move in the future. These findings emphasise the residential longevity of Gypsies and Travellers living in the study area. A key reason for families living in specific locations was because they wanted to live close to family members.
- S39. Satisfactions with sites are generally high although around a fifth of respondents were not satisfied with the site they currently occupy. The most common reason for dissatisfaction with living on sites was poor site facilities. Also, around a third of respondent households stated that there is currently a lack of space on pitches.
- S40. Access to services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools is not an issue for respondent households, although around one fifth of respondents stated that they had experienced problems accessing health services in the local area. Most respondents stated that they had been a victim of racism or bullying with almost none reporting incidents to the police.
- S41. Although around a third of respondents stated that they had not travelled during the last 12 months, it is apparent that travelling remains an important component of Gypsy and Traveller culture. For most respondents, the most important reasons for travelling included to reinforce cultural identity, or to transfer knowledge and experience of travelling to younger generations.
- S42. Perhaps unsurprisingly, few respondents believe that there are sufficient permanent or transit spaces for Gypsies and Travellers in the area. Also, a lack of spaces meant that some family members had moved out of the local area. In response, there was a desire by over half of respondents to develop their own small, family-sized site, although very few believed that they could afford to develop a site due to the cost of land and complexity of the planning system.

### **Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation**

- S43. Compared with respondent households living on sites, families residing in bricks and mortar accommodation were more likely to reside in publically owned housing. Nonetheless, families still displayed longevity of tenure with over four fifths having lived in their current accommodation for between 5-10 years, and a third for more than 10 years. Importantly, whilst some families said that they were used to living in housing, over two fifths said that they did so because they had no alternative. Also, around a third of families stated they are not satisfied with living in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- S44. Similar to families living on sites, respondents did not generally have problems accessing services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools. Also, children living in bricks and mortar accommodation are more likely to regularly attend school compared with children living on sites.
- S45. However, over two thirds of families living in bricks and mortar accommodation stated that they had suffered discrimination when trying to access services or had been a victim of racism or bullying. This suggests that it is important for local authorities to be aware of issues around harassment that Gypsy and Traveller families may experience when being placed into bricks and mortar accommodation.
- S46. In relation to accommodation provision, no respondents felt that there are enough spaces for Gypsies and Travellers in the area. Similarly, all respondents living in bricks and mortar accommodation felt that there is a need for additional transit pitches or emergency stopping places within the study area. Although half of respondent households stated that that they would like to develop or buy a site none stated that they are able to do so.

### **Travelling Showpeople**

- S47. Similar to Gypsy and Traveller families residing on sites, there is a long history of Travelling Showpeople both living and working within the study area. Travelling Showpeople families tend to be larger than families in the settled community, although the age composition of respondent families was fairly old with a quarter of respondents aged 71 years or over. This may reflect the fact that many Travelling Showpeople continue to work later than the traditional retirement age of 65 years for men and 60 years for women.
- S48. Unlike Gypsy and Traveller families living on sites, nearly four fifths of respondent Travelling Showpeople families own their own plot with the remainder renting (there is no public provision). One reason is because yards in Bolsover were developed with the Showmen's Guild with some pitches for rent, and some for sale. However, similar to Gypsy and Traveller families, a key reason for Travelling Showpeople families living in their current location is because they wanted to live close to family members.

- S49. Travelling remains important to the Travelling Showpeople families, for either work or cultural reasons, with over three quarters having travelled at least once during the previous year. Satisfaction with yards and locations is generally high with most families not intending to move within the next 5 years. However, whilst most families were satisfied with the facilities on yards, nearly all stated that there is insufficient space to store equipment, and a lack of children's play areas.
- S50. A lack of suitable accommodation is apparent with over a third of respondents saying that one or more family members had moved out of the local area due to a lack of provision. Over a fifth of respondents said that they would like to develop a small, family-sized yard, although only 2 households said that they are able to do so.

### **Accommodation need**

- S51. Accommodation need for the study area was assessed using a model in accordance with Practice Guidance issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG). It contains seven basic components; five assessing need and two assessing supply, which are applied to each sub-group of Gypsies and Travellers, based on primary data.
- S52. The total requirement for new accommodation in the study area over 20 years is as follows:
- 134 residential pitches
  - 4 transit sites/emergency stopping places consisting of at least four or five pitches
  - 13 Travelling Showpeople plots.
- S53. Table S1 shows the accommodation needs results for study area councils over 20 years. It should be noted that the first year period is determined by survey responses, whilst future 5-year periods are determined by projections based on data collected by the surveys.
- S54. However, accommodation need does not need to be met where it arises. This is particularly the case in relation to need arising from unauthorised encampments as although families state a preferred location, it is more important that they are permanently accommodated than the actual location.
- S55. For example, there are two figures in the 'Additional need 2014-2019' column. The first figure shows accommodation need based on a range of factors (as discussed in Chapter 9) including that arising from surveyed families residing on unauthorised encampments requiring permanent accommodation. The second figure (in brackets) shows an alternative accommodation need figures based on need arising from all surveyed unauthorised encampments equally shared between all study area local authorities. For example, there were no known authorised or unauthorised development pitches in High Peaks, so no families in this area were surveyed. However, if needs arising from unauthorised encampments were equally shared by all authorities, High Peak would have a need of 2 pitches.

Table S1 Twenty year Gypsy and Traveller pitch needs summary 2014-34							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014-2019	Additional need 2019-2024	Additional need 2024-2029	Additional need 2029-2034	Additional need 2014-2034	Numbers as at 2034
Amber Valley	0	7 (9)	1	1	1	10	10
Bolsover	17	9 (8)	2	3	3	17	34
Chesterfield	2	2 (3)	0	0	0	2	4
Derby City	17	20 (14)	3	4	4	31	48
D. Dales	0	6 (6)	1	1	1	9	9
E. Staffs	13	5 (4)	2	2	2	11	24
Erewash	0	1 (2)	0	0	0	1	1
High Peak	0	0 (2)	0	0	0	0	0
NE Derby	23	6 (8)	3	3	3	15	38
Peak District	0	0 (2)	0	0	0	0	0
S. Derbyshire	63	14 (12)	7	8	9	38	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>70 (70)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>269</b>

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

S56. Also, the GTAA recommends that the study area local authorities adopt HMA-type collaborative structures to help determine how to jointly meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The following are the 3 new proposed Gypsy and Traveller HMAs which include all the study area local authorities:

1. South G&T HMA: Derby City, South Derbyshire, East Staffordshire, Amber Valley, and Erewash
2. North G&T HMA: Chesterfield, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire
3. Central G&T HMA: High Peak, Derbyshire Dales, and Peak District National Park

S57. The accommodation needs for the Gypsy and Traveller HMAs for the periods 2014-2019, and 2014-2034, are shown below:

Table S2 Accommodation Needs by proposed Gypsy and Traveller HMA		
	2014/2019	2014/2034
South	47	91
North	17	34
Central	6	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>134</b>

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014: Table 10.6



## Conclusions

S58. As well as quantifying accommodation need, the study also makes recommendations on key issues. The main ones are as follows:

### *Accommodation needs:*

- As Table S1 shows, there is a need for 134 new permanent pitches over the 20 year period 2014-34. However, it is important to note that need does not have to be met where it arises i.e. it could be met throughout the study area local authorities. This is particularly in relation to meeting needs arising from families residing on unauthorised encampments requiring permanent accommodation. As such, the GTAA recommends that the study area local authorities adopt HMA-type collaborative structures to help determine how to jointly meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers.
- According to the survey undertaken with Gypsies and Travellers in the study area the preferred size for permanent/residential sites is for small, family sized sites. The stakeholder meetings undertaken as part of the GTAA confirmed that smaller sites are preferred.
- Following CLG (2008) guidance it is recommended that new sites contain a maximum of 15 pitches whilst smaller sites for individual extended families should be considered.
- Survey results suggest that a mix of public and private sites will be required dependent on need. Specific sites available should be outlined in future DPDs and guidance offered on the type of land that is likely to obtain planning permission as well as land that is unlikely to. Specific advice on the planning process should also be offered.
- Local authorities should consider how they can facilitate the provision of new sites including applying for funding as part of the HCA's 2015-18 Affordable Homes Programme (AHP); sites developed on a cooperative basis; shared ownership; small sites owned by a local authority, but rented to an extended Gypsy or Traveller family for their own use; and Community Land Trust options.
- Local authorities should jointly (within the HMA-type groupings) examine their Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments (SHLAAs) as well as other land availability documents to identify suitable locations.
- Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation sometimes face discrimination and hostility from the settled community. Local authorities should consider the provision of alternative accommodation which directly meet the needs Gypsies and Travellers such as group housing schemes.

### *Management of sites:*

- The GTAA needs calculations suggest a requirement for 4 transit sites or emergency stopping places consisting of at least four or five pitches in the study area to further reduce the number of unauthorised encampments. However, it is recommended that when these are located close to existing sites that management

issues be considered. For example, there is evidence that there can be tensions between Gypsies and Travellers residing on transit sites (or emergency stopping places) and those residing on permanent sites.

- Local authorities should consider adopting the 'negotiated stopping' model in response to unauthorised encampments i.e. negotiated agreements which allow caravans to be sited on suitable specific pieces of ground for an agreed and limited period of time, with the provision of limited services such as water, waste disposal and toilets.
- Local authorities should also consider other good practice in relation to unauthorised encampments and transit provision e.g. publishing a handbook for managing unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments which as well as ensuring that there is a balanced response to unauthorised encampments, would outline the responsibilities of families residing on unauthorised encampments in a 'code of conduct'. The authorities should also consider the French model whereby families are charged a daily rate and have to pay a deposit for staying at a transit site, but are provided with good facilities.
- It is recognised that cultural factors can impact on the educational achievement of Gypsies and Travellers. There is a need to further support good practice in education such as the work undertaken by the Traveller Education Advisory and Support Team (TEAST), and West Midlands Education Service for Travellers, and to further consider how educational needs can be met.
- Similarly, the adverse impact of travelling on the health needs of Gypsies and Travellers suggests that there is a need to further consider how such impacts can be ameliorated e.g. the provision of health outreach services.
- The good community-based practice supporting equal access to education and health care developed by the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group is acknowledged. However, there is the potential for further community development work with local Gypsy and Traveller communities. Similarly, case studies suggest that establishment of Gypsy and Traveller tenant and resident associations (TRAs) may help further empower local communities.
- Regular training and workshop sessions with local authority and service provider employees (and elected members) would help them further understand the key issues facing the Gypsy and Traveller community.

#### *Monitoring and measuring:*

- Local authorities across the study area should use consistent methods in recording incidences of unauthorised encampments. As well as recording basic data such as location of encampment, number of vehicles involved, length of stay, outcome (if any) of enforcement action, family names, records should also include reasons for encampment such as a visiting family, passing through the area, or attending a religious or cultural event.
- Although to some extent study area local authorities already coordinate responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues local authorities should consider further liaison and

information sharing. This could take a form similar to the multi-agency Gypsy and Traveller Unit set up in Leicestershire or the partnership approach adopted in Nottinghamshire.

- The conditions of local authority sites should be regularly monitored to ensure that maintenance issues are swiftly resolved. This will require ensuring that the roles and responsibilities of both site managers and residents are clearly understood. Also, it may be useful to embed dispute resolution mechanisms into licensing agreements<sup>3</sup>.
- Ongoing monitoring of site provision and vacant pitches should be undertaken by local authorities alongside discussions with Gypsies and Travellers to ensure that any additional need that may arise over the study period is identified.
- Local housing authorities should include Gypsy and Irish Traveller categories on ethnic monitoring forms to improve data on population numbers, particularly in housing. Also, there needs to be better sharing of information between agencies which deal with the Gypsy and Traveller community
- Information should be made available in a variety of forms (as well as visits by Liaison and Support Officers) to ensure that the Gypsy and Traveller community are aware of the type of help and support available to them, and clarification about tenancy obligations and rights
- The population size and demographics of Gypsies and Travellers can change rapidly. As such, their accommodation needs should be reviewed every three to five years.

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<sup>3</sup> See Welsh Assembly, *Review of Service Provision for Gypsies and Travellers*, 2002 located at: <http://www.assemblywales.org/N000000000000000000000000000009105.pdf>





# 1. Introduction

## Study context

- 1.1 In August 2013, Derbyshire County Council, together with its constituent authorities<sup>4</sup>, Derby City Council, The Peak District National Park Authority, and East Staffordshire Borough Council commissioned *RRR Consultancy* to undertake the Derbyshire and East Staffordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). The purpose of the assessment is to quantify the accommodation and housing related support needs of Gypsies and Travellers<sup>5</sup> (including Travelling Showpeople) in terms of residential and transit/emergency sites, and bricks and mortar accommodation for the period 2014/15-2034/35. The results will be used to inform the allocation of resources and as an evidence base for policy development in housing and planning.
- 1.2 Data collection and analysis followed practice guidance set out by Communities and Local Government (CLG) in 'Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments' (October 2007) and 'Local Housing Assessment: A Practice Guide' (March 2005), obliging local authorities to assess the level of need for Gypsy and Traveller sites.
- 1.3 To achieve the study aims, the research drew on a number of data sources including:
  - Review of secondary information: including a literature review and secondary data analysis
  - Consultation with organisations involved with Gypsy and Traveller issues
  - Face-to-face surveys of Gypsies and Travellers

## Geographical context of Derbyshire

- 1.4 The County of Derbyshire (including Derby City) has an estimated population of 1,024,100 covering an area of 262,832 hectares. Derbyshire is largely rural with a relatively low average population density. There is one city and 28 towns which play a significant role in the local economy as employment hubs and providers of services. The County includes the boroughs of Amber Valley, Chesterfield, High Peak, and Erewash and the districts of Bolsover, Derbyshire Dales, North East Derbyshire and South Derbyshire and encircles the unitary authority of Derby City. Derby City makes a significant contribution to the Derbyshire economy.

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<sup>4</sup> Amber Valley Borough Council, Bolsover District Council, Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Erewash Borough Council, High Peak Borough Council, North East Derbyshire District Council, and South Derbyshire District Council.

<sup>5</sup> Please note that throughout this report the term 'Gypsies' is used to refer to Romany and English Gypsies and the term 'Travellers' is used to refer to Irish Travellers.

- 1.5 Derbyshire is relatively well served by nationally important roads including the M1 motorway and the A628, A52, A50, A516 and A38 trunk roads as well as regional and other locally important routes. Most of Derbyshire has good rail links to major cities including Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, London, Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester and Leeds. The County Council area is a net exporter of commuters; Derby, Sheffield and Nottingham are the most important cities to the County in terms of the supply of labour and of jobs.
- 1.6 Derbyshire has high quality landscapes, including the majority of the Peak District National Park and part of the National Forest, and a rich and diverse cultural heritage, including the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and Creswell Crags. These are important assets to the County's economy but there is a need to ensure development contributes to the protection and enhancement of these assets. The abundance of fast flowing rivers, the main ones being the Trent, Derwent and Dove, provided the basis for water-powered industries leaving a legacy of mills and mill sites. The rivers also present a significant challenge in terms of climate change, and there are a number of existing flood risk management schemes in Derbyshire. The County's historic transport infrastructure has also contributed to the development of the area and some of these assets remain, including Swarkestone Bridge and old trade routes such as salt routes.
- 1.7 The County has experienced major change over recent years with significant job losses within the manufacturing, metals, heavy engineering, textiles and coal mining industries. However, manufacturing still makes up nearly 20% of the total industry in Derbyshire. There has been significant investment in new industrial sites, such as at Markham Vale, as well as major inward investment including the Toyota plant at Burnaston. In the north west of the County, traditional quarrying and agriculture, tourism, and leisure activities all contribute to a diversifying local economy, although there is also strength in manufacturing.
- 1.8 Between April 2013 and March 2014, the County (including Derby City) had an average of 479,900 employees (74.8% of the population aged 16-64 years)<sup>6</sup>. The unemployment rate in August 2014 was 1.7% (excluding Derby City) but rates vary across the county; the lowest was in Derbyshire Dales (0.8%), the highest was in Derby City (2.6%). Employment rates have been improving since the end of 2011 and are slightly higher than the national average. However, youth unemployment (under 25 year olds) is falling and has declined from 7.6% in February 2012 to stand at 3.0% in August 2014. Average earnings in Derbyshire are below the national average at £478 per week compared with £518 per week nationally<sup>7</sup>. However, average weekly wages vary throughout the county with the lowest at £422 per week in Bolsover, and the highest at £650 per week in Derby City. Diversifying towards higher value added activity will bring higher skilled jobs and raise wage levels<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> NOMIS August 2014

<sup>7</sup> NOMIS August 2014

<sup>8</sup> Derbyshire Monthly Unemployment Statistics December 2013, Derbyshire County Council Research and Policy Division located at: [https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/images/munbull\\_tcm44-14833.pdf](https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/images/munbull_tcm44-14833.pdf)

## Geographical context of East Staffordshire

- 1.9 According to the draft East Staffordshire Core Strategy (August 2011) the borough covers almost 39,000 hectares and is based around the two towns of Burton upon Trent and Uttoxeter, with a substantial rural hinterland. The Borough occupies a strategic position on the edge of the West Midlands bordering Derbyshire and sharing boundaries with South Derbyshire and the Derbyshire Dales Districts in the East Midlands. The borough has a rich natural and historic heritage with beautiful countryside and historic towns and villages. The National Forest includes a significant area within East Staffordshire, and Burton upon Trent is the 'capital' of the National Forest.
- 1.10 The main town in the borough, Burton upon Trent, is a sub-regional centre serving the needs of its hinterland. The town is divided by the River Trent with the bulk of employment, services and the town centre on the western side and a large residential area on the eastern side. The town is home to a number of major employers, a strong retail offer, a hospital with an A&E facility and a college of education affiliated to a number of Universities. Uttoxeter is a traditional market town with a sphere of influence extending into the Derbyshire Dales, Staffordshire Moorlands and Stafford districts and offers a range of services typical of this type and size of town.
- 1.11 The latest population estimate (2012) of the borough is 114,400, which represents an increase of 10,500 people since 2001 (an increase of 10.1%). In economic terms, there is a strong brewing and manufacturing legacy in Burton upon Trent, its agricultural sector and the presence of major companies such as JCB, Holland and Barrett, Pirelli, Fox's Biscuits, Molson Coors Brewing Company (UK) Limited, and Kerry Foods. The borough has a varied economic base with 3,835 VAT registered businesses.
- 1.12 Total employment in the borough is around 60,000 people. East Staffordshire has an established manufacturing industry with activities including automotive components, food and drink, mechanical engineering and rubber and plastics manufacturing. However, over the last decade the borough has undergone a substantial period of change, driven by industrial re-structuring, globalisation, reforms to agricultural policy and development of the growth of the service led economy<sup>9</sup>.

## GTAA study area

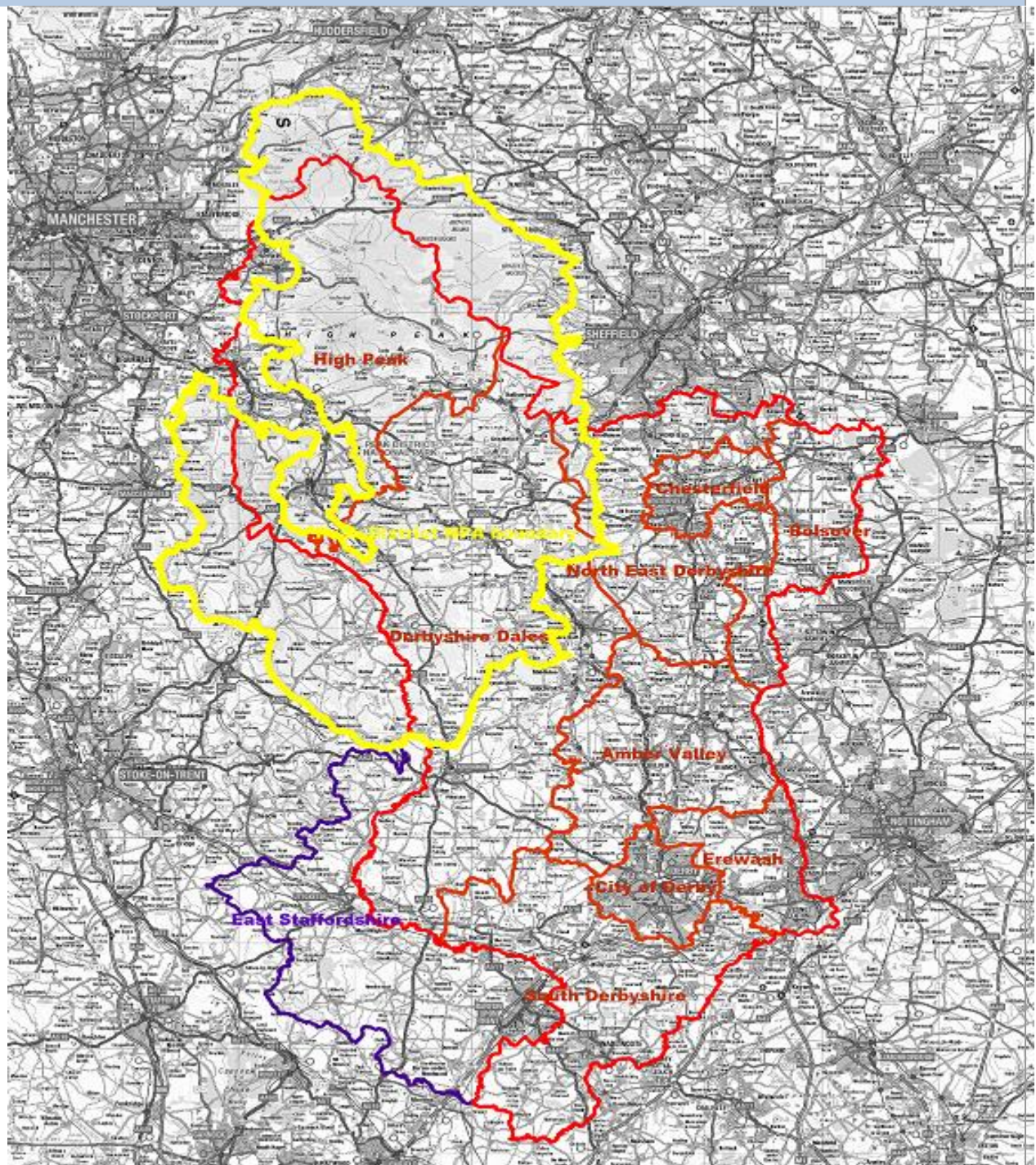
- 1.13 A map of the GTAA study area shown in Figure 1.1 below:

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<sup>9</sup> East Staffordshire Core Strategy (Draft Pre-Publication Strategic Options), August 2011 located at: <http://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/Planning/PlanningPolicy/Documents/LocalPlan/NewLocalPlan/CoreStrategyStrategicOptions.pdf>



Figure 1.1 GTAA Study Area



Source: Derbyshire County Council 2014

### Key

- Red: Derbyshire local authority boundaries;
- Yellow: Peak District National Park boundary;
- Purple: East Staffordshire boundary.

## Local Context

- 1.14 There is a long history of Gypsies and Travellers residing in the study area<sup>10</sup>. Some families claim a local heritage of over three hundred years. Historical documents and literature reflect the prominence of the Gypsy and Traveller community within the study area. However, as traditionally Gypsies and Travellers did not produce written documents, much of the history regarding the local Gypsy and Traveller community has been passed down generations through oral traditions such as storytelling.
- 1.15 Due to their origins in South Asia, Gypsies were often darker skinned compared to the settled community. Subsequently, there are reports that in the 1600s and 1700s, in order to avoid discrimination, some Gypsies lived in the hills of the Peak District, an area which provided an ideal place for living off the land. Some Gypsies made their homes in old barns, whilst others lived in 'benders' (a simple tent made of flexible branches such as those of hazel or willow), or simply in holes in the ground.
- 1.16 In the mid-17th century 'King' Giles and 'Queen' Kit, who resided in the Peak District, were said to rule all Gypsies from Derbyshire southwards including London. During this time, there were major Gypsy settlements at *Hathersage*, *Taddington*, *Youlgreave*, *Chapel en le Frith*, *Tideswell* and *Tansley*. To protect themselves, Gypsies tried to hide their skin colour and took local names, especially Smith, Boswell and Booth. These family names are still very prominent in the County today.
- 1.17 The Gypsy's Romani language had its own names for places in the area, including *Chumba Gav* (Derby, meaning Hill Town), *Chumba Kalesko Tem* (Derbyshire, County of the Black Hills), and *Bongo Kongri Gav* (Chesterfield).
- 1.18 Many churches refused baptisms and burials to Gypsies, so they had to bury their dead beside roads. Graves like these are known at *Beeley*, *Ladybower*, *Hathersage* and *Sheldon*. An entry in a *Chapel en le Frith* parish register tells us that: "A poor traveller, who went under the name of an Egyptian, was buried in the churchyard 20 April, 1702".
- 1.19 The number of Gypsies and Travellers swelled in later centuries by Irish families fleeing from the effects of the mid-nineteenth century famine, seeking work on the canals and railways, and again after World War II emigrating to escape difficult economic conditions in Ireland. There are smaller numbers of Irish Travellers living in the study area compared with Romany Gypsies, although just over a quarter of all families surveyed as part of the GTAA described themselves as Irish Travellers.

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<sup>10</sup> The historical section is based on information from the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group and the Peakland Heritage Website located at: <http://www.peaklandheritage.org.uk/index.asp?peakkey=01302123>

- 1.20 According to the DGLG, Gypsies have been travelling around the study area for over three hundred years, especially around Grass Moor. That is why the Corbriggs caravan site in North East Derbyshire came about as Gypsies and Travellers occupied the land long before the site was built. Corbriggs was one of the first sites created under the new 1968 Caravan Sites Act. It was established in around 1969 following the Act.
- 1.21 Although historically, Gypsy families lived in the hills of the Peak District, over time they gradually migrated throughout the study area, to be located closer to main transport routes and to work more accessible land. The site locations discussed in Chapter 4 show that whilst there remains concentrations of Gypsy and Traveller families within the north and north east of the study area (although none live on sites within the Peak District), the largest number of families now live to the east and south of the study area. Some families have lived in these localities for generations.
- 1.22 Around 30 years ago the DGLG began to campaign for a site in Derby City. Soon, similar campaigning groups emerged across the county and joined forces to become what is now known as the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group. The Gypsy and Traveller site in Derby City was finally developed in 2011. During the last 30 years a mix of public and privately owned Gypsy and Traveller sites of various sizes has developed throughout the study area. These are located in areas where the need for accommodation has been greatest.
- 1.23 Gypsy and Traveller families tend to 'cluster' in specific areas for various reasons: the longevity of residence in certain areas by some families; the desire for new generations to reside close to existing generations; to maintain cultural traditions; for reasons of safety and security; and the need to be close to health and education services which have a good awareness and understanding of the cultural needs of Gypsies and Travellers.
- 1.24 One consequence of this characteristic is that accommodation need has not been met equally by all study area local authorities. As such, accommodation need (using the DCLG accommodation need calculation) appears greatest in those local authority areas where current provision lies. The proposed HMA-type structures by which local authorities will jointly meet need (as discussed in Chapter 10) is one proposed solution to the problem.
- 1.25 As noted in Chapter 4, the study area now contains a total provision of 173 permanent and temporary pitches. For the first time, the national census, undertaken in 2011, included the category of 'Gypsy or Irish Traveller' in the question regarding ethnic identity. The 2011 Census suggests there are 682 Gypsies and Travellers living in the study area representing around 0.06% of the usual resident population. However, whilst the Census 2011 figures are likely to reflect a larger proportion of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation, they perhaps may not record all those living on sites.
- 1.26 The 2008 GTAA undertaken on behalf of the Derbyshire local authorities estimated a need for 58 new pitches for the first five year period, whilst East Staffordshire's 2007 GTAA



stated a need for 11 new pitches during the first five year period. In contrast, the 2013 East Staffordshire GTAA update estimated no additional need.

- 1.27 The Derbyshire GTAA 2008 reported that the study area contained 3 authorised public residential sites, 2 located in South Derbyshire District, and 1 in North East Derbyshire. These had a combined capacity of 55 pitches. There were 17 authorised private sites with a combined capacity of 38 pitches identifies.
- 1.28 It also stated that “many of the private sites in the area have temporary rather than permanent planning permission. This implies that the owners of these sites must re-apply for planning permission on a regular basis with many of the sites having permission granted at three year intervals”. It is important to note that the current GTAA does not consider sites with temporary permission as part of the permanent supply as accommodation need will persist if temporary planning permission ceases.
- 1.29 The report also commented on a provision of two transit pitches on a public site in South Derbyshire District. Permission had also been granted for four transit pitches at the public site in North East Derbyshire District. There was also a private transit site in Bolsover District with capacity for 14 pitches. This site had been granted planning permission for 25 permanent pitches, 11 transit pitches and a warden’s bungalow. However, planning permission lapsed and a new application was submitted after the 2008 GTAA was published for 21 pitches, 11 transit pitches and a warden’s bungalow.
- 1.30 Table 1.1 summaries how pitch provision in the study area has changed since 2008 as well as additional need required 2014-2019:

Table 1.1: 2008/2014 GTAA Base Data and additional need 2014-19				
	2008 GTAA Base Data	2008 GTAA Additional need 2008-13	2014 GTAA Base Data	2014 GTAA Additional need 2014-2019
Amber Valley	0	1	0	7
Bolsover	15	1	17	9
Chesterfield	0	0	2	2
Derby City	0	16	17	20
D. Dales	2	2	0	6
E. Staffs	17	11	13	5
Erewash	0	0	0	1
High Peak	0	0	0	0
NE Derby	32	19	23	6
Peak District	0	0	0	0
Sth. Derby	44	19	63	14
Total	110	69	135	70

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

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- 1.31 The above table suggests that despite an increase in accommodation provision between 2008 and 2014, there remains additional accommodation need within the study area.
- 1.32 It is also important to note changes to the type of sites included in the accommodation need calculations. The previous 2008 Derbyshire GTAA included pitches with temporary permission and transit pitches. The 2014 GTAA does not regard them as permanent, authorised sites, as neither can ensure long term provision. In relation to local authority sites, the 2008 GTAA used waiting lists to help determine accommodation need, whilst the 2014 GTAA does not regard them as a key component of the calculating process.
- 1.33 Despite a proactive approach by the local authorities in encouraging new private provision, a substantial proportion of planning applications for new private sites are rejected (although some gain permission on appeal). There are currently 2 potential pitches in South Derbyshire and 2 in East Staffordshire. They are currently undergoing development and estimate completion and occupancy within the next one to three years.
- 1.34 Two of the local authority sites identified in the 2008 Derbyshire GTAA are currently leased to members of the Gypsy and Traveller community. One site is located in North East Derbyshire and the other in South Derbyshire. Both sites contain a mix of permanent and transit pitches. The leasing of local authority owned land to individual families for the development of small, family sized sites or pitches for rent is an option the local authorities could consider.
- 1.35 Importantly, some new sites may derive from windfalls. Whilst it is difficult to determine the future trend of windfall sites, it is likely that they will continue to constitute a small proportion of future supply. This means that future accommodation supply will be based not only on publically owned land but from private land as well.
- 1.36 There are three sites in the study area (located in Bolsover, East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire) which contain some pitches leased to members of the settled community. This means that the local authorities either need to acknowledge these mixed used sites or ensure reinstatement of full access to Gypsy and Traveller families.
- 1.37 In relation to support services, the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) provides health and education services to Gypsy and Traveller families across the study area. Also, *GypsyLife*, a community-based organisation dedicated to improving the life-chances of Gypsies and Travellers, undertakes a range of health-related activities throughout the county. There is a good working relationship between the DGLG and the local authorities, police, education services and health services. This has impacted positively on Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- 1.38 There is a long history of Travelling Showpeople residing and working within the study area, particularly on yards in Bolsover, and in housing in both Bolsover and Derbyshire Dales.

Families own and run businesses in these areas such as amusements, restaurants and cafes.

- 1.39 The Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire section of the Showmen's Guild office is based at one of the yards located in Bolsover. The yards are located close to the Nottinghamshire border and used to be part of Ashfield District until a change in local authority boundaries. One of the four yards was developed around 30 years ago and was one of the first permanent Showmen's yards to be built in the country.
- 1.40 It was established when a group of Travelling Showpeople families and the Showmen's Guild jointly purchased land (approximately 9 acres) and divided it into individual plots. Most of the plots are now individually owned. There is also an area on the yard for Showpeople families to live or stay who are unable to buy their own yards or who want to live communally. This is owned and managed by the Showmen's Guild.

### Policy context

- 1.41 In May 2010 a new Coalition Government was elected. It aimed to bring about new planning policy regarding Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. The Coalition's *Our Programme for Government*<sup>11</sup> set out the government's intention to publish and present to Parliament a simple and consolidated national planning framework covering all forms of development and setting out national economic, environmental and social priorities.
- 1.42 In April 2011 the Communities Secretary Eric Pickles announced proposals for a more localist way of providing sites for travellers, building on earlier commitments to strengthen measures to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community. Its first action was to announce its intention to abolish the regional plans which contained the Gypsy and Traveller accommodation targets.
- 1.43 According to the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG), planning regulations had seriously harmed community relations over the last few years, by imposing targets for traveller sites on local councils and increasing the number of unauthorised sites, whilst the old planning rules had created a perception of special treatment for some groups, undermining the notion of 'fair play' in the planning system and further harming community cohesion.
- 1.44 In March 2012 the Government published both the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and its planning policy for traveller sites. The NPPF was part of the Government's reforms to make the planning system less complex and more accessible. Importantly, it

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<sup>11</sup> HM Government, *The Coalition: our programme for government*, May 2010 located at: [http://www.direct.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dg/groups/dg\\_digitalassets/@dg/@en/documents/digitalasset/dg\\_187876.pdf](http://www.direct.gov.uk/prod_consum_dg/groups/dg_digitalassets/@dg/@en/documents/digitalasset/dg_187876.pdf)

suggests that local planning authorities should work collaboratively with other bodies to ensure that strategic priorities across local boundaries are properly coordinated and clearly reflected in individual Local Plans.

- 1.45 The CLG (2012) planning policy for traveller sites replaced the previous circulars relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show People (01/2006 and 04/2007 respectively). The guidance emphasised the need for local authorities to use evidence to plan positively and manage development. In particular, it stated that in assembling the evidence-base necessary to support their planning approach, local authorities should:
- effectively engage with both settled and traveller communities
  - co-operate with traveller groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit/emergency accommodation needs of their areas
  - and use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions
- 1.46 The Government states that the new planning policy encourages plan-making by councils and communities, by giving them a greater say in how they meet their development needs. It also gives communities, developers and investors more certainty about the types of applications that are likely to be approved. This will help to speed up the planning process.
- 1.47 According to the Government, the new planning policy gives councils the freedom and responsibility to determine the right level of traveller site provision in their area, in consultation with local communities, while ensuring fairness in the planning system. It sits within a broader package of reforms such as the abolition of the previous Government's Regional Strategies and a return of planning powers to councils and communities.
- 1.48 Also, the Government states that new planning policy means that Green Belts and countryside have more robust protection, local councils have more discretion, and local planning authorities have a stronger hand in supporting appropriate development. Central guidance to councils on compulsorily purchasing land for travellers' sites has been removed and top-down Whitehall planning rules, which Ministers believe were counterproductive, have been abolished.
- 1.49 In September 2014 the CLG began consultation on proposed changes to planning policy and guidance including strengthening protection of sensitive areas and Green Belt areas. It intends to strengthen previous policy guidance (CLG 2012) which states that Traveller Sites and conventional housing in the Green Belt are inappropriate and should be permitted only where very special circumstances exist: i.e. where the harm to the Green Belt and any other harm is clearly outweighed by the benefits of the development.

## How does the GTAA define Gypsies and Travellers?

- 1.50 To ensure it is following CLG guidance, the GTAA adheres to the definition of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople as defined by the CLG Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (March 2012). It states that for the purposes of planning policy “gypsies and travellers” means:

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.

- 1.51 For the purposes of planning policy, “travelling showpeople” means:

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.

- 1.52 As part of the CLG consultation on planning policy and Traveller sites noted above, in September 2014 the CLG began consultation on its intention to remove the word ‘permanently’ from its definition of Gypsies and Travellers i.e. the definition would be limited to those who have a nomadic habit of life. The consultation ended in November 2014 with any change likely to be undertaken sometime during 2015. As such, it does not impact on the findings of this study. However, it would impact on future Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessments by not considering the needs of families who have permanently ceased to travel.

## Report format

- 1.53 The Derbyshire, Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire GTAA contains two sections. Section A contains the findings of primary data derived from the stakeholder consultation and analysis derived from the literature review and secondary data analysis. Section B gives the need assessments and draws conclusions on the research whilst Chapter 10 summarises the results from previous chapters.

## Summary

- 1.54 It is apparent that there is a long history of Gypsies and Travellers residing in the study area. Importantly, some Gypsy and Traveller families have resided and travelled throughout the study area for generations. This illustrates the sense of attachment that families feel towards the local areas in which they reside.



- 1.55 The policy context may have changed since the Housing Act 2004 introduced a compulsory requirement for all local authorities to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers publication. However, the 2012 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites reiterates the need for local authorities to evidence the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. This is particularly important since the abolition of the regional plans which contained the Gypsy and Traveller accommodation targets.
- 1.56 As such, the purpose of this assessment is to quantify the accommodation and housing related support needs of Gypsies and Travellers in the study area between 2014 and 2034. This is in terms of residential and transit/emergency sites, and bricks and mortar accommodation. The results will be used to inform the allocation of resources and as an evidence base for policy development in housing and planning.
- 1.57 Although the 2012 planning policy emphasised a more localist way of providing sites, this does not preclude local authorities identifying accommodation need, and considering how to meet need, collectively. As noted above, despite an increase in accommodation provision between 2008 and 2014, there remains additional accommodation need within the study area. The remainder of this report will discuss the findings of primary and secondary data analysis in relation to the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers, and Travelling Showpeople, and will discuss possible policy solutions.

## SECTION A: CONTEXT OF THE STUDY

The first section of the Derbyshire, Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) contains results from analysis of secondary data. The chapters draw on a range of secondary data:

- Current plans and strategies relating to Gypsies and Travellers
- CLG Traveller Caravan Count data and County Council data on population levels and accommodation patterns

These are considered in turn. Section A begins by describing the national policy context in which Gypsies' and Travellers' accommodation needs should be addressed.



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## 2. Literature review

### Introduction

- 2.1 This section examines previous literature and research relating to Gypsies and Travellers<sup>12</sup>. It examines a number of key themes including legal definitions relating to the Gypsy and Traveller community and issues relating to current site provision. The aim is to provide the reader with a background on Gypsy and Traveller issues and the policy context in which this Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) is situated.

### Legal Definitions

- 2.2 It is essential to clarify legal definitions relating to the Gypsy and Traveller population to ensure that their legal rights are recognised and that discrimination does not take place. However, there is no comprehensive source of information about the number or characteristics of Gypsies and Travellers in England.
- 2.3 According to Niner<sup>13</sup>, there are three broad groupings of Gypsies and Travellers in England: traditional English (Romany) Gypsies, traditional Irish Travellers, and New Travellers. There are smaller numbers of Welsh Gypsies and Scottish Travellers. Romany Gypsies were first recorded in Britain around the year 1500, having migrated across Europe from an initial point of origin in Northern India.
- 2.4 However, one key issue relates to whether it is possible for one definition to be agreed for both planning and housing purposes. According to CLG (2012) guidance on planning policy for traveller sites, the definition of Gypsies and Travellers is:

*Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependants' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.*<sup>14</sup>

- 2.5 Importantly, Gypsies and Irish Travellers have been recognised by the courts to be two distinct ethnic groups, so have the full protection of the Equalities Act 2010. The courts made clear that travelling is not a defining characteristic of these groups, but only one among others, compared with proposals in the Planning and Travellers consultation, September 2014. This is significant, because the majority of Britain's estimated 300,000

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<sup>12</sup> Please note that throughout this report the term 'Gypsies' is used to refer to Romany and English Gypsies and the term 'Travellers' is used to refer to Irish Travellers.

<sup>13</sup> Pat Niner (2004), op cit.

<sup>14</sup> CLG, Planning policy for traveller sites, March 2012 p.8

Gypsies and Travellers are thought to live in conventional housing, some by choice, some because of the severe shortage of sites<sup>15</sup>.

- 2.6 However, unlike Gypsies and Travellers, Travelling Showpeople are not considered to be an ethnic minority. Although some Gypsies and Travellers may earn a living as 'travelling showpeople', Travelling Showpeople as a group do not consider themselves to belong to an ethnic minority<sup>16</sup>.
- 2.7 According to CLG (2012) guidance on planning policy for traveller sites, the definition of Travelling Showpeople is:

*Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family's or dependants' more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.<sup>17</sup>*

- 2.8 Also, for the purposes of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAs), Travelling Showpeople are included under the definition of 'Gypsies and Travellers' in accordance with The Housing (Assessment of Accommodation Needs) (Meaning of Gypsies and Travellers) (England) Regulations 2006. It recommends that Travelling Showpeople's own needs and requirements should be separately identified in the GTAA.<sup>18</sup>

## **Current provision of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation**

### ***Types of sites***

- 2.9 There are six different types of site accommodation in use by Gypsies and Travellers: local authority sites, privately owned commercial sites, family owned sites, Gypsy-owned land without planning permission, unauthorised encampments and transit accommodation<sup>19</sup>:

#### ***i. Local Authority Sites***

- 2.10 According to Niner<sup>20</sup>, the great majority of local authority sites are designed for permanent residential use. In January 2014 only 217 (5%) pitches were intended for transit or short-stay use in England (and not all of these are actually used for transit purposes). The latest

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<sup>15</sup> Commission for Racial Equality, *Common Ground Equality, good race relations and sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers - Report of a CRE inquiry in England and Wales*, (Summary), May 2006, pages 3-4.

<sup>16</sup> CLG, *Consultation on revised planning guidance in relation to Travelling Showpeople*, January 2007, p. 8

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>19</sup> This section draws extensively on research undertaken by Pat Niner in 2003 on behalf of the then Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) on the provision of Gypsy and Traveller sites in England and later incorporated into her paper on *Accommodating Nomadism? An Examination of Accommodation Options for Gypsies and Travellers in England* (2004), op cit.

<sup>20</sup> Pat Niner (2004), op cit.

Traveller Caravan Count undertaken in January 2014 suggests that there are 4,530 permanent and transit pitches capable of housing 7,287 caravans.

*ii. Privately Owned Commercial Sites*

- 2.11 The majority of privately owned commercial sites are Gypsy and Traveller owned and managed. Most are probably used for long-term residence, but there is also an element (extent unknown) of transit use. The January 2014 Traveller Caravan Count suggests that there are 10,016 caravans occupying private caravan sites in England.

*iii. A Family Owner Occupied Gypsy Site*

- 2.12 As Niner states, family sites are seen as the ideal by many Gypsies and Travellers in England.<sup>21</sup> They are also often seen as unattainable. There are two major obstacles: money/affordability and getting the necessary planning permission and site licence. While the former is clearly a real barrier to many less well-off Gypsies and Travellers, getting planning permission for use of land as a Gypsy caravan site (and a 'site' in this context could be a single caravan) is currently a major constraint on realising aspirations among those who could afford to buy and develop a family site.

*iv. Gypsy-Owned Land without Planning Permission*

- 2.13 In January 2014, 2,633 caravans were recorded as being on unauthorised sites on Gypsy-owned land consisting of 1,295 'tolerated' and 1,388 'not tolerated' by local authorities in England. Again, according to Niner, while evidence is lacking, there is a strong impression from local authority officers and parliamentary questions that the number of Gypsies and Travellers moving onto their own land without planning consent is increasing. This has contributed to dissatisfaction with planning enforcement powers on the part of the settled community<sup>22</sup>. However, as discussed in Chapter 4, the number of 'not tolerated' unauthorised encampments has varied, but the long-term trend remains steady.

*v. An Unauthorised Encampment*

- 2.14 In May 2006 the CLG published local authority guidelines for dealing with unauthorised encampments. Whilst much of the discourse of this document refers to legislative powers local authorities hold in order to remove unauthorised campers, it nonetheless recognises that such unauthorised camping is at least partly the consequence of too few permanent sites. This again was acknowledged by the CLG<sup>23</sup> who underlined the view that enforcement against unauthorised sites can only be used successfully if there is sufficient provision of authorised sites. The January 2014 Traveller Caravan Count suggests that there were 2,633 caravans on unauthorised encampments in England. In August 2013 the CLG published a summary of powers that local authorities can use in response to unauthorised encampments and unauthorised developments. These included new Temporary Stop Notices which can be issued without an enforcement notice<sup>24</sup>.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid. Page 146-7.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid. Page 147.

<sup>23</sup> CLG, *Gypsy and Traveller Task Group on Site Provision and Enforcement: Interim Report to Ministers*, March 2007.

<sup>24</sup> CLG, *Dealing with illegal and unauthorised encampments: a summary of available powers*, August 2013.

vi. 'Transit' Accommodation

- 2.15 This is the authorised encampment option for full-time Travellers and for seasonal and occasional Travellers while away from 'home'. Transit sites are sometimes used on a more long-term basis by families unable to find suitable permanent accommodation. As stated above, there are only 217 authorised transit pitches (not all used for short-term purposes) in England. At present unauthorised encampments 'accommodate' the great majority of 'transit' mobility in an almost totally unplanned manner. No national record is kept of the number of actual 'sites' affected, but extrapolation from local records in different areas suggests that it must be thousands each year.
- 2.16 To summarise the figures noted above:
- In January 2014, data from CLG for the number of caravans show that there are 19,503 caravans on both authorised and unauthorised sites in England
  - 16,870 or 86% of these are on authorised sites (6,584 on local authority sites and 10,016 on authorised private sites).
  - 2,633 or 14% are on unauthorised developments or encampments
  - Between January 2012 and January 2014 the total number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans in England recorded increased from 18,746 to 19,503, including an increase in the number of caravans on authorised council and private sites of 757 caravans, and a decrease in the number of unauthorised caravans of 217.
- 2.17 However, although the biannual Traveller Caravan Counts are useful in enabling local authorities to estimate total numbers twice yearly, they are not immune from critique. According to research undertaken by Niner on behalf of the ODPM<sup>25</sup>, it is likely that the biannual Traveller Caravan Count seriously underestimates the Gypsy and Traveller population for a number of reasons, including a lack of commitment on behalf of local authorities and attempts to minimise apparent need by undercounting, and the lack of involvement of Gypsies and Travellers.
- 2.18 Research undertaken by the ODPM<sup>26</sup> (2004) concluded that some local authority officers have serious reservations about the count due to:
- officer knowledge of 'guesstimates' or errors in their own authority's count
  - anecdotes of poor practice elsewhere
  - discrepancies between personal knowledge/observation and the count; and
  - internal inconsistencies in published figures suggesting entries in the wrong cell etc.
- 2.19 Nonetheless, the biannual Traveller caravan count remains the only source of comparative national data on Gypsies and Travellers.

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<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> Niner, Pat, Counting Gypsies & Travellers: A Review of the Gypsy Caravan Count System, ODPM, February 2004 located at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/158004.pdf>

- 2.20 Research undertaken by the Commission for Racial Equality (2006) shows that over two-thirds (67%) of local authorities say they have had to deal with tensions between Gypsies and Travellers and other members of the public. In response, the Government is providing £60 million of funding that councils and other registered providers can use to provide new authorised sites for travellers between 2011 and 2015. Councils and other registered providers can apply to the Homes and Communities Agency to use the funding. In April 2011 the Government passed legislation that applies the Mobile Homes Act (1983) to local authority traveller sites. This means that people living on local authority traveller sites are treated the same as people living on other sorts of council-owned caravan sites.
- 2.21 Finally, the CLG's document *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites*<sup>27</sup> (March 2012) states 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

### Summary

It is apparent from the evidence described above that increased provision of permanent and transit sites is to not only to ensure that Gypsies and Travellers are accommodated, but to ensure good relations between the Traveller community and settled communities. Also, whilst it is apparent that the CLG acknowledge that improved provision, rather than legal enforcement, is the more cost-effective response to unauthorised encampments, it is not yet clear how far the £60m additional funding will go in resolving the site provision gap. The Mobile Homes Act (1983) which came into force for Gypsies and Travellers in April 2011 means that people living on local authority traveller sites will be treated the same as people living on private mobile home/ caravan sites.

<sup>27</sup> CLG, *Planning for Traveller Sites (Summary)*, June 2011.

## Health, education and employment

### Introduction

2.22 Although there are many facets of the Gypsy and Traveller lifestyle that may impact on the life-chances of individuals, it is arguable that health, education and employment remain three of the most important. Despite relatively scarce research being undertaken on the Gypsy and Traveller lifestyle, existing research points to poor health, educational and employment opportunities. According to the Commission for Racial Equality, Gypsies and Irish Travellers have the poorest life chances of any ethnic group today. In terms of education, Gypsy and Irish Traveller pupils in England are the group most at risk of failure in the education system.

### Health

2.23 According to Cemlyn et al<sup>28</sup>, although statistical data is not currently collected within the National Health Service about the needs of Gypsies and Travellers, studies have found that the health status of Gypsies and Travellers is much poorer than the general population. Parry et al (2004) found that, even after controlling for socio-economic status and comparing them to other marginalised groups, Gypsies and Travellers have worse health than others: 38% of a sample of 260 Gypsies and Travellers had a long-term illness, compared with 26% of age and sex-matched comparators.

2.24 Significantly more Gypsies and Travellers reported having arthritis, asthma, or chest pain/discomfort than in the comparison group (22%, 22% and 34%, compared with 10%, 5% and 22% respectively). An outreach project in Wrexham noted that when compared to a control group of residents from a deprived local area, Gypsies and Travellers had lower levels of exercise, a significantly poorer diet (particularly in respect of fresh fruit and vegetables), and had far higher rates of self-reported anxiety and depression (Roberts et al, 2007)<sup>29</sup>. It also found that the risk of premature death from cardiac disease was particularly high for Gypsy and Traveller men.

2.25 In response, work undertaken by the CLG (2012) suggests that there are a number of means by which the NHS can address health inequalities amongst Gypsies and Travellers including: identifying what must be done to include the needs of Gypsies and Travellers in the commissioning of health services; exploring how health and wellbeing boards can be supported to ensure that the needs of Gypsies and Travellers with the worst health outcomes are better reflected in Joint Strategic Needs Assessments; and working with inclusion health working groups to identify what more needs to be done to improve maternal health, reduce infant mortality and increase immunisation rates.

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<sup>28</sup> Cemlyn, Sarah, Greenfields, Margaret, Burnett, Sally, Matthews, Zoe and Whitwell, Chris (2009) *Inequalities Experienced by Gypsy and Traveller Communities: A Review*, Equality and Human Rights Commission, London.

<sup>29</sup> Roberts et al (2007) *Coronary Heart Disease and Mental Health in Gypsies and Travellers in Wrexham: Redressing the balance*, Torquay.



- 2.26 Research by Matthews<sup>30</sup> suggests that outreach services such as health visitors can go some way to plugging the gaps for advice or preventative services e.g. immunisation, but cannot offer full services for those who are ill. If Travellers are moved rapidly, it can be difficult even for outreach workers to see Travellers that quickly, and so they are never offered any care.
- 2.27 The research cites anecdotal evidence which suggests that women are more likely to access services if supported by outreach workers, some of whom are from Gypsy and Traveller communities. They found that among Gypsy and Traveller women, there is support for offering specialist training in basic midwifery to members of their communities to enable them to support mothers in a culturally appropriate manner while assisting them in accessing appropriate care from qualified midwives.
- 2.28 Newark and Sherwood NHS have embedded participatory principles in *GypsyLife*, a community-based organisation dedicated to improving the life-chances of Gypsies and Travellers. The organisation now undertakes a range of health-related activities throughout Nottinghamshire county including training; health promotion and prevention; education and literacy; information, advice and guidance; advocacy, liaison and campaigning; and reducing crime, offending and social exclusion. *GypsyLife* has been successful in training more than 1,000 individuals, undertaking community education and health promotion events involving more than 2,200 individuals, and completed over 5,000 health needs assessments<sup>31</sup>. Importantly, the organisation is run on a purely voluntary basis with work being undertaken by community-based 'Health Ambassadors'.

### **Mental health**

- 2.29 Mental health constitutes a key health issue. Gypsies and Travellers have been found to be nearly three times more likely to be anxious than others, and just over twice as likely to be depressed, with women twice as likely as men to experience mental health problems<sup>32</sup>.
- 2.30 A range of factors may contribute to this, including the stresses caused by accommodation problems, unemployment, racism and discrimination by services and the wider public, and bereavement.
- 2.31 Numerous GTAAs have reported Gypsies and Travellers in housing experiencing hostility from neighbours, and it is likely that the constant exposure to racism and discrimination has a negative impact on mental health<sup>33</sup>.

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<sup>30</sup> Matthews, Zoe, *The Health of Gypsies and Travellers in the UK*, A Race Equality Foundation Briefing Paper, November 2008.

<sup>31</sup> GypsyLife Annual Report April 2013 located at: <http://www.newarkandsherwood.nhs.uk/innovationzone/traveller-health-ambassador>

<sup>32</sup> Parry et al (2004) *The Health Status of Gypsies and Travellers in England*, University of Sheffield located at: [http://www.shef.ac.uk/polopoly\\_fs/1.437131/file/GT-report-summary.pdf](http://www.shef.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.437131/file/GT-report-summary.pdf)

<sup>33</sup> Cemlyn et al (2009) *Inequalities Experienced by Gypsy and Traveller Communities' Review*, Equality and Human Rights Commission

- 2.32 For women, long-term mental health difficulties can result from feeling trapped on a site where no-one would want to live<sup>34</sup>. Moving into housing is associated with depression and anxiety, and may be reflective of loss of community and experiences of racism and discrimination.
- 2.33 Greenfields<sup>35</sup> found that, where New Travellers moved into housing to escape violence or because of family law cases which impacted on their ability to live on a site, respondents reported depression and anxiety in a similar manner to Gypsies and other Travellers. In response to the consultation, Shelter noted that research is needed into mental health issues among housed Travellers, while a specialist Traveller team referred to 'Travellers psychological aversion to housing and how housing can impact on Travellers' mental and physical health'.
- 2.34 Parry et al<sup>36</sup> found that the health impacts of residence in housing were profound, with travelling acting as a protective factor in terms of both physical and mental health. Gypsies and Travellers living in housing who travelled rarely had the worst health status of all Gypsy and Traveller groups and reported the highest levels of anxiety. Conversely, isolation from relatives and community structures has a profoundly negative impact on well-being, social functioning and mental health.
- 2.35 Although there are fewer studies specifically relating to Travelling Showpeople, the CLG acknowledge that, as many of the issues facing this group are the same as those facing Gypsies and Travellers, it can reasonably be assumed that conclusions relating to the health of this group can be extended to cover Travelling Showpeople.

### **Education**

- 2.36 Statistics published by the Department of Education suggests that within the study area there are a total of 493 Gypsy and Traveller children attending primary schools, and 189 Gypsy and Traveller children attending secondary schools<sup>37</sup>. Research has found that poor attendance exacerbated by lack of support meant that Gypsy and Traveller children were consistently under-achieving compared with national education standards.<sup>38</sup> In response the Government published *Aiming High: Raising the Achievement of Gypsy and Traveller Pupils: A Guide to Good Practice* in 2003. This guide offers practical advice and guidance to schools on how to develop effective policies and practices to help raise the achievement of Gypsy and Traveller pupils.

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<sup>34</sup> Appleton, L. et al. (2003) Smalls's contribution to understanding the needs of the socially excluded: the case of Gypsy Traveller Women. *Clinical Psychology*, (24), pp.40-6.

<sup>35</sup> Greenfields, M. (2002) *The impact of Section 8 Children Act Applications on Travelling Families*. PhD (unpublished). Bath: University of Bath.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Department of Education, *Schools, pupils and their characteristics*, January 2013 located at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-pupils-and-their-characteristics-january-2013>

<sup>38</sup> See Levinson, Martin P. & Sparkes, Andrew C. (2003), *Gypsy Masculinities and the School–Home Interface: exploring contradictions and tensions*, *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, Vol. 24, No. 5.

- 2.37 However, research undertaken by the National Federation for Educational Research (NFER) (2005) on the education of Gypsy and Traveller children in Wales confirmed assumptions that educational attainment is lower than national averages. They found that attainment of Gypsy Traveller children was lower than non-Gypsy and Traveller children at Key Stages 2, 3 and 4, whilst the level of additional educational needs was greater than those of non-Gypsy and Traveller children.
- 2.38 The mobility of Gypsies and Travellers is affected by the availability of sites. Forced mobility leads to interrupted education and poses a challenge to local authority staff attempting to engage with the families. In response, NFER argue for the need for additional funding to support the education of Gypsies and Travellers because of the additional educational needs of this group, their lack of attainment, and the cultural influences which impact on their engagement in education. This funding could be used to increase schools' and teachers' awareness of these factors and develop strategies to engage and retain Gypsies and Travellers in education.
- 2.39 Over the last decade, new technology has been increasingly used for supporting the continued learning of Gypsy and Traveller pupils in more engaging and imaginative ways. The E-Learning and Mobility Project (E-Lamp) has developed interactive learning approaches to support students' work with their distance learning packs (Marks, 2004). This method is now being developed to support excluded pupils too.
- 2.40 The EHRC states that the Government in England has given considerable attention to the education of Gypsies and Travellers, although Ofsted's clarion call in 2003 that 'the alarm bells rung in earlier reports have yet to be heeded', remains relevant today. One of the findings to emerge is that despite relevant policy guidance and the impressive development of good practice in a number of areas, other aspects of policy contradict these efforts.
- 2.41 There is concern that government austerity policies may adversely impact on Traveller education schemes. An article published in *The Independent* (2011) (based on research undertaken by the Irish Traveller Movement) suggested that nearly half of 127 authorities had either abolished their Traveller education service or drastically cut staff levels. Of 127 authorities 24 had planned to scrap their traveller education support team while a further 34 were cutting more than a third of staff. The situation was expected to be even worse during 2012, with 20 councils refusing to reveal projected staffing levels as they were "under review", "undecided", "unknown" or being "restructured".
- 2.42 Within Derbyshire, the Traveller Education Advisory and Support Team (TEAST) work to support the local authority and schools in carrying out statutory responsibilities. TEAST makes visits to mobile Travellers. If there are no children present, the service has no further professional involvement. Families requesting information on other issues are given appropriate contacts. TEAST promotes equal access, continuity of education, and achievement and success on behalf of the local authorities.

2.43 TEAST offers a range of services to schools including advisory support, pupil support, training and use of resources (at no charge) and copies of policy guidelines. Transport from home to school is also funded in some circumstances to promote access and regular attendance particularly where children are highly mobile and resident on unofficial sites. TEAST provides schools with information on educational support and culture to ensure that Traveller children have a positive experience. The West Midlands Education Service for Travellers provides a similar service to Gypsy and Traveller families living in East Staffordshire.

### **Employment**

2.44 There is evidence that Gypsies and Travellers experience inequalities in relation to employment market participation. For example, research undertaken by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) (2013) indicates that White Gypsy or Irish Travellers are particularly disadvantaged with very low rates of economic activity (67% for men and 41% for women), and very high rates of unemployment (16% for men and 19% for women)<sup>39</sup>.

2.45 The EHRC (2009) suggest that few of the general programmes set up to tackle unemployment have initiatives or schemes developed specifically for Gypsies and Travellers, who need training in practical skills as well as opportunities to obtain qualifications for skills they already have.

2.46 Whilst full-time employment amongst Gypsies and Travellers is relatively low, self-employment is relatively high (36% compared with 18% for all ethnic groups). Gypsies and Travellers often work in family groups and undertake employment such as gardening, scrapping metal, building and market trading. However, the introduction of new legislation in 2013<sup>40</sup> which requires scrap-metal dealers to be licenced has restricted opportunities in this area of employment. A further issue which impacts on Gypsies and Travellers resident on sites, is the prevalence of regulations precluding the storage of work materials or ability to work from sites (even where owner-occupied), which have a negative impact on work opportunities

2.47 According to the EHRC (2009) women have until relatively recently traditionally been involved in harvesting work, making holly wreaths or other traditional seasonal 'female' crafts, although there has been a sharp decline in such work in recent years with greater numbers of organised migrant field labourers from Eastern Europe undertaking such work and limited outlets for craft work when raw materials are expensive or access to market stalls may be difficult to justify if financial returns are low.

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<sup>39</sup> JRF, *Ethnic inequalities in labour market participation*, September 2013 located at: <http://www.ethnicity.ac.uk/census/CoDE-Employment-Census-Briefing.pdf>

<sup>40</sup> HM Government, *The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 (Prescribed Relevant Offences and Relevant Enforcement Action) Regulations 2013* located at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/2258/contents/made>

- 2.48 Gypsies and Travellers who are unemployed and seeking work can encounter barriers including literacy and numeracy barriers, requirements for qualifications, evidence of former addresses (perhaps dating back over the past three years), or requirements for references from former employers. Again, it reported that one of the biggest and growing problems was not having a permanent address, or having a site address, given banks' and insurance companies' increasing insistence on evidence of a stable address as part of their identity checks.

### Summary

In terms of health, education and employment, Gypsies and Travellers suffer lower life-chances compared with 'settled' community members (although Gypsies and Travellers living in 'bricks and mortar' accommodation similarly experience comparably poor health, education and employment opportunities). To some extent, these experiences are due to issues discussed elsewhere in this section i.e. the lack of suitable site provision and the relative 'invisibility' of the Gypsy and Traveller community to service providers. There is some concern that recent cuts to Traveller education schemes may adversely impact on Gypsy and Traveller children's educational attainment. Also, it is important to ensure that Gypsies and Travellers are located on sites which have good access to adequate health and education services.

## Gypsy and Traveller Group Housing Schemes

- 2.49 One recent development of good practice in relation to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation provision is group housing schemes – residential housing developments with additional facilities and amenities specifically designed to accommodate extended families of Travellers on a permanent basis. These may include houses with sufficient bedrooms to accommodate larger families, sufficient space for to park occupants' and visiting families' vehicles such as caravans, and consideration of safety issues related to increased vehicle traffic.
- 2.50 In 2005 the Northern Ireland Housing Executive evaluated four group housing schemes – two in Belfast and two in rural areas (Omagh and Toome). While the evaluation focused mainly on the partnerships and processes involved in instigating and developing this new form of accommodation, it also elicited some views on the suitability of the housing for the needs of its occupants.
- 2.51 The Traveller families in both schemes responded very positively to the question of whether the aims of group housing had been met and they reported noticeable improvements to their standards of living. The main improvements cited by both families were in terms of security, comfort, heating, electricity and sanitation:

'We've always lived here and now we're set here. We don't have anybody coming and telling us what to do. I've no complaints about the scheme. We have all the space that we need. We have the comfort thing as well'<sup>41</sup>.

- 2.52 A similar scheme is Clúid Housing Association's Castlebrook Group Housing Scheme for Travellers in Newcastle, Co. Dublin. The scheme consists of seven houses built for an extended family. The scheme design considered the views of stakeholders including Travellers. An evaluation concluded that the scheme has resulted in high-quality, long-term local authority/housing association accommodation. Also, it suggests that that given a similar stakeholder approach, this development project could be replicated<sup>42</sup>. Generally, evaluations of Group Housing Schemes<sup>43</sup> found that families in schemes reported noticeable improvements to their standards of living and social wellbeing, although it was also noted that future allocations, relets and house sales were likely to be problematic.

### **Community development and community cohesion**

- 2.53 As noted above there already exists good practice in relation to education and empowerment within the County in the form of the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group which provides support to the Traveller communities. However, it is arguable that there is scope for further community development amongst Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- 2.54 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)<sup>44</sup> recognise that community development can both empower Gypsy and Traveller communities and lead to improved community cohesion. They cite a number of good practice initiatives which could be used to help determine the basis for further community development within the study area.
- 2.55 For example, in 2003 work by the Traveller Education Services in Cambridgeshire led to two posts being created for Youth and Community Development Workers. Similarly, the EHRC state that many agencies are reaching out to Gypsy and Traveller communities and encouraging involvement. A number of Traveller Education Services (TESs) have employed Gypsies and Travellers as outreach workers and in-class support workers, and this can involve elements of community development as well as other roles.
- 2.56 Some voluntary and non-governmental bodies have also taken significant initiatives in providing community development support. Devon Racial Equality Council reported in its consultation response to the EHRC research that they had had a dedicated community development worker post for Gypsies and Travellers for three and half years, which had

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<sup>41</sup> Chartered Institute of Housing and University of Ulster: *Outlining Minimum Standards for Traveller Accommodation*, March 2009 located at:<http://www.equalityni.org/archive/pdf/travguideSDSHWeb100409.pdf>

<sup>42</sup> Clúid Housing Association, *Review of Castlebrook: A Traveller Housing Project*, located at: [http://www.cluid.ie/\\_fileupload/Castlebrook%20Traveller%20Report.pdf](http://www.cluid.ie/_fileupload/Castlebrook%20Traveller%20Report.pdf)

<sup>43</sup> Northern Ireland Housing Executive (2005) *Evaluation of Traveller Grouped Housing* located at: [http://www.nihe.gov.uk/evaluation\\_of\\_the\\_travellers\\_grouped\\_housing\\_schemes\\_2005.pdf](http://www.nihe.gov.uk/evaluation_of_the_travellers_grouped_housing_schemes_2005.pdf)

<sup>44</sup> Cemlyn et al (2009) *ibid*

supported a range of projects by the community. These included a myth-busting leaflet written by Romany women, an information pack, a DVD and a project where Romany women gave talks in schools.

2.57 One further consideration may be the establishment of Gypsy and Traveller tenant and resident associations (TRAs). As Ryder (2012)<sup>45</sup> suggests, TRAs provide a collective voice for people who live in the same area, or who have the same landlord. Members work together to improve housing and the environment in their neighbourhood and to build a sense of community.

2.58 Ryder (2012) cites a number of good practice examples of Gypsy and Traveller TRAs including one set up in 2003 at the Eleanor Street Site in Tower Hamlets, London. Site residents sought assistance from the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit (LGTU) to improve local authority management of their site. Subsequently a tenants' association was established and the LGTU provided training to facilitate the work of tenants to coordinate the group. As a consequence, site management by the local authority has improved.

2.59 Similarly, in 2008 residents of the Stable Way site, west London, established a TRA which aimed to:

- improve the quality of life of Travellers living in the borough
- improve the voice and participation of Travellers in the policies and decisions affecting them
- enable access to debt and legal advice
- provide a place for children, young people and adults to come together to learn and have fun together
- work for and with, and to represent, Travellers living on Stable Way.

2.60 Since its creation, Stable Way TRA has had success strengthening the community's relationships with the police, health services and the borough council, as well as helping to improve residents' education and cutting crime. Police call-outs have dropped by almost half, from 80 in 2007-08 to 47 in 2011-12, and primary school attendance has reached 100%. All families are now registered with GPs and dentists. When a measles outbreak hit the wider Traveller community only two children were affected on Stable Way, due to the success of an immunisation programme arranged through the TRA<sup>46</sup>.

2.61 In relation to community cohesion, as the EHRC (2009) report suggests, and as confirmed by stakeholders events undertaken for this project (see Chapter 5), community cohesion

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<sup>45</sup> Ryder, A. (2012), *Hearing the voices of Gypsies and Travellers: the history, development and challenges of Gypsy and Traveller tenants and residents' associations*, Third Sector Research Centre Working Paper 84 located at: <http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=INqGXFbAe8E%3d&tabid=500>

<sup>46</sup> The Guardian, *Pioneering Traveller community stands proud against cuts*, Tuesday 25 September 2012 located at: <http://www.theguardian.com/society/2012/sep/25/pioneering-traveller-community-proud-against-cuts>

issues may negatively impact on Gypsy and Traveller communities. Opposition from members of the settled community to new Gypsy and Traveller sites as well as negative media attention can sometimes increase tensions between the nomadic and settled communities. The community development work and the potential for Tenants and Residents' Associations (TRAs) discussed in this section may help reduce such tensions.

- 2.62 However, it must be acknowledged that tensions can also exist between the English Romany Gypsy community and the Irish Traveller community. Although both communities are recognised legally and are protected by law from discrimination they have separate histories and cultural traditions.
- 2.63 As such, in terms of the implementation of planning policy and new site provision this means acknowledging that households from differing Gypsy or Traveller groups may not want to occupy the same site. Again, the establishment of TRAs and the implementation of conflict resolution mechanisms may help reduce tensions between the different communities.
- 2.64 According to the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) (2006), local authorities can play an important role in improving relationships between Gypsies, Travellers and the settled community. This will require positive steps to deal vigorously with the root causes of community tension, and the myths and stereotypes on all sides, and to publicise the authority's positive initiatives. Local authorities can make it possible for Gypsies and Irish Travellers to do this by providing or helping to develop suitable authorised sites.
- 2.65 The CRE suggests that local authorities will have to create opportunities for contact and interaction between Gypsies and Irish Travellers and others in the community, so that they can build relationships around common interests. The location and design of sites will be crucial to this. Easy access to local services, and to social contact with other residents in the community, should foster a sense of a single community with shared interests. Public sites that are designed to include communal areas will help to create a sense of the site as a community, and allow it to be used for consultations and events in the wider community

## Summary

- 2.66 It is not possible for a brief discussion, as in this section, to adequately encapsulate all research relating to such complex and diverse social groups as Gypsies and Travellers. Nonetheless, it is possible to identify a number of key themes.
- 2.67 Although much legislation implemented since the 1960s has negatively impacted on the Gypsy and Traveller community, it is arguable that the 2004 Housing Act and subsequent legislation has sought to address this imbalance. Also, whilst there is still some debate as to what constitutes an adequate definition of 'Gypsy and Traveller', the Equalities Act 2010 has gone some way to ensuring that some members of the Gypsy and Irish Traveller communities are afforded legal protection against discrimination.



- 2.68 This is important as it suggests that all agencies and service providers working with Gypsies and Travellers should adhere to the principles of the Equalities Act 2010. Evidence discussed in Chapter 6 suggests that this is not always the case for Gypsy and Traveller families living within the study area.
- 2.69 The research discussed above suggests that education, health and employment remain key issues for the Gypsy and Traveller community. There is evidence of good practice within the study area with the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group and Staffordshire Traveller Education Service providing lifelong learning to the Gypsy and Traveller communities. In relation to health, *GypsyLife*, a community-based organisation dedicated to improving the life-chances of Gypsies and Travellers, offers an example of good practice to study area local authorities.
- 2.70 There is the potential for further community development work with local Gypsy and Traveller communities. Similarly, case studies suggest that establishment of Gypsy and Traveller tenant and resident associations (TRAs) may help further empower communities whilst group housing schemes could be considered for Gypsies and Travellers wanting to live in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 2.71 However, it is apparent from the research discussed above that the most pressing issue nationally remains that of inadequate permanent and transit site provision. With around one fifth of Gypsies and Travellers nationally residing in unauthorised developments or encampments, the Government responded with increased funding for site provision.
- 2.72 The £60m Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) fund for 2011-2015 is now fully committed, although study area local authorities can now apply for funds via the 2015-18 Affordable Homes Programme.
- 2.73 Despite increased powers for local authorities to deal with anti-social behaviour and to evict where necessary, the Government has acknowledged that increased site provision is the most effective means of dealing with unauthorised developments and encampments. As discussed in Chapter 4, the number of unauthorised encampments within the study area has gradually decreased over recent years.
- 2.74 As such, unauthorised encampments are comparatively less problematic within the study area compared with nationally. Nonetheless, there is a need for local authorities to consider how issues around unauthorised encampments can be resolved, including adopting the 'negotiated stopping' model.
- 2.75 Lastly, the need for detailed information regarding the current and future accommodation needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community further reinforces the need for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAAs).



## 3. The policy context in the study area

### Introduction

- 3.1 The abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) means that previous RSS Gypsy and Traveller accommodation targets will no longer apply. Instead, the Localism Act 2011 set out that local authorities and local communities should be involved in setting Gypsy and Traveller accommodation targets.
- 3.2 Nonetheless, there remains a need for robust evidence in determining Gypsy and Traveller accommodation targets. As such, the Derbyshire, Peak District National Park Authority and East Staffordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) will provide a sound policy basis for the partner councils to establish the required level of provision. To assess the current state of play, existing documents have been examined to determine what reference is made to Gypsy and Traveller issues.
- 3.3 The intention is to highlight areas of effective practice in the study area, and examine the extent to which authorities are currently addressing the issue. Furthermore, understanding the current position will be important in the development of future strategies intended to meet accommodation need and housing related support need among Gypsies and Travellers.

### Local Planning Policies

#### ***Amber Valley Borough Council***

- 3.4 The Amber Valley Local Plan Part 1 Core Strategy Submission Version (December 2013) states that the updated GTAA results will inform a policy for providing for the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople that will be included in the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies document (part 2 of the new Local Plan). In May 2014 the Planning Inspector suspended the examination of the Local Plan to enable the council to carry out further relevant work.

#### ***Bolsover District Council***

- 3.5 Bolsover's Local Plan Strategy was withdrawn on 28 May 2014, and the Planning Inspectorate was notified on 5 June 2014. The Council does not currently have an up-to-date policy document that includes a policy for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

### ***Chesterfield Borough Council***

- 3.6 The Chesterfield Borough Council Core Strategy (adopted July 2013) states that the council will identify deliverable sites to address a five year supply in accordance with the criteria below. This will allow a potential site to be allocated in the forthcoming Local Plan; Sites and Boundaries if appropriate, and allow it to be referred to in a future review of the Core Strategy.
- 3.7 Policy criteria also need to be stated in case an unanticipated application for a site arises. In cases where a general need for sites has not been identified the council will assess any unanticipated proposals for provision for travellers against the criteria in the following policy. When considering proposals the council will take account of the most recent government guidance 'Planning policy for traveller sites' (March 2012), including:
- The existing level of local provision and need for sites
  - The availability (or lack) of alternative accommodation for the applicants
  - Other personal circumstances of the applicant
- 3.8 The Strategy also suggests that 'Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide 2008' should also be considered in relation to detailed design.
- 3.9 Policy CS12 on sites for Travellers states that the council will allocate sites for travellers in the Local Plan: Sites and Boundaries where a robust assessment identifies evidence of need. Sites to meet the accommodation needs of Travellers will be allocated or granted planning permission where:
- a. the site is not located in the Green Belt or Local Green Spaces;
  - b. there is no unacceptable impact on the function and purpose of Strategic Gaps, Green Wedges or on wildlife sites or other protected green spaces;
  - c. the site is reasonably accessible to community services and facilities;
  - d. The site provides adequate levels of amenity for users;
  - e. the site can be adequately serviced with drinking water and sewerage disposal facilities;
  - f. the site is of sufficient size to accommodate the proposed number of caravans, vehicles and ancillary work areas as appropriate;
  - g. there is satisfactory boundary treatment to ensure privacy and to maintain visual amenities.

### ***Derby City Council***

- 3.10 The Derby City Council Core Strategy Options Paper (January 2010) states that there is a need to meet the accommodation needs of the city's diverse communities including older people, minority ethnic communities, and Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. It suggests that the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers should be identified,

understood and addressed through the planning framework and housing strategy on the same basis as other sectors of the community. Only in this way can the needs of each sector of the community be understood and appropriate allocation of resources be ensured. This will help to ensure that future planning and investment decisions are based on well informed and accurate data.

3.11 According to the Derby City Local Plan – Part 1: Draft Core Strategy (October 2013), Derby City Council recognises the needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople within the City many of whom have established local connections and have developed links with local services. As part of providing for the housing needs of the City's diverse communities, there may be a need to provide additional sites to meet the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

3.12 It states that the Council will:

- a. protect existing lawful sites, plots and pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. Proposals that would lead to the loss of an existing Gypsy, Traveller or Showpersons sites will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that there is no longer a need for the site or that replacement provision on a site that is of equal or better quality is provided.
- b. subject to evidence of need, provide site(s) to meet the future accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople through an allocation or allocations in the Local Plan, Part 2 and/or through the grant of planning permission.

3.13 In considering sites for allocation the Council will require sites to be:

1. Well related to the existing built up area, have access to essential services such as mains water, electricity supply, drainage and sanitation; and allow convenient access, preferably pedestrian, cycle or by public transport, to schools, shops, medical and other local facilities.
2. Located away from areas at risk of flooding. Proposals for sites in locations other than Flood Zone 1 will be expected to demonstrate a sequential approach to site selection and be justified by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA). Due to the highly vulnerable nature of caravans and mobile homes, sites in Flood Zone 3 will not be supported.
3. Accessed safely by vehicles from the public highway.
4. Located, designed and landscaped to provide a good level of residential amenity and quality of life for proposed occupiers whilst minimising the impact on the amenity of nearby residents and the character of the local area, particularly where mixed use sites are proposed.
5. Of sufficient size to provide amenities and facilities for the planned number of caravans; including parking spaces, areas for turning and servicing of vehicles, amenity blocks, play and residential amenity areas, access roads and temporary visitor areas; and

6. Large enough for the storage and maintenance of rides and equipment, in the case of Travelling Showpeople.

- 3.14 Policy CP8 of the Draft Core Strategy is a performance indicator which seeks to measure the number of net additional plots and pitches developed each year, and the extent to which the supply of sites is sufficient to meet future needs as determined by the GTAA.

#### ***Derbyshire Dales District Council***

- 3.15 Derbyshire Dales District Council withdrew its Local Plan in October 2014. Due to the procedural requirements involved in the withdrawal of the Local Plan, the District Council estimates that it is likely that a resubmitted Plan would be adopted in around 18 months.

#### ***East Staffordshire Borough Council***

- 3.16 East Staffordshire's Local Plan (Pre-Submission Draft) (June 2013) suggests that there are two possible sources of potentially unidentified need: need from households living in 'bricks and mortar housing' and need from households living outside the Borough of East Staffordshire.

- 3.17 The Plan's Strategic Policy 19 states that in assessing the suitability of sites for residential and mixed use occupation by Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, and for the purposes of considering planning applications for such sites, proposals will be supported where the following criteria are met:

- The site affords good access to local services including schools
- The site is not at risk of flooding or adjacent to uses likely to endanger the health of occupants such as a refuse tip, sewage treatment works or contaminated land
- The development is appropriate in scale compared to the size of the existing settlement
- The development will be able to achieve a reasonable level of visual and acoustic privacy both for people living on the site and for those living nearby
- The development will provide a high quality frontage onto the street which maintains or enhances the street scene and which integrates the site into the community
- The development will be well-laid out to provide adequate space and privacy for residents The development complies with relevant national planning policies
- The development complies with the other relevant policies in the Local Plan.

- 3.18 Lastly, it states that if and when need is identified, the Council will set pitch targets and/or plot targets accordingly and will identify a site or sites to meet the need through a Development Plan Document as necessary.

### **Erewash Borough Council**

- 3.19 Policy 9 of the Erewash Core Strategy (Adopted March 2014) states that the following criteria will be used to identify suitable Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites and associated facilities. The criteria will also be used in the case of speculative proposals. Planning permission will be granted for the development of land as a Gypsy and Traveller caravan or Travelling Showpeople site where the following criteria are satisfied:
- a. The site is not located in the Green Belt except in very special circumstances
  - b. The site should be located within (or a reasonable travelling distance of) a settlement which offers local services and community facilities, including a primary school; and
  - c. The site should enable development and subsequent use which would not have any unacceptable adverse impact on the amenities of the site's occupiers and occupiers of nearby properties or the appearance or character of the area in which it would be situated.

### **High Peak Borough Council**

- 3.20 High Peak Borough Council submitted its Local Plan (Submission Version) (April 2014) for examination in August 2014 and the examination hearings started in January 2015. The Plan states that where there is an identified need for pitch provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People within the Plan Area, the council will work with the Peak District National Park Authority, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group and other stakeholders to ensure that the need is met.
- 3.21 The following considerations will be taken into account in the provision of a site or the determination of applications for gypsy and traveller sites:
- The development does not have a significant adverse impact upon the character or appearance of the landscape or sites/areas of nature conservation value, including European sites
  - The site should be well located on the highway network and provide safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access and adequate parking, and not result in a level of traffic generation which is inappropriate for roads in the area
  - The site must provide adequate on site facilities for parking, storage, play and residential amenity (including basic essential services such as water and sewage disposal)
  - In the case of permanent sites, there should be reasonable access by foot, cycle or public transport to schools, medical services, shops and other community facilities
  - The site should not be visually intrusive nor detrimental to the amenities of adjacent occupiers
  - Adequate levels of privacy and residential amenity for site occupiers should be provided

**North East Derbyshire District Council**

3.22 The North East Derbyshire DC Core Strategy Issues and Options Document (April 2009) states that there is a need to consider the provision of specialist housing such as sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showmen. These sites will need to be effectively integrated as part of mixed and balanced communities.

3.23 Minutes of the North East Derbyshire DC Cabinet dated 9 May 2012 reiterate key points contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (April 2012) including:

- Mixed sites for residential and business uses should be considered
- Sites should not dominate the nearest settled community or place undue pressure on local infrastructure
- Development in the open countryside should be strictly limited
- Rural exception sites may be allowed to enable small sites in small rural communities to be used specifically for affordable traveller sites that would not normally be used for this purpose but that such rural exception sites should seek to address the needs of the local community
- Development in the green belt should only take place in very special circumstances
- Where a major development project affects an existing site, local planning authorities are entitled to expect the applicant to provide an alternative site
- In decision taking, local planning authorities should take provision and need and personal circumstances into account and they should determine applications for sites from any travellers and not just those with local connections
- Planning conditions or obligations can be used to limit number of vans and length of stay.

3.24 The Council has decided to prepare the Local Plan 2011-2031 in two parts, so that work already done on the Core Strategy would not have to be abandoned. The Local Plan will comprise of:

- Part 1 incorporating Strategic Policies, and
- Part 2 incorporating Allocations and Development Management Policies.

3.25 Consultation on a Preferred Options Local Plan (Part 1) will take place in January and February 2015. This will include the preferred site proposals which are intended to be allocated in the Local Plan. Submission of the Local Plan is due January 2016 and adoption October 2016.

**Peak District National Park Authority**

3.26 The Peak District National Park Authority Core Strategy Development Plan (October 2011) acknowledges that although the 2008 GTAA did not identify any need for pitches in the



National Park, the Core Strategy retains an approach which accepts that exceptional circumstances might justify small scale provision.

- 3.27 However, it states that this is unlikely to exceed 1 or 2 pitches. Planning permission will not be permanent, and the need for sites will be kept under review. The key criteria to be met by all development are set out in policy GSP3 (relating to development management principles). With caravans and mobile homes, landscape impact is a key concern and assessment of this will need to take into account the variations in tree and hedgerow cover throughout the seasons.
- 3.28 Policy HC3 of the Core Strategy Development Plan states that Gypsy, Traveller or Travelling Showpeople's caravan or mobile home sites may be permitted only where there are exceptional circumstances of proven need for a small site that can be met without compromising national park purposes.

### ***South Derbyshire District Council***

- 3.29 South Derbyshire District Council submitted its Local Plan Part 1 to the Secretary of State for independent examination in August 2014. The Plan states that the council will set the target for new pitches and/or plots for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople according to the most recent needs assessment agreed by the Council. Allocations to meet identified need will be made through a Site Allocations DPD. In identifying land for allocation or determining planning applications for required potential sites, sites will be considered suitable provided they are of an appropriate scale and character and the following criteria are met:
- i) development does not result in an unacceptable impact on the local environment, including biodiversity, heritage assets or conservation, the surrounding landscape (unless capable of sympathetic assimilation) and compatibility with surrounding land uses; and
  - ii) safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access to the public highway can be provided with no undue adverse impact on the highway network; and
  - iii) the movement of vehicles to and from the site will not cause undue disturbance or be inappropriate for the locality; and
  - iv) there is adequate space for parking, turning and servicing on site; and
  - v) the site is reasonably accessible to local services including health services, shops, education, public transport and other community facilities; and
  - vi) the site is not located in an area at undue risk of flooding; and
  - vii) suitable landscaping and boundary enclosures are provided to give privacy to both occupiers and local residents and minimise impact on the surrounding area; and
  - viii) the site provides a safe and acceptable living environment for occupiers with regard to noise impacts, adequate on site facilities for parking, storage, water supply and electricity supply, drainage and sanitation.

## Duty to cooperate and cross-border issues

### *Introduction*

- 3.30 The duty to cooperate was created in the Localism Act 2011, and amends the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils in England and public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of Local Plan preparation relating to strategic cross boundary matters.
- 3.31 Local authorities are required to work together to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs for their areas. They should also consider the production of joint development plans to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints across its area.
- 3.32 The eleven study area local councils liaise with each other as well as with bordering and neighbouring Local Authorities to ensure a coordinated approach to Gypsy and Traveller issues. South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Greater Manchester and Cheshire all contain local and county authorities bordering the study area.
- 3.33 In order to glean information for this section interviews were undertaken with 6 Gypsy and Traveller liaison officers, Gypsy Liaison Group representatives, members of the National Federation of Gypsy and Travellers, 4 Housing Officers, and 20 planning officers from neighbouring authorities (the findings of the stakeholder event which also involved officers from neighbouring local authorities are discussed in Chapter 5).
- 3.34 Local authorities within the study area (Derbyshire and East Staffordshire) liaise with neighbouring local authorities to ensure a coordinated approach to Gypsy and Traveller issues. The local authorities bordering the study area are:
- Ashfield District Council
  - Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
  - Bassetlaw District Council
  - Broxtowe Borough Council
  - Cheshire East Council
  - Kirklees Council
  - Lichfield District Council
  - Mansfield District Council
  - North West Leicestershire District Council
  - Oldham Council
  - Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
  - Rushcliffe Borough Council
  - Sheffield City Council

- Stafford Borough Council
- Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
- Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council
- Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

*Cross border issues and liaison*

- 3.35 All the local authorities noted above are working to liaise more closely in order to coordinate responses to the needs of Gypsy and Traveller families. However, Gypsy and Traveller liaison officers working for local authorities who share borders appear to be more likely to liaise regarding responses to the needs of Gypsies and Travellers.
- 3.36 It was suggested that those local authorities with sites located close to district borders should meet more regularly to discuss key issues. One interviewee said that when discussing community engagement with the Gypsy and Traveller community it is important to evidence what has been achieved.
- 3.37 One factor impacting on the capacity for local authorities to collaborate is that they are at different stages in preparing new Local Plans. Also, different local authorities have different attitudes towards Gypsies and Travellers. Local authorities which currently have relatively high levels of Gypsy and Traveller families are regarded as usually having a better understanding and appreciation of families' needs. This may lead to further demand for accommodation within those areas.
- 3.38 Members of the National Association of Gypsy and Traveller Officers (NAGTO) spoke about the regional dimension to cross-border working on Gypsy and Traveller issues. The Gypsy and Traveller liaison officers from Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire meet and communicate on a regular basis. However, NAGTO tends to meet on an ad hoc, informal basis and involves liaison officers. They recommended that the process of collaboration needs to be broadened to include all relevant planning, housing officers etc. and for the process to be embedded into policies and practices.
- 3.39 Nottinghamshire has a Gypsy and Traveller Partnership system where representatives from key agencies working with Gypsies and Travellers share information and data and work together. It has been set up to address problems caused by local authorities previously not coordinating work.
- 3.40 Interviewees spoke about how local authorities can be insular and only those authorities with shared borders tend to work together. Even then, there is a tendency for local authorities to liaise only with neighbouring authorities within the same county. Also, cooperation tends to be on an informal basis.

- 3.41 At the Nottinghamshire GTAA workshops neighbouring local authorities discussed sites which are close to borders including the Travelling Showpeople yard located in Pinxton, Bolsover (which used to be located in Nottinghamshire but was transferred to Bolsover following boundary changes) and a large Traveller site in Bolsover.
- 3.42 Officers spoke about how accommodation need is adversely affected in both Nottinghamshire and Bolsover due to the site not being solely available for Gypsy and Traveller families, removing some level of permanent pitches from local provision. They spoke about how Gypsy and Traveller families struggle to find accommodation on either permanent or temporary basis. They also spoke about the condition of the site, and the small and unmarked pitches.
- 3.43 Some local authorities such as those in Leicestershire have established a Multi-Agency Travellers Unit (MATU) which coordinates responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues. Interviewees working for local authorities in the neighbouring authorities spoke about the need for different local authority departments and agencies working more closely together to address issues concerning Gypsies and Travellers.
- 3.44 A representative of MATU emphasised how the multi-agency approach is more effective than agencies working alone. There was previously limited collaboration on Gypsy and Traveller issues between agencies throughout the County. Now, agencies are able to pool expertise and resources in order to resolve e.g. Gypsy and Traveller housing, education or health issues. It was recommended that such collaboration takes place at least at County level.
- 3.45 Some interviewees suggested that the present means of coordinating responses to the needs of Gypsy and Traveller families across boundaries is fragmented and requires better communication and coordination between local authorities and agencies. This would involve local authority housing and planning officers as well representatives from e.g. the police, education departments, health service providers or social workers. It was argued that not coordinating responses between local authorities ultimately leads to higher costs.
- 3.46 There were some comments regarding the role of GTAAs. It was suggested that too much emphasis is sometimes placed on needs figures and too little attention given to qualitative findings. Also, the advantages of undertaking joint GTAAs were acknowledged and it was suggested that these could be undertaken at County level. This would lead to coordinated and collaborative working which could go beyond the duty to cooperate (especially if the resulting accommodation needs are shared throughout the area).
- 3.47 One officer suggested that communication between local authorities and Gypsy and Traveller community groups should continue to take place after GTAAs have been completed. This would help break down barriers and encourage a better understanding of Gypsy and Traveller issues. One local authority continued to communicate with the Gypsy and Traveller community as part of its allocations policy process.

- 3.48 The Nottinghamshire GTAA is currently being updated by individual local authorities using a shared methodology. In 2013 Newark and Sherwood District Council undertook consultation on its Gypsy and Traveller DPD Issues Paper. As part of the Nottinghamshire GTAA update Bassetlaw District Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council jointly held a stakeholder event in November 2013 and Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe jointly held a similar event on 18th June 2014 involving local authority representatives from Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, and representatives from the Police, Health services and Gypsy and Traveller Community.
- 3.49 All Nottinghamshire councils are aware of sites located in Derbyshire close to their local authority borders. They believe that some have the potential to impact on need or supply of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation in their respective areas. The Nottinghamshire District Councils acknowledge that it is important for all local authorities to work together to determine and respond to the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. As such, they are working with neighbouring authorities across Nottinghamshire to determine how accommodation needs and provision impact on one another.
- 3.50 The Nottinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller workshop sessions also discussed a range of issues including, amongst others, undertaking GTAA's. The importance of involving members of the Gypsy and Traveller within the GTAA consultation process was highlighted. Ideally, this should take place before, during and after the GTAA process. Not involving them in the consultation process could mean that the Gypsy and Traveller community is unlikely to have confidence in the GTAA. However, it was also acknowledged that some Gypsy and Traveller families experience 'consultation fatigue'.
- 3.51 Broxtowe is part of the Nottinghamshire HMA, along with Derbyshire local authority Erewash. They spoke about how most of their duty to cooperate and cross boundary working is primarily within Nottinghamshire County, but also includes authorities from their HMA.
- 3.52 There are no known sites in Broxtowe but the census implies there are 6 families living in housing. From local knowledge officers spoke about how housed families want to go on a site. They spoke about how they have a few unauthorised encampments, but how they are "rare". They are currently looking at the need for transit and permanent provision. They spoke about possible collaboration with Erewash and other HMA partners.
- 3.53 Rotherham has some small family sites which have recently been regulated through historical existence (2013 granted). Officers spoke about how this is a potential way that local authorities could address some of their needs and permission requirements for long term unauthorised developments. They spoke about how they have anecdotal evidence that families in both Nottinghamshire and Erewash would live on sites in the area.
- 3.54 In relation to unauthorised encampments, a number of officers from different authorities spoke about how they are currently discussing transit and tolerated stopping issues with

neighbouring authorities. For example, Barnsley, part of South Yorkshire, has a high level of unauthorised encampments throughout the year. An officer said that 50% of unauthorised encampments are due to a single family travelling in and around the area, while other families are possibly just passing through. Barnsley currently contains no transit sites, although they are looking at providing emergency stopping provision.

- 3.55 In relation to collaborative working, most authorities spoke about how they are primarily collaborating with fellow authorities from their respective counties. Some also spoke about how they liaise with Derbyshire and other counties more in relation to housing and other HMA issues.
- 3.56 An officer spoke about how police powers are very restricted when they do not have any alternative place to send families and how authorities need to consider legal implications when reviewing whether or not to provide transit provision. Others spoke about how local authorities should work together to address transit need and possible emergency stopping places.
- 3.57 Similar to other authorities, the Staffordshire local authorities are at different stages of updating their GTAAs (East Staffordshire Borough Council is part of this GTAA's study area). Officers from the Staffordshire local authorities spoke about how they fulfil the duty to cooperate in part by communicating and liaising on a county-wide basis. Some authorities liaise for particular purposes which influences who and how they work together and fulfil their duty to cooperate duties.
- 3.58 However, it was acknowledged by the Staffordshire local authorities that they are more likely to liaise on mainstream housing issues rather than Gypsy and Traveller issues. Under regional arrangements, Staffordshire was split into two sub-regions which each carried out its own GTAA. Nonetheless, it was understood that Gypsy and Traveller issues transcend local authority boundaries and, as such, each district takes an interest in the accommodation needs of neighbouring areas. It was also suggested that the example of South Yorkshire local authorities sharing accommodation needs should be adopted as good practice.
- 3.59 Some Staffordshire officers commented that they don't usually liaise with Derbyshire local authorities over Gypsy and Traveller issues as they don't share a border with them. Some of the Staffordshire local authorities are likely to undertake a joint GTAA in the near future. In relation to new provision, some officers stated that it would be useful for new transit sites to be located close to local authority borders so that provision can be shared.
- 3.60 Reflecting findings above, officers from Cheshire local authorities said that they tend to liaise with neighbouring local authorities on housing or environmental issues, rather than Gypsy and Traveller issues. However, they acknowledged the potential benefits of liaising on Gypsy and Traveller issues, especially as there have been recent examples of Planning Inspectors critiquing local authorities for not fulfilling duties to cooperate.

- 3.61 Manchester authorities are currently in the process of updating their GTAA. According to Oldham Council, from provisional findings, the local authorities are looking at the need for new transit provision. Oldham doesn't have any official sites, but does have unauthorised encampments and recognises the need for accommodating transient Gypsies and Travellers.
- 3.62 An officer from Tameside said that it is difficult to keep track of unauthorised encampments, particularly as different people deal with it and there is a lack of communication between the different groups. According to anecdotal evidence "we have some unauthorised encampments". According to their draft GTAA, there is potential need for transit site in their area. They are awaiting the completion of the report to clarify their need.
- 3.63 South Yorkshire officers spoke about families deriving from Derbyshire being placed on waiting lists for pitches in the local area. They liaise with officers from local authorities within the study area on Gypsy and Traveller issues, although this tends to be on a case-by-case basis rather than generally. However, they noted that they are aware of a lack of collaboration and information-sharing, particularly beyond County level.
- 3.64 Finally, officers said that the demise of the Regional Plans and removal of funds and grants that local authorities used to have means that it has become more difficult for local authorities to work together. Despite continued emphasis for authorities to work together (cross boundary/cross authority working) authorities struggle to do so, limiting cooperation and coordination and causing difficulties fulfilling duties to cooperate in an effective way.
- 3.65 Interviewees spoke about the importance of local authority officers having a good working relationship and the importance of officers knowing who they can and need to contact. A South Yorkshire officer spoke about how local authority bureaucracy makes communication between officers, internally as well as cross boundaries and authorities, very difficult and at times impossible.

### **Housing Market Areas (HMAs)**

- 3.66 In 2005 DTZ (2005) undertook work on behalf of the East Midlands Regional Assembly which identified Housing Market Areas (HMAs) across the region. They provide good examples of how local authorities undertake cross boundary work regarding planning and housing issues. All local authorities (except East Staffordshire) currently liaise with neighbouring local authorities within HMAs in order to address the accommodation needs of local residents. For example, in 2005 the East Midlands Regional Assembly and Regional Housing Board identified North East Derbyshire, Chesterfield, Bolsover and Bassetlaw as a Housing Market Area. The HMA recognised that the four local authorities experience similar issues regarding meeting housing need and that their housing markets are strongly influenced by the major urban areas of Sheffield and Rotherham.
- 3.67 The following are the 5 HMAs which included the study area local authorities:

- Derby HMA: Derby City, South Derbyshire and Amber Valley
- East Staffordshire HMA: East Staffordshire
- North Derbyshire and Bassetlaw HMA: Chesterfield, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire as well as Bassetlaw (Nottinghamshire)
- Nottingham Core HMA – Broxtowe, Erewash (in Derbyshire), Gedling, Nottingham City, Rushcliffe
- Nottingham Outer HMA – Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood
- Peak HMA: High Peak and Derbyshire Dales

3.68 It is important to note that this GTAA assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople in relation to pitch and plot needs, as well as bricks and mortar accommodation. The Strategic Housing Market Assessments (SHMAs) undertaken on behalf of the HMAs consider accommodation needs solely in terms of housing units. As such, the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation will already have been included within existing SHMAs (although the GTAA specifically considers the accommodation needs of these families within the context of Gypsy and Traveller culture). Importantly, as stated above, the HMAs could be used to help determine how local authorities jointly meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers (see Chapter 10).

### **Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAs)**

3.69 All the local authorities involved in cross-boundary working that had completed GTAAs in the first wave of GTAAs have since either updated their GTAAs or are in the process of doing so. It was felt that after they have all completed the GTAAs they should meet to discuss key issues including the potential for more cross boundary working. Interviewees spoke about how undertaking GTAAs encourages local authorities to cooperate on Gypsy and Traveller issues.

#### *Cheshire Partnership GTAA 2014*

3.70 The Cheshire Partnership GTAA undertook 131 interviews Gypsy and Traveller families sites, with a further three interviews with families living in bricks and mortar accommodation, and ten interviews on Travelling Showperson yards. The GTAA estimates that there is a need for 175 additional pitches for the period 2013-2028. This includes the existing households on unauthorised sites, those on the waiting list for a public site, those currently seeking to develop a private site and growth in household numbers due to household formation. It also identifies a need for 44 additional Travelling Showpeople plots within the period 2013-2028.



#### *Derbyshire GTAA 2008*

3.71 The previous Derbyshire GTAA assessed accommodation need throughout the county (East Staffordshire undertook a separate GTAA). As part of the GTAA 65 interviews were undertaken with Gypsy and Traveller families. As discussed in Chapter 1, the 2008 GTAA suggested a need for 58 additional pitches over a 5 year period. This figure excluded planning permission which had already been granted for a new 25 pitch site located in Bolsover which would accommodate Gypsies and Travellers from outside of the county. According to the 2008 GTAA, the main families requiring additional provision were those residing on unauthorised developments and encampments, those who were currently on waiting lists for public sites, and newly emerging households.

#### *East Staffordshire GTAA Update 2012*

3.72 In February 2013 East Staffordshire District Council published an update of its 2007 GTAA. In contrast to the 2007 GTAA, which suggested a need for 26 new pitches, the updated 2014 GTAA concluded that there was no need for additional pitches. The report states that reasons for the change in need between 2007 and 2013 include: the use of survey information from East Staffordshire rather than from the whole of North Staffordshire to identify current need; fewer unauthorised encampments over the last two years; allowance for the observed level of pitch vacancies in East Staffordshire; use of survey information from East Staffordshire rather than national assumptions to identify future need; and assessment for a shorter timescale in line with Government guidance.

#### *Greater Manchester GTAA 2007/08*

3.73 The Greater Manchester GTAA was completed in 2007/08 although an update is currently underway (publication is expected during 2014). A total of 471 interviews were secured through a process of quota sampling which divided the sample by local authority district, ethnicity, and place of residence (on sites, on unofficial encampments and in bricks and mortar accommodation). It identified current need for 381 pitches, and projected future need of a further 29 pitches, allowing for household formation (to 2015). It also estimated a need for 102 additional plots are required for Travelling Showpeople across Greater Manchester.

#### *Kirklees Council GTAA*

3.74 Kirklees Council withdrew its Core Strategy in October 2013 and is currently in the early stages of preparing a new Local Plan. Alongside Calderdale Council they have commissioned a new GTAA. The work is still in the early stages with a new report anticipated by Autumn 2014.

### *Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland GTAA*

- 3.75 The Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland authorities updated the GTAA in 2013 (Rutland Council and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council undertook their own separate GTAA studies and were not included in the report). The GTAA found a need for 119 pitches across the Leicestershire and Leicester study area for the period 2012 to 2017, 71 for the period 2017-22, 87 for the period 2022-27, and 81 for the period 2027-31. The GTAA also recommends a total of 75 transit pitches and 67 Travelling Showpeople plots for the period 2012-2031.
- 3.76 The GTAA found that there is a pattern of wider cross-County travel. For example, the A50 route down from Derbyshire through North West Leicestershire. They also found that some unauthorised encampments take place in areas which border neighbouring counties emphasising the need for collaboration. An unauthorised site near Sawley Marina, Nottinghamshire was attended by Leicestershire staff who had to liaise with Nottinghamshire staff for housing, and someone from Derbyshire for school places, because the area is on the border of those three counties.

### *Lichfield and Tamworth GTAA*

- 3.77 The 2012 GTAA estimates accommodation need for the period 2012-2028. A total of 38 households were involved in the assessment: 21 in Lichfield and 17 in Tamworth. The GTAA analysis shows that there is an accommodation need for six households over the 2012-2028 period; five in Lichfield and one in Tamworth. These figures incorporate a household growth rate of 3% a year compound as applied to all current households in the area and all future households that should be accommodated on pitches by 2017 to estimate need in the period 2017-2028. It suggests that there appears to be a nil need from Traveling Showpeople households. It concludes that the long term accommodation needs arising from Gypsy and Traveller households in bricks and mortar accommodation continue to be largely unknown.

### *Nottinghamshire GTAA*

- 3.78 The Nottinghamshire GTAA is currently being updated by individual local authorities using a shared methodology. Between September and October 2013 Newark and Sherwood District Council undertook consultation on its Gypsy and Traveller DPD Issues Paper.
- 3.79 As part of the Nottinghamshire GTAA update process Bassetlaw District Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council jointly held a stakeholder event in November 2013 involving local authority representatives from Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire. In terms of cross-border issues, representatives at the stakeholder event suggested that there is some movement of Gypsy and Traveller communities between the Chesterfield and Newark areas.

- 3.80 Bassetlaw District and Newark and Sherwood District Councils acknowledge that it is important for all local authorities to work together to both determine and respond to the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. As such, both are working with neighbouring authorities across Nottinghamshire to determine how accommodation needs and provision impact on one another. They stated that there is a good working relationship across all Nottinghamshire local authorities.

#### *South Yorkshire GTAA 2012-2017*

- 3.81 The 2012 South Yorkshire GTAA updated the previous GTAA which covered the period 2006-2011. The update of the GTAA was led by the Doncaster Strategic Housing Team, working together with the planning department and housing practitioners from Barnsley, Rotherham and Sheffield local authorities. Over 100 surveys were completed in the South Yorkshire area. Consultation was also carried out with Travelling Showpeople.
- 3.82 The main findings from the survey were: most households do not envisage moving in the next 12 months; affordability is a key factor in the development of new private sites; many households prefer local authority owned sites as they are well managed; households expressed a desire for more sites so that the community could stay together. The GTAA found an overall need in South Yorkshire for 134 pitches and 130 Showpeople plots.

#### *Stafford GTAA 2012*

- 3.83 A total of 92 interviews were undertaken with 57 households living on a pitch on a private site, 26 living on the local authority site, 7 with people living in bricks and mortar accommodation and 2 living on unauthorised sites. The GTAA found a total demand over a five year period (2012/13 to 2016/17) of 118 pitches across Stafford compared with a current supply of 100 pitches across authorised sites. Assuming there is no significant change in demand for pitches or pitch availability, the GTAA suggests a total 15 year shortfall of 44 pitches across the borough for the period 2012/13 to 2026/27.

#### *West Yorkshire GTAA 2008*

- 3.84 A survey of 198 households was conducted as the primary research exercise of the study. Respondents were dominated by three main groups: English Gypsies (43 per cent); Irish Travellers (25 per cent); and Travelling Showpeople (15 per cent). The GTAA identified a need for a further 124 residential pitches in West Yorkshire to accommodate the Gypsy and Traveller population to 2015. This need comprised concealed households, family growth, net movement between sites and housing and the demand from unauthorised encampments. There was also the need for the provision of 19 transit pitches across West Yorkshire. The councils are individually in the process of updating their GTAA.

## Derbyshire organisations

3.85 As well as TEAST (the county-wide Gypsy and Traveller education organisation discussed in Chapter 2), there are two key organisations in the county which help coordinate responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues.

### *Derbyshire Traveller Issues Working Group (TIWG)*

3.86 The Derbyshire Traveller Issues Working Group was formed in response to the need for all agencies to work together to make sure that all services are delivered fairly to Gypsies and Travellers in compliance with the law, government guidance and local authorities' equalities policies. The terms of reference of the group are:

- To co-ordinate public authorities' activities on Gypsy and Traveller issues
- To develop better links with Gypsies and Travellers, including consultation and feedback
- To share information to develop good practice to ensure that Gypsy and Traveller needs are met
- To work towards mainstreaming Gypsy and Traveller issues
- To assess the need for and promote solutions towards the shortage of appropriate sites and accommodation and support
- To consider health and education as a priority
- To deliver and support training on Gypsy and Traveller issues
- To gather information from other working groups on relevant issues
- To identify and disseminate good practice
- To take responsibility for specific tasks
- To work together to promote community cohesion across Derbyshire
- To support public authorities' Race Equality Schemes

3.87 According to the TIWG each of the District and Borough Councils in Derbyshire provides a range of common services in relation to Gypsies and Travellers. These include dealing with planning enquiries and applications, receiving homeless applications, and managing both authorised Traveller sites and unauthorised encampments. In undertaking all these responsibilities members of the TIWG are committed to providing fair treatment to all sections of the community<sup>47</sup>.

### *Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group*

3.88 Over the years the group has been involved in supporting equal access to education and health care but the main issue of recent years is to highlight the need for both privately and

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<sup>47</sup> Derbyshire Traveller Issues Working Group, *Inter-Agency Guidance: Working together on Gypsy and Traveller Issues*", August 2013.

publically owned authorised sites wherever these are. The group liaises and mediates with County and District authorities especially the Planning and Control departments. The group lobbies on a national level for the rights of Gypsy People and aims to:

- Seek to ensure stopping times and prevent evictions
- Take families through the planning application system
- Advise County Council and District Borough Councils on various matters
- Produce specific educational material for Gypsy and Traveller children
- Implement better Police training on a national level though the Moving Forward Project in conjunction with Derbyshire Police
- Send representation to local meetings and national conferences
- Work with Gypsy organizations within Europe to bring about better understanding of Romani Gypsy Culture

3.89 The group's aim is to bring about a better understanding and acceptance of the Gypsy and Traveller life<sup>48</sup>.

## Summary

3.90 Recent national policy has been reflected in the region with more responsibility moving to local rather than regional planning authorities, through local Housing Strategies and new style Local Plans. Some local authorities acknowledge in their local plans a shortage of authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites in the study area.

3.91 Although to some extent study area local authorities already coordinate responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues there is room for improvement in relation to liaison and information sharing. Whilst it is acknowledged that the planning policies of the study area local authorities are at differing stages of development, there remains potential for local authorities to collaborate on specific issues such as the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers.

3.92 The section above on duty to cooperate and cross borders issues indicates that study area local authorities, to varying extents, already liaise on a range of planning and housing issues. However, there are two examples of good practice regarding cross-border cooperation which partner local authorities could adopt: first, Nottinghamshire has a Gypsy and Traveller Partnership system where representatives from key agencies working with Gypsies and Travellers share information and data and work together; second, local authorities in Leicestershire have established a Multi-Agency Travellers Unit (MATU) which coordinates responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues.

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<sup>48</sup> See <http://www.dglg.org/>

3.93 A third alternative that study area local authorities should consider is the Housing Market Area (HMA) approach to delivering Gypsy and Traveller accommodation provision across the study area. Current HMAs provide good examples of how local authorities undertake cross boundary work regarding planning and housing issues. Whilst there are no established 'sub-markets' in terms of Gypsy and Traveller site needs, there is potential for local authorities to undertake collaborative work on meeting accommodation needs. These are discussed in more detail in Chapter 10.



## 4. Trends in the population levels of Gypsies and Travellers

### Introduction

- 4.1 This section examines Gypsy and Traveller numbers in the GTAA study area and population trends. The primary source of information for Gypsies and Travellers in the UK as a whole is the CLG Traveller Caravan Count. This was introduced in 1979 and places a duty on local authorities in England to undertake a twice yearly count for the CLG on the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans in their area. The count was intended to estimate the size of the Gypsy and Traveller population for whom provision was to be made and to monitor progress in meeting need.
- 4.2 Although the duty to provide sites was removed in 1994, the need for local authorities to conduct the count has remained. There are, however, several weaknesses with the reliability of the data. For example, across the country counting practices vary between local authorities, and the practice of carrying out the count on a single day ignores the rapidly fluctuating number and distribution of unauthorised encampments. Concerns have also been raised over a lack of commitment on the part of some local authorities to detect Gypsies and Travellers (particularly on unauthorised sites), since this minimises the apparent need for new sites and services.<sup>49</sup>
- 4.3 Significantly, the count is only of caravans so Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation are excluded. It should also be noted that pitches often contain more than one caravan, typically two or three.
- 4.4 However, despite concerns about accuracy, the count is valuable because it provides the only national source of information about numbers and distribution of Gypsy and Traveller caravans. As such, it is useful for identifying trends in the Gypsy and Traveller population, if not determining absolute numbers.
- 4.5 Additional data on unauthorised encampments has been gathered by Derbyshire County Council and East Staffordshire Borough Council for the purpose of both assessing need and monitoring the effectiveness of enforcement approaches and providing a good overview of the numbers of unauthorised caravans in the past three years in the study area.
- 4.6 This data has been used in conjunction with the CLG Traveller Caravan Count figures. It is worth noting that since this monitoring tends to be more comprehensive than many local authorities the relative number of unauthorised caravans counted in the study area as compared to other counties and regions may be higher although more accurate.



- 4.7 The CLG Count distinguishes between socially rented authorised sites, private authorised sites, and unauthorised sites. Unauthorised sites are broken down as to whether the sites are tolerated by the council or are subject to enforcement action. The analysis in this chapter includes data from January 2012 to January 2014. It distinguishes between socially rented and private authorised sites, and unauthorised sites.

## Population

- 4.8 The total Gypsy and Traveller population living in the UK is unknown, with estimates for England ranging from 90,000 and 120,000<sup>50</sup> (1994) to 300,000<sup>51</sup> (2006). There are uncertainties partly because of the number of different definitions that exist, but mainly because of an almost total lack of information about the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers now living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Estimates produced for the CLG suggest that at least 50% of the overall Gypsy and Traveller population are now living in permanent housing.
- 4.9 Local authorities in England provide a count of Gypsy and Traveller caravans in January and July each year for the CLG. The January 2014 Count (the most recent figures available) indicated a total of 19,503 caravans. Applying an assumed three person per caravan<sup>52</sup> multiplier would give a population of over 58,000.
- 4.10 Again, applying an assumed multiplier of three persons per caravan and doubling this to allow for the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers in housing,<sup>53</sup> gives a total population of around 116,000 for England. However, given the limitations of the data this figure can only be very approximate, and is likely to be a significant underestimate.
- 4.11 For the first time, the national census, undertaken in 2011, included the category of 'Gypsy or Irish Traveller' in the question regarding ethnic identity. The 2011 Census suggests there are 678 Gypsies and Travellers living in the study area representing around 0.06% of the usual resident population.<sup>54</sup>
- 4.12 This compares with the survey results (see Chapter 6) which represented 581 Gypsies and Travellers living on authorised and unauthorised sites within the study area

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<sup>49</sup> Pat Niner (2003), *Local Authority Gypsy/Traveller Sites in England*, ODPM.

<sup>50</sup> J. P. Liegeois, (1994) *Romas, Gypsies and Travellers* Strasbourg: Council of Europe. This is equivalent to 0.15% to 0.21% of the total population.

<sup>51</sup> Commission for Racial Equality, *Common Ground Equality, good race relations and sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers - Report of a CRE inquiry in England and Wales*, (Summary), May 2006, pages 3-4.

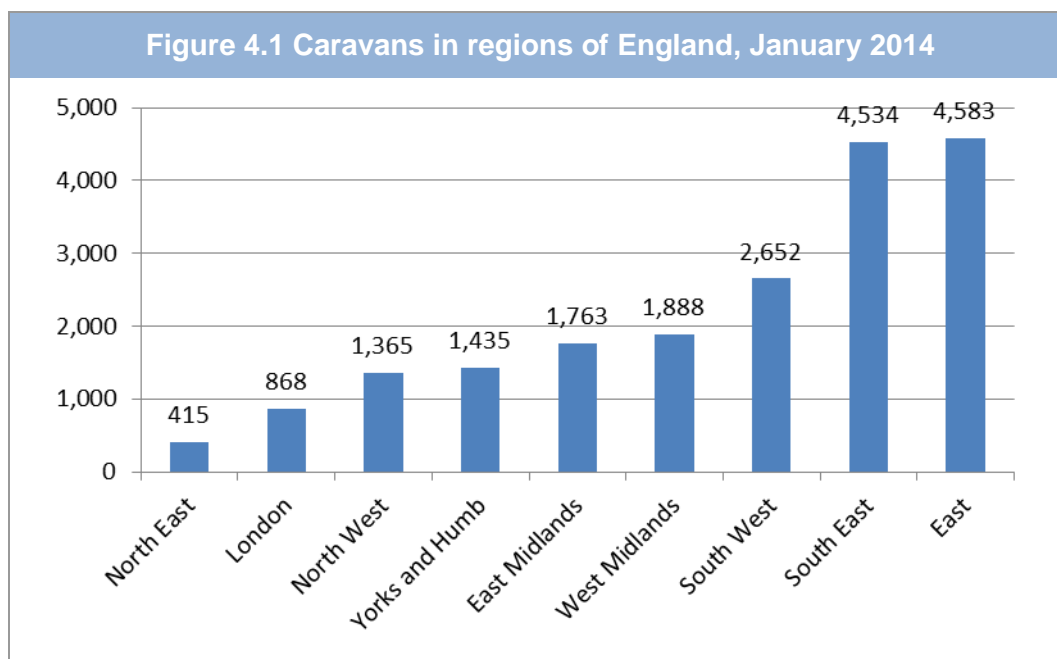
<sup>52</sup> Pat Niner (2003), *op. cit.*

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>54</sup> See ONS 2011 Census Table KS201EW Ethnic Group located at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/>

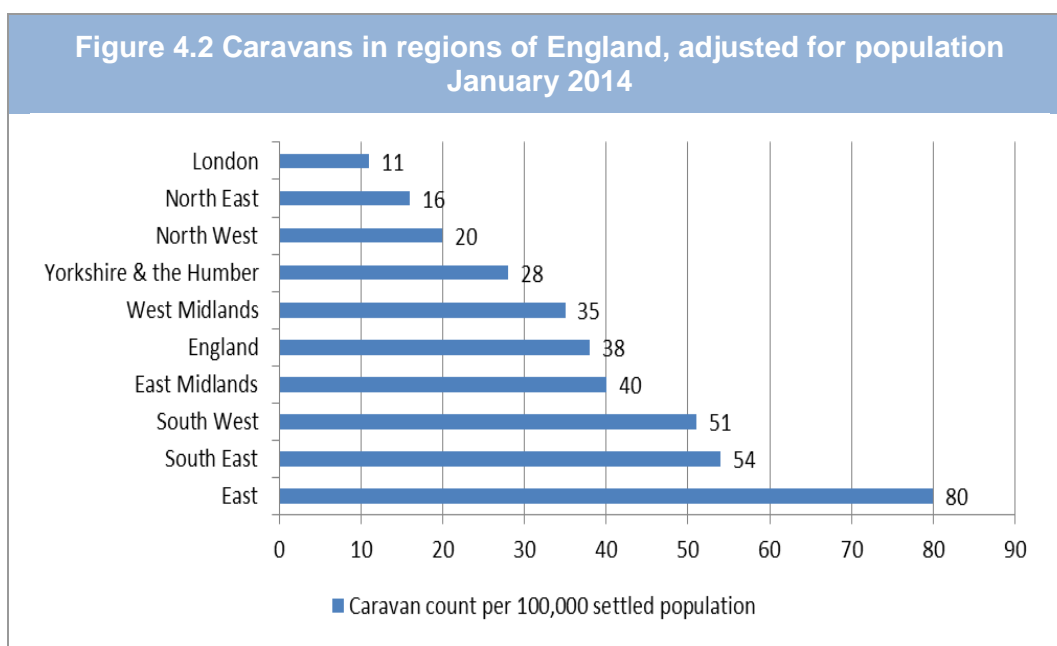
## National and regional levels

- 4.13 Given that one of the distinctive characteristics of the population is its mobility, it is first necessary to consider the national situation as this will help place the study area in context.
- 4.14 Figure 4.1 shows the absolute number of caravans. It can be seen that in January 2014 the East Midlands contained the fifth largest number of caravans of any English region.



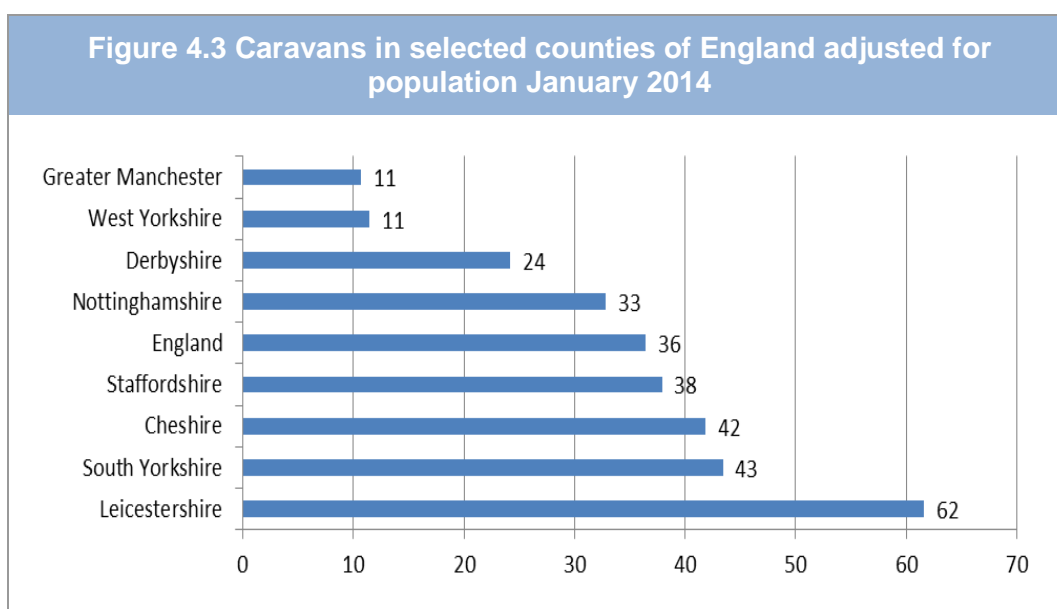
Source: CLG Traveller Caravan Count, January 2014

- 4.15 Figure 4.2 shows the results from the Traveller Caravan Count in January 2014 for each region of England. Due to the differing sizes of the English regions, the values have been adjusted for population to create useful comparative figures.
- 4.16 When the population of the East Midlands is taken into account the density of caravans is just above the English national average at 40 per 100,000 settled population, compared to 38 for England.



Source: CLG Traveller Caravan Count, January 2014

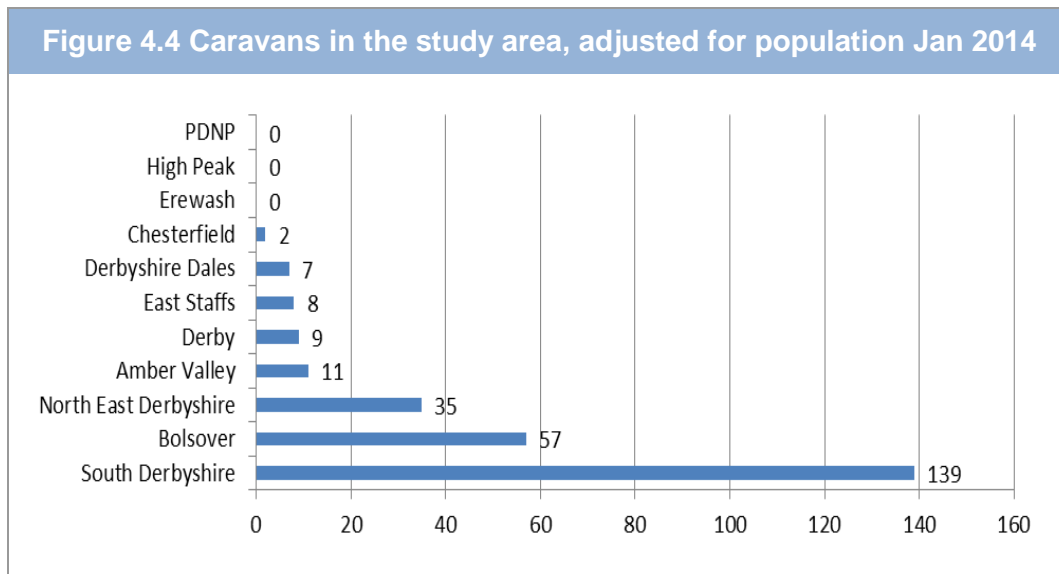
4.17 Figure 4.3 shows Derbyshire's Traveller Caravan Count in the context of surrounding counties, again adjusted for population. As the chart below shows, Derbyshire's count is one of the lowest in the East Midlands region, and is low compared to some neighbouring counties such as South Yorkshire and Leicestershire. The figures suggest that although the East Midlands has a relatively low density of Gypsy and Traveller caravans, counties neighbouring the region have relatively high densities.



Source: CLG Traveller Caravan Count, January 2014

4.18 Similarly, Figure 4.4 shows that when the population is taken into account the density of caravans within the study area varies widely. Three areas (Peak District National Park, High Peak, and Erewash) contain no caravans; Chesterfield, Derbyshire Dales, East Staffordshire, Derby City, and Amber Valley contain relatively low densities of caravans;

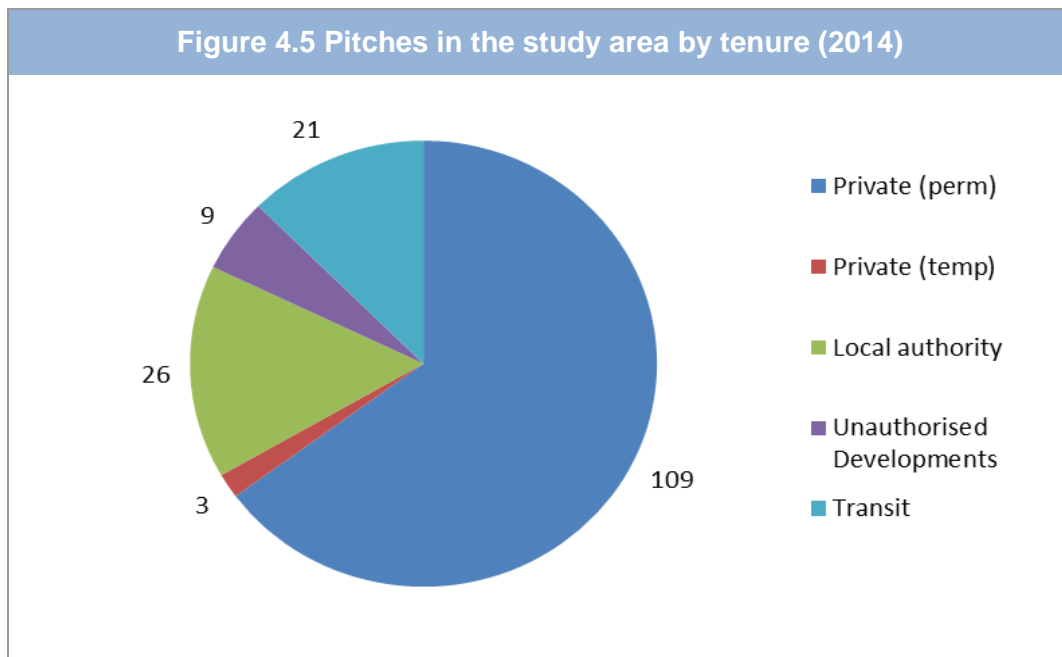
whilst North East Derbyshire and Bolsover contain relatively high densities of caravans. The exception is South Derbyshire which contains a very high density of Gypsy and Traveller caravans.



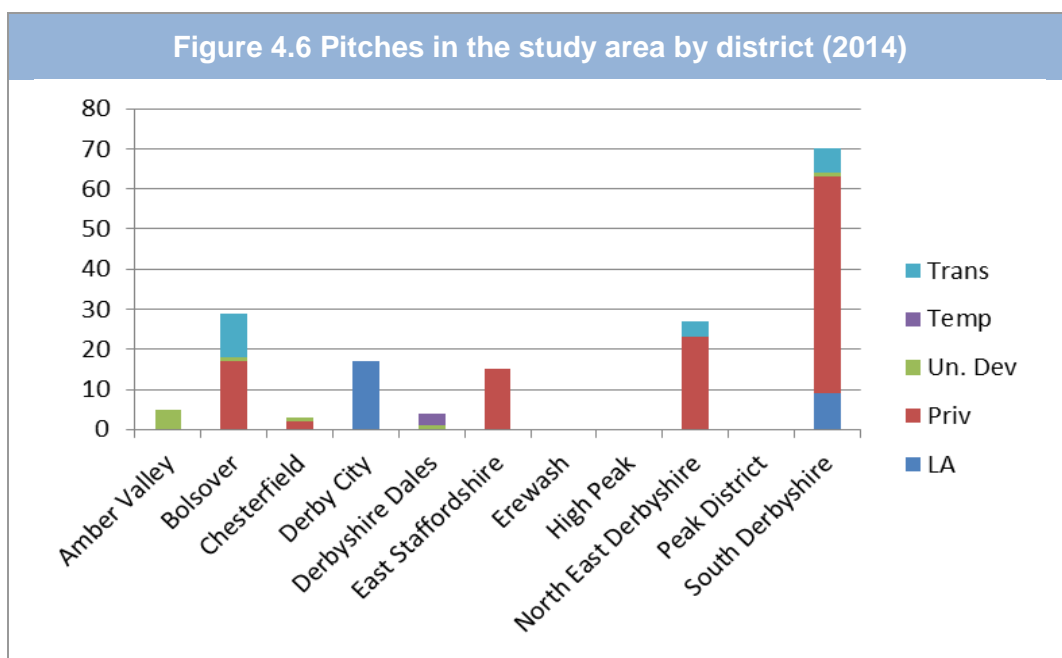
Source: CLG Traveller Caravan Count, January 2014

### Pitches in the study area

- 4.19 The following charts are based on data provided for each district in the study area for 2014. The first set of charts give an indication of the current overall numbers of pitches available to Gypsies and Travellers in the study area. These include all authorised sites and those on ‘tolerated’ and ‘not tolerated’ unauthorised sites.
- 4.20 The data indicates a total provision of 168 permanent and temporary pitches across the study area. There are substantially more permanent private pitches (109) than local authority pitches (26), although some private pitches are occupied by single families and not commercially available for rent. The 3 pitches which have temporary planning permission are located in Derbyshire Dales. The study area also contains 9 unauthorised development pitches and 21 transit pitches.



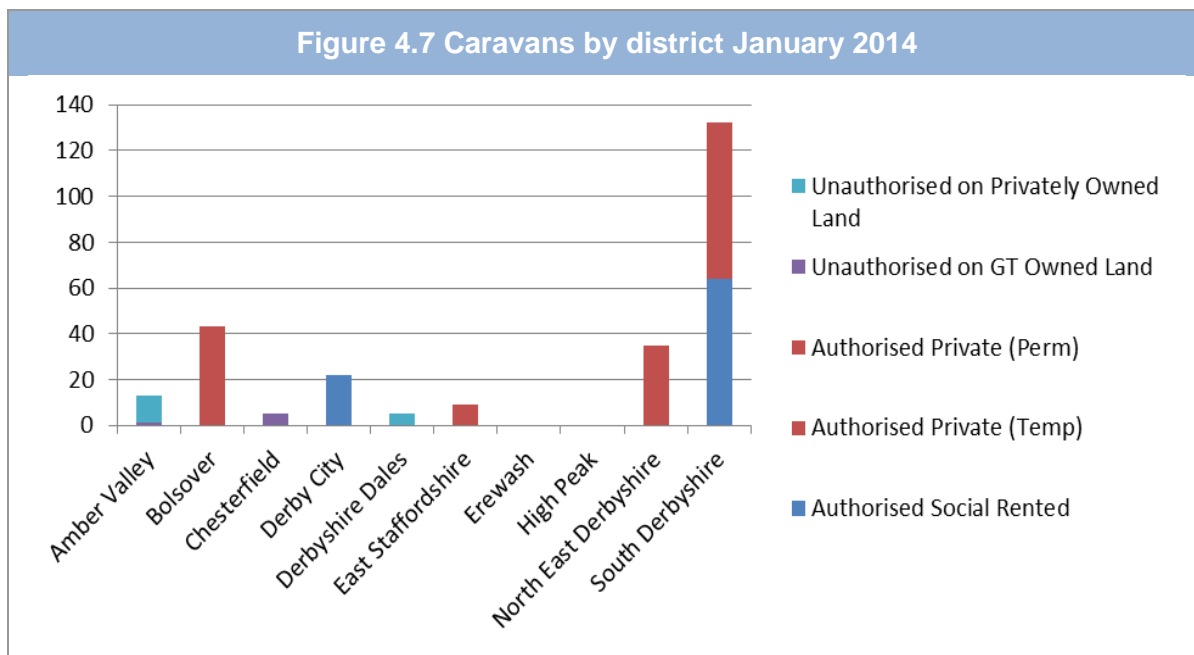
Source: Derbyshire and East Staffordshire GTAA 2014



Source: Derbyshire and East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

4.21 The Traveller Caravan Count data for the study area shows a slightly different picture, primarily because it is based on numbers of caravans rather than numbers of pitches. As noted in Chapter 2, there are issues regarding the accuracy of the Traveller Caravan Count, although it remains the only source of nationwide comparative data on Gypsy and Traveller caravans. The most recently published Traveller Caravan Count took place in January 2014.

4.22 As seen in the chart below, the CLG Traveller caravan count<sup>55</sup> generally reflects the number of pitches in the study area. However, the findings appear to indicate that there are some variations in the numbers of caravans per pitch in the study area.

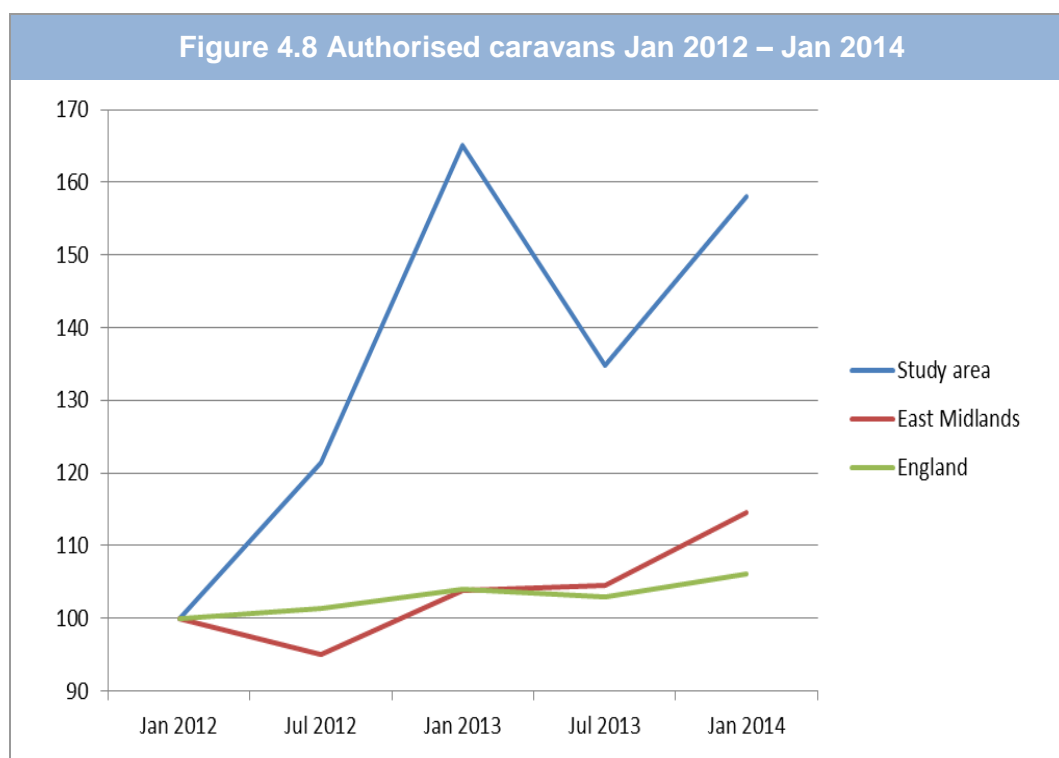


Source: CLG 2014

### Trends

4.23 It is also useful to know how the numbers of caravans on authorised and unauthorised locations have changed over recent years. Figures 4.8, 4.10 and 4.11 use the CLG’s January 2012 Traveller caravan count as a base figure (January 2012=100) to determine how trends have developed over subsequent counts. As can be seen in the chart below, the numbers of caravans on authorised sites in England and the East Midlands region have increased slightly since January 2012. However, the figures suggest that there has been more variation in the number of caravans residing on authorised sites within the study area between January 2012 and January 2014. Most (around 90%) of the increase in caravans during the two year period took place in Derby City and South Derbyshire. The main reason for the increase is due to new authorised provision within the two local authority areas.

<sup>55</sup> Please note that the Peak District National Park is not included within the CLG Traveller caravan count.



Source: CLG 2013

4.24 The CLG Count also records the number of caravans situated on unauthorised encampments within the study area. The CLG data on unauthorised encampments is of limited accuracy. For example, unauthorised encampments may be more likely to be observed in more populated, urban areas compared with less populated rural areas. However, the data may indicate general trends. The numbers are broken down by district below and include unauthorised caravans on both gypsy-owned and non-gypsy land, and which are tolerated (meaning that no enforcement action is currently being taken) and not tolerated. The number of unauthorised caravans throughout the study area has remained fairly low over the period January 2012 to January 2014 (Table 4.1 and Figure 4.9). The exception is Derby City which experienced fairly high numbers of unauthorised caravans during the summer months of 2012 and 2013. The reasons why the numbers of unauthorised caravans in Derby increase during the summer months are unknown, but may reflect single events.

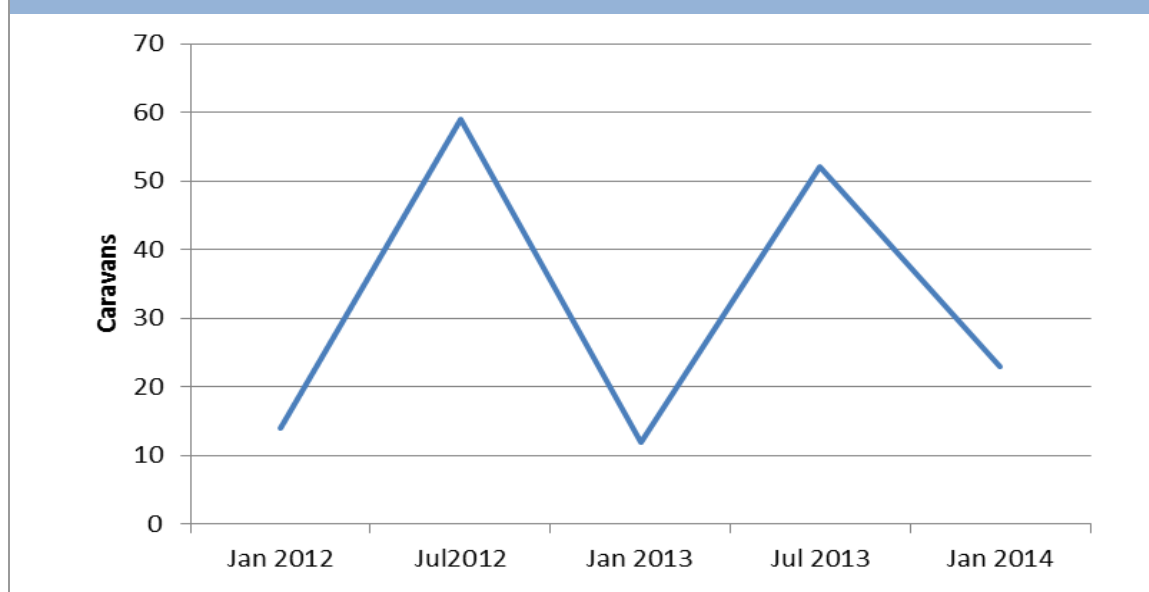
**Table 4.1: Caravans on unauthorised pitches by district January 2012-January 2014**

Authority	Jan 2012	Jul 2012	Jan 2013	Jul 2013	Jan 2014
Amber Valley	5	2	5	4	13
Bolsover	4	1	2	1	0
Chesterfield	3	3	3	5	5
Derby City	0	23	0	42 <sup>†</sup>	0
Derbyshire Dales	0	4	0	0	5
East Staffordshire	0	0	0	0	0
Erewash	0	14	0	0	0
High Peak	0	0	0	0	0
North East Derbyshire	2	0	2	0	0
South Derbyshire	0	12	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>23</b>

Source: CLG Caravan Count January 2014

<sup>†</sup> Please note that although the CLG Caravan Count for July 2013 shows a total of 59 unauthorised caravans in Derby City this incorrectly included 17 authorised caravans located on the Russell Street site.

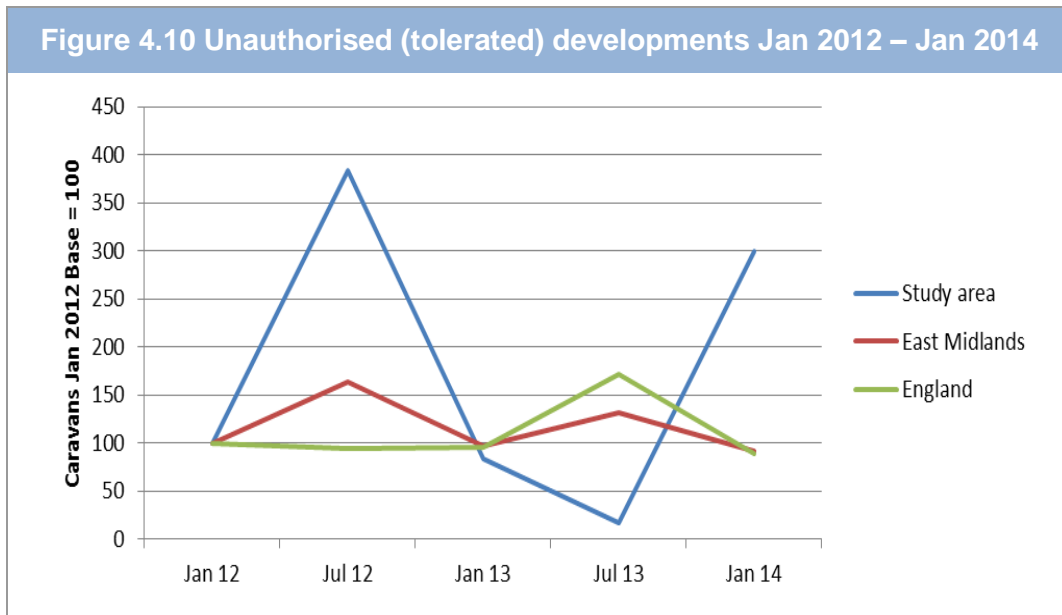
**Figure 4.9 Unauthorised caravans in the study area January 2012–January 2014**



Source: CLG Traveller Caravan Count January 2014

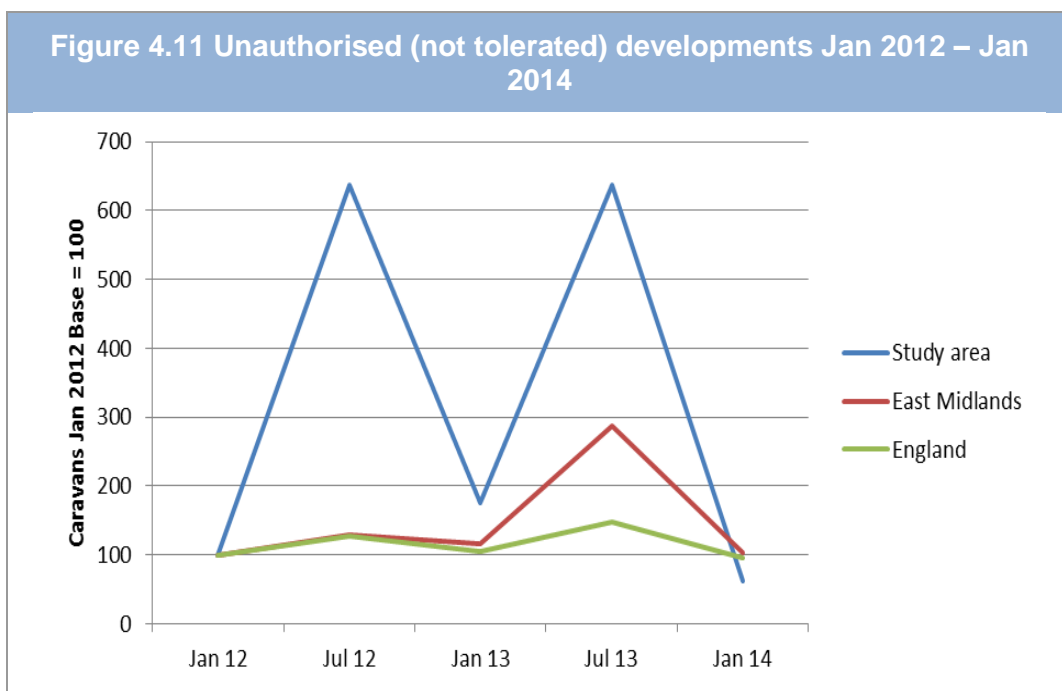
4.25 An interesting trend is that numbers of unauthorised (tolerated) encampments have varied somewhat both regionally and nationally, but especially at local level. Most of the variation in the number of caravans on unauthorised (tolerated) land took place in Derby City.





Source: CLG Traveller Caravan Count January 2014

4.26 For unauthorised encampments (not tolerated), there has been some fluctuation over the period January 2012 to January 2014. Whilst the number of not tolerated unauthorised caravans in England and the region have remained relatively steady, numbers in the study area have changed more markedly. Seasonal variations means that numbers of not tolerated caravans in the study area tend to be higher during summer months with numbers peaking at 51 caravans in July 2012 and July 2013. Again, most variation took place within Derby City.

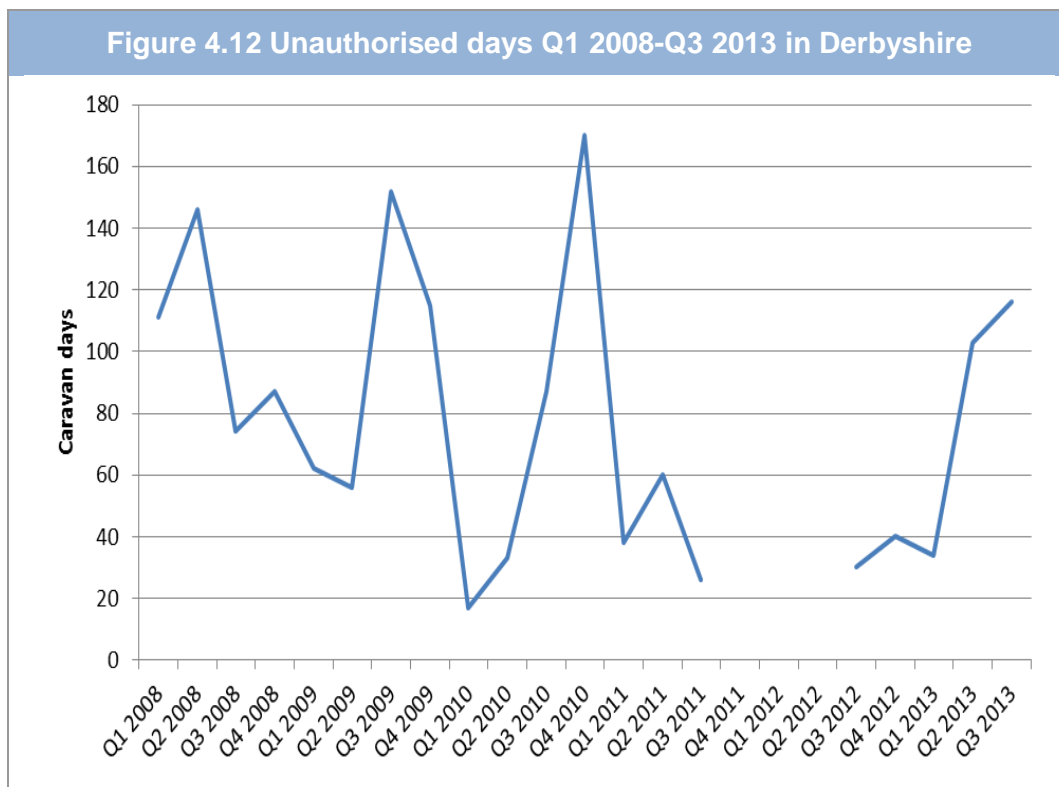


Source: CLG Traveller Caravan Count January 2014

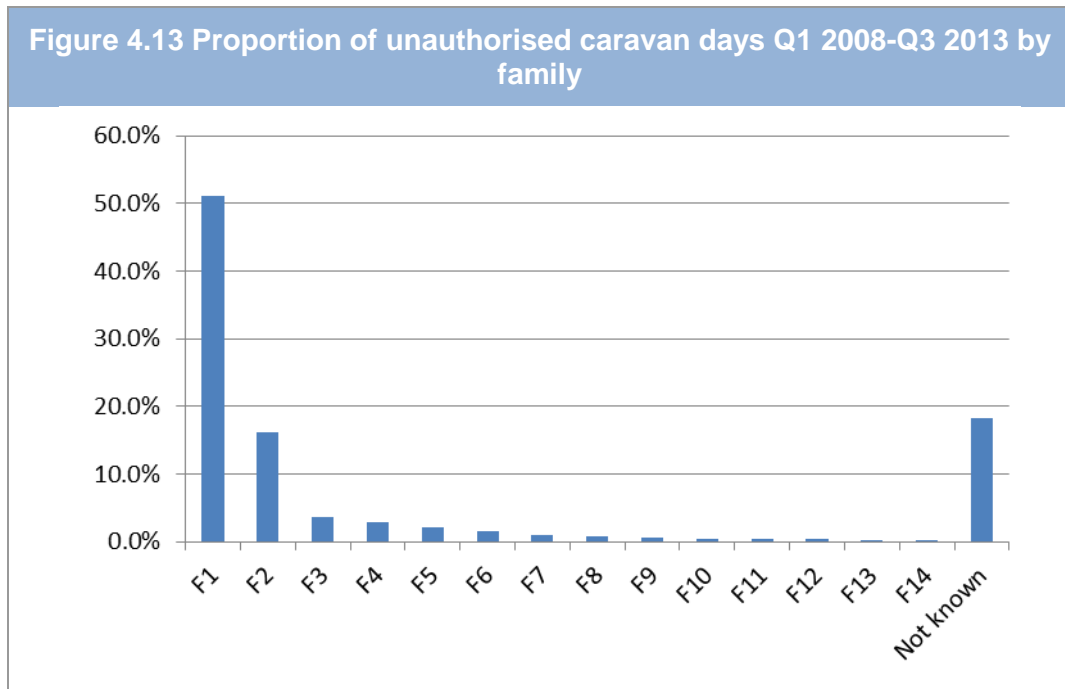
**Unauthorised sites**

4.27 As previously noted, the CLG data on unauthorised encampments is of limited accuracy, although it may indicate general trends. Derbyshire County Council keeps more detailed records of unauthorised encampments. Between January 2008 and September 2013 there were 98 instances of unauthorised encampments within Derbyshire (including Derby City) lasting a total of 1,557 days (although no records are available for the period October 2011 to June 2012). The number of days per quarter varies widely (Figure 4.12).

4.28 Seasonal trends may explain some of the variation shown in Figure 4.12 (unauthorised encampments are more likely during the summer months). However, there may be an under-estimation of unauthorised encampments as those that occur on Derbyshire County Council or local authority land owned land tend to be recorded, whilst those taking place on privately owned land tend not to be. However, it is also important to note that most unauthorised encampments involve very few families. As Figure 4.13 shows, over two thirds (67.3%) of unauthorised caravan days were due to the movements of only two families.

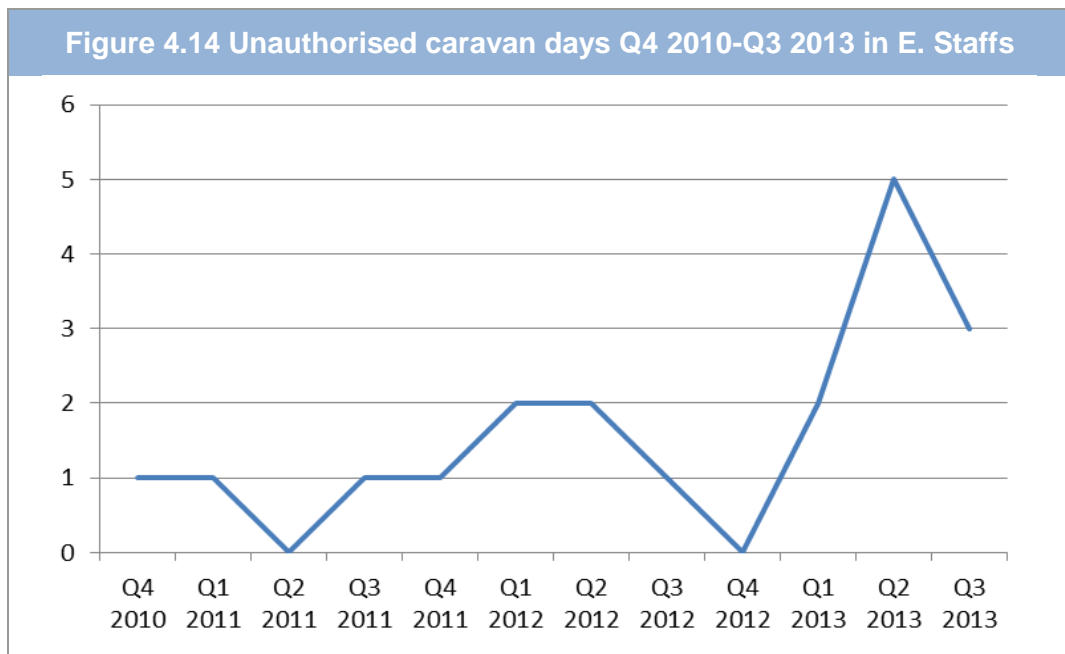


Source: Derbyshire County Council 2013



Source: Derbyshire County Council 2013

4.29 East Staffordshire recorded 19 instances of unauthorised encampments taking place during the period December 2010 to September 2013 (Figure 4.14). Most of the families were travelling through East Staffordshire en route to another destination.



Source: East Staffordshire Borough Council 2013

### Travelling Showpeople

4.30 Data is also available in the study area from planning data showing provision for Travelling Showpeople. Currently, there are four Travelling Showpeople yards containing 31 plots

within the study area, all located in Bolsover. All yards are privately owned, with the largest site located at Guildhall Drive, situated on the outskirts of Pinxton village in the Bolsover District Council area containing 24 plots. Three smaller yards located in Bolsover contain 7 plots.

- 4.31 The cultural practice of Travelling Showpeople is to live on a plot in a site yard in static caravans or mobile homes, along with smaller caravans used for travelling or inhabited by other family members (for example, adolescent children). Their equipment (including rides, kiosks and stalls) is kept on the same plot.
- 4.32 It should consequently be borne in mind that the amount of land needed to live on is greater than for Gypsies and Travellers. For clarity, we refer to Travelling Showpeople 'plots' rather than 'pitches', and 'yards' rather than 'sites' to recognise the differences in design. The accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople are discussed in more detail in Chapter 8.

## Summary

- 4.33 There are two major sources of data on Gypsy and Traveller numbers in the study area – the national CLG Traveller Caravan Count, and local authority and County Council data. The CLG count has significant difficulties with accuracy and reliability. As such, it should only be used to determine general trends – it is the survey undertaken as part of the GTAA which provides more reliable and robust data.
- 4.34 Derbyshire's count is one of the lowest in the East Midlands region, and is low compared to some neighbouring counties such as South Yorkshire and Leicestershire. More importantly, when population is taken into account the density of caravans within the study area varies widely. Three areas (Peak District National Park, High Peak, and Erewash) contain no caravans; Chesterfield, Derbyshire Dales, East Staffordshire, Derby City, and Amber Valley contain relatively low densities of caravans; whilst North East Derbyshire and Bolsover and contain relatively high densities of caravans. The exception is South Derbyshire which contains a very high density of Gypsy and Traveller caravans. This suggests that there is wide variation in the number of Gypsy and Traveller families residing within the study area local authorities.
- 4.35 Data collected as part of the GTAA indicates a total provision of 168 permanent and temporary pitches across the study area. There are substantially more permanent private pitches (109) than local authority pitches (26), although some private pitches are occupied by single families and not commercially available for rent. The 3 pitches which have temporary planning permission are located in Derbyshire Dales. The study area also contains 9 unauthorised development pitches and 21 transit pitches.
- 4.36 The number of unauthorised caravans throughout the study area recorded by the CLG Traveller caravan count in the study area has remained fairly low over the period January 2012 to January 2014. The exception is Derby City which experienced fairly high numbers of unauthorised caravans during the summer months of each year. The reasons why the

numbers of unauthorised caravans in Derby increase during the summer months are unknown, but may reflect single events. However, local authorities may use slightly different methods for recording unauthorised encampments. It is important for them to consider adopting the same recording methods to ensure comparability.

- 4.37 An interesting trend is that numbers of unauthorised (tolerated) encampments have varied somewhat both regionally and nationally, but especially at local level. For unauthorised encampments (not tolerated), there has been some fluctuation over the period July 2011 to July 2013. Whilst the number of not tolerated unauthorised caravans in England has remained relatively steady, numbers in the region and study area have increased more markedly.
- 4.38 Derbyshire County Council keeps more detailed records of unauthorised encampments. Between January 2008 and September 2013 there were 98 instances of unauthorised encampments within Derbyshire (including Derby City) lasting a total of 1,557 days (although no records are available for the period October 2011 to June 2012). The number of caravan days per quarter varies widely. A large proportion of unauthorised encampments were due to the movements of a small number of families. These factors combined with evidence derived from stakeholders suggest the need for emergency stopping places rather than transit sites.
- 4.39 East Staffordshire recorded 19 instances of unauthorised encampments taking place during the period December 2010 to September 2013. Most of the families were travelling through East Staffordshire en route to another destination.
- 4.40 One implication from the above is that it is important for local authorities across the study area to use consistent methods in recording incidences of unauthorised encampments. As well as recording basic data such as location of encampment, number of vehicles involved, length of stay, outcome (if any) of enforcement action, family names, records should also include reasons for encampment such as a visiting family, passing through the area, or attending a religious or cultural event.

## 5. Stakeholder consultation

### Introduction

- 5.1 Consultations with a range of stakeholders were conducted in February 2014 to provide in-depth qualitative information about the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The aim was to obtain both an overall perspective on issues facing Gypsies and Travellers, and an understanding of local issues that are specific to the study area.
- 5.2 In recognition that Gypsy and Traveller issues transcend geographical boundaries and the need to cooperate two focus groups were undertaken with stakeholders and representatives from Derbyshire and East Staffordshire local authorities and neighbouring local authorities including: District council officers with responsibility for Gypsy and Traveller issues, planning policy officers, planning officers, housing strategy officers and enforcement officers).
- 5.3 Themes covered in the interviews included: the need for additional provisions and facilities; travelling patterns; the availability of land; accessing services; and work taking place to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers. This chapter presents brief summaries of the focus group and highlights the main points that were raised.

### *The Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)*

- 5.4 The focus groups discussed the significance and role of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). Some stakeholders regarded it as a planning exercise undertaken primarily to determine the need for additional pitches. A number of stakeholders saw the GTAA as providing evidence to support the need for provision. This is essential as elected members can be reluctant to support new provision without robust evidence. Also stakeholders spoke about how GTAA's feed into varied planning policies.
- 5.5 Stakeholders were aware of the importance of cross boundary working and the duty to cooperate in order to meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers throughout the study area and beyond. According to one stakeholder: "...we need evidence of need so that we can plan long-term and identify sites for Travellers. These can then be incorporated into our planning policy documents". However, it was acknowledged that local authorities may be at different stages of the planning policy process and this might impact on their capacity to cooperate. For example, local authorities tend to be at different stages of developing, adopting and implementing Core Strategies.
- 5.6 There is now greater emphasis on local authorities rather than regions to determine accommodation need targets. It was agreed that it remains important to ensure that the determination of need is based on robust evidence.

- 5.7 It was suggested by some stakeholders that GTAA's were sometimes regarded by local authorities as determining targets, when they should be regarded as a guide to the level of need. As one stakeholder stated: "we have got to be realistic about all of this – the GTAA is a guide [to accommodation need]". The need for an 'integrated approach' to the GTAA which drew on a broad evidence base was also emphasised. However, it was mentioned that evidence about need has to be consistent in order to ensure that there is political support for new provision.

#### *Accommodation*

- 5.8 It was generally acknowledged that there is a lack of accommodation provision throughout the study area. Also, it was noted that whilst provision throughout the study area is uneven there was unmet demand even in those areas where provision was relatively high. Stakeholders reported differences in terms of demand for accommodation across the study area.
- 5.9 Stakeholders discussed the concept of 'ideal' sites which elicited a range of responses. CLG (2007) guidance on good site design which promoted good practice and acknowledged minimum standards (especially in relation to space) was cited. There was discussion regarding utility blocks. One stakeholder suggested shared facilities were preferable. In contrast, some stakeholders suggested that each pitch should have its own utility block as, for cultural reasons, Gypsies and Travellers are reluctant to share communal toilets or washing facilities.
- 5.10 It was suggested that sites also need communal spaces and buildings (which can be used when families are meeting service providers), safe places for children to play, and provision for work equipment and animals. It was also important for sites to be accessible by public transport. It was acknowledged that small, family-sized sites were both the preferred choice of Gypsies and Travellers and were less likely to provoke tensions with the settled community. However, it was agreed that there is no 'one size – fits all' 'ideal' site because Gypsy and Traveller families are as varied as families living in the settled community.
- 5.11 There was a suggestion that it would be better for larger sites to be managed by wardens drawn from the Gypsy and Traveller community. However, it was important to consider that there was the potential for such community managed sites to become dominated by one particular family. Also, there was recognition that although many of the new sites were private, there was still a place for affordable public provision. It was acknowledged that the quality of sites throughout the study area varies. Some were popular whilst others offered poor accommodation and lacked amenity blocks.
- 5.12 Stakeholders discussed the complexity of the travelling community: "it is such a complex community with all sorts of different problems with different relationships with different families". Cultural differences, not only between Romany Gypsy and Irish Travellers, but also between individual families, were acknowledged.

- 5.13 Some stakeholders suggested that it is preferable to have separate provision for Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers. However, it was acknowledged that this meant that the accommodation needs of some families may not be met if their ethnic identity differed from families already occupying a particular site. One stakeholder suggested that the solution was to ensure that there was sufficient accommodation provision for all Gypsy and Traveller families.

#### *Transit provision and travelling patterns*

- 5.14 The need for new provision of transit sites was discussed. It was felt that a lack of transit provision can lead to unauthorised encampments: "...there is a lack of short term opportunities for people to stay who are just passing through. If people can't find a legitimate means to stay somewhere they will stay on the roadside or wherever they can".
- 5.15 It was acknowledged that a lack of transit provision may provoke the use of Sections 61 and 62 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 which enables the police to evict without court orders. It was stated that Section 62A of the Act was introduced relatively recently and assumes that transit sites are available. However, it was suggested that private transit site provision does not always help as it cannot be guaranteed that pitches are available.
- 5.16 Stakeholders discussed travelling patterns. It was suggested that travelling is an integral aspect of the Gypsy and Traveller community, and that families will travel irrespective of whether they live by the roadside, on sites, or in bricks and mortar accommodation. The main reasons for travelling were deemed: to be close to friends and family, for employment reasons, for holidays, and for cultural reasons i.e. to reinforce cultural identity.
- 5.17 Stakeholders agreed it can be difficult to determine travelling routes although there was acknowledgment that these transcend local authority boundaries. There was certainly a 'north-south' route throughout the study area although the location of current sites may impact on routes i.e. families may be attracted towards existing sites. Also, it was suggested that the A52 and M1 are key travelling routes.
- 5.18 Some stakeholders suggested that local authorities have a duty of care to support families residing on unauthorised encampments. One suggested that it may be useful for some unauthorised encampments to be 'tolerated' for periods of up to three months to enable families to access support services. Also, this would enable local authorities to provide basic facilities such as temporary toilets and rubbish bins.
- 5.19 One stakeholder referred to a model called 'negotiated stopping' which had been adopted by Leeds City Council. The term 'negotiated stopping' is used to describe agreed short term provision for Gypsy and Traveller caravans. It does not describe permanent 'built' transit sites but negotiated agreements which allow caravans to be sited on suitable specific pieces of ground for an agreed and limited period of time, with the provision of limited



services such as water, waste disposal and toilets. Agreements are made between the authority and the (temporary) residents regarding expectations on both sides<sup>56</sup>. One stakeholder said: "...an agreement helps save money and a lot of problems for all concerned...it is a very good model".

### *Barriers*

- 5.20 Stakeholders discussed barriers to new accommodation provision. Gaining planning permission for a new site was regarded as a significant hurdle. As such, applicants sometimes sought planning permission for the minimum number of pitches with the intention of seeking permission for further pitches at later date. This was not problematic if the site was large enough to cope with expansion. However, the most important hurdle was initially gaining planning permission. It was acknowledged that some planning permissions for new sites within the study area were initially refused but later granted on appeal.
- 5.21 There was discussion of political barriers to the provision of new sites. In particular, national planning policy was regarded as encouraging a negative attitude to new provision. This sometimes impacted on elected members' attitudes towards new provision. The media, both nationally and locally, was also regarded as playing a negative role in determining public and political attitudes towards Gypsies and Travellers.
- 5.22 Preconceptions about Gypsies, Travellers, and Travelling Showpeople were seen to influence attitudes. For example, it was suggested by some stakeholders that Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation or on permanent sites were 'settled' and, as such, less likely to be regarded as requiring support. Similarly, it was stated that planning guidance tended to focus on the nomadic characteristic of Gypsies and Travellers. However, it was recognised that economic and social factors meant that families were nowadays less likely to travel. Also, CLG (2012) planning guidance acknowledges that families may have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently.
- 5.23 It was suggested that local authorities tend to prioritise the provision of new affordable housing over new sites. Also, the provision of new sites rather than affordable housing was sometimes regarded as a contentious issue. This was particularly the case if land allocated for a new site was regarded by the local community as being better used for e.g. affordable housing or commercial space. There was recognition of the need to provide new accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers, but that their needs were frequently regarded as being a low priority compared with other community groups.
- 5.24 One stakeholder stated: "people don't want a Gypsy and Traveller site near their house because there is a belief of increased crime". However, according to the police representative there is "nothing disproportionate". There was acknowledgment that

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<sup>56</sup> See Leeds City Council, November 2010 located at:  
<http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/documents/s51040/GATE%20submission%20to%20scrutiny.pdf>

objections towards the siting of new provision should be policy based rather than reflect negative stereotypes of Gypsies and Travellers. Finding suitable locations for new sites was sometimes difficult. A representative from a local authority which had completed its GTAA spoke about how identifying suitable locations had remained problematic.

- 5.25 Interestingly, stakeholders said that public perceptions of Travelling Showpeople differed from Gypsies and Travellers. The former are regarded as providing a popular, cultural service and are more defined by the public by the type of work they undertake. It was suggested that the media are less likely to portray Travelling Showpeople negatively. There was some difference between stakeholders in relation to provision for Travelling Showpeople with some arguing that yards are required all year round whilst others suggested that, traditionally, only winter quarters (when fairs don't take place), are required.
- 5.26 It was suggested that the barriers mentioned above were not specific to the study area, but impact on the provision of new sites across the country. This has meant that new provision throughout the country in recent years had been fairly limited – a factor which placed further demand on current provision. There was agreement that alternative means of providing new accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers needs to be considered.

#### *Bricks and mortar accommodation*

- 5.27 Stakeholders agreed that it is very difficult to measure or estimate the number of Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation. They spoke about little awareness or knowledge of where housed Gypsy and Traveller families were living and acknowledged that there are clear gaps in information. However, families living in bricks and mortar accommodation were likely to constitute 'hidden demand'. One proposed solution was to ensure that there is a 'Gypsy and Traveller' category on local authority monitoring forms.
- 5.28 It was acknowledged that whilst some families adapted well to living in bricks and mortar accommodation some struggled. In particular, families with children attending school may resort to hiding their identity in order to avoid bullying and harassment. It was noted that Gypsy and Traveller children living in bricks and mortar accommodation were more likely to attend secondary school compared to those living on sites.
- 5.29 Similarly, Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation may not identify themselves as such in order to avoid discrimination when trying to gain employment. However, even when living in bricks and mortar accommodation travelling was important for families.
- 5.30 One stakeholder spoke about how some Gypsies and Travellers would prefer to live on site but reside in bricks and mortar accommodation to avoid social stigma and to improve the health and education opportunities of children. However, recent changes to benefit regulations may impact on the potential for Gypsies and Travellers living in the private

rented sector to travel if they are in receipt of welfare benefits. Finally, although it was recognised as being beyond the scope of the current GTAA, it was suggested that some study should be undertaken in relation to the accommodation needs of families living on barges ('Bargees') within the study area.

#### *Availability of land*

- 5.31 It was acknowledged by stakeholders that the availability of land (or lack of it) is a key issue in relation to the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The process of identifying suitable land for site development was deemed problematic. Some authorities have a separate allocation policies for Gypsies and Travellers. However, according to one stakeholder the process of identifying sites is almost a "failure before it starts" because there is usually such a poor response rate from members of the public.
- 5.32 Another stakeholder said that land availability in their district is not greatly tested but they propose to allow rural exception development of sites on the periphery of the district. Some stakeholders suggested that it might be useful for local authorities to contact land agents as they are likely to be aware of land suitable for site development.
- 5.33 Stakeholders discussed barriers to identifying and obtaining land suitable for new sites. One issue was that whilst land owners may be keen to capitalise on land values by releasing land for the development of market housing they were more reluctant to sell it for affordable housing or sites. For this reason stakeholders agreed that it is more likely for local authority owned land to be used for new sites. However, stakeholders noted that local authorities are seeking to maximise capital receipts from land – a factor which might negatively impact on the likelihood of using land for new sites.
- 5.34 Green belt constraints and the desire to utilise brownfield sites were regarded as key issues. Sustainability is also a key issue for the selection of new sites e.g. the criteria that new sites should not be located too far away from existing communities. This can lead to opposition from Gypsy and Traveller representatives as they frequently want to live away from the settled community.
- 5.35 It was stated that few people will sell land to Gypsies and Travellers. One problem is that applicants do not know if they will gain planning permission. So, even if Gypsy and Traveller families have finance available to buy land, it is difficult for them to gain planning permission and to develop it.
- 5.36 It was mentioned that Gypsy and Traveller families tend not to want help from local authorities to find land as there can be a lack of trust. Also, many Gypsies and Travellers have literacy problems and are unable to understand the planning system.
- 5.37 One idea is for local authorities to incorporate sites into affordable housing development schemes. They also spoke about how affordability is an issue even on local authority sites

as families are required to purchase or rent caravans as well as pay rent for occupying the pitch. Stakeholders commented how those families with limited funds are less likely to be able to afford to develop small private sites.

- 5.38 It was acknowledged that there are complications involved in providing mixed use sites (work and living spaces on same site). However, Gypsies and Travellers tend to have mixed views about such sites – some may want them for work purposes, whilst others are concerned about problems that may occur such as increased traffic. It was also noted that the larger size of pitches on mixed use sites may limit total pitch numbers.

#### *Access to Services*

- 5.39 Stakeholders felt that access to services was very important for all Gypsy and Traveller families. Some spoke about the importance of ensuring that sites have dedicated communal spaces which allow families to meet service providers.
- 5.40 Stakeholders spoke about how Gypsies and Travellers continue to face problems when accessing services and how this is sometimes due to service providers not understanding their needs. They mentioned examples of Gypsies and Travellers being denied access to services such as GP practices and dentists.
- 5.41 They agreed that not having a permanent address should not limit access to services. However, they acknowledged that families living on unauthorised sites experience particular problems attempting to access services. They also spoke about the need for awareness raising and training of professionals working with families – to improve access to services and break down barriers.
- 5.42 The impact of travelling on children's education was discussed. It was mentioned that a lack of transit sites can impact on children as families living on unauthorised sites are likely to be moved on after only a short time. It was suggested that travelling can have a long-term impact on children's education. It was noted that the education gap between Gypsy and Traveller children and those from the settled community can be extensive even at Key Stage 2 level.
- 5.43 Education was regarded by stakeholders as an important factor in determining demand for accommodation. Stakeholders spoke about how areas which already contain large numbers of Travellers tend to have schools which are more aware of the educational needs of Travellers. Such schools are more likely to attract Gypsy and Traveller families to the area. This factor not only impacts on educational demand in area but also the need for sites.

#### *Communication*

- 5.44 Stakeholders discussed issues concerning cooperation on Gypsy and Traveller issues between different authorities and agencies. It was noted that local authorities have a duty to

cooperate with one another in a planning context although no formal channels in the County exist. It was agreed that communication between local authorities varies.

- 5.45 They spoke about how there is no specific responsibility for dealing with Gypsies and Travellers, and how it “falls across different departments.” They felt that this emphasised the need for further cooperation and communication between departments and agencies. They spoke about how all departments have an important role to play and how better communication would lead to long-term financial benefits. Alternatively, it was recognised that there are costs to not dealing with Gypsy and Traveller issues.
- 5.46 Stakeholders emphasised the importance of working collectively when addressing the needs that the GTAA will identify. It was acknowledged that accommodation need transcends local authority boundaries. As such, it was suggested that this requires a ‘joined up’ response to accommodation need and for local authorities and agencies to better share information and knowledge about Gypsy and Traveller issues.
- 5.47 Stakeholders discussed ways in which they currently *do* and *do not* successfully cooperate regarding Gypsy and Traveller issues. One stakeholder said that in terms of housing policy they already successfully cooperate with neighbouring local authorities in Chesterfield, Bolsover, North East Derbyshire, and Bassetlaw and work closely with Sheffield City Region partners as well. They have a very strong working relationship with planning colleagues. However, they said that it was more difficult to liaise over the more politically sensitive issue of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs. Another stakeholder said that whilst officers liaise closely the issue can sometimes be pushed down the political agenda by elected members. They suggested it would be interesting to know the views of both elected members and the public on the issue.
- 5.48 It was acknowledged that there are political barriers to the issue of new accommodation. It was suggested that one reason is because elected members sometimes reflect the opinions of local communities who are antagonistic towards new provision in local areas. As such, it was recommended that elected members are offered awareness training on Gypsy and Traveller issues. It was suggested that allocating sites in areas where there is strong local opposition is undesirable although it was suggested that there should be greater emphasis on the positive relationship between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled community. Interestingly, it was suggested that barriers are more likely to be broken down where children are concerned.
- 5.49 Finally, stakeholders discussed how there is a need for more and better information about Travellers and how changing attitudes takes time. It was discussed how many people only get the negative news and how this adds to problems. They spoke about how the media continues to focus on negative elements, including Dale Farm and rubbish and trouble left at unauthorised encampments.

## Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) Consultation

- 5.50 As part of the GTAA, extensive consultation with members of the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) took place including the undertaking of a focus group in December 2013. The aim of the focus group was to obtain views on key issues experienced by Gypsies and Travellers within the study area.

### *The Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)*

- 5.51 The DGLG discussed differences in current provision between local authorities within the study area. For example, they noted that unequal provision within the study area could lead to those local authorities with the largest current provision being identified as being considered as having the greatest future need. Alternatively, they recommended that future accommodation provision is equally distributed throughout the study area.
- 5.52 It is important to encourage Gypsies and Travellers to take part in GTAAs as determining accommodation need requires good survey participation. However, it was suggested that some families experience 'survey fatigue' which discourages them from taking part. Also, they stated that whilst consultation is welcome, it does not necessarily lead to planning decisions or policy considering the views of Gypsies and Travellers.

### *Planning policy*

- 5.53 Generally, planning policy was regarded as limiting opportunities for new provision. Sites with temporary rather than permanent planning permission were regarded as problematic. This is because families are reluctant to invest in sites with an uncertain future. Also, most temporary planning permissions do not allow the site to be substantially altered. This can lead to temporary sites being in relatively poor condition, a factor which not only impacts on the occupying family, but the adjacent environment and community.
- 5.54 Criteria-based planning permission which considers the needs of only one particular family was also considered problematic. This is because if the family move or the head of the families dies, the site loses its status as a Gypsy or Traveller site. This impacts on the cultural desire for Gypsy and Traveller children to inherit sites from parents and to maintain longevity of occupation. There was agreement that Gypsies and Travellers prefer small, family-sized sites which could be sold or transferred to other Gypsy and Traveller families.
- 5.55 Members spoke about the impact of negative attitudes towards Gypsies and Travellers. A lack of permanent or transit provision within the study area means that transiting families residing on unauthorised encampments are likely to be escorted from one local authority to another. There was agreement that such negative attitudes, combined with a lack of accommodation provision, meant that more families are reluctantly residing in bricks and mortar accommodation.

- 5.56 There was discussion regarding the ethnic status of Gypsies and Travellers. It was suggested that some local authorities questioned the ethnic status of families who have ceased to travel or reside in bricks and mortar accommodation. It was stated that irrespective of which type of accommodation families live in or whether they travel, their status as Gypsies and Travellers remains intact. This was regarded as, for example, similar to second or third generation Indians or Pakistanis who have British citizenship but maintain their cultural identity. As one member said: "You are born a Gypsy, not raised or made into one. You can't just lose it."
- 5.57 Some local authorities were perceived as more likely to question the ethnic status of families who no longer travel. This is important as being recognised as Gypsies or Travellers affords legal protection from discrimination and is a prerequisite for being allocated a pitch on a site or being granted planning permission. As such, not being recognised as being a Gypsy or Traveller may limit legal protection from discrimination and limit accommodation options. Alternatively, some local authorities regarded families who regularly travel as not being in need of permanent accommodation. Consequently, this results in some families limiting the extent to which they travel in case they lose the right to occupy a pitch.

#### *Gypsy and Traveller Sites*

- 5.58 DGLG members stated that as well as determining the need for more sites it was important to consider whether current sites could be expanded. This is particularly important as there is a cultural desire for Gypsy and Traveller children to reside with parents on the same site. However, planning policy tends to give planning permission for pitches which only meet current need and ignore future needs. Small, 'family-sized' sites are preferred.
- 5.59 Conversely, families can be reluctant to live on large sites which are sometimes regarded as 'no-go' areas due to conflict between families. It was recommended that large sites are managed by Gypsies or Travellers who understand the needs of the community. Also, in order to avoid conflict it is important to consider the allocation of new families to existing sites. However, DGLG members rejected points based allocation systems which consider accommodation need but not cultural factors.
- 5.60 DGLG members cited examples of Gypsy and Traveller sites around the country which are well managed and provide good practice. They referred to sites in the Darlington Borough Council area which have improved substantially since management was transferred from the local authority to the Gypsy and Traveller community, and Newark, Nottinghamshire which contains a number of attractive family sized sites. They also referred to some of the larger sites in Derbyshire which are well managed. Again, it was emphasised that smaller, family-sized sites do not experience management problems sometimes experienced by larger sites.

- 5.61 The delivery of post is a particular issue on some warden run sites. On some sites, the post is not delivered to individual families but collected by the warden. This means that there are sometimes unnecessary delays before families can collect the post. Similarly, members cited examples on warden run sites where the entrance to the site is controlled by a barrier. This leads to occupants feeling that they lack control over their movements.
- 5.62 Members suggested that ideally, sites should contain reasonably sized pitches with space for at least two caravans and parking spaces, with utility blocks containing toilets, washing facilities, kitchens and day rooms. In relation to commercial vehicles they see separate provision on sites as being adequate (i.e. mixed spaces containing residential and work spaces are not necessary). However, there needs to be sufficient space for keeping animals such as dogs and horses. Similarly, there needs to be sufficient safe spaces for children to play. Community centres on sites were not seen as important.
- 5.63 Sites which are currently, or were, publically owned were regarded as having the poorest facilities. In particular, utility blocks on council owned sites tend to be small. One example was cited whereby toilets are located adjacent to kitchens. This is regarded not only as unhygienic but also contrary to Gypsy and Traveller culture. It was suggested that one reason for the poor design of some utility blocks is lack of consultation with the Gypsy and Traveller community before construction. Lack of consultation was regarded as leading to costly design mistakes.

#### *Transit sites*

- 5.64 All DGLG members felt there is a need for more transit and emergency sites throughout the study area and across the country. However, it was agreed that there is a need to prioritise the provision of permanent sites. Also, it is important for transit sites to not become permanent, as doing so would mean that the needs of transiting families would not be met. Whilst acknowledging that placing transit sites close to permanent provision can be problematic, it was agreed that good management of both types of sites can minimise conflict. Transit sites or emergency stopping places were regarded as only requiring basic facilities such as hard surfaces, electricity, water, toilets and provision for waste collection.

#### *Barriers*

- 5.65 The main barriers to new accommodation provision were regarded as the absence of political will and negative public attitudes. DGLG members thought it would be more efficient and cost-effective for local authorities to help families develop their own sites. This would lead to fewer unauthorised encampments and less over-crowding on current sites. It would also be useful if local authorities could help provide land for new sites.
- 5.66 However, it was suggested that local authorities lack the political will to provide such support. Also, planning applications for new sites tend to be rejected initially and then granted on appeal. However, the procedural difficulty and cost of undertaking planning



appeals means that many families are discouraged from undertaking the process. One further difficulty was that if families find suitable land too far away from existing communities, planning permission for the proposed site is likely to be rejected on grounds of unsustainability.

### Summary

- 5.67 The focus groups and interviews with key stakeholders offered important insights into the main issues faced by Gypsies and Travellers within the study area. It was generally acknowledged that there is a lack of accommodation provision throughout the study area. Also, it was noted that whilst provision throughout the study area is uneven there was unmet demand even in those areas where provision was relatively high.
- 5.68 Stakeholders reported differences in terms of demand for accommodation across the study area. One reason, as discussed in Chapter 1, is that Gypsy and Traveller families tend to 'cluster' around certain localities. Also, it should be acknowledged that those areas with most current provision are more likely to attract Gypsy and Traveller families.
- 5.69 It was felt that a lack of transit provision can lead to unauthorised encampments. Some stakeholders suggested that local authorities have a duty of care to support families residing on unauthorised encampments. It was suggested that local authorities may want to adopt the 'negotiated stopping' model which had been adopted by Leeds City Council. This allows caravans to be sited on suitable specific pieces of ground for an agreed and limited period of time, with the provision of limited services such as water, waste disposal and toilets
- 5.70 It was suggested that sites also need communal spaces and buildings (which can be used when families are meeting service providers), safe places for children to play, and provision for work equipment and animals. This is more important in relation to new or existing large privately or publically owned sites, rather than small family-owned sites as the former are more likely to require communal spaces or buildings.
- 5.71 Some stakeholders suggested that it would be better for larger sites to be managed by wardens drawn from the Gypsy and Traveller community. However, it is important to consider whether there is the potential for such community managed sites to become dominated by one particular family.
- 5.72 Although the preferred accommodation type for many Gypsy and Traveller families may be small sites located on land owned by themselves, the focus group acknowledged difficulties in Gypsies and Travellers either buying or developing land for new accommodation. This is acknowledged throughout this report (especially in Chapter 6), and possible policy solutions are discussed in Chapter 10.
- 5.73 Stakeholders acknowledged the needs of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Stakeholders agreed that it is very difficult to measure or estimate the

number of Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation. One proposed solution was to ensure that there is a 'Gypsy and Traveller' category on local authority monitoring forms.

- 5.74 It was noted that there can be cultural differences between Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation and members of the settled community. Local authorities should include Gypsy and Irish Traveller categories on ethnic monitoring forms to improve data on population numbers, particularly in housing. Also, there needs to be better sharing of information between agencies which deal with the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 5.75 The focus groups acknowledged many of the barriers faced by Gypsies and Travellers. Some stakeholders suggested that public attitudes towards Gypsies and Travellers had hardened in recent years. There is a need for education on the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and to foster better relations between families and the settled community. This should involve working more closely with the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) and relevant to aid the training of service providers regarding the specific needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 5.76 It is apparent that the nomadic lifestyle of Gypsies and Travellers, especially during summer months, can adversely impact on children's educational attainment. Nonetheless, there is good evidence that the relationship between local schools and Gypsy and Traveller families has improved in recent years.
- 5.77 To summarise, the focus groups provided a wealth of qualitative data on the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller families. There is evidence that accommodation need within the area has not yet been fully met although there was agreement about the need for smaller sites and temporary, rather than transit, sites. Despite barriers it is apparent that there is a need to consider alternative means of providing Gypsy and Traveller accommodation.

## SECTION B: NEED ASSESSMENTS

The second section of this report contains the accommodation need assessments. Chapter 6 presents key findings drawn from analysis of the surveys undertaken with Gypsy and Traveller families living on sites. Chapter 7 discusses the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Chapter 8 discusses the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople. The site and survey data referred to in the following chapters relates to the authorised sites, unauthorised developments and authorised plots in 2014. Chapter 9 contains the assessments for Gypsies and Travellers, and outlines need in terms of residential pitches, transit/emergency pitches and bricks and mortar accommodation. Chapter 10 draws conclusions on the research findings.



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## 6. Gypsies and Travellers living on sites

### Introduction

- 6.1 This chapter examines the key findings derived from the Gypsy and Traveller survey (primary research). It looks at key issues such as satisfaction with current accommodation, access to services, and health and education needs. It is based on a survey of 148 households<sup>57</sup> living on sites (including on unauthorised encampments) in the study area at the time of the survey.
- 6.2 Interviews were undertaken with household representatives between October 2013 and February 2014. Table 6.1 refers to surveys undertaken with families residing on authorised sites, unauthorised developments, and unauthorised encampment in 2014. Interviews were often conducted in the presence of partners, children or extended family members. In order to maximise response rates, sites were visited on several occasions. As Gypsies and Travellers usually travel during the summer months very few families were travelling during the survey period.

Table 6.1 Breakdown of sample

	Authorised		Unauth. encamp		Unauth Dev		Transit		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Amber Valley	0	0%	0	0%	5	42%	0	0%	5	3%
Bolsover	13	12%	3	16%	1	8%	5	100%	22	15%
Chesterfield	2	2%	0	0%	1	8%	0	0%	3	2%
Derby City	16	14%	8	42%	0	0%	0	0%	24	16%
Derbyshire Dales	0	0%	1	5%	1	8%	0	0%	2	1%
East Staffordshire	11	10%	3	16%	0	0%	0	0%	14	11%
Erewash	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
High Peak	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
North East Derbyshire	21	19%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	21	14%
Peak District	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
South Derbyshire	49	44%	4	21%	1	8%	0	0%	54	36%
Total	112	100%	19	100%	9	100%	5	100%	145	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

- 6.3 Weighting was applied to the survey in order to ensure that it represented the whole population. This was calculated by comparing the number of occupied authorised pitches to the number of completed surveys. For example, there are 17 occupied, authorised

<sup>57</sup> The definition of 'household' is used flexibly. The survey assumes that a pitch is occupied by a single household although it acknowledges that this may also include e.g. extended family members or hidden households.

permanent pitches in Bolsover. 13 interviews were undertaken in Bolsover representing 76.5% of the population. Weighting is applied using the formula:

- 17 Occupied authorised permanent pitches in Bolsover
- Divided by:
- 13 surveys undertaken with families residing on authorised permanent pitches = weighting of 1.308

6.4 The weighting applied to each local authority area is shown below:

	Pitches	Sample	%	Weight
Amber Valley	0	0	0.0%	1.000
Bolsover	17	13	76.5%	1.308
Chesterfield	2	2	100.0%	1.000
Derby City	17	16	94.1%	1.063
Derbyshire Dales	0	0	0.0%	1.000
East Staffordshire	13	11	73.3%	1.364
Erewash	0	0	0.0%	1.000
High Peak	0	0	0.0%	1.000
North East Derbyshire	23	21	91.3%	1.095
Peak District	0	0	0.0%	1.000
South Derbyshire	63	49	77.8%	1.286

Source: 2014 GTAA

## Gypsies and Travellers living on sites<sup>58</sup>

### Population Characteristics

6.5 The survey recorded 581 Gypsies and Travellers living on authorised and unauthorised sites and encampments. Interestingly, this compares with figures derived from the 2011 Census which suggests there are 682 Gypsies and Travellers living in the study area<sup>59</sup>. However, whilst the Census figures are likely to reflect a larger proportion of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation, they perhaps may not record all those living on sites. The average size of families living on the survey sites is 3.5 Gypsy or Travellers compared to a 2011 UK average of 2.4.

6.6 The survey was completed by respondents representing a fairly wide range of age groups. Over a third (39%) of respondents were aged between 31-40 years, compared to over a fifth aged 21-30 (27%). Smaller proportions of respondents were aged 41-50 years (10%), 51-60 (13%), 61-70 (8%), or aged 71 years or over (3%).

<sup>58</sup> Please note that due to rounding column totals may differ slightly from row totals

<sup>59</sup> See ONS 2011 Census Table KS201EW Ethnic Group located at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/>

- 6.7 However, the households represented by the survey contained high proportions of younger people with over half (53%) of all members of respondent households being aged 20 or under. This compares with Census 2011 findings which suggests that around a quarter (24%) of the population of England is aged 19 or under.
- 6.8 Around two thirds (65%) of respondents completing the survey were female compared with one third (35%) males. Although the survey was undertaken throughout all times during the day (usually between 9am and 7pm), the gender difference may reflect the likelihood that females (especially those with young children) are more likely to reside on site during the day.
- 6.9 The gender composition of survey households is 43% male and 57% female. This differs from the findings of the 2011 Census which suggests that slightly more than half of all Gypsy and Traveller family members residing in the study area were male (51%) and just under half (49%) female.
- 6.10 Most Gypsies and Travellers living on sites in the study area described themselves as Romany Gypsies (71%) compared with Irish Travellers (28%) (one respondent described themselves as 'other').

Table 6.3 Number of people in household		
	No	%
1 person	23	14%
2 people	47	28%
3 people	26	15%
4 people	21	13%
5 people	21	13%
6-10 persons	30	18%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.4 Respondent age		
	No	%
18-30 years	46	27%
31-40 years	66	39%
41-50 years	16	10%
51-60 years	22	13%
61-70 years	13	8%
71+	5	3%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.5 Age of household members		
	No	%
0-15 years	268	45%
16-20 years	45	8%
21-30 years	72	12%
31-40 years	104	18%
41-50 years	27	5%
51-60 years	34	6%
61-70 years	22	4%
71+	9	2%
Total	581	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.6 Respondent gender		
	No	%
Male	59	35%
Female	109	65%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.7 Gender of household members		
	No	%
Male	250	43%
Female	331	57%
Total	581	100.0%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.8 Ethnicity		
	No	%
Romany/Gypsy	119	71%
Irish Travellers	48	28%
Other	1	1%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### **Residency characteristics**

6.11 Respondents were asked the tenure of their current pitch. A large proportion (44%) of respondents were renting privately, whilst just over a quarter (27%) own the pitch they currently occupy compared with 15% renting from the local authority, 13% describing their current tenure as 'other' (living on unauthorised encampments or developments), and 1% staying with a family or friend).



- 6.12 Around four fifths (84%) of respondents were currently residing in their main home. Most of the remaining 16% were living on unauthorised encampments or developments. Over half of respondents (52%) had lived on site for more than five years. However, 27 respondents (16%) had lived on site for less than one month, although this included 19 respondents living on unauthorised encampments. Three respondents (2%) had lived on site for between 1-3 months, 3 (2%) for between 4-6 months, 12 (7%) for between 7-12 months, 22 (13%) for between 1-2 years, and 12 (8%) for between 3-5 years.
- 6.13 The commitment of families to remaining on existing sites is reflected in the fact that nearly two thirds (66%) stated that they did not intend to move in the future. Only 10 (6%) respondents (including those on transit sites and on unauthorised encampments) stated that they intended to move in less than 1 month, whilst no respondents were intending to move between 1-3 months. Only 1 respondent (1%) intended to stay for 7-12 months, whilst none intended to stay for between 1-5 years.
- 6.14 Reflecting the importance of maintaining familial relations to the Gypsy and Traveller community, when asked why they live in their local area four fifths (79%) of respondents stated that it is because they wanted to live close to family members. Other reasons included because they had always lived in an area or for educational reasons, although these were cited by far fewer respondents.
- 6.15 Similarly, nearly half (46%) of respondents cited 'being close to family' as the main reason for satisfaction with the site they live on. Similarly, respondents cited 'it's home' (18%), living close to facilities (12%), 'living in a close community' (12%), living in a peaceful area (6%), living in a safe area (4%), and the site itself (2%) as reasons for satisfaction.
- 6.16 Satisfaction rates with sites are generally high with three quarters (74%) of respondents being either satisfied or very satisfied. However, around a fifth (21%) of respondents stated that they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the site they currently occupy, whilst 6 respondents (5%) were dissatisfied. Again, satisfaction with site location is generally high with nearly half (46%) of respondents stating that their site's location is 'good' compared with just over half (51%) who believed it is 'fair' and only 3% 'poor'.
- 6.17 The reasons for dissatisfaction with living on sites are more varied with the most common reason being poor site facilities (26%). Interestingly, two further important reasons for dissatisfaction included the site not being permanent (16%), the need for planning permission (13%), and 'not being able to stop' (common responses by respondents living on unauthorised encampments). Lesser cited reasons for dissatisfaction included 'noise and pollution' (8%), 'lack of facilities' (7%), 'poor site' (5%), 'lack of access to services' (3%), 'poor lighting' (3%), 'close to dangerous roads' (3%), 'poor drainage' (2%), 'poor roads' (2%), and harassment and bullying (1%).
- 6.18 In terms of spatial requirements, around a third (31%) of respondent households stated that there is currently a lack of space on pitches. Nearly all (97%) agreed that there is currently



sufficient space for a touring caravan, whilst most (90%) stated that there is sufficient space for drying clothes, for a large trailer (85%), and for a lockable shed (79%).

- 6.19 In contrast, fewer (58%) respondent households stated that there is sufficient space on their pitch for two parking spaces whilst the same proportion (58%) stated there is sufficient space for work equipment. In relation to the latter, respondent households residing on large private sites were most likely to state they lack space for work equipment.
- 6.20 However, there was no demand from respondent households for mixed use spaces i.e. sites for Gypsies and Travellers that combine work and living spaces. Some families stated that there will be a future need to accommodate more caravans as their families grow. Also, some respondents stated that it was disappointing that planning regulations restricted the number of vehicles allowed on each pitch.
- 6.21 An important issue mentioned by respondent households was in regard to fuel and electricity costs. The government recently (July 2013) defined a family as being ‘fuel poor’ if their income is below the poverty line (taking into account energy costs), and their energy costs are higher than is typical for their household type<sup>60</sup>.
- 6.22 As the GTAA survey does not directly ask questions about household income, it is not possible to determine the extent of fuel poverty amongst respondent households. However, analysis of survey data shows that households using mains gas spent an average of £47.90 per week on electricity, gas and other fuels costs, whilst those using gas bottles spent an average of £51.31 per week. This compares with an average weekly household expenditure of £22.10 on electricity, gas and other fuels for all UK households in 2010<sup>61</sup>.

Table 6.9 Tenure		
	No	%
Private rent	76	44%
Own pitch	45	27%
Council site	24	15%
Other	22	13%
Staying with family/friend	1	1%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

<sup>60</sup> Department of Energy and Climate Change, *Fuel Poverty: a Framework for Future Action*, July 2013 located at: [www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/211180/FuelPovFramework.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/211180/FuelPovFramework.pdf)

<sup>61</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), *Household expenditure edges higher, while spending patterns differ by income*, December 2012 located at: [http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp29904\\_289553.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp29904_289553.pdf)

Table 6.10 Is this your main home?		
	No	%
Yes	141	84%
No	27	16%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.11 Length of residency		
	No	%
Less than 1month	27	16%
1-3 months	3	2%
4-6 months	3	2%
7-12 months	12	7%
1-2 years	22	14%
3-5 years	12	8%
5+ years	89	52%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.12 Intention to stay		
	No	%
Less than 1month	10	6%
4-6 months	2	1%
7-12 months	1	1%
1-2 years	0	0%
3-5 years	0	0%
5+ years	0	0%
Do not intend to move	111	66%
Don't know	44	26%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.13 Are you looking for somewhere else to live?		
	No	%
No	123	73%
Yes, in this area	27	16%
Yes, elsewhere	3	2%
Don't know	15	9%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.14 Reasons for living in area

	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Family	135	79%
Always lived in area	9	5%
Wanted to settle	9	5%
Nowhere else to go	6	4%
Other	6	4%
Educational reasons	1	1%
Married into family	1	1%
Peaceful	1	1%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.15 Satisfaction with the site

	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Very satisfied	32	19%
Satisfied	93	55%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	37	22%
Dissatisfied	6	4%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.16 Rating of the site location

	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Good	78	46%
Fair	85	51%
Poor	5	3%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.17 Reasons for satisfaction

	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Being close to family	77	46%
It's home	30	18%
Being close to facilities	20	12%
Close community	20	12%
Peaceful area	11	6%
Safety	6	4%
Site	4	2%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.18 Reasons for dissatisfaction		
	No	%
Poor facilities	23	26%
Not permanent	14	16%
Need planning permission	11	13%
Not being able to stop	8	9%
Noise and pollution	7	8%
Lack of facilities	6	7%
Poor site	4	5%
Lack of access to services	3	3%
Poor lighting	3	3%
Close to dangerous roads	3	3%
Poor drainage	2	2%
Poor roads	2	2%
Harassment and bullying	1	1%
Total	87	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.19 Satisfaction with utility block		
	No	%
Very satisfied	6	7%
Satisfied	33	42%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	33	42%
Dissatisfied	4	5%
Very dissatisfied	3	4%
Total	79	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.20 Sufficient space		
	No	%
Yes	117	69%
No	51	31%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.21 Spatial requirements				
	Have		Need	
	No	%	No	%
Touring caravan	164	97%	4	3%
Space for drying clothes	153	91%	15	9%
Large trailer	143	85%	25	15%
Lockable shed	133	79%	35	21%
Work equipment	97	58%	71	42%
2 parking spaces	97	58%	71	42%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.22 Weekly Expenditure on gas mains		
	No	%
£0-£9	17	10%
£10-£19	74	44%
£20-£29	52	31%
£30-£39	25	15%
£40-£49	0	0%
£50+	0	0%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.23 Weekly Expenditure on gas bottles		
	No	%
£0-£9	148	88%
£10-£19	5	3%
£20-£29	13	8%
£30-£39	2	1%
£40-£49	0	0%
£50+	0	0%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.24 Weekly Expenditure on electricity		
	No	%
£0-£9	0	0%
£10-£19	16	10%
£20-£29	80	47%
£30-£39	57	34%
£40-£49	13	8%
£50+	2	1%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

- 6.23 Generally, respondents stated access to services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools as being 'easy' or 'okay'. Respondents reported access to shops as being 'easy' (42%) or 'okay' (55%) whilst only 5 (3%) reported access as 'hard'.
- 6.24 A similar proportion reported access to post office services as being 'easy' (42%) or 'okay' (55%). Only 5 (3%) respondents reported access to post office services as being 'hard'. Again, a similar proportion stated access to health services as being 'easy' (42%), 'okay' (55%) or 'hard' (3%).
- 6.25 Two fifths (41%) of respondents reported easy access to primary schools compared with 56% stating 'okay' and 3% 'hard'. A similar proportion stated access to secondary schools

as being 'easy' (43%) or 'okay' (54%), compared with 6 (3%) respondents who reported access as being 'hard'.

6.26 The preferred method of gaining information about services was through word of mouth (56%), a liaison or support worker visiting the site (30%), or through a site warden (6%). Smaller proportions of respondents preferred to receive information by the internet (5%) or through a newsletter (3%). Literacy problems amongst some respondents emphasised the need for non-written forms of communication. Also, some respondents stated that they prefer to rely on members of their own community for support and information.

6.27 Two thirds (67%) of all respondents stated that they had suffered discrimination when trying to access services. Similarly, 139 (82%) stated that they had been a victim of racism or bullying. However, only 24 (17%) Gypsies and Travellers experiencing harassment or bullying had reported the incidence to the police. The main reasons for not doing so included wanting to deal with such problems themselves, wanting to ignore it, or believing that reporting incidences to authorities would be ineffective. Examples of the type of discrimination families faced are services such as taxi drivers refusing to drop them off at, or collect them from, a site. Importantly, some respondents had experienced instances of verbal and/or physical abuse.

Table 6.25 Access to services										
	Shops		Post office		Health services		Primary school		Secondary school	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Easy	71	42%	71	42%	71	42%	70	41%	72	43%
Okay	92	55%	92	55%	92	55%	93	56%	91	54%
Hard	5	3%	5	3%	5	3%	5	3%	5	3%
Total	168	100%	168	100%	168	100%	168	100%	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.26 Information about services		
	No	%
Word of mouth/visits	107	56%
Visit by liaison officer/support worker	58	30%
Warden	11	6%
Internet	9	5%
Newsletter	5	3%
Total	190	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.27 Discrimination accessing services

	No	%
Yes	113	67%
No	55	33%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.28 Victim of racism or bullying

	No	%
Yes	139	82%
No	29	18%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### **Health, education and employment**

- 6.28 Respondents were asked if they, or anyone else in their household, experienced health issues. The most common health issue cited was asthma (49%). Smaller proportions of respondent households contain a person who experiences problems due to old age (30%), someone who suffers from a mental health issue (11%), a person with a learning disability (1%), a person with some form of sensory impairment (4%), or a person who suffers from eczema (1%).
- 6.29 Most families either had a permanent (92%) or temporary (6%) registration with a General Practitioner (GP). Only four respondent households (currently residing on unauthorised encampments) stated that they were not registered with a GP. However, around one fifth (22%) of respondents stated that they had experienced problems accessing health services in the local area. This includes nearly one fifth (18%) of respondent households living on private sites and over half (58%) of households residing on unauthorised encampments.
- 6.30 The survey asked households with children whether they attended school. Half (50%) of all respondent households contain school-age children. Of school-age children, few families have children who all attend school (7%), whilst the majority of households (82%) contain some children who attend school. In only 6% of households did none of the children attend school. Also, only 14 (17%) of households contain children who receive home tutoring. The main reasons cited for children not attending school included a lack of permanent address (7%), bullying (6%), evictions or being moved on (4%), and 'cultural reasons' (4%).
- 6.31 Respondents were asked about their own and their partner's employment status. About half (51%) of all respondents described themselves as 'housewife' whilst 31% are self-employed and 4% retired. Only 5 (3%) respondents described themselves as being employed full-time. The employment status of respondent partners differs slightly from respondents with 49% described as self-employed and 44% as housewife (although none are described as working full-time). However, few respondents (5%) stated that there were

restrictions on their site which prevented work whilst only 2% of respondents said training or education would help them or their children.

Table 6.29 Health issues		
	No	%
Asthma	26	49%
Problems due to old age	16	30%
Mental Health	6	11%
Learning disability	2	4%
Sensory impairment	2	4%
Eczema	1	2%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.30 Registered with a GP		
	No	%
Permanent	156	93%
Temporary	8	5%
No	4	2%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.31 Problems accessing health services in the area		
	No	%
Yes	35	21%
No	133	79%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.32 Ever been refused to be taken on at a GP surgery?		
	No	%
Yes	39	24%
No	129	76%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.33 School age children in family		
	No	%
Yes	84	50%
No	84	50%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA



Table 6.34 School age children who Attend school		
	No	%
Yes, all	6	7%
Yes, some	69	82%
No	5	6%
Didn't say	4	5%
Total	84	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.35 Children receive home tutoring		
	No	%
Yes, all	4	5%
Yes, some	10	12%
No	2	2%
Didn't say	68	81%
Total	84	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.36 Anything stopped your children going to school?		
	No	%
Lack or permanent address	6	7%
Bullying	5	6%
Evictions/being moved on	4	5%
Cultural reasons	3	4%
Didn't say	66	78%
Total	84	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.37 Employment status		
	No	%
Housewife	86	51%
Self-employed	54	31%
Other	11	7%
Retired	6	4%
Employed full-time	5	3%
Employed part-time	1	1%
Student	1	1%
Didn't say	3	2%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.38 Partner's employment status		
	No	%
Self-employed	44	50%
Housewife	38	43%
Other	5	6%
Retired	1	1%
Total	88	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.39 Difficult to find work?		
	No	%
Yes	122	73%
No	25	15%
Don't know	17	10%
Didn't say	4	2%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

## Travelling

- 6.32 In terms of main travelling routes, respondent households were likely to state 'anywhere' or 'all over' rather than state specific routes. However, they did state that the type of vehicles they drive can determine routes. For example, families were less likely to use traditional forms of transport such as horse-drawn caravans and more likely to use larger vehicles such as motorhomes. As such, they stated that they are more likely to use main arterial routes within the study area and surrounding areas such as the M1, M6, M42, A6, A61, A38, A50 and A52. Also, some respondent households stated that travelling routes were sometimes determined by the accessibility of stopping places. However, they said that the number of stopping places throughout the country has declined in recent years in response to stronger local authority responses to unauthorised encampments.
- 6.33 Gypsies and Travellers also spoke about how they sometimes make arrangements to stay with family and friends living on sites in other areas. However, as families pointed out, even if allowed, sites tend to limit both the number and length of time caravans can temporarily stay. Some households also said that a lack of transit accommodation means that they have to use unauthorised roadside encampments when visiting fairs and events, or travelling long distances.
- 6.34 Generally, vehicle ownership amongst respondent households is high. Few (13%) of respondent households did not own a car although half (53%) do not own a van. However, few (9%) respondent households own more than one car. Around a quarter (25%) of all households own a static caravan whilst nearly over three quarters (73%) own one mobile caravan. A smaller proportion (16%) own two or more mobile caravans. In contrast, a very small proportion (4%) owns a mobile home whilst only one household (1%) owns a motor home.

- 6.35 Importantly, the survey asked households the extent to which they had travelled during the last 12 months. Perhaps reflecting the length of residency characteristics discussed above, over one third (35%) of respondents stated that they had not travelled during the last 12 months, whilst 1 (1%) respondent stated that they had travelled once during the same period. 4 (2%) respondent households had travelled twice during the last 12 months, 8 (5%) respondent households three times, 10 (6%) households four times, and 10 (6%) households five times. However, 51 (30%) households had travelled between six and ten times during the last 12 months. Around a sixth (15%) of households had travelled 11 or more times during the last 12 months (although these tend to be households living on unauthorised sites).
- 6.36 Respondents were asked their reasons for travelling (they could state more than one reason). An overwhelming majority (96%) stated that they travelled for what could be described as 'cultural reasons'. These include travelling to reinforce cultural identity or to transfer knowledge and experience of travelling to younger generations. Very few families stated that they travel to visit family (2%), for work (1%) or for holidays (1%). In terms of the type of accommodation travelling respondent households had used in the last 12 months, most respondents did not specify types of sites. As such, over four fifths (85%) said that they had resided 'anywhere', whilst fewer (14%) resided on private sites, and only 1 (1%) was described as an unauthorised development. None had used a council owned site in the last 12 months whilst travelling.
- 6.37 Nearly two thirds (61%) of respondent households had remained for less than 1 month at their previous temporary site (i.e. whilst travelling), whilst 5 (3%) had stayed for between 1-3 months. Very few (1%) households had stayed for between 4-6 months, none (0%) for between 7-12 months, none (0%) for between 1-2 years, 1 (1%) for between 3-5 years and none (0%) had stayed for more than 5 years. Nearly a third (32%) of all respondents stated that they had been evicted or moved on from a site within the last 12 months.
- 6.38 Over four fifths (82%) of respondents stated that they would never stop travelling, compared to 22 (13%) who stated that they had already stopped, and 8 (4%) said that they would stop travelling in the future. Reasons for stopping travelling included 'because they are settled' (53%), due to 'health and/or support needs' (33%), 'threat of evictions' (10%), 'age/too old' (3%), and for 'family' reasons (3%). Importantly, most Gypsies and Travellers said that even if they were unable to do so, travelling remained an essential component of their cultural identity.

Table 6.40 Vehicle ownership												
	Cars		Vans		Static Caravans		Caravans		Mobile homes		Motor homes	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0	23	13%	90	53%	126	75%	15	9%	162	96%	167	99%
1	131	78%	70	42%	42	25%	123	73%	6	4%	1	1%
2	13	8%	7	4%	0	0%	26	16%	0	0%	0	0%
3+	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	4	2%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	168	100%	168	100%	168	100%	168	100%	168	100%	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.41 Number of times travelled during last 12 months		
	No	%
0	58	35%
1	1	1%
2	4	2%
3	8	5%
4	10	6%
5	10	6%
6-10	51	30%
11+	26	15%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.42 Reasons travelled during last 12 months		
	No	%
Cultural	160	96%
Family	4	2%
Holidays	2	1%
Work	2	1%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.43 Type of accommodation used in last 12 months		
	No	%
Anywhere	94	85%
Private site	15	14%
Unauthorised on someone else's land	1	1%
Council site	0	0%
Unauthorised on own land	0	0%
Total	110	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.44 How long at the last temporary site		
	No	%
Less than 1 month	102	61%
1-3 months	5	3%
4-6 months	2	1%
7-12 months	0	0%
1-2 years	0	0%
3-5 years	1	1%
5+ years	0	0%
Didn't say	58	34%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.45 Evicted or moved on in the past year		
	No	%
Yes	53	32%
No	93	55%
Didn't say	22	13%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.46 Will stop travelling		
	No	%
Yes	8	4%
No	137	82%
Already stopped	22	13%
Didn't say	1	1%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.47 Reasons for stopping travelling		
	No	%
Settled	16	53%
Health/support needs	9	31%
Threat of evictions	3	10%
Age/too old	1	3%
For family	1	3%
Total	30	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

**Current accommodation need**

6.39 Households were asked if there are enough spaces for Gypsies and Travellers in the area. Perhaps unsurprisingly, only 1 (1%) felt that there were enough spaces whilst 167 (99%) believe that there is not. Similarly, 99% of respondents believe that there is a need for

additional transit pitches or emergency stopping places within the study area. Importantly, nearly two thirds (66%) of respondents said that one or more family members had moved out of the local area due to a lack of accommodation provision. However, over nine tenths (92%) of respondents said that family members would return to the local area if space was available.

- 6.40 Reflecting the discussion in Chapter 5 regarding stakeholder views on Gypsy and Traveller accommodation preferences, over half (59%) of respondents said that they would like to develop their own site. Nearly all (97%) of households wanting to develop a site stated that they would prefer a small, family-sized site with over four fifths (82%) stating they would like to develop it in the study area. However, only 2 (2%) respondent households stated that they are actually able to develop a site, and only 1% that they can afford to buy land in the local area. Very few (1%) respondent households would like help or advice with the process of developing a site.
- 6.41 Interestingly, compared with over half (59%) of respondents who said that they would like to develop their own site, only 37 (21%) stated that they need or are likely to move to a different home within the next five years. As noted below, this is because very few families are able to afford to buy land to develop a site.
- 6.42 The main reasons for wanting to move included because they want their own space (38%), because they keep being moved on (5%), or to receive care or support (5%). However, more than half (51%) didn't say why they were likely or need to move within the next five years
- 6.43 In terms of accommodation preferences, 14 (38%) respondents said 'anything', 13 (35%) would prefer to live on a private site owned by themselves, 3 (8%) would prefer to live in a private rented property, 2 (5%) in an owner occupied property, and 1 (3%) would prefer to live in a social rented house. However, 11% of respondents who need to move didn't know their preferred type of accommodation.

Table 6.48 Enough spaces in the study area for Gypsies and Travellers?		
	No	%
Yes	1	1%
No	167	99%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.49 Need for transit/emergency stopping spaces in the study area?

	No	%
Yes	167	99%
No	1	1%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.50 Do you think more permanent sites are required in the area?

	No	%
Yes	168	100%
No	0	0%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.51 Family members moved out of area due to lack of pitches?

	No	%
Yes	111	66%
No	57	34%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.52 Would they move back?

	No	%
Yes	102	92%
No	0	0%
Don't know	8	7%
Didn't say	1	1%
Total	111	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.53 Would you like to develop a site?

	No	%
Yes	99	59%
No	59	35%
Don't know	0	0%
Didn't say	10	6%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.54 Describe the site		
	No	%
Family site	97	97%
Didn't say	2	3%
Total	99	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.55 Where would you like the land/site?		
	No	%
In the study area	81	82%
Anywhere	9	9%
Elsewhere	4	4%
Don't know	2	2%
Didn't say	3	3%
Total	99	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.56 Able to develop a site?		
	No	%
Yes	2	2%
No	94	95%
Don't know	1	1%
Didn't say	2	2%
Total	99	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.57 Afford to buy land in the local area?		
	No	%
Yes	1	1%
No	98	99%
Total	99	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.58 Would you like help or advice with the process?		
	No	%
Yes	1	1%
No	95	96%
Didn't say	3	3%
Total	99	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA



Table 6.59 Need or likely to move to a different home?		
	No	%
Yes	37	22%
No	118	70%
Don't know	5	3%
Didn't say	8	5%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.60 Reasons for wanting to move?		
	No	%
Want own space	14	38%
Keep being moved on	2	5%
Receive care or support	2	5%
Didn't say	19	51%
Total	37	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.61 Preferred type of accommodation?		
	No	%
Anything	14	38%
Private site owned by self	13	35%
Rent private property	3	8%
Owner occupied property	2	5%
Social rented property	1	3%
Private site owned by G/T	0	0%
Don't know	4	11%
Total	37	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### ***Future accommodation need***

6.44 Respondents were asked if their household contained any people who may require separate accommodation within the next 5 years. This question helps determine the extent of future accommodation needs deriving from existing households. Around a sixth (15%) of respondents stated that they contain one or more household members who require separate accommodation in the next five years. However, only one (2%) stated that they require separate accommodation now or within a year, whilst 12 (27%) require it within 1-2 years, and 32 (71%) within 3-5 years. In terms of where future households would like to reside half (50%) of all future households would prefer to live on a separate site whilst just under half (46%) would prefer to remain on the same site their family currently occupy. Similarly, just over half of all future households would prefer to reside on a site owned by themselves, whilst just under half would prefer to reside on the existing site.

Table 6.62 People in household need separate accommodation in the next 5 years?		
	No	%
Yes	26	15%
No	142	85%
Total	168	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.63 How many separate homes will be needed?		
	No	%
1	12	46%
2	9	35%
3	5	19%
Total	26	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.64 When need separate accommodation in the next 5 years?		
	No	%
Now	1	2%
Within 1 year	0	0%
1-2 years	12	27%
3-5 years	32	71%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	45	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.65 Which would they prefer?		
	No	%
Stay with family	21	46%
Live on separate site	22	50%
In a house	2	4%
Total	45	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 6.66 Type of home required?		
	No	%
Private site owned by self	24	54%
On existing site	19	42%
Don't know	2	4%
Total	45	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

## Summary

- 6.45 This Chapter has provided both quantitative and qualitative data regarding key characteristics of respondent households residing on sites. Reflecting historical factors (as discussed in Chapter 1), the majority of respondent described themselves as Romany Gypsies compared with Irish Travellers. Reflecting national trends, it is apparent that respondent Gypsy and Traveller households tend to be larger and contain a younger age composition compared with families in the settled community.
- 6.46 In relation to the tenure, respondent households tend to either rent privately or own the pitch they currently occupy with relatively few renting from the local authority. Given financial constraints on local authorities, it is unlikely that the proportion of new sites deriving from the public sector is likely to increase substantially. Importantly, the survey suggested longevity of tenure with more than half of respondents having lived on site for more than five years, and nearly two thirds stating that they did not intend to move in the future. These findings emphasise the residential longevity of Gypsies and Travellers living in the study area. A key reason for families living in specific locations was because they wanted to live close to family members.
- 6.47 Generally, satisfactions with sites are generally high although around a fifth of respondents were not satisfied with the site they currently occupy. The most common reason for dissatisfaction with living on sites was poor site facilities. Also, around a third of respondent households stated that there is currently a lack of space on pitches. These are key issues in determining the space and facilities afforded to both current and new sites. One further issue mentioned by respondents was the cost of fuel and electricity with families using gas bottles in particular paying substantially more than the average weekly cost.
- 6.48 Access to services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools is not an issue for respondent households, although around one fifth of respondents stated that they had experienced problems accessing health services in the local area. Importantly, in very few households containing children did none attend school. However, most respondents stated that they had been a victim of racism or bullying with almost none reporting incidents to the police. This suggests that despite the Equalities Act 2010 Gypsy and Traveller families may still experience discrimination – a factor which can impact on community cohesion within the study area.
- 6.49 Although around a third of respondents stated that they had not travelled during the last 12 months, it is apparent that travelling remains an important component of Gypsy and Traveller culture. For most respondents, the most important reasons for travelling included to reinforce cultural identity, or to transfer knowledge and experience of travelling to younger generations.
- 6.50 Perhaps unsurprisingly, few respondents believe that there are sufficient permanent or transit spaces for Gypsies and Travellers in the area. Also, a lack of spaces meant that

some family members had moved out of the local area. In response, there was a desire by over half of respondents to develop their own small, family-sized site, although very few believed that they could afford to develop a site due to the cost of land and complexity of the planning system (these issues are discussed further in Chapter 10).

- 6.51 Importantly, in relation to the assessment of accommodation needs only around a fifth of respondent households stated that they need or are likely to move to a different home within the next five years. Similarly, around a sixth of respondents stated that they contain household members who require separate accommodation, with just under half preferring to remain on the same site their family currently occupy. This reflects the cultural desire of Gypsies and Travellers to stay close to family.







## 7. Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation

### Introduction

- 7.1 It is recognised (e.g. Shelter 2008) that a considerable number of Gypsies and Travellers live in bricks and mortar accommodation. As noted by the stakeholder consultation (see Chapter 5), housing providers tend not to include Gypsy and Irish Traveller categories on ethnic monitoring forms, so it is difficult to estimate population numbers.
- 7.2 However, it is acknowledged that a shortage of sites and local hostility, as well as lack of income, may prevent Gypsies and Travellers exercising their free choice in the accommodation market (CLG, 2007). This means that some families living in bricks and mortar accommodation may be doing so not out of choice, but because there is no alternative.
- 7.3 One key issue is that some families may display a 'psychological aversion' to living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Symptoms can include: feelings of depression, stress, sensory deprivation, feeling trapped, feeling cut off from social contact, a sense of dislocation with the past, feelings of claustrophobia. Proven psychological aversion to living in bricks and mortar accommodation is one factor used to determine accommodation need.
- 7.4 As such, the aims of this chapter are, first, to examine the key findings derived from the survey undertaken with Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation; and second, to determine the extent to which families may be experiencing issues which could impact on accommodation need such as overcrowding or psychological aversion to living in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 7.5 It looks at key issues such as satisfaction with current accommodation, access to services, and health and education needs. It is based on a survey of 22 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation within the survey area. The survey households were identified by the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG), and by Gypsy and Traveller families either currently living on sites or in housing.

### *Housing Characteristics*

- 7.6 Half (50%) of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation were renting from either their local council or a housing association, with around a quarter (27%) owning their property outright and just under a quarter (23%) renting from a private landlord. Importantly, nearly two thirds (64%) of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation had previously lived on unauthorised encampments.



- 7.7 Similar to the findings relating to Gypsies and Travellers living on sites, those residing in bricks and mortar accommodation showed longevity of tenure with over two fifths (41%) having lived in their current accommodation for between 5-10 years and nearly a third (32%) for more than 10 years. However, 4% of families had lived in their current accommodation for up to 6 months, none for between 6-12 months and 14% for between 1-2 years. Families living in owner occupied housing were most likely to have resided in their property for more than 5 years.
- 7.8 Around a fifth (18%) had previously lived in their current local area, whilst nearly four fifths (73%) had previously lived within the study area. Only 9% of families currently living in bricks and mortar accommodation had previously lived in accommodation located outside the study area.
- 7.9 Families stated a fairly wide range of reasons as to why they were currently residing in bricks and mortar accommodation. Over two fifths of respondents (45%) said that they had no alternative whilst nearly a quarter (18%) stated it is because they are now used to living in housing. Fewer families stated that they are currently living in bricks and mortar accommodation due to health issues (14%), for family reasons (14%), or because they wanted to settle (9%).
- 7.10 Half of families were either very satisfied (18%) or satisfied (32%) with living in their current accommodation although nearly a fifth (18%) are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. However, 7 families (32%) stated they are either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Table 7.1 Housing tenure type		
	No	%
Rents from the Council /HA	11	50%
Owens outright	6	27%
Rents from a private landlord	5	23%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.2 Tenure of previous accommodation		
	No	%
Unauthorised encampments	14	64%
Private site owned by other	4	18%
House rented from council	2	8%
Own house	1	5%
House private rented	1	5%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.3 Length of residency		
	No	%
Up to 6 months	1	4%
6-12 months	0	0%
1-2 years	3	14%
3-5 years	2	9%
5-10 years	9	41%
More than 10 years	7	32%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.4 Where lived before		
	No	%
Local area	4	18%
Within study area	16	73%
Outside study area	2	9%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.5 Reason for moving into housing		
	No	%
No alternative	10	45%
Used to living in house	4	18%
Health issues	3	14%
Family reasons	3	14%
Wanted to settle	2	9%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.6 Satisfaction with current accommodation		
	No	%
Very satisfied	4	18%
Satisfied	7	32%
Neither	4	18%
Dissatisfied	4	18%
Very dissatisfied	3	14%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### Access to services

7.11 Generally, respondents stated access to services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools as being 'easy' or 'okay'. Respondents reported access to shops as being 'easy' (18%) or 'okay' (82%) whilst none reported access as 'hard'. The same proportion reported access to post office services as being 'easy'

(18%) or 'okay' (82%) and none being 'hard'. Again, a similar proportion stated access to health services as being 'easy' (18%), 'okay' (77%) or 'hard' (5%). The same proportions reported access to primary and secondary schools as being 'easy' (18%), 'okay' (77%) or 'hard' (5%).

7.12 The preferred method of gaining information about services was through visits (44%). Fewer respondents stated the preferred method for gaining information about services as being through the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) (14%), the Showmen's Guild (9%), word of mouth (9%), a newsletter (5%), or through the internet (5%). This reflected the findings in relation to Gypsies and Travellers living on sites that they prefer to rely on members of their own community for support and information. However, some respondents stated that it was culturally inappropriate for them to ask local services for help or support.

7.13 Over two thirds (68%) of families living in bricks and mortar accommodation stated that they had suffered discrimination when trying to access services. Also, over two thirds of families (68%) stated that they had been a victim of racism or bullying. However, none of the Gypsies and Travellers experiencing harassment or bullying had reported the incidence to the police. The main reasons for not doing so included wanting to deal with such problems within the Gypsy and Traveller community or believing that reporting incidences to authorities would be ineffective.

Table 7.7 Access to services										
	Shops		Post office		Health services		Primary school		Secondary school	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Easy	4	18%	4	18%	4	18%	4	18%	4	18%
Okay	18	82%	18	82%	17	77%	17	77%	17	77%
Hard	0	0%	0	0%	1	5%	1	5%	1	5%
Total	22	100%	22	100%	22	100%	22	100%	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.8 Information about services		
	No	%
Visit	10	44%
DGLG	3	14%
Word of mouth	2	9%
Showmen's Guild	2	9%
Newsletter	1	5%
Internet	1	5%
Don't know	3	14%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.9 Discrimination accessing services		
	No	%
Yes	15	68%
No	7	32%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.10 Victim of racism or bullying		
	No	%
Yes	15	68%
No	7	32%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.11 Report crime to the police		
	No	%
Yes	0	0%
No	15	100%
Total	15	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### **Health, education and employment**

- 7.14 Respondents were asked if they, or anyone else in their household, experienced health issues. The most common health issues cited by respondent households were long-term illness (14%), mental health issues (9%), physical disability (5%), and asthma (14%). All families have a permanent registration with a General Practitioner (GP). However, two respondent households (5%) stated that they have problems accessing health services in the local area.
- 7.15 The survey asked households with children whether they attended school. Over two fifths (41%) of all respondent households living in bricks and mortar accommodation contain school-age children. Some families have children who all attend school (44%), or some (56%) attend school. No families contained children where none attend school. No children receive home tutoring.
- 7.16 Respondents were asked about their own and their partner's employment status. Over two fifths (45%) of all respondents living in bricks and mortar accommodation described themselves as unemployed whilst 23% are self-employed. Around two fifths (18%) are retired, whilst fewer described themselves as 'housewife' (9%) or employed full-time (5%). No respondents described themselves as being retired or employed full-time. The employment status of respondent partners is different with around a quarter (27%) described as housewife, around a quarter (27%) self-employed, and fewer unemployed

(18%), employed full-time (18%), or retired (9%). Despite the high rate of unemployment amongst respondents few (9%) stated that they experience difficulties in finding work.

Table 7.12 Health issues		
	No	%
None	15	67%
Long-term illness	3	14%
Mental Health	2	9%
Asthma	1	5%
Physical disability	1	5%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.13 Registered with a GP		
	No	%
Permanent	22	100%
Temporary	0	0%
No	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.14 Problems accessing health services		
	No	%
Yes	2	9%
No	20	91%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.15 School age children who attend school		
	No	%
Yes	9	41%
No	13	59%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.16 Children attend school		
	No	%
Yes, all	4	44%
Yes, some	5	56%
No	0	0%
Total	9	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.17 Type of education		
	No	%
School	9	100%
Home	0	0%
Both	0	0%
Total	9	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.18 Employment status		
	No	%
Unemployed	10	45%
Self-employed	5	23%
Retired	4	18%
Housewife	2	9%
Employed full-time	1	5%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.19 Partner's employment status		
	No	%
Housewife	3	27%
Self-employed	3	27%
Unemployed	2	18%
Employed full-time	2	18%
Retired	1	9%
Total	11	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.20 Difficult to find work?		
	No	%
Yes	2	9%
No	20	91%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### **Current accommodation need**

7.17 Households were asked if there are enough spaces for Gypsies and Travellers in the area. Perhaps unsurprisingly, no families felt that there were enough spaces whilst 22 (100%) believe that there are not. Similarly, all respondent households believe that there is a need for more permanent and transit sites within the study area.

7.18 Nearly two thirds (64%) of respondents living in bricks and mortar accommodation stated that one or more family members had moved out of the local area due to a lack of

accommodation provision. Just over half (57%) stated that family members would move back if sufficient accommodation was available.

- 7.19 Half (50%) of respondent households stated that that they would like to develop or buy a family sized site. However, reflecting both difficulties obtaining planning permission and the cost of buying land no families stated that they are able to buy land to develop a site.
- 7.20 Importantly, in relation to the assessment of accommodation needs around a third (36%) of respondent households currently living in bricks and mortar accommodation stated that they need or are likely to move to a different home within the next five years. The main reasons for wanting to move included not enough space (50%) and want to live on a site (12%). In terms of accommodation preferences almost all (88%) stated that they would prefer to live on 'any site' whilst few (12%) would prefer to live in a larger house.

Table 7.21 Enough spaces in the area for Gypsies and Travellers?

	No	%
Yes	0	0%
No	22	100%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.22 More permanent sites are required in the area?

	No	%
Yes	22	100%
No	0	0%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.23 More transit/emergency stopping spaces needed?

	No	%
Yes	22	100%
No	0	0%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.24 Family moved out of area due to lack of pitches?		
	No	%
Yes	14	64%
No	8	36%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.25 Would they move back?		
	No	%
Yes	8	57%
No	0	0%
Don't know	6	43%
Total	14	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.26 Would you like to develop/buy a site?		
	No	%
Yes	11	50%
No	11	50%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.27 Describe the site		
	No	%
Family site	11	100%
Total	11	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.28 Able to develop/buy a site?		
	No	%
Yes	0	0%
No	11	100%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	11	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA



Table 7.29 Need /likely to move to a different home?		
	No	%
Yes	8	36%
No	13	59%
Don't know	1	5%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.30 Reasons for wanting to move?		
	No	%
Not enough space	4	50%
Want to live on site	1	12%
Didn't say	3	38%
Total	8	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.31 Preferred type of future accommodation		
	No	%
Any site	7	88%
A larger house	1	12%
Total	8	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

**Future accommodation need**

7.21 Three respondents (14%) stated that they contain a total of four household members who will require separate accommodation in the future. However, none (0%) stated that they require separate accommodation either now compared with 2 (50%) within a year, none within 1-2 years, and 2 (50%) within 3-5 years. There was a clear finding as to which type of accommodation future households would like to reside in with all saying they would prefer to live on a private site owned by themselves.

Table 7.32 Future accommodation needed in next 5 years?		
	No	%
Yes	3	14%
No	19	86%
Total	22	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.33 How many separate homes will be needed?		
	No	%
1	2	67%
2	1	33%
Total	3	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.34 When need future accommodation?		
	No	%
Now	0	0%
Within a year	2	50%
1-2 years	0	0%
3-5 years	2	50%
Total	4	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.35 Prefer to live in house or on site?		
	No	%
In a house	0	0%
On a site	4	100%
Total	4	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 7.36 Type of future accommodation required?		
	No	%
Private site owned by self	4	100%
Council/social rented site	0	0%
Owner occupied housing	0	0%
Rent house from Council/HA	0	0%
Rent house from private landlord	0	0%
Total	4	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

## Summary

7.22 Similar to the previous Chapter, the above has provided both quantitative and qualitative understanding of the key characteristics of respondent households residing in bricks and mortar accommodation. However, it should be noted that, in this instance, the findings are based on a relatively small sample size. Also, whilst the housing needs of Gypsy and Traveller families will have been considered within traditional housing needs assessments, the GTAA offers a more in-depth understanding of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers.

- 7.23 Compared with respondent households living on sites, families residing in bricks and mortar accommodation were more likely to reside in publically owned housing. Nonetheless, families still displayed longevity of tenure with over four fifths having lived in their current accommodation for between 5-10 years, and a third for more than 10 years. Importantly, whilst some families said that they were used to living in housing, over two fifths said that they did so because they had no alternative. Also, around a third of families stated they are not satisfied with living in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 7.24 Similar to families living on sites, most respondents did not generally have problems accessing services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools. Also, children living in bricks and mortar accommodation are more likely to regularly attend school compared with children living on sites. However, over two thirds of families living in bricks and mortar accommodation stated that they had suffered discrimination when trying to access services or had been a victim of racism or bullying. This suggests that it is important for local authorities to be aware of issues around harassment that Gypsy and Traveller families may experience when being placed into bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 7.25 In relation to accommodation provision, no respondents felt that there were enough spaces for Gypsies and Travellers in the area. Similarly, all respondents living in bricks and mortar accommodation felt that there is a need for additional transit pitches or emergency stopping places within the study area. Although half of respondent households stated that that they would like to develop or buy a site none stated that they are able to do so.
- 7.26 Importantly, in relation to the assessment of accommodation needs around a third of respondent households currently living in bricks and mortar accommodation stated that they need or are likely to move to a different home within the next five years. In terms of accommodation preferences almost all stated that they would prefer to live on 'any site'. Only three respondents stated that they contain household members who will require separate accommodation in the future. All future households would like to reside on a private site owned by themselves.



## 8. Travelling Showpeople

### Introduction

- 8.1 As described in Chapter 1, this GTAA considers the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople. Unlike Gypsies and Travellers, Travelling Showpeople are not considered to be an ethnic minority and, as such, are not protected by the Equality Act 2010. Nonetheless, government guidance (CLG 2012) indicates that local authorities should consider the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople families. Given the presence of Travelling Showpeople in the study area and that they face similar accommodation issues to Gypsies and Travellers (e.g. difficulty in finding affordable land suitable for development) they have been included in this report.
- 8.2 Bolsover District Council is the only local authority within the study area which contains permanent Travelling Showpeople accommodation consisting of four yards with 31 plots. Surveys were undertaken with 29 Travelling Showpeople households including 27 living on permanent yards located at Guildhall Drive, Pinxton which is located close to the local authority border with Ashfield District Council. Also, surveys were undertaken with 2 Travelling Showpeople families temporarily located at a fair in Erewash. The base data below relates to the authorised plots in February 2014. The number of permanent plots, sample size and survey weighting are shown in Table 8.1 below.

Table 8.1 Travelling Showpeople Plots February 2014				
	Plots	Sample	%	Weight
Bolsover	31	27	87.10%	1.15

GTAA 2014

### ***Population and residency characteristics***

- 8.3 The survey represented 114 Travelling Showpeople living on permanent and temporary plots. The 2011 Census does not record Travelling Showpeople as a separate ethnic category, so it is not possible to make a comparison with Census results. The average size of Travelling Showpeople families living on the survey yards is 3.5 people compared to a 2011 UK average family size of 2.4 people.
- 8.4 The survey was completed by respondents representing a fairly wide range of age groups. Interestingly, a quarter of respondents were aged 71 years or over. This may reflect the fact that many Travelling Showpeople continue to work later than the traditional retirement age of 65 years for men and 60 years for women. Nearly a quarter (24%) of respondents were aged between 31-40 years, compared to over a fifth aged 51-60 (20%). Smaller proportions of respondents were aged 21-30 years (14%), 41-50 years (3%), 51-60 (20%), or 61-70 (14%).

- 8.5 Over half (58%) of respondents completing the survey were female compared with two fifths (42%) males. Although the survey was undertaken throughout all times during the day (usually between 9am and 7pm), the gender difference may reflect the likelihood that females (especially those with young children) are more likely to reside on site during the day.

Table 8.2 Number of people in household		
	No	%
1 person	4	12%
2 people	9	28%
3 people	4	12%
4 people	8	24%
5 people	4	12%
6-10 persons	4	12%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.3 Respondent age		
	No	%
21-30 years	5	14%
31-40 years	8	24%
41-50 years	1	3%
51-60 years	7	20%
61-70 years	5	14%
71+	8	25%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.4 Respondent gender		
	No	%
Male	14	42%
Female	19	58%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### **Residency characteristics**

- 8.6 Respondents were asked the tenure of their current plot. Over three quarters (76%) of respondents own the plot they currently occupy compared with 21% renting privately, and 3% residing on a temporary plot.
- 8.7 Over four fifths respondents (88%) had lived on the yard for more than five years with only 2 households residing on the plot for less than one month, 1 household for between 7-12 months, and 1 for between 1-2 years.



- 8.8 The commitment of families to remaining on existing sites is reflected in the fact that over four fifths (85%) stated that they did not intend to move in the future. Only 2 (6%) respondents (both temporarily residing at Erewash Fair) stated that they intended to move in less than 1 month, whilst 3 respondents didn't know when they intend to move.
- 8.9 Reflecting the importance of maintaining familial relations to the Travelling Showpeople community, when asked why they live in their local area over two thirds (70%) of respondents stated that it is because they wanted to live close to family members. Other reasons included there is no alternative (18%), for work reasons (6%), because they regarded the yard as 'home' (3%) or because they needed more space (3%).
- 8.10 Satisfaction rates with yards are high with nearly all (97%) of respondents being either satisfied or very satisfied. Again, satisfaction with site location is generally high with over half (55%) of respondents stating that their yard's location is 'good' compared with just under half (45%) who believed it is 'fair' and none 'poor'.
- 8.11 Reasons for satisfaction with yards included being close to family (55%), being part of a close community (18%), and being close to facilities (12%). Less cited reasons included 'safety' (6%), for work reasons (6%), and because the area is peaceful (3%). There were fewer reasons for dissatisfaction with yards: 'lack of security' (9%), need for waste disposal facilities (6%), noise (3%), and need for a larger plot (3%). In relation to security, only 2 respondents (6%) (both residing temporarily at Erewash Fair) said that lack of security was an issue.
- 8.12 Respondents were asked if they have or need specific facilities. Most respondents had access to a refuse collection (94%), electricity (94%), or the internet (82%). However, fewer respondents said they have access to hot and cold water (79%), recycling facilities (79%), washing facilities (79%), or hard surfaces (61%). In particular, 97% of respondents said that their children do not have access to an onsite children's play area. Also, nearly half (48%) of all respondents said that they currently do not have sufficient space on their plot to store equipment.
- 8.13 Respondents were also asked about access to services. All respondents stated access to services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools as being 'easy' (58%) or 'okay' (42%) and none 'hard'. However, similar to Gypsies and Travellers, nearly two thirds (61%) of Travelling Showpeople said that they had suffered discrimination when accessing services. Also, nearly three quarters (73%) had been a victim of racism or bullying.
- 8.14 Amongst Travelling Showpeople the preferred means of communication is through the Showpeople's Guild of Great Britain (some of the plots currently occupied by respondents are rented from the Guild).

- 8.15 An important issue mentioned by respondent households was in regard to fuel and electricity costs. The government recently (July 2013) defined a family as being 'fuel poor' if their income is below the poverty line (taking into account energy costs), and their energy costs are higher than is typical for their household type<sup>62</sup>.
- 8.16 As the GTAA survey does not directly ask questions about household income, it is not possible to determine the extent of fuel poverty amongst respondent households. However, analysis of survey data shows that households spent an average of £93.11 per week on oil, electricity, gas and other fuels costs including an average weekly expenditure of £28.94 per week on oil, £30.57 per week on gas, and £33.59 per week on electricity. This compares with an average weekly household expenditure of £22.10 on electricity, gas and other fuels for all UK households in 2010<sup>63</sup>.

Table 8.5 Tenure		
	No	%
Private rented plot	7	21%
Own plot	25	76%
Temporary plot	1	3%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.6 Length of residency		
	No	%
Less than 1 month	2	6%
1-3 months	0	0%
4-6 months	0	0%
7-12 months	1	3%
1-2 years	1	3%
3-5 years	0	0%
5+ years	29	88%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

<sup>62</sup> Department of Energy and Climate Change, *Fuel Poverty: a Framework for Future Action*, July 2013 located at: [www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/211180/FuelPovFramework.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/211180/FuelPovFramework.pdf)

<sup>63</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS), *Household expenditure edges higher, while spending patterns differ by income*, December 2012 located at: [http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp29904\\_289553.pdf](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp29904_289553.pdf)



Table 8.7 Intention to stay		
	No	%
Less than 1 month	2	6%
1-3 months	0	0%
4-6 months	0	0%
7-12 months	0	0%
1-2 years	0	0%
3-5 years	0	0%
5+ years	0	0%
Do not intend to move	28	85%
Don't know	3	9%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.8 Reasons for living in area		
	No	%
Family	23	70%
No other place	6	18%
Work	2	6%
Home	1	3%
Needed more space	1	3%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.9 Satisfaction with the yard		
	No	%
Very satisfied	18	55%
Satisfied	14	42%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	1	3%
Dissatisfied	0	0%
Very dissatisfied	0	0%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.10 Rating of the yard location		
	No	%
Good	18	55%
Fair	15	45%
Poor	0	0%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.11 Reasons for satisfaction		
	No	%
Being close to family	18	55%
Close community	6	18%
Being close to facilities	4	12%
Safety	2	6%
Work	2	6%
Peaceful area	1	3%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.12 Reasons for dissatisfaction		
	No	%
Lack of security	3	9%
Waste disposal	2	6%
Noise	1	3%
Need larger plot	1	3%
Didn't say	26	79%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.13 Is security an issue?		
	No	%
Yes	2	6%
No	31	94%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.14 Facilities				
	Have		Need	
	No.	%	No.	%
Refuse collection	31	94%	2	6%
Electricity	31	94%	2	6%
Internet	27	82%	6	18%
Hot and cold water	26	79%	7	21%
Recycling	26	79%	7	21%
Washing facilities	26	79%	7	21%
Hard surfaces	20	61%	13	39%
Play area	1	3%	32	97%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.15 Is there enough space on your plot?

	No	%
Yes	16	48%
No	17	52%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.16 Access to services

	Shops		Post office		Health services		Primary school		Secondary school	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Easy	19	58%	19	58%	17	52%	17	52%	17	52%
Okay	14	42%	14	42%	16	48%	16	48%	16	48%
Hard	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.17 Discrimination accessing services

	No	%
Yes	20	61%
No	13	39%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.18 Victim of racism or bullying

	No	%
Yes	24	73%
No	9	27%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.19 Information about services

	No	%
Showpeople's Guild	27	82%
Newsletter	6	18%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.20 Expenditure on oil		
	No	%
£0-£9	0	0%
£10-£19	0	0%
£20-£29	7	78%
£30-£39	1	11%
£40-£49	0	0%
£50+	1	11%
Total	9	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.21 Expenditure on gas bottles		
	No	%
£0-£9	0	0%
£10-£19	10	36%
£20-£29	6	21%
£30-£39	1	4%
£40-£49	7	25%
£50+	4	14%
Total	28	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.22 Expenditure on electricity		
	No	%
£0-£9	0	0%
£10-£19	4	12%
£20-£29	14	42%
£30-£39	1	3%
£40-£49	9	28%
£50+	5	15%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### **Health, education and employment**

8.17 Respondents were asked if they, or anyone else in their household, experienced health issues. Compared with Gypsies and Travellers, fewer Travelling Showpeople display health issues. Around a quarter (24%) of respondents experience long-term health issues whilst 4 (12%) suffer health problems due to old age. Again, in contrast to Gypsies and Travellers, all Travelling Showpeople have permanent registration with a General Practitioner (GP).

8.18 However, a small proportion (12%) of respondents stated that they have problems accessing health services in the local area. Also, one respondent had been refused registration at a local GP surgery. Suggested improvements to health services included:

make it easier to book appointments (21%), better access to doctors (12%), more walk-in centres (6%), and better health services (6%).

- 8.19 The survey asked households with children whether they attended school. A third (33%) of all respondent households contain school-age children. Few families have all children who all attend school (18%), whilst the majority of households (82%) contain some children who attend school. Importantly, in no families did none of the children attend school. In contrast to Gypsies and Travellers, no Travelling Showpeople children receive home tutoring. Also, no Travelling Showpeople children had been prevented attending school by factors such as bullying or harassment.

Table 8.23 Health issues		
	No	%
Long-term illness	8	24%
Problems due to old age	4	12%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.24 Registered with a GP		
	No	%
Permanent	33	100%
Temporary	0	0%
No	0	0%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.25 Problems accessing health services in the area		
	No	%
Yes	4	12%
No	29	88%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.26 Ever been refused to be taken on at a GP surgery?		
	No	%
Yes	1	3%
No	32	97%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.27 How could health services be improved?		
	No	%
Easier to make appointments	7	21%
Better access to doctors	4	12%
More walk-in centres	2	6%
Better health services	2	6%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.28 School age children in family		
	No	%
Yes	11	33%
No	22	67%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.29 School age children who attend school		
	No	%
Yes, all	2	18%
Yes, some	9	82%
No	0	0%
Total	11	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.30 Children receive home tutoring		
	No	%
Yes, all	0	0%
Yes, some	0	0%
No	11	100%
Total	11	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.31 Anything stopped your children going to school?		
	No	%
Yes	0	0%
No	11	100%
Didn't say	0	0
Total	11	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

## Travelling

8.20 Generally, vehicle ownership amongst respondent households is high. Nearly all (94%) of respondent households own one or more trailers. Similarly, most (91%) respondent households own one or more caravans. A smaller proportion own a chalet (45%), own one or more mobile homes (30%), or a static home (21%).

- 8.21 Importantly, the survey asked households the extent to which they had travelled during the last 12 months. Over three quarters (76%) of respondents had travelled at least once during the previous year with most (67%) travelling between 6-10 times during the past year. Respondents were asked their reasons for travelling (they could state more than one reason). All stated that they travel for culture and work. Over three quarters (76%) of respondent households had remained for less than 1 month at their previous site.
- 8.22 Over two fifths (43%) of respondents stated that they would never stop travelling, compared to 9 (27%) who stated that they had already stopped, and 7 (21%) said that they would stop travelling in the future. Reasons for stopping travelling included due to 'health and/or support needs' (43%), 'retirement' (43%), or 'age/too old' (14%).

Table 8.32 Vehicle ownership										
	Trailers		Caravans		Mobile homes		Static homes		Chalets	
	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
0	2	6%	3	9%	23	70%	26	79%	18	55%
1	16	48%	25	76%	5	15%	7	21%	13	39%
2	6	18%	3	9%	4	12%	0	0%	1	3%
3+	9	28%	2	6%	1	3%	0	0%	1	3%
Total	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.33 Number of times travelled during last 12 months		
	No	%
0	8	24%
1	0	0%
2	0	0%
3	1	3%
4	0	0%
5	2	6%
6-10	22	67%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.34 Reasons travelled during last 12 months		
	No	%
Culture and work	33	100%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.35 Type of accommodation used in last 12 months		
	No	%
Fairs	26	79%
Private site	0	0%
Unauthorised on someone else's land	0	0%
Council site	0	0%
Unauthorised on own land	0	0%
Didn't say	7	21%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.36 How long at the last yard		
	No	%
Less than 1 month	25	76%
1-3 months	0	0%
4-6 months	0	0%
7-12 months	0	0%
1-2 years	0	0%
3-5 years	0	0%
5+ years	0	0%
Didn't say	8	24%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.37 Will stop travelling		
	No	%
Yes	7	21%
No	14	43%
Already stopped	9	27%
Didn't say	3	9%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.38 Reasons for stopping travelling		
	No	%
Health/support needs	3	43%
Retirement	3	43%
Age/too old	1	14%
Total	7	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### **Current accommodation need**

8.23 Households were asked if there are enough spaces for Travelling Showpeople in the area. Perhaps unsurprisingly, none felt that there were enough spaces. Similarly, all respondents



believe that there is a need for additional transit pitches or emergency stopping places within the study area. Importantly, over a third (39%) of respondents said that one or more family members had moved out of the local area due to a lack of accommodation provision. However, all respondents said that family members would return to the local area if space was available.

- 8.24 Reflecting the discussion in Chapter 5 regarding stakeholder views on accommodation preferences, over a fifth (21%) of respondents said that they would like to develop their own yard. All households wanting to develop a yard stated that they would prefer a small, family-sized yard. However, only 2 (29%) of households wanting to develop a yard stated that they are actually able to do so. The main reasons why respondents felt unable to develop a yard were a lack of affordable land in the study area and a lack of confidence that planning permission would be granted. Despite the previous point, only 2 (29%) respondent households would like help or advice with the process of developing a yard.
- 8.25 Importantly, in relation to the assessment of accommodation needs only 1 (3%) respondent household stated that they need or are likely to move to a different home within the next five years. The household would prefer to rent land owned by the local authority.

Table 8.39 Enough spaces in the study area for Travelling Showpeople?

	No	%
Yes	0	0%
No	33	100%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.40 Need for transit/emergency stopping spaces in the study area?

	No	%
Yes	33	100%
No	0	0%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.41 Do you think more permanent yards are required in the area?

	No	%
Yes	33	100%
No	0	0%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.42 Family members moved out of area due to lack of plots?		
	No	%
Yes	13	39%
No	20	61%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.43 Would they move back?		
	No	%
Yes	13	100%
No	0	0%
Don't know	0	0%
Didn't say	0	0%
Total	13	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.44 Would you like to develop a yard?		
	No	%
Yes	7	21%
No	2	6%
Don't know	0	0%
Didn't say	24	73%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.45 Able to develop a yard?		
	No	%
Yes	1	14%
No	5	72%
Don't know	1	14%
Total	7	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.46 Where would you like the land/yard?		
	No	%
Local	7	100%
Total	7	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.47 Describe the site

	No	%
Family site	7	100%
Total	7	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.48 Would you like help or advice with the process?

	No	%
Yes	2	29%
No	5	71%
Total	7	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.49 Need or likely to move to a different home?

	No	%
Yes	1	3%
No	32	97%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.50 Preferred type of accommodation?

	No	%
Land to rent off council	1	100%
Total	1	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

### ***Future accommodation need***

8.26 Around a fifth (18%) of respondents stated that they contain one or more household members who require separate accommodation in the next five years. However, no households stated that they require separate accommodation now or within a year, whilst 4 (36%) require it within 1-2 years, and 7 (64%) within 3-5 years. In terms of where future households would like to reside half (50%) of all future households would prefer to live on a separate site whilst just under half (46%) would prefer to remain on the same site their family currently occupy. Similarly, two thirds (67%) of all future households would prefer to reside on a yard site owned by themselves. None of the future households would prefer to reside on their current site although this is more likely to reflect a pragmatic attitude that current yards lack space, rather than a desire to move away from family.

Table 8.51 People in household need separate accommodation in the next 5 years?

	No	%
Yes	6	18%
No	25	76%
Didn't say	2	6%
Total	33	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.52 How many separate homes will be needed?

	No	%
1	2	33%
2	3	50%
3	1	17%
Total	6	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.53 When need separate accommodation in the next 5 years?

	No	%
Now	0	0%
Within 1 year	0	0%
1-2 years	4	36%
3-5 years	7	64%
Don't know	0	0%
Total	11	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.54 Type of home required?

	No	%
Own yard	4	67%
Didn't say	2	33%
Total	6	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

Table 8.55 Would they like to live on current site?

	No	%
Yes	0	0%
No	4	67%
Didn't say	2	33%
Total	6	100%

Source: 2014 GTAA

## **Summary**

- 8.27 Similar to Gypsy and Traveller families residing on sites, there is a long history of Travelling Showpeople both living and working within the study area. Travelling Showpeople families tend to be larger than families in the settled community, although the age composition of respondent families was fairly old with a quarter of respondents aged 71 years or over. This may reflect the fact that many Travelling Showpeople continue to work later than the traditional retirement age of 65 years for men and 60 years for women.
- 8.28 Unlike Gypsy and Traveller families living on sites, nearly four fifths of respondent Travelling Showpeople families own their own plot with the remainder renting (there is no public provision). One reason is because the two yards in Bolsover were developed by the Showmen's Guild some pitches for rent, and some for sale. However, similar to Gypsy and Traveller families, a key reason for Travelling Showpeople families living in their current location is because they wanted to live close to family members.
- 8.29 Satisfaction with yards and locations is generally high with most families not intending to move within the next 5 years. However, whilst most families were satisfied with the facilities on yards, nearly all stated that there is insufficient space to store equipment, and a lack of children's play areas. Similar to Gypsy and Traveller families living on sites and in bricks and mortar accommodation, Travelling Showpeople tend not to lack access to services such as shops, post offices, health services, and primary and secondary schools. However, they were almost as likely to state that they had suffered discrimination when accessing services, or been a victim of racism or bullying.
- 8.30 Travelling remains important to the Travelling Showpeople families, for either work or cultural reasons, with over three quarters having travelled at least once during the previous year. A lack of suitable accommodation is apparent with over a third of respondents saying that one or more family members had moved out of the local area due to a lack of provision.
- 8.31 Again, reflecting previous findings, over a fifth of respondents said that they would like to develop a small, family-sized yard, although only 2 households said that they are able to do so. Importantly, in relation to the assessment of accommodation needs only 1 household stated that they need or are likely to move to a different home within the next five years, whilst 6 stated that they contain household members who require separate accommodation in the next 5 years.



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## 9. Gypsy and Traveller accommodation need

### Introduction

- 9.1 This chapter presents the detailed technical calculation of the Gypsy and Traveller needs assessment. The model used is based on the example given in the CLG (2007) Guidance. The CLG model is discussed in detail below whilst general comments on the findings are contained in Chapter 10.
- 9.2 According to the CLG (2007) it is important to be able to identify both current and future accommodation needs of the Gypsy and Traveller communities by use of local data. In relation to current need data collected through the Accommodation Needs Assessment process should enable the local authority or partnership to derive overall figures by which to identify accurately the current levels of Gypsy and Traveller households and the accommodation needs existing in that area.
- 9.3 The CLG (2007) acknowledges that accurate projections of future needs are likely to be more difficult. Current levels of satisfaction with existing accommodation will provide some indication of whether households are likely to stay in that accommodation. Analysis of changing demand (which may be expressed through unauthorised sites, or low demand for authorised sites) will provide further information.
- 9.4 The CLG (2007) guidance also provides an example of how accommodation need could be calculated:
- a. Current residential supply =
- current supply of occupied local authority residential site pitches in local authority/partnership area *plus*
  - current supply of occupied authorised privately owned site pitches in local authority area/partnership area *plus*
  - number of unused local authority pitches, and vacancies on privately owned sites available in local authority/partnership area *plus*
  - number of existing pitches expected to become vacant in near future (local authority and privately owned) *plus*
  - number of households in site accommodation expressing a desire to live in housing *plus*
  - existing applications for private site development/extension likely to gain planning permission during year 1



b. Current residential demand = households:

- seeking permanent site accommodation in the area
- on unauthorised encampments *plus*
- on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected
- currently overcrowded *plus*
- new households expected to arrive from elsewhere *plus*
- i. new family formations expected to arise from within existing households *plus*
- ii. in housing but with a need for site accommodation *plus*
- iii. new family formation in future periods

Current shortfall = current residential demand *less* current residential supply

- 9.5 The differences between the CLG (2007) model and the one adopted for this GTAA are:
- The 2014 GTAA considers potential pitches which have been granted planning permission but not yet developed as potential supply over the first five year period (2014-2019) (Step 6)
  - The 2014 GTAA includes the additional supply generated by movement within the stock (Step 7). This step, although not included in the CLG model, allows for the fact that movement of families from pitches onto different pitches (steps 9 and 12) not only generates demand/need but also supply.

9.6 The remainder of the chapter contains the following sections:

- Requirements for residential pitches in the study area 2014-2019
- Requirements for transit pitches: 2014-2019
- Requirement for housing 2014-2019: summary
- Requirement for housing 2014-2019: steps of the calculation
- Requirement for residential pitches and housing 2014-2019: summary
- Requirements for plots in the study area 2014-2019
- Requirements for transit pitches: 2019-2034

9.7 It should be noted that the first five year period is determined primarily by survey responses, whilst future 5-year periods are determined by projections based on data collected by the surveys.

### **Requirement for residential pitches 2014-2019: summary<sup>64</sup>**

9.8 The need for residential pitches in the study area is assessed according to a 15-step process, based on the model suggested in CLG (2007) guidance and supplemented by data derived from the survey. The results of this are shown in the Table 9.1 below, while the

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<sup>64</sup> Please note that due to rounding column totals may differ slightly from row totals

subsequent section contains explanations of the sourcing and calculation of the figures for each step.

- 9.9 The overall need is for 70 new pitches across the study area. This amounts to a total additional need for approximately 14 pitches per annum for the 2014-2019 period.

Table 9.1 Estimate of the need for permanent residential site pitches, 2014-2019

1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	135
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	2.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	3.8
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the study area in next 5 years	3.1
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in next 5 years	2.3
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	4.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	36.7
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	3.0
Total Supply	49.0
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	28.9
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	17.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	9.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	7.8
13) New family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	3.1
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	34.9
Total Need	100.7
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	18.2
Total Need	118.9
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
Total Additional Pitch Requirement	<b>69.9 → 70</b>
Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement	14.0

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

### Requirement for residential pitches, 2014-2019: steps of the calculation

- 9.10 The calculations depend on base information derived from the GTAA using data corroborated by local authorities and the survey responses in the study area (2014). The key variables used to inform the calculations include:

- The number of Gypsies and Travellers housed in bricks and mortar accommodation
- The number of existing Gypsy and Traveller pitches
- The number of caravans on unauthorised encampments requiring accommodation (19 surveys undertaken with 19 different households residing on unauthorised encampments)

- The number of caravans on unauthorised developments
- The number of vacant pitches
- The number of planned new pitches

	Housed G&Ts	Authorised Pitches	Unauth Encamp	Unauth Dev	Vacant Pitches	Transit Pitches	Potential Pitches	Temp Pitches
Amber Valley	13	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Bolsover	19	17	3	1	0	11	0	0
Chesterfield	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Derby City	87	17	8	0	0	0	0	0
D. Dales	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	3
E. Staffordshire	21	13	3	0	0	0	2	0
Erewash	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
High Peak	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NE Derby	21	23	0	0	0	4	0	0
Peak District	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Derby	21	63	4	1	2	6	2	0
Total	201	135	19	9	2	21	4	3

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

9.11 The subsequent calculations described below are dependent on a combination of results obtained through the 2014 GTAA survey and existing research or data on Gypsies and Travellers. For example, the proportion of family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the study area was determined by the survey to be 5.78%:

- Existing pitches: 135
- Proportion of overcrowded pitches: 5.78%
- $135 \times 0.0578 = 7.8$

9.12 The remainder of this chapter describes both the process and results of the Gypsy and Traveller needs calculations.

## Supply of pitches 2014-2019

### **Step 1: Current occupied permanent residential site pitches**

9.13 The number of permanent residential site pitches is based on data provided by the study area authorities and corroborated by information derived from the site surveys (which took place during the period October 2013 and February 2014). There are currently (2014) 135 authorised, permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches in the study area. The pitches are owned by local authorities or privately. This figure includes all pitches occupied or owned by members of the Gypsy and Traveller community with planning permission for permanent occupation at the time of the survey. It does not include: pitches with transit status; pitches with temporary planning permission; vacant pitches; unauthorised developments; or pitches

occupied by individuals or families not identified as being from the Gypsy and Traveller community.

- 9.14 Transit pitches may have permanent planning permission although it is usually conditional (i.e. they can only be occupied for short periods of time and not permanently by families). As such, families usually occupy transit pitches on a temporary basis whilst travelling. However, some families without a permanent base may attempt to use transit provision on a more permanent basis.
- 9.15 Some pitches within the study area have temporary planning permission. The period covered by temporary planning permission varies but it is usually less than the first 5 year period considered by the GTAA. Although it is possible that some pitches with temporary planning permission may be granted permanent status at some future date this is not possible to determine with certainty. Also, if temporary planning permission ceases the accommodation needs of the family remain. As such, the GTAA does not consider pitches with temporary planning permission to constitute part of the permanent supply.
- 9.16 Similarly, pitches with planning permission for Gypsies and Travellers but occupied by non-Gypsy and Travellers are not included in the supply as they are not available for members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities. Whilst it is acknowledged that such pitches are fulfilling the accommodation needs of the settled community, it cannot be determined if and when they would become available to members of the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 9.17 Vacant pitches are separately identified as part of the supply in Step 2 of the calculations (see below) as they are available for occupation by the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 9.18 Pitches with planning permission but not yet developed are considered as 'potential pitches' as they are not currently occupied but will be available for occupation once developed.
- 9.19 Unauthorised encampments and unauthorised developments are not included as part of the permanent supply as they do not have planning permission. However, the accommodation needs of families residing on unauthorised encampments and unauthorised developments are considered in the needs calculations (steps 10 and 11).

**Step 2: Number of unused residential pitches available**

- 9.20 According to the survey data there are currently 2 vacant pitches on authorised sites in the study area. These are pitches which exist but confirmed as not currently occupied or used by any Gypsy or Traveller family.

**Step 3: Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant, 2014-2019**

- 9.21 This is calculated using mortality rates as applied in conventional Housing Needs Assessments. The figures for mortality, however, have been increased in line with studies

of Gypsy and Traveller communities suggesting a life expectancy approximately 10 years lower than that of the general population.<sup>65</sup> The table below shows the relevant calculation.

Table 9.3 Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant 2014-2019	
<i>From Authorised Pitches</i>	
Current supply of occupied permanent / residential site pitches	135
Pitches released from this number by mortality over a 5 year period year according to adjusted mortality rates (assuming inheritance of pitch by any remaining adult residents of pitch)	3.814
Expected pitches released 2014-2019	3.814 → 3.8

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

**Step 4: Number of family units in site accommodation expressing a desire to leave the study area**

9.22 This was determined by survey data. It was assumed, given that development of sites is likely to occur in the areas surrounding the study areas as well as in the planning area itself, that those currently living on sites expecting to leave the area permanently in the next five years – out of choice (step 9) or due to overcrowding (step 12) would generally be able to do so.

9.23 In total, given the low level of interest in leaving the study area, this resulted in the supply of 3.1 pitches.

**Step 5: Number of family units in site accommodation expressing a desire to live in housing**

9.24 This was determined by survey data. It was assumed that all those currently living on sites planning to move into housing in the next five years (step 5), or preferring to move into housing from an overcrowded pitch (step 12), would be able to do so. This excluded those planning to move due to site management issues, since it was assumed that these could be resolved in response to the findings of this study.

9.25 A supply of 2.3 pitches was expected from this source, excluding those moving out of the study area, since these are already counted in step 4.

**Step 6: Residential pitches planned to be built or brought back into use, 2014-2019**

9.26 This is determined by local authority data and confirmed by site visits. There are 4 new pitches planned to be built or brought back into use in the study area during the period 2014-2019. These are pitches which have planning permission, but at the time of the survey and completion of the report were not developed to a standard that they could be occupied, but were expected to be developed and occupied before 2019.

<sup>65</sup> E.g. L. Crout, *Traveller health care project: Facilitating access to the NHS*, Walsall Health Authority, 1987. NB: For Page 145

**Step 7: Additional supply generated by movement within the stock**

- 9.27 This figure, although not included in the CLG model, allows for the fact that movement of families from pitches onto different pitches (steps 9 and 12) not only generates demand/need but also supply. Pitches vacated by moves out of the study area or into housing are excluded, since these are already counted in steps 4 and 5 above. This generates a total supply of 36.7 pitches.
- 9.28 It is recognised that of course those moving from overcrowded pitches will not release pitches large enough for every family. However, there are many smaller newly forming family units within the total households generating need.

**Step 8: Pitches with temporary planning permission**

- 9.29 This is determined by local authority data. It is assumed families living on pitches whose planning permission expires within the period 2014-2019 will still require accommodation within the study area. There are currently 3 pitches with temporary planning permission located in Derbyshire Dales. Pitches with temporary permission cannot be included as part of supply as they do not permanently meet the needs of families.

**Need for pitches 2014-2019**

**Step 9: Family units on pitches seeking residential pitches in the study area 2014-2019**

- 9.30 This was determined by survey data. The guidance suggests that those moving from pitch to pitch should be included in the need section. The supply also generated by this is taken into account in step 7. These family units reported that they 'needed or were likely' to move to a different home in the next five years, and wanted to stay on an authorised site, or that they were currently seeking accommodation.
- 9.31 This category of need overlaps with those moving due to overcrowding, counted in step 12, and so any family units which are both overcrowded and seeking accommodation are deducted from this total. This generates a total need of 28.9 pitches.

**Step 10: Family units on unauthorised encampments seeking residential pitches in the area**

- 9.32 Guidance (CLG 2007) indicates that it should be considered whether alternative accommodation is required for families living on unauthorised encampments. This practice is also adopted by other GTAAs. Using survey data, (19 surveys undertaken with 19 different households residing on unauthorised encampments) it has been calculated how many families on unauthorised encampments (including long term ones tolerated by councils) want residential pitches in the study area. They generate a need for 17.0 residential pitches (please note that only Gypsies and Travellers requiring permanent

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Travelling Showpeople, the standard mortality rate is used.

accommodation within the study area have been included in this calculation – transiting Gypsies and Travellers are included in separate calculations).

- 9.33 It is important to note that a number of families residing on unauthorised encampments were approached to take part in the survey. However, many did not want to take part as they stated they did not require permanent accommodation within the study area and were just travelling through it. As such, the analysis of accommodation need arising from families residing on unauthorised encampments is mainly based on those families who agreed to take part in the survey and require permanent accommodation within the study area.
- 9.34 The survey asks families residing on unauthorised encampments a number of questions which distinguish between the need of transit provision and permanent provision. It was evident that of the 19 families residing on unauthorised encampments 2 were transiting whilst 17 were in need of permanent pitches. The latter had no alternative accommodation and had links (both in terms of work and/or family) to the local area. Some families had been travelling in and around the study area for a number of years due to not having permanent accommodation. In some respects, such families could be considered homeless (although not ‘roofless’).

**Step 11: Family units on unauthorised developments seeking residential pitches in the area**

- 9.35 This was determined by survey data. The guidance also indicates that the accommodation needs of families living on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected must be considered. Regularising families living on their land without planning permission would reduce the overall level of need by the number of pitches given planning permission. A need of 9.0 pitches currently arises from unauthorised developments within the study area.

**Step 12: Family units on overcrowded pitches seeking residential pitches in the area**

- 9.36 This was determined by comparing survey data to the bedroom standard. The bedroom standard is that used by the General Household Survey to determine the number of bedrooms required by families. For this study, a modified version of the bedroom standard was applied to Gypsies and Travellers living on sites to take into account that caravans or mobile homes may contain both bedroom and living spaces used for sleeping. The number of spaces for each accommodation unit is divided by two to provide an equivalent number of bedrooms. Accommodation needs were then determined by comparing the number (and age) of family members with the number of bedroom spaces available.
- 9.37 Guidance indicates that those on overcrowded pitches should be provided with pitches of an adequate size. Households which also contain a newly formed family unit that has not yet left are excluded. This is because it is assumed that once the extra family unit leaves (included in the need figures in step 14) their accommodation will no longer be overcrowded. The proportion of family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the study area was determined by the survey to be 5.78%:

- Existing pitches: 135
- Proportion of overcrowded pitches: 5.78%
- $135 \times 0.0578 = 7.8$

9.38 The calculations suggest that there is a need for 7.8 pitches to resolve overcrowding over the period 2014-2019.

**Step 13: Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area**

9.39 In the absence of any data derivable from secondary sources on the moving intentions of those outside the study area, it is assumed that the inflow of Gypsies and Travellers into the area will be equivalent to the outflow. In addition, inflow equivalent to the outflow of newly forming family units must be considered. Together, these amount to an inflow of 3.1 family units.

**Step 14: New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites**

9.40 This was determined by survey data. The number of individuals needing to leave pitches to create new family units was estimated from survey data. Respondents were asked if their household contained any people who may require separate accommodation within the next 5 years. They were also asked when within the next 5 years future households would require separate accommodation. These questions helped determine the extent of future accommodation needs deriving from existing households. The demand for future accommodation was then compared with each household's current accommodation provision to determine if future need existed. Allowing for those planning to leave the area, and for estimated rates of marriages to both Gypsies and Travellers and non-Gypsies and Travellers, it is thought that this will result in the formation of 34.9 new households requiring residential pitches during the 2014-2019 period.

**Step 15: Family units in housing with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation**

9.41 This step is determined by a combination of estimation of the number of Gypsy and Travellers living in housing and percentage of those identified through survey data (2013-2014) as living in housing with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation.

9.42 CLG (2007) acknowledges that some Gypsy and Traveller families may be residing in unsuitable bricks and mortar accommodation. Unsuitability could be due to 'psychological aversion' to residing in bricks and mortar accommodation. Typical symptoms of psychological aversion include: feelings of depression, stress, sensory deprivation, feeling trapped, feeling cut off from social contact, a sense of dislocation with the past, feelings of claustrophobia. Importantly, whilst the accommodation needs of e.g. overcrowded families residing in bricks and mortar accommodation may be met by moving to a larger property, it is recognised that families experiencing 'psychological aversion will require pitch provision.

9.43 The decision to identify respondents as suffering psychological aversion was based on a range of survey questions. Only those households that had demonstrated through responses to the survey a psychological aversion to residing in bricks and mortar



accommodation were considered in need of a pitch. This was determined by identifying those respondents who stated that they had no alternative but to reside in housing and were able to demonstrate the negative impact of bricks and mortar accommodation on their mental health. Families residing in unsuitable housing but not suffering psychological aversion were not considered in need of site accommodation as their needs could be met within existing housing stock.

- 9.44 Unlike data regarding the number of authorised sites across the study area (which are identified through planning records and corroborated by the survey), no such data exists to that enable the determination of Gypsy and Traveller families residing in bricks and mortar accommodation. Potential data sources include housing agency records and the 2011 Census.
- 9.45 According to Shelter (2008) between one-half to two-thirds of the Gypsy and Traveller population are currently in bricks and mortar accommodation. Housing records are limited as not all housing agencies record Gypsies and Travellers as a separate ethnic status. Also, such records only relate to families residing in local authority or housing association properties and not families residing in private sector properties. As such, the 2011 Census was used to determine the number of families residing in bricks and mortar accommodation within the study area. The number of people identified as Gypsies and Travellers by the 2011 Census was divided by 3.5 (the average family size identified by the 2014 GTAA) to determine the number of families. In total, there were 682 people living in the study area identified as Gypsies and Travellers by the 2011 Census equating to 201 families.
- 9.46 Interviews were undertaken with 22 households residing in bricks and mortar accommodation. Analysis of survey responses suggested that 2 of the 22 (9%) were identified as suffering psychological aversion. Although this is a relatively small proportion of families it is important that the needs calculations take into account the accommodation needs of the Gypsies and Travellers residing in bricks and mortar accommodation. 9% of 201 families suffering from psychological aversion and requiring site accommodation equates to 18.2 pitches. The need arising from psychological aversion is applied to local authorities on a pro rata basis.

### **Requirements for transit/emergency stopping places: 2014-2019**

- 9.47 Many of the family units living on unauthorised encampments present a need for permanent, residential pitches or housing in the study area. As there are differences in recording methods used by the Derbyshire local authorities and East Staffordshire Borough Council, transit needs for both areas have been calculated separately. Transit provision is different to permanent provision. Whilst transit pitches require planning permission they differ from permanent pitches in that they are usually occupied by families for only short periods (usually days, weeks or a few months).

### ***Transit needs in Derbyshire***

- 9.48 The calculation for transit pitches is based on Derbyshire County Council data (not survey data) provided in October 2013 (analysed in Chapter 4) for the period January 2008 and September 2013. During this period, there were 98 instances of unauthorised encampments within Derbyshire lasting a total of 1,557 days (although no records are available for the period October 2011 to June 2012). The number of days per quarter varies widely.
- 9.49 Seasonal trends may explain some of the variation (unauthorised encampments are more likely during the summer months). However, there may be some under-estimation of unauthorised encampments as those that occur on Derbyshire County Council or local authority land owned land tend to be recorded, whilst those taking place on privately owned land tend not to be. However, it is also important to note that most unauthorised encampments involve very few families. More than two thirds (67.3%) of unauthorised caravan days were due to the movements of only two families.
- 9.50 The number of transit or emergency pitches required was determined by calculating the annual average of unauthorised days between April 2008 and March 2013. A daily figure is then determined by dividing the annual average by 365. The actual need for the families present is for 3 additional transit or emergency sites consisting of at least four or five pitches.

### ***Transit needs in East Staffordshire***

- 9.51 The calculation for transit pitches is based on East Staffordshire Borough Council records. According to the data, the number of unauthorised encampments is usually low at between one and two per quarter. The number of transit or emergency pitches required was determined by calculating the average number unauthorised encampments between December 2010 and September 2013. The actual need for the families present is for 1 transit or emergency site consisting of at least four or five pitches.

### **Requirement for housing 2014-2019: summary**

- 9.52 The need for housing generated by Gypsies and Travellers in the study area is assessed according to an 11-step process, based upon the inputs and outputs to the pitch requirements model above (which itself is based upon CLG Guidance). The results of this analysis are shown in the tables below, while the subsequent section contains explanations of the sourcing and calculation of the figures for each step.
- 9.53 Table 9.4 shows 6.6 additional family units requiring bricks and mortar accommodation.

Table 9.4 Estimate of the need for bricks and mortar dwellings, Gypsies and Travellers 2014-2019

<i>Dwellings currently occupied by Gypsies and Travellers</i>	
1) Dwellings occupied by Gypsies and Travellers	201.0
<i>Current supply of dwellings from Gypsy and Traveller sources</i>	
2) Number of dwellings expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	5.7
3) Dwellings vacated by those with a psychological aversion to housing moving onto sites	18.2
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the study area in the next 5 years	0.0
5) Dwellings vacated by movement within the stock (steps 6 and 8 below)	54.7
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>78.6</b>
<i>Current need for dwellings</i>	
6) Family units (currently in housing) seeking new accommodation without psychological aversion to housing and therefore not moving onto a site, 2014-2019	45.6
7) Family units on unauthorised pitches seeking housing in the study area	0.0
8) Family units in overcrowded housing without a psychological aversion to housing and therefore not moving onto a site (minus those releasing space through the movement of an emerging family unit)	9.1
9) Households moving into the study area (100% of outflow)	0.0
10) Newly forming family units	33.9
11) Households moving into housing from sites	2.3
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>85.1</b>
<i>Additional Need</i>	
Total Additional Housing likely to be occupied by Gypsies and Travellers	6.5
Annualised Additional Housing	1.3

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Requirement for housing 2014-2019: steps of the calculation

### *Supply of housing 2014-2019*

9.54 Whilst acknowledging that the housing needs of all communities, including members of the Gypsy and Traveller community are addressed through Strategic Housing Market Assessments (SHMAs), in assessing the needs of Gypsies and Travellers, it is important to include the calculations of the bricks and mortar housing needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community within the GTAA needs calculations.

### **Step 1: Current numbers of dwellings occupied by Gypsies and Travellers**

9.55 Using Census 2011 data it was estimated that there are a total of 201 Gypsy and Traveller households living in bricks and mortar accommodation within the study area. Interviews were undertaken in 22 households.

### **Step 2: Number of existing houses expected to become vacant, 2014-2019**

9.56 This is calculated using modified mortality rates based on lower life expectancy of Gypsies and Travellers.

Table 9.5 Number of houses currently inhabited by Gypsies and Travellers expected to become vacant 2014-2019

Number of dwellings currently occupied	201
Dwellings released from this number by mortality per year according to adjusted mortality rates (assuming inheritance of pitch by any remaining adult residents of pitch)	5.667
Expected dwellings released 2014-2019	5.667 → 5.7

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

**Step 3: Number of dwellings vacated by those with a psychological aversion to housing**

9.57 This supply arises from family units moving onto sites that were considered to have a psychological aversion to housing, as detailed in step 13 of the assessment of pitch requirements. This leads to an estimated supply of 18.2 accommodation units.

**Step 4: Number of family units in site accommodation expected to leave the study area in the next 5 years**

9.58 It is assumed in this study that all those planning to move out of the study area would be able to do so. The components of this are the outflow from the study area associated with psychological aversion to housing (step 13 of the assessment of pitch requirements), families seeking new housed accommodation outside the study area (step 6 of this assessment), and families needing to move due to overcrowding preferring to move out of the study area (step 8 of this assessment).

9.59 In total, given the low level of interest in leaving the study area, this resulted in no additional supply of housing.

**Step 5: Dwellings vacated by movement within the stock**

9.60 This figure, although not included in the CLG model, allows for the fact that movement of families from one house into another (steps 6 and 8) not only generates demand/need but also supply. Dwellings vacated by moves out of the study area and by those with a psychological aversion to housing are excluded, to prevent overlap with the supply counted in steps 3 and 4 above.

9.61 It is recognised that those moving from overcrowded dwellings will not release dwellings large enough for every family; however there are many newly forming family units within the total households generating demand, which are likely to be seeking smaller units.

**Demand for housing 2014-2019****Step 6: Family units seeking new accommodation (without a psychological aversion to housing and therefore not moving onto a site)**

9.62 It is assumed in this model that only the need will be met, rather than demand. Therefore any household not determined to have a psychological aversion to housing but declaring that they 'need or are likely to move' in the next five years is considered to be likely to generate a need for a house.

9.63 The calculation provides the total number moving into bricks and mortar dwellings from this source. Deductions are made to avoid overlap with those moving for reasons of overcrowding or psychological aversion to housing.

**Step 7: Family units on unauthorised pitches seeking housing in the area**

9.64 When need arising from unauthorised pitches was considered in the assessment of pitch requirements, no family units were identified as wanting to move into housing.

**Step 8: Family units in overcrowded housing (without a psychological aversion to housing and therefore not moving onto a site)**

9.65 Many family units living in overcrowded housing do not have a psychological aversion to housing and therefore generate a need for a house rather than a pitch. Households which also contain a newly formed family unit that has not yet left are excluded. This is because it is assumed that once the extra family unit leaves (included in the need figures in step 12) their accommodation will no longer be overcrowded.

**Step 9: New family units expected to arrive from elsewhere**

9.66 In the absence of any data derivable from secondary sources on the moving intentions of those outside the study area, movement into the area was expected to equal movement out of the area, both from existing and emerging households, in this case zero.

**Step 10: New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units in housing**

9.67 The number of individuals needing to leave bricks and mortar dwellings to create new family units was estimated over the next five years. Allowing for those planning to leave the study area and for estimated rates of marriages to both Gypsies and Travellers and non-Gypsies and Travellers, it is thought that this will result in the formation of 33.9 new households during the 2014-2019 period.

**Step 11: Family units voluntarily moving into housing from sites**

9.68 This is the result of steps 8 and 12 of the assessment of pitch requirements, which showed that only 2.3 households located on a pitch need or expect to move into housing in the next five years.

**Requirement for residential pitches and housing 2019-2024: summary**

9.69 Looking further into the future, with all those with a psychological aversion assumed to be already moved onto sites, only natural increase, mortality, and movement into and out of the area need be taken into account. Since movement within the stock is largely neutral in terms of pitches or dwellings released, this is not taken into account. The base figures for this calculation are shown below.

Table 9.6 Base figures as at 2019 assuming all need is met for 2014-2019

	2014 Base	Change 2014-2019	2019 Base
Authorised pitches	135	70	205

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

- 9.70 Analysis of the GTAA (2014) survey data which considers a range of factors such as birth rates, mortality rates, and marriage rates suggests that an average annual family growth rate of 2.28% (equating to 11.9% over a five year period) is appropriate. Currently, the rate of new family unit formation will vary between sites and housing, probably due to differing household types found in each. However, due to the projected movements between these accommodation types in 2014-2019 it was considered more realistic to use the average rate across both given above. It is suggested that these rates are likely to continue in the period 2019-2024.
- 9.71 Mortality rates are projected to be the same as in 2014-2019, although due to the changing size of population, the absolute numbers of pitches and houses freed will vary. Movement into and out of the study area is also assumed to continue at the 2014-2019 rate (21.6% each way).

Table 9.7 Estimate of the need for residential pitches 2019-2024

<i>Pitches as at 2019</i>	
1) Pitches occupied by Gypsies and Travellers	205.0
<i>Supply of pitches</i>	
2) Pitches expected to become vacant due to mortality 2019-2024	5.8
3) Number of family units on pitches expected to move out of the study area 2019-2024	44.3
Total Supply	50.1
<i>Need for pitches</i>	
4) Family units moving into the study area (100% of outflow)	44.3
5) Newly forming family units	24.4
Total Need	68.7
<i>Additional Need</i>	
Total additional pitch requirement, 2019-2024	18.6
Annualised additional pitch requirement	3.7

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table 9.8 Estimate of the need for bricks and mortar dwellings 2019-2024

<i>Known dwellings currently occupied by Gypsies and Travellers</i>	
1) Dwellings occupied by Gypsies and Travellers	207.6
<i>Current supply of dwellings from Gypsy and Traveller sources</i>	
2) Dwellings expected to become vacant due to mortality 2019-2024	5.9
3) Number of family units in housing expected to move out of the study area 2019-2024	47.2
Total Supply	53.0
<i>Need for dwellings</i>	
4) Households moving into the study area (100% of outflow)	47.2
5) Newly forming family units	24.7
Total Need	71.9
<i>Additional Need</i>	
Total additional housing likely to be occupied by Gypsies and Travellers	18.8
Annualised additional housing	3.8

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs

### Requirement for residential plots 2014-2019: steps of the calculation

9.72 Determining the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople uses the same process as determining the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers (although population sizes are much smaller). The following sections show the steps of the Travelling Showpeople accommodation needs calculations.

### Supply of pitches 2014-2019

#### **Step 1: Current permanent residential site pitches**

9.73 Based on information provided by the Showmen's Guild and the local authorities and corroborated by information from the GTAA surveys (2013-2014), there are currently 31 authorised Travelling Showpeople plots in the study area (2014). These plots are owned by occupying families or privately rented.

#### **Step 2: Number of unused residential pitches available**

9.74 According to the survey data there are currently no vacant plots on authorised yards in the study area.

#### **Step 3: Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant, 2014-2019**

9.75 This is calculated using mortality rates as applied in conventional Housing Needs Assessments. The figures for mortality, however, have been increased in line with studies of Gypsy and Traveller communities suggesting a life expectancy approximately 10 years lower than that of the general population. The table below shows the relevant calculation.

Table 9.9 Number of existing plots expected to become vacant 2014-2019

<i>From Authorised Plots</i>	
Current supply of occupied permanent / residential plots	31
Pitches released from this number by mortality per year according to adjusted mortality rates (assuming inheritance of plots by any remaining adult residents of pitch)	0.876
Expected plots released 2014-2019	0.876 → 0.9

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

**Step 4: Number of family units in site accommodation expressing a desire to leave the study area**

9.76 This was determined by survey data. It was assumed, given that development of sites is likely to occur in the areas surrounding the study areas as well as in the planning area itself, that those currently living on sites expecting to leave the area permanently in the next five years – out of choice (step 9) or due to overcrowding (step 12) would generally be able to do so.

9.77 In total, given the low level of interest in leaving the study area, this resulted in the supply of nil plots.

**Step 5: Number of family units in site accommodation expressing a desire to live in housing**

9.78 This was determined by survey data. It was assumed that all those currently living on sites planning to move into housing in the next five years (step 5), or preferring to move into housing from an overcrowded pitch (step 12), would be able to do so. This excluded those planning to move due to site management issues, since it was assumed that these could be resolved in response to the findings of this study.

9.79 A supply of nil plots was expected from this source.

**Step 6: Residential plots planned to be built or brought back into use, 2014-2019**

9.80 This is determined by local authority data. No new plots are planned to be built or brought back into use in the study area during the period 2014-2019.

**Step 7: Additional supply generated by movement within the stock**

9.81 This figure, although not included in the CLG model, allows for the fact that movement of families from plots onto different plots (steps 9 and 12) not only generates demand/need but also supply. Plots vacated by moves out of the study area or into housing are excluded, since these are already counted in steps 4 and 5 above. This generates a total supply of 0.9 plots.

9.82 It is recognised that of course those moving from overcrowded plots will not release pitches large enough for every family. However, there are many smaller newly forming family units within the total households generating need.



**Step 8: Plots with temporary planning permission**

9.83 This is determined by local authority data. It is assumed families living on plots whose planning permission expires within the period 2014-2019 will still require accommodation within the study area. There are currently no plots with temporary planning permission.

**Need for plots 2014-2019**

**Step 9: Family units on plots seeking residential pitches in the study area 2014-2019**

9.84 This was determined by survey data. The guidance suggests that those moving from plot to plot should be included in the need section. The supply also generated by this is taken into account in step 7. These family units reported that they 'needed or were likely' to move to a different home in the next five years, and wanted to stay on an authorised yard, or that they were currently seeking accommodation.

9.85 This category of need overlaps with those moving due to overcrowding, counted in step 11, and so any family units which are both overcrowded and seeking accommodation are deducted from this total. This generates a total need from this source of 0.9 plots.

**Step 10: Family units on unauthorised encampments seeking residential plots in the area**

9.86 This was determined by survey data. Guidance indicates that all those living on unauthorised encampments must be provided with alternative accommodation. Using survey data, it has been calculated how many families on unauthorised encampments (including long term ones tolerated by councils) want residential plots in the study area. They generate a need for no residential plots (please note that only Travelling Showpeople requiring permanent accommodation within the study area have been included in this calculation – transiting Travelling Showpeople are included in separate calculations).

**Step 11: Family units on unauthorised developments seeking residential plots in the area**

9.87 This was determined by survey data. The guidance also indicates that all those living on unauthorised developments must be provided with alternative accommodation. Regularising families living on their land without planning permission would reduce the overall level of need by the number of pitches given planning permission. A need of nil plots currently arises from unauthorised developments within the study area.

**Step 12: Family units on overcrowded plots seeking residential plots in the area**

9.88 This was determined by survey data. Guidance indicates that those on overcrowded plots should be provided with plots of an adequate size. Households which also contain a newly formed family unit that has not yet left are excluded. This is because it is assumed that once the extra family unit leaves (included in the need figures in step 12) their accommodation will no longer be overcrowded. The calculations suggest that there is nil need for plots to resolve overcrowding over the period 2014-2019.

**Step 13: Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area**

9.89 In the absence of any data derivable from secondary sources on the moving intentions of those outside the study area, it is assumed that the inflow of Travelling Showpeople into the area will be equivalent to the outflow. In addition, inflow equivalent to the outflow of newly forming family units must be considered. Together, these amount to an inflow of nil family units.

**Step 14: New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on yards**

9.90 This was determined by survey data. The number of individuals needing to leave pitches to create new family units was estimated from survey data. Allowing for those planning to leave the area, and for estimated rates of marriages to both Travelling Showpeople and non-Travelling Showpeople, it is thought that this will result in the formation of 8.5 new households requiring residential plots during the 2014-2019 period.

**Step 15: Family units in housing with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation**

9.91 This was determined by survey data. It was decided for the purposes of the GTAA survey that only those households that had demonstrated through their answers to the questionnaire a psychological aversion to housing could be considered to be in need of a plot. This was determined by identifying those respondents who said in their questionnaire responses that they had been forced to live in a house or that they suffered adverse psychological effects due to living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

9.92 Even if the family unit in question was in overcrowded or unsuitable housing, psychological aversion was taken into account, since if no psychological aversion was present, the need for larger accommodation could potentially be met within the housing stock. This generated a total need for nil plots from Travelling Showpeople (shown as step 15 in Table 9.10).

Table 9.10 Estimate of the need for Travelling Showpeople plots 2014-2019	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	31
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.9
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave The study area in next 5 years	0.0
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in next 5 years	0.0
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	0.9
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
Total Supply	1.8
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 11	0.9
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.0
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	8.5
Total Need	9.4
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	0.0
Total Need	9.4
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
Total Additional Pitch Requirement	<b>7.6 → 8</b>
Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement	1.5

### Requirements for transit pitches/emergency stopping places: 2019-2034

9.93 The assumption for transit or emergency stopping places for 2019-2034 allows a vacancy rate and spare capacity. It is unlikely that the extent of travelling will increase in the future, so no further transit or emergency pitches will be needed. However, this assumption should be kept under review.

### Summary

9.94 The following table summarises the number of residential, transit pitches/temporary stopping places, and bricks and mortar accommodation required over the period 2014-34. It shows that a further 134 Gypsy and Traveller pitches and 13 Travelling Showpeople plots are needed over twenty years. Additionally 4 transit sites or emergency stopping places are required in the first five years of the plan period. A total of 66 bricks and mortar accommodation units are required for period 2014-34.

Table 9.11: Summary of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accomm. needs 2014-34

Period	Residential pitches	Travelling Showpeople plots	Transit sites/emergency stopping places	Bricks and mortar accommodation
Total 2014-19	70	8	4	7
Total 2019-24	19	1	0	18
Total 2024-29	22	2	0	19
Total 2029-34	23	2	0	22
<b>Total 2014-2034</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>66</b>

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

# 10. Conclusions on the evidence

## Introduction

- 10.1 This final chapter draws conclusions from the evidence. The main source of this is the quantitative analysis in Chapter 6 on Gypsies and Travellers, although reference is also made to qualitative findings.
- 10.2 Due to the complexity of any attempt to calculate the need for this type of accommodation, it is necessary to specify quite narrowly what is measured and what is not. As such, this chapter will summarise some of the earlier discussion in Chapters 1 and 2. It then makes a series of recommendations relating to meeting the identified need for new pitches, site management and facilities, and recording and monitoring processes.

## Accommodation measurement issues

- 10.3 Calculating levels of need for Gypsies and Travellers is a complex process, due to the number of factors involved. Firstly, Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments (GTAAs) differ significantly from conventional models for assessing housing need. As recognised in the CLG guidance, accommodation need goes beyond standard categories of suitability and affordability to encompass Gypsies' and Travellers' need to maintain their way of life by living in caravans. The need is not simply for accommodation, but for accommodation which acknowledges their cultural identity based on a mobile lifestyle.
- 10.4 Secondly there is an issue of data gathering. GTAAs do not possess such large sample sizes as conventional housing need surveys. Nor is it culturally feasible to collect the detailed financial data which is conventionally achieved in mainstream surveys of housing need. The sample sizes required by conventional studies are never achieved in GTAAs. The 2014 Derbyshire, Peak District National Park, and East Staffordshire GTAA has a large sample size comparable to others carried out so far in England, but is still too small for conventional housing needs analysis. As such, the analysis has to include qualitative data rather than solely quantitative.
- 10.5 It is far harder to make such a distinction in a GTAA. The traditional method of identifying need by considering the ability to afford the required accommodation on the open market cannot be applied to Gypsies and Travellers: firstly since the barriers to accessing pitches are not always cost-related, and secondly because gathering reliable financial and employment information from Gypsies and Travellers, due to cultural barriers, can be difficult.
- 10.6 This background provides the basis for the definition of need given in the guidance and used in this report (see Chapter 1). This goes beyond the definition used for the settled

community based on financial constraints and the standard categories of unsuitability; it also includes accommodation made unsuitable due to the psychological effects brought about by giving up the traditional, caravan-based life.

## **Policy Changes**

- 10.7 As noted in Chapter 1, in 2012 the Coalition Government brought about new legislation regarding Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. This emphasises a more localist way of providing sites for travellers, building on earlier commitments to strengthen measures to ensure fair and equal treatment for Gypsies and Travellers in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.
- 10.8 The new planning policy gave councils the freedom and responsibility to determine the right level of Gypsy and Traveller site provision in their area, in consultation with local communities and based on sound evidence such as GTAAs, while ensuring fairness in the planning system. It sat within a broader package of reforms such as the abolition of the previous Government's Regional Strategies and the return of planning powers to councils and communities.

## **Local Context**

- 10.9 As discussed in Chapter 1, there is a long history of Gypsies and Travellers residing in the study area. Some families claim a local heritage of over three hundred years. Historical documents and literature reflect the prominence of the Gypsy and Traveller community within the study area. However, as traditionally Gypsies and Travellers did not produce written documents, much of the history regarding the local Gypsy and Traveller community has been passed down generations through oral traditions such as storytelling.
- 10.10 It is apparent that this long tradition of Gypsy and Traveller families living in the study area is likely to continue. One change in residential patterns mentioned in Chapter 1 was that although Gypsy and Traveller families during the 1600s and 1700s originally lived in remote areas such as the hills of the Peak District, families eventually migrated to more accessible parts of the study area.
- 10.11 Nonetheless, there remain 'clusters' of Gypsy and Traveller families. The site locations discussed in Chapter 4 show that whilst there remains concentrations of Gypsy and Traveller families within the north and north east of the study area (although none live on sites within the Peak District), the largest number of families now live to the east and south of the study area.
- 10.12 One consequence of this characteristic is that accommodation need has not been met equally by study area local authorities. The proposed HMA-type structures by which local authorities will jointly meet need is one proposed solution to the problem. HMA-type collaborative structures could be used to help determine how local authorities jointly meet

the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. These do not have to follow existing HMA structures but should consist of local authorities with contiguous borders. The GTAA recommends 3 new Gypsy and Traveller HMAs which include all the study area local authorities: North, South and Central (as discussed below in the 'distribution of new sites' section below).

- 10.13 The 2008 Derbyshire and 2007 East Staffordshire GTAAs suggested that there was a need for 69 additional pitches within the study area for the period 2008-13. Despite local authorities meeting some accommodation need within the first five year period (the study area currently contains 135 permanent, authorised pitches), the 2014 GTAA shows that there is a need within the study area for 70 additional pitches during the period 2014-2019, and 134 additional pitches for the period 2014-2034.
- 10.14 Some new sites may derive from windfalls. Whilst it is difficult to determine the future trends of windfall sites, it is likely that they will continue to constitute a small proportion of future supply. This means that some future accommodation supply will be based not only on publically owned land but from private land as well.
- 10.15 However, around 80% of all current authorised, permanent provision within the study area is privately owned whilst only around 20% is publically owned. Given current financial constraints on public expenditure, it is unlikely that this situation will change significantly in coming years. As such, it is important to consider how local authorities can help provide new provision. The section below on the facilitation of new sites discusses various options such as applying for Affordable Homes Programme (AHP) funding, supporting self-build projects, and considering Community Land Trust options.
- 10.16 A key issue remains that there are three Gypsy and Traveller sites in the study area (located in Bolsover, East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire) which contain some pitches leased to members of the settled community. This means that the local authorities either need to acknowledge these mixed used sites or ensure reinstatement of full access to Gypsy and Traveller families.
- 10.17 As noted in Chapter 1, there is also a long history of Travelling Showpeople residing and working within the study area, particularly on yards in Bolsover, and in housing in both Bolsover and Derbyshire Dales. Families usually own small businesses such as amusements, restaurants and cafes.

### **New pitch provision**

- 10.18 Table 10.1 summarises the results from Chapter 9. It should be noted that the first five year period is determined by survey responses, whilst future 5-year periods are determined by projections based on data collected by the surveys.

Table 10.1: Summary of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accomm. needs 2014-34

Period	Residential pitches	Travelling Showpeople plots	Transit sites/emergency stopping places	Bricks and mortar accommodation
Total 2014-19	70	8	4	7
Total 2019-24	19	1	0	18
Total 2024-29	22	2	0	19
Total 2029-34	23	2	0	22
<b>Total 2014-2034</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>66</b>

Source: Table 9.11 Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

- 10.19 There is a need for permanent residential pitches equivalent to a 99% increase of the current supply (135 authorised pitches) over the next twenty years. However, it is likely that this represents a minimum need over the 20 year period. The main drivers of need are from newly forming families on authorised sites, families living on unauthorised encampments, families living on unauthorised developments, and overcrowding.
- 10.20 Table 10.2 shows permanent pitch requirements for the whole of the study area for the period 2014/15 to 2034/35. South Derbyshire has the largest requirement for new pitches. However, it should be noted that this does not mean that accommodation need should be met where it arises. This is particularly the case in relation to need arising from unauthorised encampments as although families state a preferred location, it is more important that they are permanently accommodated than the actual location. The second figure (in brackets) shows alternative accommodation needs figures based on needs arising from all surveyed unauthorised encampments being equally shared between study area local authorities. For example, there were no known authorised or unauthorised development pitches in High Peaks, so no families were surveyed. However, the equal sharing needs arising from unauthorised encampment leads to a need in High Peaks of 2 of the total 17.1 pitches arising from unauthorised encampments.
- 10.21 Table 10.3 shows that there is a need for 13 Travelling Showpeople plots between 2014-2034. Table 10.4 shows housing requirements between 2014-2034. The low need for additional housing during the first five years is due to few households currently living on site wanting to live in bricks or mortar accommodation, whilst some Gypsies and Travellers currently living in bricks in mortar accommodation display psychological aversion (so would prefer to live on site). Future need is mainly due to population growth. However, it is likely that the housing needs of Gypsy and Traveller families will have been considered by existing evidence such as Housing Needs Assessments (HNAs) or Strategic Housing Market Assessments (SHMAs). New housing provision for Gypsies and Travellers may need to accommodate larger families. Similarly, there may be a requirement for space to accommodate trailers and caravans. Also, it is important to acknowledge the cultural sensitivities involved in allocating housing to Gypsy and Traveller families. For example, allocating housing without access to open space may negatively impact on re-housed families' satisfaction with accommodation. Also, as discussed in Chapter 2, Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation sometimes face discrimination and



hostility from the settled community. It may be useful to consider the provision of alternative accommodation which directly meet the needs Gypsies and Travellers such as group housing schemes.

10.22 Table 10.5 shows emergency stopping place requirements for the period 2014-2034. There is a need for four emergency stopping places throughout the study area consisting of at least four or five pitches. Given the relatively high level of unauthorised encampments local authorities should consider providing transit provision before new permanent provision. We recommend that authorities make provision for unauthorised encampments through identifying land for transit provision. This could initially be in the form of emergency stopping places with basic provisions such as portable toilets and a skip, followed by transit sites with separate pitches and toilet, shower and rubbish collection provisions. Increased transit provision would lead to a reduction in unauthorised encampments and costs incurred when dealing with them. Study area local authorities should consider sharing transit provision although it needs to be located close to where unauthorised encampments tend to take place.

10.23 There is good practice in relation to unauthorised encampments and transit provision which could be adopted by the study area local authorities. For example, In October 2013 Devon County Council published a handbook for managing unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments. As well as ensuring that there is a balanced response to unauthorised encampments, the handbook outlines the responsibilities of families residing on unauthorised encampments in a 'code of conduct'. Examples include:

1. Ensuring that vehicles are parked safely
2. Keep groups small e.g. no more than five mobile accommodation units (e.g. caravans/mobile homes) unless there are good reasons for a larger group needing to be together and the site can accommodate it
3. Do allow others to use roads, paths, drop-curbs, exits or entrances etc. or carry out their usual business
4. Do not do anything dangerous that could cause harm or distress to other people or animals
5. Do store and remove rubbish properly (use bags/bins) and recycle rubbish where possible
6. Do not damage anything at the site, including trees, plants and earth moundings
7. Do supervise children and make sure they play safely and do not disturb others unreasonably
8. Do not go on other land without permission from the landowner (trespass)
9. Do not allow animals (i.e. horses) to graze on land without the landowner's permission
10. Do not use hunting guns on or near roads, houses, leisure grounds, public footpaths or businesses

- 11. Do agree a leave date with the Gypsy Traveller Liaison Service (GTLS) and try to keep to it
- 12. Do actively look for suitable alternative sites

10.24 The handbook also suggests that a friendly ‘meet and greet’ can help build positive relations with the occupants of an unauthorised encampment and provide a positive way discuss the occupants’ code of conduct and any other expectations or concerns about health and safety at that particular site.

10.25 There is also international good practice which could be adopted by study area local authorities. For example, some French transit sites charge a daily rate and a may require a deposit. However, they usually provide electricity, toilets and showering facilities.

10.26 Having provided temporary provision for unauthorised encampments authorities should then identify land suitable for permanent provision. This could include small areas of land which could be sold or leased to families. Additionally, authorities need to note that some accommodation needs will be addressed through families identifying suitable land for development and applying for planning permission. For example Derbyshire Dales recently (March 2015) received a planning application from a family for 4 pitches.

Table 10.2 Twenty year Gypsy and Traveller pitch needs summary 2014-34

	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014-2019	Additional need 2019-2024	Additional need 2024-2029	Additional need 2029-2034	Additional need 2014-2034	Numbers as at 2034
Amber Valley	0	7 (9)	1	1	1	10	10
Bolsover	17	9 (8)	2	3	3	17	34
Chesterfield	2	2 (3)	0	0	0	2	4
Derby City	17	20 (14)	3	4	4	31	48
D. Dales	0	6 (6)	1	1	1	9	9
E. Staffs	13	5 (4)	2	2	2	11	24
Erewash	0	1 (2)	0	0	0	1	1
High Peak	0	0 (2)	0	0	0	0	0
NE Derby	23	6 (8)	3	3	3	15	38
Peak District	0	0 (2)	0	0	0	0	0
S. Derbyshire	63	14 (12)	7	8	9	38	101
Total	135	70	19	22	23	134	269

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table 10.3 Summary of Travelling Showpeople accommodation needs 2014-34

	2014-2019	2019-2034
Bolsover	8	5

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table 10.4 Gypsy and Traveller bricks and mortar needs summary 2014-34

	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014-2019	Additional need 2019-2024	Additional need 2024-2029	Additional need 2029-2034	Additional need 2014-2034	Numbers as at 2034
Amber Valley	13	0	1	1	1	3	16
Bolsover	19	1	2	2	2	7	26
Chesterfield	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Derby City	87	2	8	9	10	29	116
D. Dales	4	0	0	0	1	1	5
E. Staffs	21	1	2	2	2	7	28
Erewash	9	0	1	1	1	3	12
High Peak	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
NE Derby	21	1	2	2	2	7	28
Peak District	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
S. Derbyshire	21	2	2	2	3	9	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>267</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table 10.5 G&amp;T Emergency stopping place requirements 2014-2034

	2014-2019	2019-2034
Sites/places	4	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Facilitating new sites

10.27 A key issue remains the facilitation of new sites. Over the last 30 years most new provision within the study area has been comprised of privately owned sites. Analysis of current provision (see Chapter 4) suggests that around 80% of all current authorised, permanent provision within the study area is privately owned whilst only around 20% is publically owned. As discussed in Chapter 6, most Gypsy and Traveller families would prefer to reside on privately-owned family-sized sites. However, only two respondents said that they could afford to buy land in order to develop their own site.

10.28 The difference between current local public and private provision is due to several factors. One factor is that, as acknowledged by stakeholders (see Chapter 5), the development process including the acquisition of land is too expensive and complex for most Gypsy and Traveller families. Another factor is that there has been a lack of finance for the development of publically owned sites for a number of years. Given current financial constraints on public expenditure, it is unlikely that this situation will change in coming years.

- 10.29 The above suggests that there is a need for local authorities to consider how they can facilitate the provision of new sites. One solution is to consider the contribution of windfall sites. It is apparent from work undertaken as part of this GTAA that a number of windfall sites have become available for development since 2008 (recent examples include sites located in North East Derbyshire and East Staffordshire). Although consideration of windfall sites should not prohibit local authorities proactively facilitating new sites, they may nonetheless contribute towards accommodation need.
- 10.30 Although the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) allocated £12m for the provision of new and improved sites within the Midlands for the period 2011-15, none of this funding has been allocated to study area local authorities. However, local authorities can apply for funding as part of the HCA's 2015-18 Affordable Homes Programme (AHP). Although there is no specific budget for the provisions of Gypsy and Traveller pitches, applications for such can be made within the remit of the AHP.
- 10.31 The local authorities should also consider sites developed on a cooperative basis, shared ownership, or small sites owned by a local authority, but rented to an extended Gypsy or Traveller family for their own use. These options might involve the families carrying out physical development of the site (self-build) with the land owner providing the land on affordable terms. Local councils might develop such initiatives or in partnership with RSLs. Local authorities should jointly examine their Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments (SHLAAs) to identify suitable locations.
- 10.32 For example, Bristol City Council (2009) considered various options for facilitating new sites including: only purchasing land for self-build projects; purchasing land and providing infrastructure such as drains and electricity supply and/or making finance available for materials; providing pre-built pitches which are available to buy using shared- or part-ownership options.
- 10.33 Another example is South Somerset District Council which has been exploring, in consultation with local travellers, ideas such as site acquisition funds; loans for private site provision through Community Development Financial Institutions and joint ventures with members of the Gypsy and Traveller community<sup>66</sup>.
- 10.34 Finally, a Community Land Trust option should also be considered. Community Land Trusts (CLTs) are locally-based not-for-profit organisations that own land and property in trust for the benefit of a defined community. It is a legal entity, like a Company or a Co-operative, which holds assets, such as land, for a group of people. The Trust exists independently of its members and its assets cannot be sold on for profit but are held, in perpetuity, to preserve their use for a specific purpose. This may include ideas such as site acquisition

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<sup>66</sup> *A Big or Divided Society?* Interim Recommendations and Report of the Panel Review into the Impact of the Localism Bill and Coalition Government Policy on Gypsies and Travellers.

funds; loans for private site provision through Community Development Financial Institutions and joint ventures with members of the Gypsy and Traveller community.

### The distribution of new sites

- 10.35 As has been acknowledged throughout this report, accommodation need (using the DCLG accommodation need calculation) appears greatest in those local authority areas where current provision lies. The study area is defined based on the local authorities who have joined together to commission the GTAA. The role of the duty-to-cooperate will be vital in ensuring that LPAs work closely together to ensure that needs, as far as realistic, are met by the study area authorities.
- 10.36 One means of determining how accommodation need is met is for need to be met equally by all local authorities within the study area (i.e.  $134/11 = 12$  additional pitches per local authority for the period 2014-2034). However, given the size of the study area and number of authorities, it is unlikely that this would be realistic.
- 10.37 As such, if need cannot be shared amongst all of the authorities, and as it does not need to be met were found, the report suggests smaller collaborative groupings. Although there are no established 'sub-markets' in terms of Gypsy and Traveller site needs, collaborative groupings do already exist and work within the study area. They have shown that they can work and the areas concerned will meet geographical areas of need and where Gypsies and Travellers want or need to be.
- 10.38 As noted in Chapter 3, DTZ (2005) identified 5 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) across the study area. They provide good examples of how local authorities undertake cross boundary work regarding planning and housing issues. All local authorities (except East Staffordshire) currently liaise with neighbouring local authorities within HMAs in order to address the accommodation needs of local residents. The 5 HMAs are:
1. Derby HMA: Derby City, South Derbyshire and Amber Valley
  2. East Staffordshire HMA: East Staffordshire
  3. North Derbyshire and Bassetlaw HMA: Chesterfield, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire as well as Bassetlaw (Nottinghamshire)
  4. Nottingham Core HMA: Erewash, alongside Ashfield, Broxtowe, Gedling, Rushcliffe and Nottinghamshire City (Nottinghamshire)
  5. Peak HMA: High Peak and Derbyshire Dales
- 10.39 It is important to note that although some partner authorities have updated SHMAs showing different HMAs, the 2005 document is referenced to help identify potential collaborative groups for addressing need across the study area.
- 10.40 Importantly, *HMA-type* collaborative structures could be used to help determine how local authorities jointly meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. These do not have to follow existing HMA structures but should consist of local authorities with

contiguous borders. The following are the three new suggested Gypsy and Traveller HMAs which include all the study area local authorities:

1. South G&T HMA: Derby City, South Derbyshire, East Staffordshire, Amber Valley, and Erewash
2. North G&T HMA: Chesterfield, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire
3. Central G&T HMA: High Peak, Derbyshire Dales, and Peak District National Park.

10.41 The accommodation needs for the Gypsy and Traveller HMAs for the periods 2014-2019, and 2014-2034, are shown below:

Table 10.6 Accommodation Needs by proposed Gypsy and Traveller HMA		
	2014/2019	2014/2034
South	47	91
North	17	34
Central	6	9
Total	70	134

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

10.42 In order to facilitate the joint provision of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation (and following good practice identified in Chapter 2), the partnership local authorities in each collaborative group should consider establishing a Gypsy and Traveller Working Group. These would meet on regular basis (e.g. bi-monthly or quarterly) and be attended by key local authority staff. The aim of the Working Groups would be to discuss Gypsy and Traveller issues including how best to provide new provision. The Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group (DGLG) could also be included in such working groups in order to represent the voices of the Gypsy and Traveller community and provide useful insight and guidance to local authorities.

### The location of new sites

10.43 Based on survey responses, most Gypsies and Travellers living in the study area would prefer small, family sized sites. Stakeholder comments suggested that smaller sites are preferred by Gypsy and Traveller households.

10.44 This distribution is based on where need arises and is not necessarily where it should be met i.e. need could be met throughout the whole the study area. Specific sites suitable for development should be outlined by local authorities and guidance offered on the type of land that is likely to obtain planning permission as well as land that is *unlikely* to. Advice on the planning process should also be offered.

10.45 Ongoing monitoring of site provision and vacant pitches should be undertaken by the local authorities alongside discussions with Gypsies and Travellers to ensure that any additional need that may arise over the study period is identified. The precise location (along with

design and facilities) will, however, need to be drawn up in consultation with Gypsies and Travellers to ensure the extra provision meets their needs. Government guidance on site design stresses the importance of access to services and the promotion of 'integrated co-existence' between the site and surrounding community.<sup>67</sup>

- 10.46 Ensuring that new sites are located in a safe environment is important although the impact of land costs on determining feasibility must also be considered. The settled community neighbouring the sites should also be involved in the consultation from an early stage. There may be scope for expanding existing sites to meet some of the need. However, the preference is for smaller sites which tend to be easier to manage.
- 10.47 Table 10.4 identifies a requirement for 4 emergency stopping places in the 2014-2019 period to help further reduce the number of unauthorised encampments within the study area. However, it is important to be aware that if these are provided before the shortfall in residential pitches is met, there is a risk that they will effectively be used as permanent/residential sites with all the ensuing management issues that would incur.
- 10.48 It is recommended that emergency stopping places are located close to the main arterial routes identified by the GTAA such as the M1, M6, M42, A6, A61, A38, A50 or A52. Local authorities should also consider locating emergency stopping places close to where a large proportion of unauthorised encampments have previously occurred i.e. Aston-on-Trent, Derby, Doveridge, Foston, Sinfyn, Sudbury, and Swarkestone.
- 10.49 In terms of identifying broad locations for new permanent sites, there are a number of factors which could be considered including:

#### *Costs*

- How do land costs impact on feasibility i.e. is it affordable?
- Implementation of service – is it possible for the new site to connect to nearby mains services e.g. electricity, gas, water or sewage?
- Can good drainage be ensured on the new site?

#### *Social*

- Does the proposed location of the new site lie within a reasonable distance of school catchment areas?
- Sustainability – is the proposed location close to existing bus routes?
- Proximity of social and leisure services – is the proposed location close to leisure facilities such as sports centres, cinemas etc. or welfare services such as health and social services etc.

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<sup>67</sup> CLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide, May 2008 located at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/designinggypsites.pdf>.

*Availability*

- Who owns the land and are they willing to sell?
- Is access easy or will easements across other land be needed both for humans and services/utilities?
- Are utilities close enough to service the site at realistic prices?

*Deliverability*

- Does the proposed location meet existing general planning policy in terms of residential use?
- Are there likely to be objections to the location of the proposed site?
- Can the owner sell the land easily and quickly?
- Can utilities connect to the proposed site?
- Can highways connect to the proposed site?

10.50 Considering the evidence gathered throughout the GTAA, it is likely that the key factors determining new provision in the study area are:

- The affordability of land suitable for the development of new sites and the cost of development
- The need to ensure that new sites are within reasonable travelling distance of social, welfare and cultural services
- The need to carefully consider the proximity of new sites to existing sites i.e. to consider the social tensions that may arise if new sites are located too close to existing sites
- The sustainability of new sites i.e. ensuring that they do not detrimentally impact on the local environment and do not place undue pressure on the local infrastructure

10.51 Evidence derived from the survey suggested that most respondents did not identify preferred locations for new sites in the study area. However, some respondents stated that new sites should be located away from busy roads or industrial areas.

10.52 Gypsies and Travellers undertaking the survey suggested that it is important that new sites are located close to amenities such as shops, schools and health facilities and have good transport links. Also, there was concern by residents of some sites that new sites have paved access and good lighting as they currently have to walk alongside busy traffic.

10.53 CLG (2012) guidance suggests that local planning authorities should strictly limit new Gypsy and Traveller site development in the open countryside that is away from existing settlements or outside areas allocated in the development plan. Local planning authorities should ensure that sites in rural areas respect the scale of, and do not dominate the nearest settled community, and avoid placing an undue pressure on the local infrastructure.

10.54 It also states that when considering applications, local planning authorities should attach weight to the following matters:



- a. effective use of previously developed (brownfield), untidy or derelict land
- b. sites being well planned or soft landscaped in such a way as to positively enhance the environment and increase its openness
- c. promoting opportunities for healthy lifestyles, such as ensuring adequate landscaping and play areas for children
- d. not enclosing a site with so much hard landscaping, high walls or fences, that the impression may be given that the site and its occupants are deliberately isolated from the rest of the community
- e. that they should determine applications for sites from any Gypsies or Travellers and not just those with local connections

10.55 By considering the guidance outlined above as well as the results of the Gypsy and Traveller survey and stakeholder consultation, it is possible to identify broad locations for the provision of new sites in relation to the study area.

10.56 There are families within the study area who would like to increase the number of pitches and/or number of caravans allowed per pitch on existing sites. The consideration of expansion of sites with adequate space would contribute towards meeting existing need. This particularly relates to private family sites in South Derbyshire, East Staffordshire, North East Derbyshire, Chesterfield and Bolsover.

10.57 Similarly, there are unauthorised developments located throughout the study area, including Amber Valley, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Derbyshire Dales, North East Derbyshire and South Derbyshire, and pitches with temporary planning permission located in Derbyshire Dales. Again, authorisation with full planning permission of those which meet planning regulations could contribute towards meeting accommodation need.

10.58 Also, it should be considered that licensed Gypsy and Traveller sites which accommodate non-Gypsies or Travellers negatively impacts on accommodation provision. Bolsover, East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire all contain sites which are licenced for sole occupation by Gypsy and Traveller families but contain some pitches occupied by non-Gypsy and Travellers.

10.59 It is important to note that need does not have to be met where it arises i.e. it could be met throughout the study area. Also, as discussed above, it would be advantageous for local authorities to collaborate in order to meet accommodation need. An example of how accommodation need could be met by different local authorities is a recent expression of interest that Derbyshire Dales has received for a Showmen's yard to be developed close to the A50 corridor. This includes the possibility of the new yard being located in South Derbyshire, Derbyshire Dales or East Staffordshire.

10.60 Travelling Showpeople primarily live on yards in Bolsover and in housing in and around Derbyshire Dales. It is likely that any further permanent provision would be in these areas. The preferred locations for transit and emergency stopping provision for Travelling

Showpeople is less obvious. This will be influenced by where fairs and events are held and if they already offer temporary accommodation provision. e.g. Erewash. Those surveyed spoke about the importance of access to the motorways as they “provide good links to potential work opportunities”. Due to the size of their work equipment and vehicles, Travelling Showpeople felt that yards need to have good access to motorways and major roads and should not be too near minor small village roads.

## **The size of new pitches**

10.61 CLG (2008) guidance states that there is no one-size-fits-all measurement of a pitch as, in the case of the settled community, this depends on the size of individual families and their particular needs. However, they do suggest that as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating at least an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan, (or two trailers), drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area.

10.62 Based on CLG guidance, it can be determined that a pitch of approximately 325 square metres would take into account all minimum separation distance requirements between caravans and pitch boundaries as stipulated in guidance and safety regulations for caravan development. A pitch size of at least 500 square metres would accommodate the following on-pitch facilities:

- Hard standing for 1 touring/mobile caravan and 1 static caravan
- 2 car parking spaces
- 1 amenity block
- Hard standing for storage shed and drying
- Garden/amenity area

10.63 It is recommended that emergency stopping place pitches are sufficiently large to accommodate hard standing for minimum of 2 touring/mobile caravan, as well as 2 car parking spaces. It is also important that emergency stopping places provide at least minimum facilities such as electricity, water, toilets and provision for waste collection.

## **Summary**

10.64 There is an overall shortfall in the study area over the next twenty years of some 134 residential pitches, 4 transit sites/emergency stopping places for Gypsies and Travellers and 13 plots for Travelling Showpeople. The policy process that follows on from this research will also need to consider how Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople can be helped through the planning process to find suitable sites. The study also highlighted a number of issues relating to the management and condition of sites i.e. that publically owned sites should undertake that maintenance issues are swiftly resolved and that smaller sites are easier to manage.

10.65 Finally, this report recommends that local authorities can promote race equality towards Gypsies and Travellers by<sup>68</sup>:

- Developing a holistic vision for their work on Gypsies and Travellers, and embedding it in Community and Homelessness Strategies, Local Development Frameworks and planning and reporting obligations under the Equality Act 2010.
- Reviewing all policies on accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers.
- Supporting the training of elected members and officers using courses such as those developed by the Local Government Association (LGA).
- Advising Gypsies and Travellers on the most suitable land for residential use and provide help with the application process.
- Developing an internal policy on how to deal with racist representations in the planning approval process.

10.66 We would recommend following the collation of this evidence that the local authorities collectively do the following:

- Develop criteria and process for determining suitability of Gypsy and Traveller sites, as indicated above.
- Review existing provision for opportunities for expansion where suitable and appropriate.
- Review temporary and unauthorised provision to consider whether permanent permission would be appropriate.
- Identify locations for new provision.

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<sup>68</sup> Equality and Human Rights Commission, *Gypsies and Travellers: Simple Solutions for Living Together*, March 2009 located at: [http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded\\_files/gypsies\\_and\\_travellers.pdf](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/gypsies_and_travellers.pdf)





Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group © 2014



## Appendix 1: District breakdowns

- A1. The following tables show a detailed breakdown of projected need for residential pitches and for housing units in the study area over the 2014-2034 period. They show the calculations of need for residential pitches for both 2014-2019, and a twenty year summary. The summary table shows the overall need broken down over each five year period, and an annual average need figure (n.b. due to rounding the sum of the district totals may exceed the area wide totals).
- A2. These are based on the proportions of Gypsy and Traveller household living on pitches or in bricks and mortar accommodation displaying these needs rather than individual cases within districts or boroughs. This is because the statistical sample for individual districts and boroughs is relatively small. As such, analysing small subgroups, especially where the overall Gypsy and Traveller population is small, may create significant anomalies. In addition the summaries show the projected changes to the overall Gypsy and Traveller population in housing, although this change is dependent on the provision of the pitches required.

**Amber Valley**

Table A.1: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (Amber Valley)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	0.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.0
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.0
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.0
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	0.0
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	0.0
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	5.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.0
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	1.1
Total Need	6.1
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	1.2
Total Need	<b>7.2</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
Total Need	<b>7.2</b>
Less total supply	<b>0.0</b>
Total Additional Pitch Requirement	<b>7.2 → 7</b>
Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement	<b>1.4</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A2: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (Amber Valley)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	0	7	1	1	1	10 (0.5)	10
Housing	13	0	1	1	1	3 (0.2)	16

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## **Policy context**

- A3. The Amber Valley Local Plan Part 1 Core Strategy Submission Version (December 2013) states that the updated GTAA results will inform a policy for providing for the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople that will be included in the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies document (part 2 of the new Local Plan). In May 2014 the Planning Inspector suspended the examination of the Local Plan to enable the council to carry out further relevant work.
- A4. Although to some extent local authorities already coordinate responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues there is the potential for further liaison and information sharing.

## **Local context**

- A5. Amber Valley currently contains no authorised sites. However, it does contain two unauthorised developments. Both sites are currently occupied by Gypsy and Traveller families. One site is currently going through a planning appeal process. The other site's land is owned by the council and leased to the family. Both unauthorised developments have sufficient land to accommodate current and future need including land set aside for animals.
- A6. There are also Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation within the Amber Valley area. As with families living on sites, those living in bricks and mortar accommodation strongly believed in the cultural need to travel. Having good internal and external space was deemed important to the families. They spoke about how it is important, even for Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation, to have sufficient space for caravans and animals.
- A7. The needs figures suggest that there is a need for an additional 10 pitches and 3 bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

**Bolsover**

Table A.3: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (Bolsover)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	17.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.5
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.4
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.3
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	4.6
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	3.6
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	2.7
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	1.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	1.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.4
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	4.5
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>13.2</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	1.8
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>15.0</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>15.0</b>
Less total supply	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>9.2 → 9</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>1.8</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A4: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (Bolsover)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	17	9	2	3	3	17 (0.9)	34
Housing	19	1	2	2	2	7 (0.4)	26
Showpeople	31	8	1	2	2	13 (0.6)	44

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014



## **Policy context**

- A8. Bolsover's Local Plan Strategy was withdrawn on 28 May 2014, and the Planning Inspectorate was notified on 5 June 2014. The Council does not currently have an up-to-date policy document that includes a policy for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling.

## **Local context**

- A9. Bolsover currently contains four known authorised sites containing 17 pitches and one unauthorised development. The unauthorised site is currently going through a planning appeal process. Three of the four authorised sites are fully occupied by Gypsy and Traveller families, whilst the fourth is a multi-occupancy site with some occupants not identified as Gypsies or Travellers. There is evidence of overcrowding on this site, limited demarcation of pitches, lack of clear boundaries and spacing between caravans and limited facilities. The site is also registered for 11 transit pitches.
- A10. Families surveyed stressed the importance of new provision being in the form of small, family sites with good facilities. They spoke about the importance of sites having sufficient space to accommodate future needs as families grow. This is important to residents as having family close by is regarded as a fundamental characteristic of their culture.
- A11. There are also Gypsy, Traveller, and Showpeople families living in bricks and mortar accommodation in the Bolsover area. Some families are satisfied living in bricks and mortar accommodation whilst others would prefer to live on site Travelling remains important to families both living on sites and in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- A12. There are well established Travelling Showpeople yards consisting of 31 plots situated in Bolsover. Most plots are privately owned and occupied by a single family. One plot is owned by the Showmen's Guild and leased to a Travelling Showperson family. All plots are lived on all year around and used for storing fairground equipment.
- A13. Some families said that ideally, they would like to expand their yards to store more and larger work equipment, and to accommodate growing and ageing families. All families spoke about liking living in the local area and the importance of families integrating into local communities. In addition to their work as Showpeople, some own and run other businesses whilst others work in local shops and businesses.
- A14. The needs figures suggest that there is a need for an additional 17 pitches, 7 bricks and mortar accommodation units, and 13 Travelling Showpeople plots over the period 2014-34.

**Chesterfield**

Table A.5: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (Chesterfield)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	2.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.1
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.0
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.0
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	0.5
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	0.4
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	1.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.1
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.0
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	0.6
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	0.1
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Less total supply	<b>0.7</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>1.7 → 2</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>0.8</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A6: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (Chesterfield)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	2	2	0	0	0	2 (0.1)	4
Housing	1	0	0	0	0	0 (0.0)	1

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Policy context

- A15. The Chesterfield Borough Council Core Strategy (adopted July 2013) states that the council will identify deliverable sites to address a five year supply in accordance with the criteria below. This will allow a potential site to be allocated in the forthcoming Local Plan; Sites and Boundaries if appropriate, and allow it to be referred to in a future review of the Core Strategy.
- A16. Policy criteria also need to be stated in case an unanticipated need for a site arises. In cases where a general need for sites has not been identified the council will assess any unanticipated proposals for provision for travellers against the criteria in the following policy. When considering proposals the council will take account of the most recent government guidance 'Planning Policy for traveller sites' (March 2012), including:
- The existing level of local provision and need for sites
  - The availability (or lack) of alternative accommodation for the
  - applicants
  - Other personal circumstances of the applicant
- A17. The Strategy also suggests that 'Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide 2008' should also be considered in relation to detailed design.
- A18. Policy CS12 on sites for Travellers states that the council will allocate sites for travellers in the Local Plan: Sites and Boundaries where a robust assessment identifies evidence of need. Sites to meet the accommodation needs of Travellers will be allocated or granted planning permission where:
- a. the site is not located in the Green Belt or Local Green Spaces;
  - b. there is no unacceptable impact on the function and purpose of Strategic Gaps, Green Wedges or on wildlife sites or other protected green spaces;
  - c. the site is reasonably accessible to community services and facilities;
  - d. The site provides adequate levels of amenity for users
  - e. the site can be adequately serviced with drinking water and sewerage disposal facilities;
  - f. the site is of sufficient size to accommodate the proposed number of caravans, vehicles and ancillary work areas as appropriate;
  - g. there is satisfactory boundary treatment to ensure privacy and to maintain visual amenities.

## Local context

- A19. Chesterfield currently contains 2 authorised pitches and 1 unauthorised development. The unauthorised development is currently registered as a caravan site. Families are satisfied living in the local area and are well integrated into the local community.

A20. The needs figures suggest that there is a need for an additional 2 pitches and no additional bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

**Derby City**

Table A.7: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (Derby City)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	17.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.5
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.4
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.3
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	4.6
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	3.6
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	7.2
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	1.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.4
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	5.3
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>17.5</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	7.9
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>25.4</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>25.4</b>
Less total supply	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>19.6 → 20</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>3.9</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A8: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (Derby City)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	17	20	3	4	4	31 (1.5)	48
Housing	87	2	8	9	10	29 (1.5)	116

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Policy context

- A21. The Derby City Council Core Strategy Options Paper (January 2010) states that there is a need to meet the accommodation needs of the city's diverse communities including older people, minority ethnic communities, and Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. It suggests that the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers should be identified, understood and addressed through the planning framework and housing strategy on the same basis as other sectors of the community. Only in this way can the needs of each sector of the community be understood and appropriate allocation of resources be ensured. This will help to ensure that future planning and investment decisions are based on well informed and accurate data.
- A22. According to the Derby City Local Plan – Part 1: Draft Core Strategy (October 2013), Derby City Council recognises the needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople within the City many of whom have established local connections and have developed links with local services. As part of providing for the housing needs of the City's diverse communities, there may be a need to provide additional sites to meet the needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- A23. It states that the Council will:
- a. protect existing lawful sites, plots and pitches for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. Proposals that would lead to the loss of an existing Gypsy, Traveller or Showpersons sites will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that there is no longer a need for the site or that replacement provision on a site that is of equal or better quality is provided.
  - b. subject to evidence of need, provide site(s) to meet the future accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople through an allocation or allocations in the Local Plan, Part 2 and/or through the grant of planning permission.
- A24. In considering sites for allocation the Council will require sites to be:
1. Well related to the existing built up area, have access to essential services such as mains water, electricity supply, drainage and sanitation; and allow convenient access, preferably pedestrian, cycle or by public transport, to schools, shops, medical and other local facilities.
  2. Located away from areas at risk of flooding. Proposals for sites in locations other than Flood Zone 1 will be expected to demonstrate a sequential approach to site selection and be justified by a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA). Due to the highly vulnerable nature of caravans and mobile home sites in Flood Zone 3 will not be supported.
  3. Accessed safely by vehicles from the public highway.
  4. Located, designed and landscaped to provide a good level of residential amenity and quality of life for proposed occupiers whilst minimising the impact on the

amenity of nearby residents and the character of the local area, particularly where mixed use sites are proposed.

5. Of sufficient size to provide amenities and facilities for the planned number of caravans; including parking spaces, areas for turning and servicing of vehicles, amenity blocks, play and residential amenity areas, access roads and temporary visitor areas; and
6. Large enough for the storage and maintenance of rides and equipment, in the case of Travelling Showpeople.

A25. Policy CP8 of the Draft Core Strategy is a performance indicator which seeks to measure the number of additional plots and pitches per year, and the extent to which the supply of sites is sufficient to meet future needs as determined by the GTAA.

### **Local context**

A26. Derby City currently has one authorised site. It is a local authority site, managed by a warden related to the occupied community. Families on the site are satisfied with the site. In particular they like having their own fenced off pitches, having a utility block (even though they are regarded as having poor facilities), being close to facilities, and living with family on the same site. However, issues such as toilets being located too close to the kitchens, problems with drainage and limited space on pitch and in the utility blocks were highlighted.

A27. There are regular high levels of unauthorised encampments in the city. Those families living on the site felt that there being insufficient space on the permanent site to accommodate visiting family or friends exacerbates the problem. Those families residing on unauthorised encampments stated that there are too few pitches in the area.

A28. According to the 2011 Census, there are around 87 Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation in the Derby City area. Some families would rather live on a site and are only in housing due to lack of available and affordable site provision. A number of families preferred not to take part in the GTAA survey as they felt that they have already been over-surveyed.

A29. The needs figures suggest that there is a need for an additional 31 pitches and 29 bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

## Derbyshire Dales

Table A.9: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019)  
(Derbyshire Dales)

1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	0.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.0
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.0
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.0
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	0.0
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	-3.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>-3.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	0.0
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.9
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	1.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.0
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	0.4
Total Need	2.3
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	0.4
Total Need	2.7
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
Total Need	2.7
Less total supply	-3.0
Total Additional Pitch Requirement	5.7 → 6
Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement	1.1

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A10: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (Derbyshire Dales)

	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	0	6	1	1	1	9 (0.4)	9
Housing	4	0	0	0	1	1 (0.1)	5

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014



## **Policy context**

A30. Derbyshire Dales District Council withdrew its Local Plan in October 2014. Due to the procedural requirements involved in the withdrawal of a Local Plan, the District Council estimates that it is likely that a resubmitted Plan would be adopted in around 18 months

## **Local context**

A31. Derbyshire Dales currently has temporarily authorised sites. At the time of the survey, one site had temporary permission to accommodate a family who have been traveling around the study area for many years and were subsequently identified as being in need of a site. The local authority identified land, which unfortunately has proved unsuitable. The family experienced high levels of harassment from the local community resulting in them resorting to extensively travelling throughout the study area.

A32. Since the survey, this temporary site's permission has lapsed and another site has been given temporary permission for three pitches. Due to its temporary status, the site remains unoccupied.

A33. Derbyshire Dales also contains one unauthorised development. The site has been owned and occupied by a Romany Gypsy family for a number of years. However, it is registered as a caravan site. The family identify themselves and members of the Gypsy and Traveller community and feel that their site should be recognised as such.

A34. There are also Gypsy, Traveller, and Showpeople families living in bricks and mortar accommodation in the Derbyshire Dales area. Families in such accommodation are generally satisfied living in housing. Some families said that they would prefer not to take part in the surveys as they did not want to be identified as Gypsies and Travellers.

A35. There are a number of Showpeople living and running businesses in Derbyshire Dales, some of whom have retired to the area. Some continue operating and running traveling fairs and others run businesses within the settled community, such as shops, amusements and cafes.

A36. Travelling is important to families both living on sites and in bricks and mortar accommodation. The right to be able to travel was seen as a significant part of their culture.

A37. The needs figures suggest that there is an additional need for 9 pitches and 1 bricks and mortar accommodation unit over the period 2014-34.

**East Staffordshire**

Table A.11: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (East Staffordshire)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	13.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.4
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.3
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.2
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	2.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	3.5
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	2.8
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	2.7
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.8
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.3
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	3.4
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	1.9
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>11.9</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>11.9</b>
<b>Less total supply</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>5.4 → 5</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>1.1</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A12: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (East Staffordshire)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	13	5	2	2	2	11 (0.6)	24
Housing	21	1	2	2	2	7 (0.4)	28

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Policy context

A38. East Staffordshire Strategic Policy 19 states that in assessing the suitability of sites for residential and mixed use occupation by Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, and for the purposes of considering planning applications for such sites, proposals will be supported where the following criteria are met:

- The site affords good access to local services including schools
- The site is not at risk of flooding or adjacent to uses likely to endanger the health of occupants such as a refuse tip, sewage treatment works or contaminated land
- The development is appropriate in scale compared to the size of the existing settlement
- The development will be able to achieve a reasonable level of visual and acoustic privacy both for people living on the site and for those living nearby
- The development will provide a high quality frontage onto the street which maintains or enhances the street scene and which integrates the site into the community
- The development will be well-laid out to provide adequate space and privacy for residents The development complies with relevant national planning policies
- The development complies with the other relevant policies in the Local Plan.

A39. Lastly, it states that if and when need is identified, the Council will set pitch targets and/or plot targets accordingly and will identify a site or sites to meet the need through a Development Plan Document as necessary.

## Local context

A40. According to the draft East Staffordshire Core Strategy (August 2011) the borough covers almost 39,000 hectares and is based around the two towns of Burton upon Trent and Uttoxeter, with a substantial rural hinterland. The Borough occupies a strategic position on the edge of the West Midlands bordering Derbyshire and sharing boundaries with South Derbyshire and the Derbyshire Dales Districts in the East Midlands. The Borough has a rich natural and historic heritage with beautiful countryside and historic towns and villages. The National Forest includes a significant area within East Staffordshire, and Burton upon Trent is the 'capital' of the National Forest.

A41. East Staffordshire currently contains three authorised sites. All are private sites. One site was recently awarded permission through appeal. The owners of the site are currently developing the site in preparation for them to move onto it. The other two sites have been in use over a number of years. One site consists of 17 pitches and is managed by a warden drawn from the Gypsy and Traveller community. The site is one of 'multi-occupancy' i.e. it is only partly occupied by Gypsies and Traveller families

A42. Some residents spoke about the desire to expand their sites and have sufficient land to increase the number of pitches. This is to enable them to accommodate all family members. Some residents said they have children and grandchildren who are unable to

reside on the authorised sites due to insufficient space and were living on the road. Small, family sites with individual pitches and individual utility blocks were regarded as the ideal site.

- A43. There are also Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation in the East Staffordshire area. Some were satisfied to be living in housing, whilst some would prefer to live on sites if there was sufficient provision. Families spoke about the planning and financial difficulties involved in setting up family sites, and suggested that there is a need for more publically or privately owned provision.
- A44. The needs figures suggest that there is an additional need for 11 pitches and 7 bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

**Erewash**

Table A.13: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (Erewash)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	0.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.0
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.0
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.0
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	0.0
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	0.0
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.0
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	0.0
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	0.8
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Less total supply	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>0.8 → 1</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>0.2</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A14: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (Erewash)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	0	1	0	0	0	1 (0.0)	1
Housing	9	0	1	1	1	3 (0.2)	12

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Policy context

- A45. Policy 9 of the Erewash Core Strategy (Submission Version) (June 2012) states that sufficient sites for permanent Gypsy and Traveller, and Travelling Showpeople accommodation will be identified in accordance with a robust evidence base. Also, as part of creating sustainable and mixed communities, where there is an identified need, provision should be made within settlements.
- A46. Where an identified need cannot be met within main settlements, the following criteria will be used to identify suitable Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites and associated facilities. The criteria will also be used in the case of speculative proposals. Planning permission will be granted for the development of land as a Gypsy and Traveller caravan or Travelling Showpeople site where all of the following criteria are satisfied:
- a. The site and its proposed use should not conflict with other policies relating to issues such as Green Belt, flood risk, contamination, landscape character, protection of the natural, built and historical environment or agricultural land quality
  - b. The site should be located within reasonable travelling distance of a settlement which offers local services and community facilities, including a primary school
  - c. The site should enable safe and convenient pedestrian and vehicle access to and from the public highway, and adequate space for vehicle parking, turning and servicing
  - d. The site should be served, or be capable of being served, by adequate mains water and sewerage connections; and
  - e. The site should enable development and subsequent use which would not have any unacceptable adverse impact on the amenities of the site's occupiers and occupiers of nearby properties or the appearance or character of the area in which it would be situated.
- A47. In the countryside, any planning permission granted will restrict the construction of permanent built structures to small amenity blocks associated with each pitch and to small buildings for appropriate associated business use.
- A48. Although to some extent local authorities already coordinate responses to Gypsy and Traveller issues there is the potential for further liaison and information sharing.

## Local context

- A49. Erewash currently has no authorised sites. There may possibly be the need for transit provision for Travelling Showpeople. In the past they were able to stay with their equipment when fairs were taking place in the Erewash area. But, as Showpeople at a recent fair (October 2013) reported, they are no longer able to stay with their equipment. This means that they have to travel back to their yards each night and return to the fair each day.

A50. The needs figures suggest that there is an additional need for 1 pitch and 3 bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

## High Peak

Table A.15: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (High Peak)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	0.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.0
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.0
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.0
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	0.0
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	0.0
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.0
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	0.0
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	0.3
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Less total supply	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>0.3 → 0</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>0.1</b>

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A16: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (High Peak)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	0	0	0	0	0	0 (0.0)	0
Housing	3	0	0	0	0	0 (0.0)	3

Source: Derbyshire & East Staffordshire GTAA 2014



## Policy context

- A51. High Peak Borough Council submitted its Local Plan for examination in August 2014. The Plan states that where there is an identified need for pitch provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople within the Plan Area, the council will work with the Peak District National Park Authority, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group and other stakeholders to ensure that the need is met.
- A52. The following considerations will be taken into account in the provision of a site or the determination of applications for Gypsy and Traveller sites:
- The development does not have an adverse impact upon the character or appearance of the landscape or sites/areas of nature conservation value
  - The site should be well located on the highway network and provide safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access and adequate parking, and not result in a level of traffic generation which is inappropriate for roads in the area
  - The site must provide adequate on site facilities for parking, storage, play and residential amenity (including basic essential services such as water and sewage disposal)
  - In the case of permanent sites, there should be reasonable and convenient access by foot, cycle or public transport to schools, medical services, shops and other community facilities
  - The site should not be visually intrusive nor detrimental to the amenities of adjacent occupiers
  - Adequate levels of privacy and residential amenity for site occupiers should be provided

## Local context

- A53. High Peak currently has no known authorised or unauthorised sites. There are around 3 Gypsy and Traveller families estimated to be living in housing in High Peak. Some families said that they are satisfied living in housing and did not feel the need to take part in the study.
- A54. The needs figures suggest that there is no additional need for pitches or bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

## North East Derbyshire

Table A.17: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (North East Derbyshire)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	23.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.6
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.5
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.4
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	6.0
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>7.6</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	4.9
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	1.3
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.5
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	4.9
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>11.7</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	1.9
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>13.6</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>13.6</b>
Less total supply	<b>7.6</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>5.9 → 6</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>1.2</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A18: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (North East Derbyshire)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	23	6	3	3	3	15 (0.7)	38
Housing	21	1	2	2	2	7 (0.4)	28

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Policy context

- A55. The North East Derbyshire DC Core Strategy Issues and Options Document (April 2009) states that there is a need to consider the provision of specialist housing such as sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showmen. These sites will need to be effectively integrated as part of mixed and balanced communities.
- A56. Minutes of the North East Derbyshire DC Cabinet dated 9 May 2012 reiterate key points contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (April 2012) including:
- Mixed sites for residential and business uses should be considered
  - Sites should not dominate the nearest settled community or place undue pressure on local infrastructure
  - Development in the open countryside should be strictly limited
  - Rural exception sites may be allowed to enable small sites in small rural communities to be used specifically for affordable traveller sites that would not normally be used for this purpose but that such rural exception sites should seek to address the needs of the local community
  - Development in the green belt should only take place in very special circumstances
  - Where a major development project affects an existing site, local planning authorities are entitled to expect the applicant to provide an alternative site
  - In decision taking, local planning authorities should take provision and need and personal circumstances into account and they should determine applications for sites from any travellers and not just those with local connections
  - Planning conditions or obligations can be used to limit number of vans and length of stay.
- A57. The Council has decided to prepare the Local Plan 2011-2031 in two parts, so that work already done on the Core Strategy would not have to be abandoned. The Local Plan will comprise of:
- Part 1 incorporating Strategic Policies, and
  - Part 2 incorporating Allocations and Development Management Policies.
- A58. North East Derbyshire DC Cabinet on 16 April 2014 agreed to progress on the Local Plan that would incorporate site allocations to provide a 5-year supply within a 'Part 1 Plan'. This approach on housing would extend to provision for Gypsy & Traveller Sites.
- A59. Consultation on a Preferred Options Local Plan (Part 1) will take part in Autumn 2014. This will include the preferred site proposals which are intended to be allocated in the Local Plan.

## Local context

- A60. North East Derbyshire currently has 5 known authorised sites. There are three small family sites, and a large site. The three family sites have clearly marked out individual pitches and facilities. Some families spoke about the need to be able to expand their sites and increase their pitch provision.
- A61. One large local authority site consisting of 16 pitches has been leased to the current warden of the site. The warden is a member of the Gypsy and Traveller community and lives on site. The warden has invested in the site and attempting to make improvements to both the site and individual pitches. However, future improvements are limited due to the size and condition of pitches and utility blocks which were built prior to the change in management. The site also provides some transit provision. It is important to note, as discussed at the focus group, that private transit provision is influenced and controlled by the owners and wardens of the site.
- A62. The needs figures suggest that there is a need for an additional 15 pitches and 7 bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

**Peak District**

Table A.19: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (Peak District)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	0.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	0.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	0.0
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	0.0
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	0.0
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	0.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	0.0
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	0.0
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	0.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	0.0
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	0.0
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	0.0
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	0.1
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Less total supply	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>0.1 → 0</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A20: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (Peak District)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	0	0	0	0	0	0 (0.0)	0
Housing	1	0	0	0	0	0 (0.0)	1

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## **Policy context**

- A63. The Peak District National Park Authority Core Strategy Development Plan (October 2011) acknowledges that although the 2008 GTAA did not identify any need for pitches in the National Park, the Core Strategy retains an approach which accepts that exceptional circumstances might justify small scale provision.
- A64. However, it states that this is unlikely to exceed 1 or 2 pitches. Planning permission will not be permanent, and the need for sites will be kept under review. The key criteria to be met by all development are set out in policy GSP3 (relating to development management principles). With caravans and mobile homes, landscape impact is a key concern and assessment of this will need to take into account the variations in tree and hedgerow cover throughout the seasons.
- A65. Policy HC3 of the Core Strategy Development Plan states that Gypsy, Traveller or Travelling Showpeople's caravan or mobile home sites may be permitted only where there are exceptional circumstances of proven need for a small site that can be met without compromising national park purposes.

## **Local context**

- A66. The Peak District National Park covers parts of Derbyshire Dales and High Peak. There is currently one temporary site located in the Peak District National Park area of Derbyshire Dales (currently not in use) and no other known sites.
- A67. There are few Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation within the National Park area.
- A68. However, there may be a need for transit provision to accommodate Gypsy and Traveller families visiting the area.
- A69. The needs figures suggest that there no need for pitches or bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.

## South Derbyshire

Table A.21: Five year estimate of the need for permanent/residential site pitches (2014-2019) (South Derbyshire)	
1) Current occupied permanent / residential site pitches	63.0
<i>Current residential supply</i>	
2) Number of unused residential pitches available	2.0
3) Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant through mortality 2014-2019	1.8
4) Number of family units on sites expected to leave the area in the next 5 years	1.5
5) Number of family units on sites expected to move into housing in the next 5 years	1.1
6) Residential pitches planned to be built or to be brought back into use 2014-2019	2.0
7) Additional supply generated by movement within the stock	17.1
8) Less pitches with temporary planning permission	0.0
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>25.4</b>
<i>Current residential need: Pitches</i>	
9) Family units (on pitches) seeking residential pitches in the area, 2014-2019, excluding those already counted as moving due to overcrowding in step 12	13.5
10) Family units on unauthorised encampments requiring residential pitches in the area	3.6
11) Family units on unauthorised developments requiring residential pitches in the area	1.0
12) Family units currently overcrowded on pitches seeking residential pitches in the area, excluding those containing an emerging family unit	3.6
13) Family units expected to arrive from outside the study area	1.5
14) New family formations expected to arise from within existing family units on sites	14.5
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>37.7</b>
<i>Current residential need: Housing</i>	
15) Family units in housing but with a psychological aversion to housed accommodation	1.9
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>39.6</b>
<i>Balance of Need and Supply</i>	
<b>Total Need</b>	<b>39.6</b>
Less total supply	<b>25.4</b>
<b>Total Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>14.2 → 14</b>
<b>Annualised Additional Pitch Requirement</b>	<b>2.8</b>

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

Table A22: Twenty year summary (2014 – 2034) (South Derbyshire)							
	Base Numbers 2014	Additional need 2014- 2019	Additional need 2019- 2024	Additional need 2024- 2029	Additional need 2029- 2034	Additional need 2014- 2034	Numbers as at 2034
Residential pitches	63	14	7	8	9	38 (1.9)	101
Housing	21	2	2	2	3	9 (0.5)	30

Source: Derbyshire &amp; East Staffordshire GTAA 2014

## Policy context

A70. South Derbyshire District Council submitted its Local Plan Part 1 to the Secretary of State for independent examination in August 2014. The Plan states that the council will set the target for new pitches and/or plots for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople according to the most recent needs assessment agreed by the Council. Allocations to meet identified need will be made through a Site Allocations DPD. In identifying land for allocation or determining planning applications for required potential sites, sites will be considered suitable provided they are of an appropriate scale and character and the following criteria are met:

- i) development does not result in an unacceptable impact on the local environment, including biodiversity, heritage assets or conservation, the surrounding landscape (unless capable of sympathetic assimilation) and compatibility with surrounding land uses; and
- ii) safe and convenient vehicular and pedestrian access to the public highway can be provided with no undue adverse impact on the highway network; and
- iii) the movement of vehicles to and from the site will not cause undue disturbance or be inappropriate for the locality; and
- iv) there is adequate space for parking, turning and servicing on site; and
- v) the site is reasonably accessible to local services including health services, shops, education, public transport and other community facilities; and
- vi) the site is not located in an area at undue risk of flooding; and
- vii) suitable landscaping and boundary enclosures are provided to give privacy to both occupiers and local residents and minimise impact on the surrounding area; and
- viii) the site provides a safe and acceptable living environment for occupiers with regard to noise impacts, adequate on site facilities for parking, storage, water supply and electricity supply, drainage and sanitation.

## Local context

A71. South Derbyshire currently contains 17 authorised and three unauthorised sites, including one local authority owned site and one private site which is occupied by both Gypsy and Traveller and non-Gypsy and Traveller families.

A72. The local authority site is managed by a warden who is part of the occupied Gypsy community. The site primarily consists of open space with electric and water hook-up points, hard-core and limited shared utility block and unfenced pitches.

A73. There are a number of small family sites, and a large site. The large site used to be a local authority site and has since been leased to the current warden of the site. The warden is a member of the Gypsy and Traveller community and lives on the site. The warden is clearly investing in the site and attempting to make improvements to the site and individual pitches.



However, future improvements are limited due to the size and condition of pitches and utility blocks which were built prior to the change in management.

- A74. There are two private sites in the local authority area offering private temporary provision and the local authority has provision for transit use on the same open space as the permanent provision. On all three sites access to the transit provision is dependent on permission being approved by the warden.
- A75. Respondents emphasised the importance of sites offering individual pitches and individual facilities for families. Some private family sites occupied by extended families said that they didn't mind sharing facilities with just a few, related family members. However, respondents living on larger sites emphasised the importance of having their own toilets, kitchen area and washing areas.
- A76. Some sites had already built or provided provisions such as utility blocks with toilets, kitchens, bath/shower rooms and day rooms, while others were in the process of providing such facilities. Some families used static caravans, mobile homes or chalets as utility blocks. In most cases families felt that even if not all pitches were fenced off from one another, it was important that each family had their own space.
- A77. The unauthorised site is registered as being arable land although the occupying family given limited rights to stay on the site. The land owner and occupant is a Romany Gypsy who would like his family to join him on site as they currently have no permanent accommodation.
- A78. There are a number of Gypsy, Traveller, and Showpeople families living in bricks and mortar accommodation in South Derbyshire. Some families are happy living in housing and feel settled. Others spoke about although liking the area feeling unsettled living in a house and would prefer to live on a site, but are unable to find a pitch and are unable to develop their own.
- A79. The needs figures suggest that there is an additional need for 38 pitches and 9 bricks and mortar accommodation units over the period 2014-34.



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