

# Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2024/25

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Bromsgrove District Council

Final Report  
September 2025

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# Executive Summary

## Introduction

The Bromsgrove 2024/25 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) provides the latest available evidence to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Bromsgrove district.

The GTAA has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data.
- Stakeholder consultation with a range of stakeholders.
- A household survey and site/yard observation. Across Bromsgrove district, information from all 36 Gypsy and Traveller households has been obtained. Of the 36 households, 21 household surveys were achieved, data for 5 households was obtained from planning application data and 10 from site management data for Houndsfield Lane.

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

We are very grateful to the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson communities across Bromsgrove district for their positive engagement with the work.

## Population and current accommodation provision

The 2021 Census identified a population of 65 people who identified as 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' or 'Gypsy/Romany' and an estimate of 30 households where the household reference person identifies as being a Gypsy/Traveller.

Across Bromsgrove district there are 8 Gypsy and Traveller sites with 37 pitches (Table ES1) and 1 Travelling Showperson yard with 4 plots (Table ES2).

In January and July each year, councils carry out a Traveller caravan count to inform MHCLG statistics. The latest six bi-annual MHCLG Traveller caravan counts (January 2022 to July 2024) recorded an average of 33 caravans across all sites in Bromsgrove district. In January 2024, 33 caravans were recorded (all socially rented). The January 2024, Travelling Showperson count also recorded 22 caravans on private yards.

**Table ES1 Summary of Gypsy and Traveller sites in Bromsgrove district**

Type of site	No. Sites	No. Pitches	Total occupied pitches	Total vacant pitches	Total G&T households	Interviews / info obtained	No household information
Housing Association	1	23	22	1	22	22	0
Private authorised	4	8	5	3	6	6	0
Private Temporary Authorised	1	3	3	0	3	3	0
Planning Application Pending	2	3	3	0	5	5	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>

**Table ES2 Summary of Travelling Showperson yards in Bromsgrove district**

District	No. yards	No. Plots	Total occupied plots	Total vacant plots	Total TSP households	interviews / info obtained	No response
Private authorised Travelling Showperson's development	4	15	15	0	15	15	0

## Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

The 2024 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states in Paragraph 63 *‘the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policy (including travellers)’*. A footnote in the NPPF then states *‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers’ housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document’*.

The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Site (PPTS) document states that *‘local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning’* and *‘ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies’* and *‘to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply’*.

In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc<sup>4</sup> reflect the PPTS, build upon those methods established through previous guidance, our practical experience and decisions made at planning inquiries and appeals.

## Need assessment period

Need has been assessed over a short-term period 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term period 2029/30 to 2041/42.

## Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

For the period 2024/25 to 2041/42, there is a provisional need for 37 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches across Bromsgrove district (Table ES3). Of this need, 17 pitches are needed in the first five years and 20 over the longer-term period 2029/30 to 2041/42.

Needs analysis considers the needs arising from existing households, households on unauthorised sites, newly forming households, in-migrant households and current vacancies on existing public and private sites. The main driver of need across Bromsgrove district is household formation.

**Table ES3 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2041/42**

Residential Pitch need	Bromsgrove District
<b>5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Longer-term need</b>	
<i>Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)</i>	6
<i>Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39 (C)</i>	10
<i>Over period 2039/40 to 2041/42 (D)</i>	5
<b>Longer-term need TOTAL (E=B+C+D)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>TOTAL SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2041/42 A + E</b>	<b>37</b>

The overall scale of need is slightly higher to that reported in the 2021 GTAA. This identified a short-term need for 17 pitches (2021/22 to 2025/26) and a longer-term

need 2026/27 to 2039/40 for 17 pitches, or a total pitch need of 34 over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40.

## Meeting the need

The council should consider the following to help meet identified residential pitch need as set out in Table ES4. There are 5 potential pitches which could be brought forward to help meet identified need through the use of existing sites. In addition, there is the potential for 3 pitches to become available through household dissolution. Analysis of household change on the Houndsfield Lane site would suggest that every 5 years three pitches come available through turnover/reletting (although this should be monitored carefully as some pitches may become available through household dissolution).

**Table ES4 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: potential sources of pitch supply from existing sites**

Option	Detail	No. pitches	Comment
1.Regularisation	None available		None available.
2.Additional pitches on existing sites	Priv 1 Sheltwood Lane, Tardebigge (2) Priv 6 The Stables, Lickley End (3)	5	Respondents were asked if their sites could provide more pitches through expansion or intensification. The council will need to review sites to determine if additional pitches could be delivered.
5. Potential household dissolution		3	Potential pitches coming available owing to the current age of occupants.
6. Turnover/relets on council pitches	3 pitches have come available in the past 5 years	3 every 5 years	3 pitches have become available for occupancy in the past 5 years; 3 households planning to move off site in next 5 years

NOTE: vacant pitches on authorised sites are already factored into pitch supply in the short-term five year modelling of pitch need.

Notwithstanding evidence in this GTAA on need, additional need may arise over the plan period, for instance households moving into Bromsgrove district. It is therefore recommended the council has criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for private sites should they arise.

## Transit provision

It is recommended the council considers negotiated stopping as a method to meet the needs of families travelling through the district. More information can be found at [www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk](http://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk).

## Travelling Showperson plot requirements

Additional need for Travelling Showperson yards has been identified through informal discussions with the yard owner at Beoley. Further engagement is being attempted to establish the scale of need for additional provision.

It is recommended that the council develops a criteria-based policy to consider any applications coming forward over the plan period.

# 1. Introduction

## Overview

- 1.1 In October 2024, arc<sup>4</sup> was commissioned by Bromsgrove District Council to prepare a 2024/25 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). This report updates the findings of the previous 2021 study.
- 1.2 The overall scope of the study is to ensure that the council has a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision needed over the period 2024/25 to 2041/42 for Gypsies and Travellers and plots for Travelling Showpeople.
- 1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) and section 124 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 provide the policy context for this work.

## Who the study covers?

- 1.4 The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites provides the updated definition of Gypsies and Travellers as set out within Annex 1 of the 2024 PPTS:  
*“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, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.”*
- 1.5 Similarly, the following definition from Annex 1 of the Guidance in respect of Travelling Showpeople is used:  
*‘Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.’*
- 1.6 In addition:  
*‘For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use pitches for “travelling showpeople”, which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.’ (DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites December 2024 Annex 1, para 5).*
- 1.7 For the purposes of this study, therefore, Gypsies and Travellers live on pitches within sites, whilst Travelling Showpeople live on plots within yards.

## Report structure

1.8 The GTAA 2024/25 report structure is as follows:

- **Chapter 1 Introduction:** provides an overview of the study.
- **Chapter 2 Policy and local context:** presents a review of the national policy context which guides the study.
- **Chapter 3 Methodology:** provides details of the study's research methodology.
- **Chapter 4 Review of current Gypsy and Traveller population and provision of pitches/plots:** reviews estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Bromsgrove district and existing site/yard provision.
- **Chapter 5 Household survey:** presents relevant data obtained from the household survey research.
- **Chapter 6 Pitch/plot/transit requirements:** focuses on current and future pitch/plot requirements. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, supply and current shortfalls across the district.
- **Chapter 7 Travelling Showperson plot requirements**
- **Chapter 8 Conclusion and strategic response:** concludes the report, providing brief summary of key findings and recommendations.

1.9 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:

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

## 2. Policy and local context

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

### Government policy and guidance

- 2.3 The 2024 National Planning Policy Framework states in Paragraph 63 *‘the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies’*. It then lists a number of groups including Travellers. A footnote to the paragraph states *‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers’ housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document’*.
- 2.4 The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) document states that *‘local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning’* and *‘ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies’* and *‘to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply’*.
- 2.5 Policy A of the 2024 PPTS relates to evidence needed to plan positively and manage development. This states *‘in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:*
- *pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities (including discussing travellers’ accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups);*
  - *cooperate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups; other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas over the lifespan of their development plan, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities; and*
  - *use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions’*.
- 2.6 In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc<sup>4</sup> reflect Policy A of the PPTS; building upon those methods established through previous guidance; our practical experience and findings from planning inquiries and appeals.
- 2.7 The calculation of pitch/plot requirements is based on established DCLG modelling methodology, as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). Although this guidance was formally withdrawn in December 2016, in the absence of any updated guidance

on the subject, it continues to provide a good practice approach for needs modelling.

- 2.8 Policy B of the 2024 PPTS relates to planning for traveller sites and requires Local Plans:
- to be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and consistent with the policies of the NPPF; and
  - to set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople as defined in Annex 1 which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.
- 2.9 Policy B (paragraph 10) sets out that local authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:
- a. identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5-years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
  - b. identify a supply of specific, developable sites, or broad locations for growth, for years 6 to 10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;
  - c. consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);
  - d. relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density; and
  - e. protect local amenity and environment.
- 2.10 Policy B (paragraph 13) sets out that local authorities should ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally and therefore ensure that their policies:
- a. promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
  - b. promote, in collaboration with commissioners of health services, access to appropriate health services;
  - c. ensure that children can attend school on a regular basis;
  - d. provide a settled base that reduces both the need for long-distance travelling and possible environmental damage caused by unauthorised encampment;
  - e. provide for proper consideration of the effect of local environmental quality (such as noise and air quality) on the health and well-being of any travellers who may locate there or on others as a result of new development;
  - f. avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;

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

### Intentional unauthorised development

- 2.11 The planning policy statement issued with PPTS 2015 ([Planning Policy Statement link](#)) and confirmed by Ministerial Statement ([Ministerial Statement link](#)) makes clear that if a site is intentionally occupied without planning permission this would be a material consideration in any retrospective planning application for that site. Whilst this does not mean that retrospective applications will be automatically refused, it does mean that failure to seek permission in advance of occupation will count against the application.
- 2.12 In addition, PPTS 2024 (Paragraph 12) makes clear that in exceptional cases where a local authority is burdened by a large-scale unauthorised site that has significantly increased their need, and their area is subject to strict and special planning constraints, then there is no assumption that the local authority will be required to meet their Gypsy and Traveller site needs in full. This is intended to protect local planning authorities with significant land constraints from being required to provide for additional needs arising directly from large sites such as Dale Farm (a large unauthorised site in Essex).

### Considering ‘Cultural’ and ‘PPTS’ need

- 2.13 The PPTS 2024 now contains a revised definition of Gypsy and Traveller which includes reference to people with a cultural tradition of nomadism or living in a caravan.

### Responding to challenges

- 2.14 GTAA's are subject to intense scrutiny, particularly at planning inquiries and hearings. The methodological approaches taken by arc<sup>4</sup> aim to maximise the robustness of evidence and measures include:
- An up-to-date assessment of the number of pitches on sites and the number of households living on pitches and any vacancies.
  - Maximising response rates from households.
  - Carefully considering the relationship between households and the pitches they occupy.
  - Sensitive analysis of the flows of existing households from and to districts.
  - Consideration of overcrowding and concealed households.
  - Careful consideration of turnover on council/housing association pitches, with clear assumptions over future potential capacity from households moving away from pitches.

- Longer-term modelling of need using detailed demographic information contained from household survey work.
- Reasonable assumptions around the number of households in bricks and mortar accommodation who may want to move to a pitch.

## Further review of the PPTS

- 2.15 The government has stated in its response to changes to the NPPF that *'in the context of our wider reforms to planning policy, we will review the PPTS next year 'i.e. 2025.*

## 3. Methodology

### Introduction

- 3.1 The GTAA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirement of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.
- 3.2 The methodology has comprised:
- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including data on pitches/sites, plots/yards and unauthorised encampments;
  - the collection of primary data, including household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople;
  - an assessment of accommodation needs taking into account all available data and information.
- 3.3 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:
- Phase 1: Literature/desktop review.
  - Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Bromsgrove
  - Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of the GTAA 2024/25 report.

### Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions

- 3.4 We have reviewed relevant literature, including legislative background and best practice information; and analysis of available secondary data relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the district. The research has been overseen by a steering group comprising local authority officers.

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

- 3.5 Our aim is to obtain interviews from all households living on sites using a standard questionnaire (Appendix A). This questionnaire has been carefully designed in consultation with councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents. Site visits and interviews took place during November 2024 and interviews over the period November 2024 to February 2025.
- 3.6 A total of 36 Gypsy and Traveller households live on pitches. Interviews were achieved with 21 households living on sites. In addition, data for 5 households was obtained from planning application data and 10 from site management data for Houndsfield Lane. Information on 100% of households living on sites was therefore achieved.

- 3.7 Information on all households living on Travelling Showpersons yards was obtained through an interview with the owner, so information on 100% of households living on yards was therefore achieved.

### Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of report

- 3.8 A detailed explanation of the pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 6 but briefly comprises analysis of the following:
- current pitch supply, households living in bricks and mortar accommodation; households planning to move in the next five years, and emerging households to give total need for pitches; and
  - supply based on the number of authorised pitches and turnover on sites on public pitches.
- 3.9 The overall need for pitches is then compared with the overall supply.

#### Pitches and households

- 3.10 One of the key challenges faced when assessing Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements is the actual nature of pitches and how this relates to the number of households they can support.
- 3.11 PPTS 2024 refers to the need for local planning authorities to *'identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets'* and *'relate the number of pitches/plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density'* (PPTS 2024, paragraph 10).
- 3.12 Planning decision notices usually refer to the number of pitches on a site or the specifics of what can be on a pitch e.g. statics, tourers; or specific individuals and/or households.
- 3.13 As part of the GTAA, it is essential that the characteristics of sites, the number of pitches and how many households these can support is carefully considered. There are a range of issues which need to be considered when reviewing site and pitch characteristics and their potential implications for future pitch and site requirements which are now summarised.

#### Site and pitch size

- 3.14 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes. Although now withdrawn, the DCLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites: good practice guide (2008) states in paragraph 4.4 that *'Gypsy and Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building, together with space for parking. Sites of various sizes, layouts and pitch numbers operate successfully today and work best when they take into account the size of the site and the needs and demographics of the families resident on them'*.
- 3.15 Paragraph 4.47 states that *'to ensure fire safety it is essential that every trailer, caravan or park home must be not less than 6 metres from any other trailer, caravan or park home that is occupied separately'*.

- 3.16 Paragraph 7.12 states that *‘as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area’*.
- 3.17 Paragraph 4.13 states that *‘smaller pitches must be able to accommodate at least an amenity building, a large trailer, drying space for clothes and parking for at least one vehicle’*.
- 3.18 As a general guide, it is suggested by arc<sup>4</sup> that the minimum pitch size is 25m by 25m (625 square meters or 0.0625 hectares). This would support a twin-unit chalet/mobile home (15m x 6.5m), a tourer, an amenity shed/building (5m x 4m), two vehicle spaces (minimum 2.4m x 4.8m for each space) and turning circle for vehicles, amenity space and a small garden area/play space. Residential units need to be 3m from the pitch boundary and at least 6m apart. A slightly larger pitch of 25m by 30m (750 square meters or 0.075 hectares) would be appropriate for larger household units requiring several residential units. Additionally, it may be appropriate to have several caravans on a pitch to accommodate newly-forming households who may require independent accommodation but want to stay living as part of an extended family group.
- 3.19 It is generally accepted amongst the Travelling community that private sites of up to 6-10 pitches are appropriate. Public sites tend to be larger and have policies and procedures in place to ensure the effective management of sites.
- 3.20 In 2010, the Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain prepared a document ‘Travelling Showpeople’s sites: a planning focus – model standard package). This document was intended to provide guidelines to Travelling Showpeople and Local Planning Authorities when considering the needs of Travelling Showpeople.
- 3.21 This document confirmed that:
- A plot is a piece of land occupied by a showperson with their family and equipment, used to store fairground rides, vehicles and other items as well as for living accommodation. The family unit can be large or small, for instance an extended family with grandparents, parents and children, or a single-family unit of parents and children.
  - A yard is two or more plots owned by the same family who may use this for their own family purposes or may let part out to other Showpeople.
  - A site is a group of plots where the land is owned by individual plot holders. Quite often a Showperson’s site will have a common shared access onto the main road network.
  - Showpeople’s sites do not fit neatly into the definition of a one land use category. The sites combine a residential use with a storage use, and maintenance is also likely to be carried out on site. The residential use can take the form of static homes and caravans.
  - For a Travelling Showperson yard, the minimum size of a plot is 0.5ha and should include space for residential accommodation and equipment storage.

## Occupancy

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

## Response

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

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

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

### Census data

4.2 In October 2023, the ONS published detailed census data relating to Gypsy and Traveller populations. This provides valuable insights into the population dynamics and comparisons with overall populations.

4.3 The 2021 Census reported a population of **65** people who identified as ‘White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ or ‘Gypsy/Romany’ and no people identifying as ‘Roma’ living in Bromsgrove district. The total number of households was estimated to be **30** based on the number of Household Reference People.

4.4 The previous 2011 Census reported 60 people and 23 households.

4.5 Table 4.1 sets out a range of data relating to people identifying as Gypsies and Travellers from the 2021 Census across Bromsgrove district. In summary:

- 45% live in bricks and mortar accommodation and 55% live in a caravan/mobile structure.
- 77% rent (31% privately and 46% from a social landlord) and 23% are owner occupiers.
- 21.4% were overcrowded compared with 2.7% of the general population.
- 41.7% were couples with children, 33.3% single parent and 25% were other household types.

**Table 4.1 Characteristics of properties and households which are occupied by people identifying as Gypsy and Traveller from 2021 Census**

Theme	Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
Dwelling Stock	Detached whole house or bungalow	15	27.3
	Semi-detached whole house or bungalow	10	18.2
	Terraced (including end-terrace) whole house or bungalow	*	0.0
	Flat, maisonette or apartment	*	0.0
	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	30	54.5
	Total	55	100.0%
Tenure	Owned: Owns outright	15	23.0
	Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	*	0.0
	Private rented or lives rent free	20	31.0
	Rented Social rented	30	46.0
	Total	65	100.0
Occupancy	Occupancy rating of bedrooms 0 or more	55	78.6
	Occupancy rating of bedrooms -1 or less (overcrowded)	15	21.4
	Total	70	100
Household composition	One person household: Aged 66 years and over	*	0.0
	One person household: Other	*	0.0
	Single family household: Couple family household: No children	*	0.0
	Single family household: Couple family household: Dependent children	25	41.7
	Single family household: Couple family household: All children non-dependent	*	0.0
	Single family household: Lone parent household	20	33.3
	Other household types	15	25.0
	Total	60	100.0
General Health	Very Good	35	38.9
	Good	30	33.3
	Fair	15	16.7
	Bad	10	11.1
	Very Bad	*	0.0
	Total	90	100.0
	Net health score (VG+G-B-VB)		61.1%

Source: 2021 Census [2021 Census link](#)

Note: \* = small frequencies and not reported

- 4.6 In terms of health 72.2% of Gypsies and Travellers said their health was very good/good and none said it was bad/very bad. The overall net health satisfaction score (% saying very good/good minus bad/very bad) was 61.1% compared with 79.4% of the overall population.
- 4.7 Please note that the data reported from the census may differ from the findings of the household survey. This is because of the small population base of the Gypsy and Traveller population and data highly influenced by the level of response to both the 2021 Census and 2024 household survey. It is also important to note that an estimate of households in bricks and mortar is very difficult to establish. However, the 2021 Census does appear to have recorded information from the majority of households living on pitches.

## Caravan Count information

- 4.8 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the government in 1979 and have since been undertaken every January and July by local authorities. An annual count of Travelling Showperson caravans takes place every January. The counts provide a source of information on the number of caravans located on authorised and unauthorised sites but do not record the actual number of pitches on sites/yards.
- 4.9 The figures for the last six Traveller caravan counts for Bromsgrove district are set out in Table 4.2. Data shows an average of 33 caravans across the area during the period January 2022 to July 2024. Of these all were reported on council sites, although there are caravans on private sites that should be included in future counts.

**Table 4.2 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures: January 2022 to July 2024 for Bromsgrove district**

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission			Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private (Temporary)	Total Private (Permanent)	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2022	33	0	1	0	34
Jul 2022	33	0	1	0	34
Jan 2023	33	0	0	0	33
Jul 2023	33	0	0	0	33
Jan 2024	33	0	0	0	33
Jul 2024	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33</b>
6-Count Average* (Jan 2022-July 2024)	33	0	0	0	33
6-Count % Average* (Jan 2022-July 2024)	100%	0	0	0	100%

Source: MHCLG Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1

- 4.10 Over the period 2021 to 2024 there have been some changes to the reporting of caravans on Travelling Showperson plots (Table 4.3) . In 2021 and 2022 none were reported (although the yards were in existence) but in 2023 and 2024, 22 caravans were reported on plots on Showpersons' yards. This tallies with a total of 22 caravans evidenced through discussions with the yards' owner.

**Table 4.3 Annual Travelling Showperson caravan count figures: January 2021 to January 2024 for Bromsgrove district**

	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised sites without planning permission	
Count Date	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised (tolerated)	Total
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0
2023	0	22	0	22
2024	0	22	0	22
2 -count % Average	0	100%	0	100%

Source: MHCLG Travelling Showpeople Caravan Count, Live Table 3

## Local site and yards

- 4.11 There are several ways in which sites can be described which are associated with their planning status. Authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either public or privately-owned land. Unauthorised sites are made up of either longer-term (approximately three months or longer ) unauthorised encampments and can be considered to be indicative of a permanent need for accommodation (in some instances local authorities class these as tolerated sites and do not take enforcement action to remove them); and unauthorised developments, where Travellers are residing upon land that they own and that does not have planning permission (see Appendix B for more detailed definitions).
- 4.12 Table 4.4 sets out the location of Gypsy and Traveller sites and Table 4.5 Traveller Showperson yards across Bromsgrove district.
- 4.13 Across Bromsgrove district there are a total of 37 pitches on 8 sites and one Travelling Showpersons development comprising 4 yards with a total of 15 plots:
- 1 housing association site (23 pitches, 22 occupied by 22 households, 1 vacant).
  - 4 private sites (8 pitches, 5 occupied by 6 households, 3 vacant)
  - 1 private temporary authorised site (3 pitches, 3 occupied by 3 households, 0 vacant).
  - 2 sites with planning application pending (3 pitches, 3 occupied by 5 households, 0 vacant).

- Note on two sites there are more than one household on a pitch but this is due extended families living on the pitch who are appropriately accommodated.
  - 1 Travelling Showperson's development of 4 yards (4 yards with a total of 15 plots occupied by 15 households).
- 4.14 Table 4.5 sets out assumptions regarding pitches and household occupancy on each site. This provides a transparent base position from which the modelling of future pitch in Section 6 need can proceed.

**Table 4.4 List of Gypsy & Traveller sites (as at January 2025)**

Site Code	Site Name	Site Address	Postcode	Type of site	Number of pitches	Total pitches occupied	Total pitches vacant	Number of households on pitches	Interviews achieved	Site management/ local knowledge/ planning application	Total household information
HA1	Houndsfield Site	Houndsfield Lane, Wythall	B47 5QR	Housing Association Permanent Authorised	23	22	1	22	12	10	22
PAP1	Burcot	Land at junction of Blackwell Road Alcester Road, Burcot	B60 1GX	Private Application Pending	2	2	0	2	2		2
PAP2	Grange Lane, Alvechurch	The Paddocks Land at Grange Lane, Alvechurch	B48 7DJ	Private Application Pending	1	1	0	3	0	3	3
Priv1	Sheltwood Lane	Sheltwood Lane, Tardebigge	B60 3EY	Private Permanent Authorised	1	1	0	2	2		2
Priv2	Ash Lane	Land South of Karenswood, Ash Lane, Alvechurch	B48 7TT	Private Permanent Authorised	3	0	3	0	0		
Priv3	Mintola Corral	Batemans Lane, Hollywood	B47 6NG	Private Permanent Authorised	2	2	0	2	0	2	2
Priv4	The Stables	Dale Lane, Lickey End	B60 1GZ	Private Permanent Authorised	2	2	0	2	2		2
PrivTemp1	Woodland View	Billesley Lane (Land on south side Billesley Road to rear of Portway Hotel)	B48 7HG	Private Temporary Authorised	3	3	0	3	3		3
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Summary</b>											
<b>Housing Association (1)</b>					<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Private (4 sites)</b>					<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Private Temporary (1 site)</b>					<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Private Application pending (2)</b>					<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total G&amp;T</b>					<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>36</b>

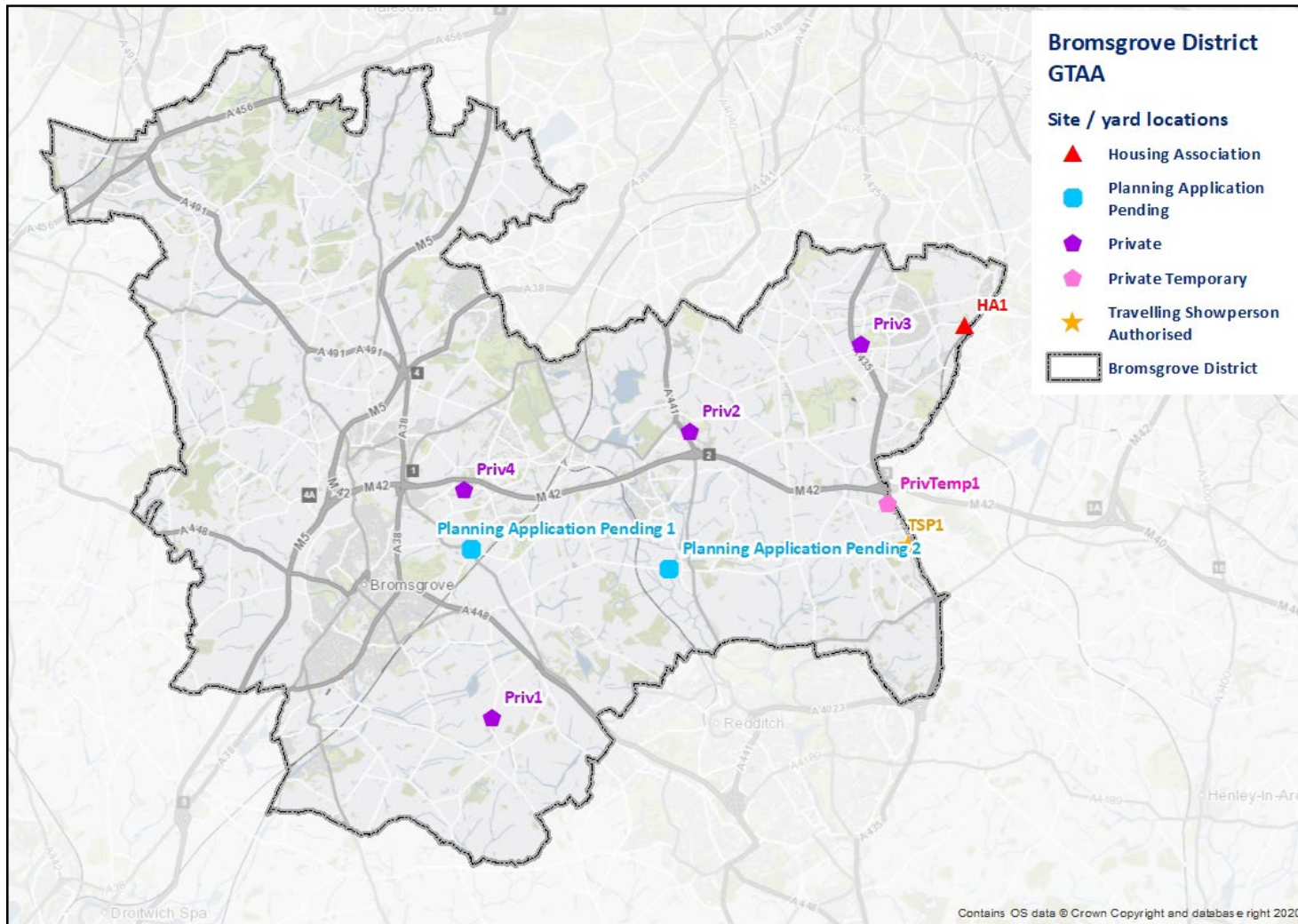
Source: Council data 2024, site survey and fieldwork 2024/25

**Table 4.5 List of Travelling Showperson yards (as at January 2025)**

Yard Code	Yard Name	Yard Address	Postcode	Type of yard	Yards and plots of plots	Total plots occupied	Total plots vacant	Number of households on plots	Interviews achieved	Total household information	Non response
TSP1	Travelling Showperson's Yards	Alcester Road / Brockhill Lane nr A435, Beoley	B48 7HU	Authorised	4 yards with 15 plots	15	0	15	15	15	0

Source: Council data 2024, site survey and fieldwork 2024/25

Map 4.1 Location of sites and yards in Bromsgrove district



## 5. Household survey findings

- 5.1 This chapter presents the findings of the household survey, which was carried out to provide primary data to inform this GTAA. The survey aimed to reach as many Gypsy and Traveller households living in the study area as possible. It was conducted using the questionnaire presented in Appendix A.

### Gypsy and Traveller households living in Bromsgrove district

- 5.2 A review of the characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller households living in Bromsgrove district has been based on data from a total of 36 households on pitches obtained either through 2024 household survey data (21) or from planning application data (5) and site management information (10).
- 5.3 The number of responses achieved to particular questions is summarised for each question. It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information, for instance by type or location of site, as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household data are presented in a manner which maintains respondent confidentiality. Where analysis refers to 'small numbers' this means 4 four or fewer households responding.
- 5.4 **Ethnicity** (base=36): Of household on pitches 78% identified as Romany Gypsy/English Traveller and 22% as Irish Traveller.
- 5.5 Data obtained provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on pitches.
- 5.6 **Household size** (base=35): 11.4% of households were single person; 22.9% two person; 22.9% three person; 17.1% four person, 8.6% five person and 17.1% six or more person households.
- 5.7 **Household type** (base=35): 11.4% of households were single person, 11.4% couples, 17.1% couples with child(ren) including adult children (who are aged 18 who either have not left the family home or require ongoing family support), 28.6% were single parents, 31.4% were other households (for instance multi-adult households and extended families).
- 5.8 **Age profile:** The household survey identified a total of 124 Gypsies and Travellers living on sites across Bromsgrove district. Household survey data reports the following age profile (base=124) of the Travelling population in Bromsgrove district: 31.5% were aged 13 or under, 9.7% aged 14-17, 27.4% aged 18-34, 14.5% aged 35-49, 12.1% aged 50-64 and 4.8% aged 65 and over.
- 5.9 **Length of residence** (base=28): 17.9% had lived at their current place of residence for less than 5 years, 32.1% between 5 and less than 10 years, 35.7% between 10 and less than 20 years and 14.3% for 20 years or more.
- 5.10 **Overcrowding:** When asked if their home was overcrowding (base=17), no household said that their home or pitch was overcrowded.

## Help and support needs

- 5.11 Respondents were asked if they had any broader help and support needs. Several mentioned health concerns such as disability and some specific needs to help people with additional needs which have been referred to the council.

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

### Introduction

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Bromsgrove district. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data. This chapter also considers transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers. Finally, the chapter presents planning policy recommendations.
- 6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on modelling as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). Although now formally withdrawn, the former DCLG Guidance still provides the best-practice approach towards the assessment of pitch and plot needs (see Chapter 2 for further discussion).
- 6.3 This approach requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. It advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information. Modelling presents an overall need based on the revised 2024 PPTS definition which is also called the ‘cultural’ need.

### Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

- 6.4 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2041/42) arising from children likely to need a pitch.
- 6.5 In terms of **need**, the 5-year model considers:
- the baseline number of households on all types of site (authorised, unauthorised and temporary authorised sites) as at January 2025;
  - existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
  - emerging households currently on sites and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a pitch; to derive a figure for total pitch need.
- 6.6 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
- total supply of current pitches on authorised sites; and
  - vacant pitches on authorised sites.
- 6.7 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:
- total need for pitches; and
  - total supply of authorised pitches.

- 6.8 The longer-term model then considers the cultural need over the period to 2041/42. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches.

## Gypsy and Traveller pitch need analysis: Description of factors in the 5-year need model: Bromsgrove district

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

### Need

#### Current households living on pitches (1a to 1e)

- 6.10 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. In summary there are 28 households living on authorised sites and 8 households living on temporary authorised sites or sites where a planning application is pending.

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

- 6.11 The 2021 Census suggested there were 25 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

### Weighting

- 6.12 As information from all households living on pitches on sites has been obtained there is no need to weight the data.

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

- 6.13 This was derived from information from the 2024 household survey for respondents currently on pitches.
- 6.14 Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that 3 plan to move in the next 5 years.
- 6.15 For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc<sup>4</sup> studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate to around five households. However, there was no evidence of households moving from bricks and mortar accommodation to a site and there is no evidence from the council of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation who need a pitch. Therefore, the model assumes no need from bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 6.16 Regarding in-migration, analysis of household survey data indicates that no households have moved into Bromsgrove district and onto a pitch in the past 5 years.
- 6.17 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of -1 pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years.

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

- 6.18 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2024 household survey information. The total number is +13. If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

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

- 6.19 This is a total of current households on authorised pitches, households on pitches planning to move in the next five years and demand from emerging households currently living on pitches. This indicates a total need for 49 pitches.

## Supply

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

- 6.20 Modelling assumes a total supply of authorised pitches to meet the needs of 31 households. This is broken down to a total of 27 occupied Gypsy and Traveller pitches (note one private authorised pitch is occupied by two households who form an extended family and did not state they were overcrowded on their pitch) and 4 vacant pitches.

## Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.21 There is a total need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29) for 48 pitches in Bromsgrove district (Table 6.1) compared with a supply of 31 authorised pitches. The result is an overall need for 17 additional pitches.

**Table 6.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – Bromsgrove district 2024/25 to 2028/29**

CULTURAL NEED			Bromsgrove District Total
1	Households living on pitches (includes households doubled up on pitches)	1a. On council site	22
		1b. On private site - Authorised	6
		1c. On private site – Temporary Authorised	3
		1d. On unauthorised site	5
		<b>1e. Total (1a to 1d)</b>	<b>36</b>
2	Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation	2021 Census estimate	25
		<b>WEIGHTING</b>	<b>1.000</b>
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years or on unauthorised site	<b>Currently on sites</b>	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	0
		3b. To another site in district (no net impact)	2
		3c. From site to bricks and mortar (-)	1
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside district	0
		<b>Currently in Bricks and Mortar</b>	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in district (+)	0
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0
		<b>In-migrant households</b>	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	0
	<b>3h. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3f+3g)</b>	<b>-1</b>	
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	12
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the district	1
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the district	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		<b>4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)</b>	<b>13</b>
5	<b>Total Need</b>	<b>1e+3h+4g</b>	<b>48</b>
SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised pitches	27
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are vacant	4
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	31
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	48
8	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 6c)	31
<b>5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2024/25 TO 2028/29</b>			<b>17</b>

## Longer-term pitch requirement modelling to 2041/42

- 6.22 Longer-term pitch need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on pitches. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.
- 6.23 When calculating longer-term need, a reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage. The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in the local authority area. This approach has been tested at inquiry and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees. Demographic data are currently available to 2041/42. Over this period, there is a need for an additional 20 pitches (Table 6.2)

**Table 6.2 Future pitch requirements based on the assumption that 50% of children will require a pitch in Bromsgrove district**

Time period	No. children	No. pitches
2029/30 to 2033/34 (5 years)	11	5
2034/35 to 2038/39 (5 years)	19	10
2039/40 to 2041/42 (3 years)	10	5
<b>Total (2029/30 to 2041/42) (13 years)</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>20</b>

## Overall pitch need

- 6.24 Table 6.3 summarises the overall need for pitches across Bromsgrove district over the period 2024/25 to 2041/42. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term 2029/30 to 2041/42 period. The overall need is 37 additional pitches. The main driver of need in the first five years is need from emerging households currently living on existing sites.

**Table 6.3 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2041/42 – Bromsgrove district**

Residential pitch need	Additional pitch need
<b>5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Longer-term need</b>	
<i>Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)</i>	6
<i>Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)</i>	10
<i>Over period 2039/40 to 2041/42(D)</i>	5
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2041/42 (13 years) E=(B+C+D)</i>	20
<b>NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2041/42 (A+E) (18 years)</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Annual net shortfall</b>	<b>2.0</b>

## Potential capacity for Gypsy and Traveller pitches on existing sites

6.25 There are several potential sources of pitch supply that are summarised in Table 6.4.

**Table 6.4 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need : potential sources of pitch supply**

Option	Detail	No. pitches
1.Regularisation	Pitches on Temporary Authorised sites	3
2.Additional pitches on existing authorised sites	Priv 1 Sheltwood Lane	2
	Priv 6 The Stables	3
5. Potential household dissolution		3
6. Turnover/relets on council pitches	3 pitches have come available in the past 5 years	0.6 pitches each year

NOTE: vacant pitches on authorised sites are already factored into pitch supply in the short-term five year modelling of pitch need.

6.26 Each of these options is now discussed in further detail.

### Regularisation

6.27 Regularisation of sites that are not permanently authorised would help meet the needs identified. There is one temporary authorised site that could be considered for regularisation if it satisfies relevant local plan policies.

### Potential for additional pitches on existing sites

6.28 Discussions with private site owners indicated there was potential to intensify existing sites with the addition of statics/caravans to help meet need using existing sites. Respondents were asked if their sites could be expanded either through a physical expansion or intensification of use to provide more pitches. A potential for at least **5 pitches** could be delivered this way. The council has been provided with details of potential sites for expansion/intensification.

### Household dissolution

6.29 Analysis also considers in a sensitive manner the potential for pitches to come available through the dissolution of households. Based on the age profile and household composition on pitches, a potential 3 pitches could become available over the plan period.

## Turnover on sites

- 6.30 Turnover relates to the number of pitches that are expected to become available for occupancy. Analysis only includes expected turnover on public sites as this is referenced in (former) CLG guidance and more accurate data on changes in pitch occupancy is likely to be available. Although there is likely to be turnover on private sites, the ability of households to move onto private sites may be more restrictive (for instance the site may be restricted to a particular family) and less likely to be recorded. Across the housing association site, 3 social rented pitches have become available in the past 5 years or 0.6 each year. This is a reasonable expression of turnover/reletting of pitches which could help meet need.

## Summary of need and capacity

- 6.31 Overall, there is a need across Bromsgrove district for 37 additional authorised pitches over the period 2024/25 to 2041/42. There is a need for 17 additional pitches in the first five years 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 20 pitches over the period 2029/30 to 2041/42 due to anticipated levels of household formation.
- 6.32 There is a potential supply of additional 8 authorised pitches through:
- Potential regularisation of existing pitches (3 pitches)
  - Potential expansion/intensification (5 pitches)
- 6.33 This would reduce the 5-year need from 17 to 9 pitches.
- 6.34 In addition, there is potential supply through household dissolution (3 pitches) and reletting of pitches on council sites (3 every 5 years or 0.6 each year)
- 6.35 There is potential therefore to help meet the plan period need through the effective use of existing pitches on sites, the expansion/intensification of existing sites and a recognition of potential supply through household dissolution and reletting of pitches on council sites.

## Tenure preferences

- 6.36 Based on the tenure preferences of existing and emerging households (number of tenure preferences stated =15), 67% stated a preference for a social rented pitch and 33% a pitch on a private site.

## Transit requirements

- 6.37 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping. A good indicator of transit need is unauthorised encampment activity.
- 6.38 For Bromsgrove district over the period 2021/22 to 2023/24, there were 14 incidences of unauthorised encampment activity (Table 6.5):
- The number of caravans on unauthorised encampments ranged generally between 2 and 8 but there was one encampment with 40 caravans.

- The median number of caravans on an encampment has been 4 and mode (most frequently reported) has been 4 caravans.
- 6.39 Recommendations for transit provision in Bromsgrove district are presented at the end of this chapter.

**Table 6.5**      **Unauthorised encampment activity in Bromsgrove district**

Number of encampments recorded	2021/22 = 2 2022/23 = 4 2023/24 = 8	
Number of caravans	Median	4
	Mode	4
	Range	1 to 40

Source: Council data

### Conclusions on transit need across Bromsgrove district

- 6.40 When considering transit need, the council needs to be mindful of the 2022 Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act (Part 4). This makes using land for stopping without permission a criminal offence rather than a civil offence. The Bill gives police increased powers to act and introduces significant penalties (fines up to £2,500, impounding vehicles and prison sentences).
- 6.41 The council should consider how land can be provided for short-term use and particularly in response to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.
- 6.42 It is recommended that the council considers negotiated stopping arrangements to positively manage unauthorised encampment activity, with a recommendation to identify land to accommodate encampments of up to 5 caravans, encampments of between 6 and 10 caravans and encampments of more than 10 caravans.
- 6.43 Negotiated stopping involves councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tends to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site.

## 7. Travelling Showperson plot requirements

### Introduction

- 7.1 There is a well-established Travelling Showpersons' development in Bromsgrove district. This comprises 4 yards which accommodate a total of 15 households. The GTAA assumes there are 15 plots with one plot equating to the accommodation provision of one household. There are a total of 41 people living across the plots in a total of 22 caravans.

### Showperson plot requirement model overview

- 7.2 Plot need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2041/42) arising from children likely to need a plot.
- 7.3 In terms of **need**, the 5-year model considers:
- the baseline number of households on plots on yards as at January 2025;
  - existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on plots and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
  - emerging households currently on plots and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a plot; to derive a figure for total plot need.
- 7.4 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
- total supply of current plots on authorised yards; and
  - vacant plots on authorised yards
- 7.5 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:
- total need for plots; and
  - total supply of authorised plots.
- 7.6 The longer-term model then considers the need over the period to 2041/42. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Travelling Showperson households on plots.

### Travelling Showperson plot need analysis: Description of factors in the 5-year need model: Bromsgrove district

- 7.7 Table 7.1 provides a summary of the 5-year plot need calculation for Bromsgrove district. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

**Table 7.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Travelling Showpeople – Bromsgrove district 2024/25 to 2028/29**

<b>CULTURAL NEED</b>			<b>Bromsgrove District Total</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Households living on plots</b>	1a. On Housing Association yard	0
		1b. On private yard - Authorised	15
		<b>1c. Total (1a to 1b)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation</b>	<b>2021 Census estimate</b>	<b>N/A</b>
		<b>WEIGHTING</b>	<b>1.000</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Existing households planning to move in next 5 years</b>	<b>Currently on yards</b>	
		3a. To another plot/same yard (no net impact)	0
		3b. To another plot in district (no net impact)	0
		3c. From plot to bricks and mortar (-)	0
		3d. To plot/bricks and mortar outside district	0
		<b>In-migrant households</b>	
		3e. Allowance for in-migration (+)	1
	<b>3f. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e)</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Emerging households (5 years)</b>	4a. Currently on plot and planning to live on current yard	5
		4b. Current on plot and planning to live on another yard in the district	0
		4c. Currently on plot and planning to live outside the district	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a plot in LA (+)	0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4f. Currently on plot and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		<b>4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Total Need</b>	<b>1e+3f+4g</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>SUPPLY</b>			
<b>6</b>	<b>Current supply of authorised plots</b>	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised plots	15
		6b. Current authorised plots which are vacant	0
		<b>6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY</b>			
<b>7</b>	<b>Total need for plots</b>	<b>5 years (from 5)</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Total supply of authorised plots</b>	<b>5 years (from 6c)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5 YEAR AUTHORISED PLOT SHORTFALL 2024/25 TO 2028/29</b>			<b>6</b>

## Need

### **Current households living on plots (1a to 1c)**

- 7.8 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. In summary there are 15 households living on authorised plots across 4 yards.

### **Weighting**

- 7.9 As information from all households living on plots has been obtained there is no need to weight the data.

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

- 7.10 This was derived from information from the 2024/5 household survey for respondents currently on pitches.
- 7.11 Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that none plan to move in the next 5 years.
- 7.12 Regarding in-migration, there is one household that wants to move back to Bromsgrove district in the next 5 years.
- 7.13 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of +1 plots from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years.

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

- 7.14 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2024 household survey information. The total number is +5. If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

### **Total need for plots (5)**

- 7.15 This is a total of current households on authorised plots, households on plots planning to move in the next 5 years and demand from emerging households currently living on plots. This indicates a total need for 21 plots.

## Supply

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

- 7.16 Modelling assumes a total supply of 15 plots located across 4 yards on the Travelling Showperson development in Bromsgrove.

### **Reconciling supply and demand**

- 7.17 There is a total need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29) for 21 plots in Bromsgrove district (Table 6.6) compared with a supply 15 plots. The result is an overall need for 6 additional plots.

## Longer-term plot requirement modelling to 2041/42

- 7.18 Longer-term plot need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on plots. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.
- 7.19 When calculating longer-term need, the model therefore reasonably assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in the local authority area. Demographic data are currently available to 2041/42. Over this period, there is a need for an additional 5 plots pitches (Table 7.2)

**Table 7.2 Future plot requirements based on the assumption that 50% of children will require a plot in Bromsgrove district**

Time period	No. children	No. pitches
2029/30 to 2033/34 (5 years)	4	2
2034/35 to 2038/39 (5 years)	5	3
2039/40 to 2041/42 (3 years)	1	0
<b>Total (2029/30 to 2041/42) (13 years)</b>	10	<b>5</b>

## Overall plot need

- 7.20 Table 7.3 summarises the overall need for pitches across Bromsgrove district over the period 2024/25 to 2041/42. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term 2029/30 to 2041/42 period. The overall need is 11 additional plots. The main driver of need in the first 5 years is need from emerging households currently living on existing plots.

**Table 7.3 Plan period Travelling Showperson plot need 2024/25 to 2041/42 - Bromsgrove**

Residential pitch need	Additional plot need
<b>5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Longer-term need</b>	
<i>Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)</i>	2
<i>Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)</i>	3
<i>Over period 2039/40 to 2041/42(D)</i>	0
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2041/42 (13 years) E=(B+C+D)</i>	5
<b>NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2041/42 (A+E) (18 years)</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Annual net shortfall</b>	<b>0.6</b>

## Potential capacity for Travelling person plots on yards

- 7.21 There are currently no vacant plots on existing yards and no capacity for expansion of the existing Travelling Showperson development. Over the plan period there may be some household dissolution which would create a small amount of residential capacity but unlikely to meet the wider needs to accommodate equipment to be stored.

## 8. Conclusion and response

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

### Current accommodation

- 8.2 There are well-established Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson communities living across Bromsgrove district. The GTAA assumes a total of 8 Gypsy and Traveller sites with 37 pitches (33 occupied and 4 vacant, with a total of 36 Gypsy and Traveller households living on pitches.
- 8.3 There is one Travelling Showperson's development which can be divided into 4 yards with 15 plots accommodating 15 households.

### Future Gypsy and Traveller residential need

- 8.4 There is an overall minimum need for 37 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches across Bromsgrove over the period 2024/25 to 2041/42. Of this need, 17 are needed in the first five years 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 20 over the period 2029/30 to 2041/42. Needs analysis considers the needs arising from existing households, households on unauthorised sites, newly forming households, in-migrant households and current vacancies on existing public and private sites. The annual net shortfall need is 2.0 pitches.
- 8.5 In order to meet its need for pitches, the council is recommended to consider regularising sites that are not permanently authorised along with intensifying and expanding existing sites where possible. In addition, the council should acknowledge there is likely to be some household dissolution which would result in pitches coming available and turnover/reletting of pitches on the housing association site.
- 8.6 There is a potential supply of 8 pitches through regularisation and expansion/intensification which would help to meet short-term need. In addition, pitches are expected to come available through household dissolution (3 pitches) and turnover/reletting on housing association pitches (3 pitches every 5 years).
- 8.7 Further work is recommended to review the potential for additional pitch development on existing sites and the occupancy of permanent pitches.
- 8.8 Notwithstanding evidence in this GTAA on need, additional need may arise over the plan period, for instance households moving into Bromsgrove district. It is therefore recommended that the Local Plan references the need in the GTAA as a minimum need which is likely to be met but sets out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for sites.

### Transit provision

- 8.9 There is currently no provision to address transit need but given unauthorised encampment activity, the council will need to consider appropriate responses. These can include transit pitches, stopover places and negotiated stopping arrangements. It is recommended that the council considers developing a

negotiated stopping policy to support the needs of Travellers passing through Bromsgrove district. It is recommended that council identifies areas of land that can be used for smaller encampments (up to 5 caravans), medium-sized encampments (between 5 and up to 10 caravan) and larger encampments (more than 10 caravans).

### Travelling Showperson need

- 8.10 There is a well-established Travelling Showperson development comprising 4 yards accommodating 15 households living on 15 plots.
- 8.11 There is an overall minimum need for 11 additional Travelling Showperson plots across Bromsgrove district over the period 2024/25 to 2041/42. Of this need, 5 are needed in the first five years 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 6 over the period 2029/30 to 2041/42.

### Future updating

- 8.12 The GTAA should be updated on a 5-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch, plot and mooring provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson populations across Bromsgrove district.

# Appendix A: Fieldwork Questionnaires

## Gypsy and Traveller questionnaire

<b>Date and Time</b>	
<b>Site Reference</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection</b>	<p>GDPR came into effect from 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. This provides rights of people to control personal data held about them by organisations.</p> <p>This study is being done for Bromsgrove Council to identify if there is a need for more residential pitches and transit provision in the area. A report will be prepared based on the findings of these surveys. The information you provide will not be used for any other purpose.</p>
Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	<p>Yes <span style="margin-left: 150px;">No</span></p>

1	Pitch/Property Type (and tenure if B&M)	
2	No. Statics/mobiles/chalets or bricks and mortar	
3A	No. tourers/caravans	
3B	No. of amenity blocks	
4	Description of pitch occupancy	
5	No. households	
6	No. concealed households	
7	No. doubled up households	
8	Does anyone else use this pitch as their home? If so, who	

9	<b>HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
		<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Relationship to respondent</b>
	Respondent			
	Person 2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			

10	<b>ETHNICITY</b>	
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11	How many bedspaces are there on your pitch?	
12	Overcrowding of home	Y / N
13	Overcrowding of pitch	Y / N
14	Thinking back to when you were 15, were you living on a site, on the roadside or living in bricks and mortar housing?	S, R, B&M
15	Where were you living? Record district/settlement name	

	<b>TRAVELLING QUESTIONS</b>	
16	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled?	Y / N
17	If yes, reason(s) for travelling	
18	If yes, please describe when and where do you travel? (if relevant)	
19	If no, what reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?	

	<b>WHERE YOU PLAN TO LIVE IN THE FUTURE</b>	
20	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N
21	Why are you planning to move?	
22	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)	
23	What type of dwelling? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)	
24A	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics/family pitch)	
24B	Would you need any grazing land for any livestock?	Y / N
24C	If you are considering bricks and mortar, what are your reasons?	

	<b>IF IN B&amp;M HOUSING</b>	
25	If you live in bricks and mortar housing, are you happy to live here or would you prefer to live on a pitch?	Happy Here / Prefer pitch
26	If you would prefer to live on a pitch is this because you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar (this means if affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)?	Y / N

	<b>EMERGING HOUSEHOLDS</b>	
27	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own pitch in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N

		HH1	HH2	HH3	HH4
28	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
29	What type of dwelling? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
30	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
31	If living in bricks and mortar do you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar? (this means if affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N

	ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL PITCHES	
32	Scope to expand site (extend the boundary of the site)	Y / N
33	No. additional pitches	
34	Scope to intensify pitches (put more pitches on the existing site)	Y / N
35	No. additional pitches	
36	Are there any vacant pitches on the site which could be used by another family? If so how many pitches	
37	In general, is there a need for more authorised pitches (for people to live on all the time?)	Y / N
38	If so, now many are needed?	
39	Who should own them (Council, people from the Traveller Community, non-Travellers)	
40	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a site?	

	TRANSIT AND TEMPORARY STOPOVER NEED	
41	Is there a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling through the district? This can include transit pitches or stopover places	Y / N
42	Is there a need for transit pitches (for people stopping over temporarily) in the district? A transit pitch is intended for short-term use and usually includes space for two caravans, parking space and access to electricity, a toilet, washing facilities	Y / N
43	If so, how many are needed?	
44	Who should manage them? (Council, Traveller Community)	
45	Where should they be located?	
46	Is there a need for stopover places? A stopover place is land which can be used on a temporary basis and usually include access to portaloos, waste disposal and water	Y / N
47	If so, how many are needed?	
48	Who should manage them? (Council, Traveller Community)	
49	Where should they be located?	

<b>RESIDENTIAL HISTORY</b>		
50	How many years have you lived here? <u>Please state number of years</u>	
Routing	If more than five years	Go to Q56
	If five years or less	Go to Q51
51	Where did you move from? <b>(District)</b>	
52	Were you living on a Private Site, Council Site, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?	
53	When you moved here, was the pitch vacant, a brand new pitch or had the pitch been created by dividing up an existing pitch?	
54	What were the reasons for moving here?	
55	Did you already have a connection with the area? (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)	

<b>SUPPORT NEEDS</b>		
56	Do you or a member of your household have any health-related needs? Could you please explain what they are?	

<b>FINAL QUESTIONS</b>		
57	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your housing or support needs?	
58	Do you know anyone in bricks and mortar housing looking to live on a pitch? If so, can you provide contact details	

<b>OTHER COMMENTS</b>		

## Travelling Showperson questionnaire

<b>Date and Time</b>	
<b>Yard Reference</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection</b>	<p>GDPR came into effect from 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. This provides rights of people to control personal data held about them by organisations.</p> <p>This study is being done for Bromsgrove Council to identify if there is a need for more residential plots. A report will be prepared based on the findings of these surveys. The information you provide will not be used for any other purpose.</p> <p>The information you provide will not be used to identify you personally, will be kept strictly confidential.</p>
Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	<p>Yes <span style="margin-left: 150px;">No</span></p>

1	Plot/Property Type (and tenure if B&M)	
2	No. Statics/mobiles/chalets or bricks and mortar	
3	No. tourers/caravans	
4	Description of plot occupancy	
5	No. households	
6	No. concealed households	
7	No. doubled up households	
8	Does anyone else use this plot as their home? If so, who	

9	<b>HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS</b>			
		<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Relationship to respondent</b>
	Respondent			
	Person2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			

10	<b>ETHNICITY</b>	
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11	How many bedspaces are there on your plot?	
12	Overcrowding of home	Y / N
13	Overcrowding of plot	Y / N

	<b>TRAVELLING QUESTIONS</b>	
14	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled?	Y / N
15	If yes, reason(s) for travelling	
16	If yes, please describe when and where do you travel? (if relevant)	
16A	When you travel, where do you stop? (Transit yards, roadside carparks, with friends/family)	
17	If no, what reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?	

	<b>WHERE YOU PLAN TO LIVE IN THE FUTURE</b>	
18	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N
19	Why are you planning to move?	
20	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Yard, Private Yard in District, Council Yard in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)	
21	What type of dwelling? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)	

	<b>EMERGING HOUSEHOLDS</b>	
22	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own plot in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N

		<b>HH1</b>	HH2	HH3	HH4
23	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Yard, Private Yard in District, Council Yard in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
24	What type of dwelling? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
25	Have they travelled/plan to travel?	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N

	<b>ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL PLOTS</b>	
26	Scope to expand yard (extend the boundary of the yard)	Y / N
27	No. additional plots	
28	Scope to intensify plots (put more plots on the existing yard)	Y / N
29	No. additional plots	

30	Are there any vacant plots on the yard which could be used by another family? If so how many plots.	
31	In general, is there a need for more authorised plots (for people to live on all the time?) in this district?	Y / N
32	If so, now many are needed?	
33	Who should own them (Council, Showpeople, non-Showpeople)	
34	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a yard?	

	<b>RESIDENTIAL HISTORY</b>	
35	How many years have you lived here? <u>Please state number of years</u>	
Routing	If more than five years	Go to Q41
	If five years or less	Go to Q36
36	Where did you move from? ( <b>District</b> )	
37	Were you living on a Private Yard, Council Yard, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?	
38	When you moved here, was the plot vacant, a brand new plot or had the plot been created by dividing up an existing plot?	
39	What were the reasons for moving here?	
40	Did you already have a connection with the area? (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)	

	<b>SUPPORT NEEDS</b>	
41	Do you or a member of your household have any health-related needs? Could you please explain what they are?	

	<b>FINAL QUESTIONS</b>	
42	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your housing or support needs?	

## Appendix B: Glossary of terms

**Bargee Travellers:** Itinerant boat dwellers on Britain's inland and coastal waterways. This includes anyone whose home is a boat and who does not have a permanent mooring for their boat with planning permission for residential use

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

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

**CRE:** Commission for Racial Equality.

**Duty to cooperate:** introduced in the Localism Act 2011 and is set out in section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It placed a legal duty on local planning authorities in England to engage constructive, actively and on an ongoing basis with prescribed bodies on the preparation of a Local Plan. The Duty, as a legal test, has now been rescinded by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act, which received Royal Assent on 26 October 2023. This has replaced the legal test with a soundness test (in national policy). The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 will revoke the Duty to Cooperate in relation to the reformed plan making system. However, the Duty remains a legal requirement under the current local plans system and will continue to apply to Local Plans progressed within the current system.

**Gypsies and Travellers:** Defined in MHCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites 2024* annex 1 as “Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependants' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.”

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

**MHCLG:** Ministry of Communities, Housing and Local Government. Previously renamed DLUHC Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in 2021 from the MHCLG in 2018. The ministry has oversight of policies to meet the needs Gypsies and Travellers in England.

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

**Negotiated Stopping:** involves Local Authority officers making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The agreement allows Travellers to stay either on the land they are camped on or move to a bit of land more suitable for all parties. The length of the agreement can also vary from 2 weeks to several months but tend to be around 28 days. The agreement is a local one and will vary but has so far included Travellers agreeing to leave sites clean and not make too much noise and the Local Authority providing waste disposal and toilets, sometimes showers and water too. See [www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk](http://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk) for more information.

**Pitch:** Area of land on a Gypsy/Traveller site occupied by one resident family; sometimes referred to as a plot, especially when referring to Travelling Showpeople.

MHCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (December 2024) states that “For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use plots for “travelling showpeople”, which may / will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment”.

**Plot:** see pitch

**PPTS:** Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (DCLG, 2012 and 2015 editions, amended 2023 with latest edition published by MHCLG December 2024).

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

**Roma:** Migrant populations from Central and Eastern Europe that have arrived in the UK in the last half-century. It is an umbrella term used to describe sub-groups including Sinti, Lovari, Erldes and others.

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

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

**Showpeople:** Defined in MHCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (December 2024) as “Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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