Buckinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment

August 2013
# Contents

1. Introduction .......................................................................................................................................................... 6  
   The Survey ........................................................................................................................................................ 6  
   Definitions ....................................................................................................................................................... 6  
   Legislation and Guidance for Gypsies and Travellers ....................................................................................... 7  
   Planning Policy for Traveller Sites .................................................................................................................. 8  
   Tackling Inequalities for Gypsy and Traveller Communities .......................................................................... 10  
   Funding for New Sites ..................................................................................................................................... 10  
   Methodology ..................................................................................................................................................... 11  
2. Gypsy and Traveller Sites and Population ......................................................................................................... 13  
   Background ....................................................................................................................................................... 13  
   Caravan Count .................................................................................................................................................. 14  
3. Consultation Findings ....................................................................................................................................... 15  
   Council Officers and Members of Buckinghamshire Districts and Officers in Surrounding Areas .............. 17  
4. Parish Council & Residents’ Association Consultation ...................................................................................... 30  
   Sites ................................................................................................................................................................. 30  
   Dealings and Relationships with Travellers .................................................................................................... 31  
   Issues .............................................................................................................................................................. 31  
   Trends .............................................................................................................................................................. 31  
   Attractions ...................................................................................................................................................... 32  
   Bricks and Mortar .......................................................................................................................................... 32  
   Other Comments ............................................................................................................................................. 32  
5. Gypsy and Traveller Population ........................................................................................................................ 33  
   Survey of the Gypsy and Traveller Population ............................................................................................... 33  
   Length of Residence ....................................................................................................................................... 34  
   Connections with the Area ............................................................................................................................... 34  
   Ethnic Background ......................................................................................................................................... 35  
   Age and Household Profile ............................................................................................................................ 35  
   Health Problems ............................................................................................................................................. 36  
6. Existing Sites ....................................................................................................................................................... 37  
   Type of Site ...................................................................................................................................................... 37  
   Views of Sites .................................................................................................................................................... 38
Opinion Research Services  |  Buckinghamshire – Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment  |  August 2013

Propensity to Travel ........................................................................................................................................39
Bricks and Mortar ........................................................................................................................................40
Moving to a New Permanent Base ..................................................................................................................41

7. Travelling Showpeople ................................................................................................................................42
   Introduction ..................................................................................................................................................42
   Travelling Showpeople Households in Buckinghamshire .................................................................................42
   Survey of the Travelling Showpeople Population ........................................................................................42

8. Future Site Provision ..................................................................................................................................44
   Site Provision ..............................................................................................................................................44
   Supply of pitches ..........................................................................................................................................45
   Current Need ..............................................................................................................................................45
   Future Need ..............................................................................................................................................45
   Current Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision .................................................................................................45
   Additional Site Provision: Current Need .......................................................................................................47
   Current Unauthorised Developments ...........................................................................................................47
   Concealed Households .................................................................................................................................47
   Bricks and Mortar ......................................................................................................................................48
   Waiting Lists for Public Sites .........................................................................................................................48
   Additional Site Provision: Future Need ..........................................................................................................49
   Temporary Planning Permissions ...................................................................................................................49
   New Household Formation ............................................................................................................................49
   In-migration from Other Sources ................................................................................................................50
   Overall Needs for Buckinghamshire ...............................................................................................................51
   Overall Needs for Each Planning Authority .................................................................................................52
   Aylesbury Vale .............................................................................................................................................52
   Chiltern ......................................................................................................................................................53
   South Buckinghamshire .................................................................................................................................54
   Wycombe ....................................................................................................................................................55
   Split by Local Authority to 2023 in 5 year time period ...................................................................................56
   Transit Site/Emergency Stopping Place Provision ........................................................................................56
   Needs for Plots for Travelling Showpeople ..................................................................................................57
   Split by Local Authority to 2023 in 5 year time periods for Travelling Showpeople .......................................59

9. Conclusions ..................................................................................................................................................60
   Introduction ................................................................................................................................................60
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gypsy and Traveller Future Pitch Provision</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Sites</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling Showperson Requirements</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Recommendations</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Criteria</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendices</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Introduction

The Survey

1.01 Opinion Research Services (ORS) were commissioned by Buckinghamshire District authorities to undertake a Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment.

1.02 The study seeks to provide an evidence base to enable to authorities to comply with their requirements towards Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople under the Housing Act 2004, the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012. The main objective of this study is to provide the Councils with robust, defensible and up-to-date evidence about the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Buckinghamshire during the period until 2023 in five year sections covering 2013-2018 and 2018-2023. It also required the identification of whether or not any of the local authorities need to plan for the provision of transit sites or emergency stopping places.

1.03 The authorities involved in this study are:

» Aylesbury Vale District Council;
» Chiltern District Council;
» South Bucks District Council; and
» Wycombe District Council.

1.04 We would note at the outset that the study covers the needs of Gypsies, Irish Travellers, New Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, but for ease of reference we have referred to the study as a Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment.

1.05 This document is the main report and summarises the key findings of the study, in particular where they relate to existing policies, or have implications for future policy decisions across the Buckinghamshire. A separate executive summary has also been produced.

Definitions

1.06 For the purposes of the planning system, 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 dependents’ 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. (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012)

1.07 Within the main definition of Gypsies and Travellers, there are a number of main cultural groups which include:
Romany Gypsies; Irish Travellers; and New Travellers.

1.08 Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are recognised in law as distinct ethnic groups and are legally protected from discrimination under the Equalities Act 2010.

1.09 Alongside Gypsies and Travellers, a further group to be considered are Travelling Showpeople. They are defined 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 family’s or dependent’s 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.

(Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012)

Legislation and Guidance for Gypsies and Travellers

1.10 Decision-making for policy concerning Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sits within a complex legislative and national policy framework and this study must be viewed in the context of this legislation and guidance. For example, the following pieces of legislation and guidance are relevant when constructing policies relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople:

» Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012;
» National Planning Policy Framework 2012;
» Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments Guidance October 2007;
» Environmental Protection Act 1990 for statutory nuisance provisions;
» The Human Rights Act 1998, when making decisions and welfare assessments;
» The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as subsequently amended);
» Homelessness Legislation and Allocation Policies;
» Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (sections 61, 62);
» Anti-social behaviour Act 2003 (both as victims and perpetrators of anti-social behaviour);
» Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004;
» Housing Act 2004 which requires local housing authorities to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies & Travellers and Showpeople as part of their housing needs assessments. This study complies with the this element of government guidance;
» Housing Act 1996 in respect of homelessness.

1.11 To focus on Gypsies and Travellers, the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (Sections 77, 78) is particularly important with regard to the issue of planning for Gypsy and Traveller site provision. This repealed the duty of local authorities to provide appropriate accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers.
However, Circular 1/94 did support maintaining existing sites and stated that appropriate future site provision should be considered.

1.12 For site provision, the previous Labour Government guidance focused on increasing site provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and encouraging local authorities to have a more inclusive approach to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople within their Housing Needs Assessment. The Housing Act 2004 required local authorities to identify the need for Gypsy and Traveller sites, alongside the need for other types of housing, when conducting Housing Needs Surveys. Therefore, all local authorities were required to undertake accommodation assessments for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople either as a separate study such as this one, or as part of their main Housing Needs Assessment.

1.13 Local authorities were encouraged rather than compelled to provide new Gypsy and Traveller sites by central government. Circular 1/06 ‘Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites’, released by the CLG in January 2006, replaced Circular 1/94 and suggested that the provision of authorised sites should be encouraged so that the number of unauthorised sites would be reduced.

1.14 The Coalition Government announced that the previous government’s thinking contained in Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (Circular 01/06) was to be repealed, along with the Regional Spatial Strategies which were used to seek to allocate pitch provision to local authorities. In the South East, the Gypsy and Traveller alterations to the South East Plan underwent an Examination in Public in early 2010, but the report of the Panel was not finalised or formally published (an unfinished draft report was published in response to an FOI request. Accordingly, in the South East (including Buckinghamshire) there was no agreed allocation of pitches to individual local authorities. The CLG published ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites’ in March 2012 which set out the Government’s planning policy for traveller sites. It should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework.

**Planning Policy for Traveller Sites**

1.15 The document ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites’ sets out the direction of government policy. Among other objectives the new policies aims in respect of Traveller sites are (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Page 1-2):

» that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning;
» to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites;
» to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale;
» that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development;
» to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites;
» that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective;
» for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies;
» to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply;
» to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions;
» to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure;
» for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment.

1.16 In practice the document states that (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Page 3):

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.

1.17 Local planning authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:

» identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years’ worth of sites against their locally set targets;
» identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6 to 10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;
» 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);
» 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;
» protect local amenity and environment.

1.18 A key element to the new policies is a continuation of previous government policies. Local authorities now have a duty to ensure a 5 year land supply to meet the identified needs for Traveller sites. However, ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites’ also notes on Page 3-4 that:

Where there is no identified need, criteria-based policies should be included to provide a basis for decisions in case applications nevertheless come forward. Criteria based policies should be fair and should facilitate the traditional and nomadic life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.

1.19 Therefore, criteria based planning policies sit at the heart of the new guidance, irrespective of whether need is identified or not.
Tackling Inequalities for Gypsy and Traveller Communities

1.20 In April 2012 the government issued a further document relating to Gypsies and Travellers in the form of ‘Progress report by the ministerial working group on tackling inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers (CLG April 2012)’.

1.21 The report contains 28 commitments to help improve the circumstances and outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers across a range of areas including:

» Identifying ways of raising educational aspirations and attainment of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children;
» Identifying ways to improve health outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers within the proposed new structures of the NHS;
» Encouraging appropriate site provision; building on £60m Traveller Pitch Funding and New Homes Bonus incentives;
» Tackling hate crime against Gypsies and Travellers and improving their interaction with the criminal justice system;
» Improving knowledge of how Gypsies and Travellers engage with services that provide a gateway to work opportunities and working with the financial services industry to improve access to financial products and services;
» Sharing good practice in engagement between Gypsies and Travellers and public service providers.

Funding for New Sites

1.22 The Coalition Government policies also involve financial incentives for new affordable pitch provision in the form of the New Homes Bonus. For all new annual supply of pitches on local authority or Registered Social Landlord owned and managed sites, local councils receive a New Homes Bonus equivalent to council tax (based on the national average for a Band A property), plus an additional £350 per annum for six years. This equates to around £8,000 pounds per pitch.

1.23 Direct grant funding is also available for Gypsy and Traveller sites. The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) took over delivery of the Gypsy and Traveller Sites Grant programme from CLG in April 2009. Since then they have invested £16.3m in 26 schemes across the country to provide 88 new or additional pitches and 179 improved pitches. The HCA welcomes bids from local authorities, housing associations and traveller community groups working with Registered Providers.

1.24 The HCA has now confirmed allocations for all of its £60m of future funding which will support 96 projects around the country for the provision of new Gypsy and Traveller sites and new pitches on existing sites, as well as the improvement of existing pitches.

1.25 While all HCA funds for Gypsy and Traveller pitches have now been allocated, further funding may become available as a result of slippage over the course of the programme. Providers are advised to continue to work closely with HCA area teams to develop their proposals should any funding become available.
Methodology

1.26 This section sets out the methodology we have followed to deliver the outputs for this study. Over the past 10 years ORS have developed a methodology which provides the required outputs from a Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment and this has been updated in light of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.

1.27 The stages below provide a summary of the process undertaken by ORS, with more information on each stage provided in the appropriate section of the report.

Stage 1: Background

1.28 At the outset of the project we sought to understand the background to Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population in Buckinghamshire. The study sought to identify the location of all known sites in the study area and the number of pitches or plots on each one. The study also gathered information from recent caravan counts in each local authority and information held by Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Gypsy & Traveller Services on unauthorised encampments in each area and also waiting lists for public sites which are managed by the County Council.

Stage 2: Stakeholder Engagement

1.29 This study included extensive stakeholder engagement with council officers from the Buckinghamshire councils, neighbouring councils and other stakeholders. The aim of this engagement was to help understand the current situation in the study area, in particular to households not on known existing sites and also to discuss Duty to Cooperate issues with neighbouring councils.

1.30 Stakeholders were also consulted about the overall methodology for conducting this assessment and were provided with a method statement for calculating future needs and were invited to feedback any comment or criticism they had of this method.

Stage 3: Household Survey

1.31 The research methodology for identifying the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers adopted in this report was largely based upon face to face interviews with Gypsies and Travellers across Buckinghamshire. The survey questionnaire has been developed over the past 10 years, with significant input from Gypsy and Traveller representative groups, most notably the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group. We sought to undertake a census of Gypsy and Traveller households in January and February 2013. Interviews were attempted with every known Gypsy and Traveller household present during this time period and 179 interviews were achieved with Gypsies and Travellers on-site, 5 with Travelling Showpeople, with a further 3 interviews in bricks and mortar.
Stage 4: Future Pitch and Plot Requirements

1.32 The methodology used by ORS to calculate future pitch and plot requirements has been developed over the past 10 years and has drawn on lessons from both traditional housing needs assessments and also best and worst practice for Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessments conducted across the country.

1.33 The overall principles behind assessing future needs are relatively simple and were set out in a consultation document sent to stakeholders at the outset of the project. The residential and transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers are identified separately from those for Travelling Showpeople and for each group the requirements are identified in 5 year periods to 2023 in line with the requirements of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.

Stage 5: Conclusions

1.34 This stage draws together the evidence from Stages 1 to 4 to provide an overall summary of the requirements for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Buckinghamshire.
2. Gypsy and Traveller Sites and Population

Background

2.01 A Strategic Housing Market Assessment focuses upon the number of dwellings required in an area, and how many of these should be affordable. The central aim of this study was to follow a similar format for Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation requirements.

2.02 One of the main considerations of this study is the provision of pitches and sites for Gypsies and Travellers. A “pitch” is an area which is large enough for one household to occupy and typically contains enough space for one or two caravans, but can vary in size. A “site” is a collection of pitches which form a development exclusively for Gypsies and Travellers or Travelling Showpeople. However, Travelling Showpeople sites are also sometimes referred to as a “yard”, while the space occupied by one household is commonly referred to as a “plot”. Throughout this study the main focus is upon how many extra pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and plots for Travelling Showpeople are required in Buckinghamshire.

2.03 The public and private provision of mainstream housing is also largely mirrored when considering Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. One common form of Gypsy and Traveller sites is the publicly-provided residential site, which is provided by the local authority, or by a registered provider (usually a housing association). Places on public sites can be obtained through a waiting list, and the costs of running the sites are met from the rent paid by the licensees (similar to social housing). There are currently five public sites in the study area.

2.04 The alternative to public residential sites is private residential sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. These result from individuals or families buying areas of land and then obtaining planning permission to live on them. Households can also rent pitches on existing private sites. Therefore, these two forms of accommodation are the equivalent to private ownership and renting for those who live in bricks and mortar housing.

2.05 The Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population may also utilise other forms of sites due to their mobile nature. Transit sites tend to contain many of the same facilities as a residential site, except that there is a maximum period of residence which can vary from a few weeks to a period of months. An alternative is an emergency stopping place. This type of site also has restrictions on the length of time for which someone can stay on it, but has much more limited facilities than a transit site. Both of these two types of site are designed to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers whilst they travel.

2.06 Also to be considered are unauthorised developments and encampments. An “unauthorised development” refers to the occupation of land which is owned by the Gypsies and Travellers themselves, but for which they do not have planning permission to use for residential purposes. An “unauthorised encampment” refers to the unauthorised occupation of land which is not owned by the Gypsies and Travellers.
Caravan Count

2.07 The best quantitative information available on the Gypsy and Traveller caravan numbers derives from a biannual survey of Gypsy and Traveller caravans which is conducted by each local authority in England on a specific date in January and July of each year. This count is of caravans and not households which makes it more difficult to interpret for a study such as this because it does not count pitches or resident households. It must also be remembered that the count is conducted by the local authority on a specific day and that any unauthorised encampments which occur on other dates will not be recorded.

2.08 The following paragraphs give the details of the current site provision as provided by the Buckinghamshire District Authorities (figures correct as of February 2013 - for a more detailed account, see Appendix A) and the numbers of caravans in each district as recorded in the most recent published caravan counts (at the time of writing, the January 2013 count). These counts do not include any Showpeople caravans in the area. We would also note that the caravan count figures are provided for illustrative purposes to demonstrate the relative size of the populations and are not used in any modelling of future pitch requirements in this study.

Aylesbury Vale

2.09 Aylesbury Vale District has 83 authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches (of which 21 have temporary permissions), with a further 3 plots for Travelling Showpeople on an unauthorised site. The most recent caravan count in the district (January 2013) recorded a total of 231 caravans on authorised sites, of which 43 were on sites with temporary permission. The count also recorded 5 caravans on unauthorised sites.

Chiltern District

2.10 Chiltern District has 21 authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches (of which 2 have temporary permissions), with a further 17 plots for Travelling Showpeople. The most recent caravan count in the district (January 2013) recorded a total of 42 caravans on authorised sites, of which 29 were on public sites and 13 on sites with temporary permission. The count also recorded 3 caravans on unauthorised sites.

South Bucks District

2.11 South Bucks District has 100 authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches (of which 2 have temporary permissions), and no plots for Travelling Showpeople. The most recent caravan count in the district (January 2013) recorded a total of 201 caravans on authorised sites, of which 108 were on public sites. The count also recorded 10 caravans on unauthorised sites.

Wycombe District

2.12 Wycombe District has 49 authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches (of which 3 have temporary permissions), with a further 10 plots for Travelling Showpeople. The most recent caravan count in the district (January 2013) recorded a total of 64 caravans on authorised sites, of which 2 were on sites with temporary permission. The count also recorded 9 caravans on unauthorised sites.
3. Consultation Findings

Introduction

3.01 In order to set the context of the research and ensure the study is based on a sound understanding of the relevant issues, a list of 38 stakeholder contacts was provided to ORS by the local planning authorities with the aim of carrying out telephone interviews. A further 20 stakeholder contacts were subsequently provided throughout the interviewing period, making a total of 58 contacts.

3.02 Of the 58 contacts, 3 proved difficult to engage because the information was either incorrect or people had changed jobs and it was not appropriate to contact them and 6 people/organisations did not wish to be interviewed.

3.03 This resulted in there being 49 legitimate contacts who were contacted on several occasions by e-mail and telephone. ORS conducted 41 semi-structured (83.6% response), in-depth telephone interviews during February and March 2013 (though one interview was conducted in May). The interviews typically lasted between 30-40 minutes.

3.04 Reasons for not being able to conduct 8 interviews were:

- Agreed times for interviews were missed and not rescheduled regardless of requests;
- Those requested by e-mail to provide telephone contact details did not do so;
- Those contacted did not respond.

3.05 The interviews were carried out with officers and elected members representing the four Buckinghamshire councils. Officers from the following neighbouring authorities were also interviewed:

- Brent Council;
- Dacorum Borough Council;
- Hillingdon Council;
- Windsor and Maidenhead Royal Borough Council;
- Three Rivers District Council;
- South Oxfordshire District Council.

3.06 The officers interviewed worked in the following departments: Planning with Policy/Enforcement and/or Regeneration, Economic/Sustainable Development, Health and Housing/Housing Options. The aim of interviewing stakeholders from neighbouring authorities was to identify any migration between districts, what routes may be travelled, background information on the framework within which they operate and any perceptions they may have regarding Gypsy and Traveller and Showpeople communities within their operational areas.
ORS also interviewed wider stakeholders and these included interviews undertaken with individuals who had knowledge and experience of working with and/or who were Gypsies or Travellers themselves and supporting organisations such as Parents and Children Together (PACT), Bucks and West Herts Gypsy Advocacy Group, NHS Buckinghamshire, Buckinghamshire County Council and Oxfordshire County Council.

With the aim of obtaining bricks and mortar contacts ORS asked all interviewees whether they knew of any Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople that had moved into bricks and mortar accommodation.

Council officers and members in Buckinghamshire and officers in surrounding areas were not able to assist in obtaining contacts of Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople that may have moved into bricks and mortar accommodation. Officers in Buckinghamshire asked that ORS contact housing associations operating in the area.

ORS interviewed representatives from the following housing associations:

- Aldwyck Housing Group;
- Catalyst Housing Ltd;
- Hightown and Praetorian Churches Housing Association;
- Paradigm Housing Association;
- Sovereign Housing Association;
- Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust.

Further to this, the Bucks Home Choice Partnership, which manages and monitors the operation of the housing allocations system across Buckinghamshire was also contacted as part of the study. The partnership consists of the four District Councils in Aylesbury Vale, Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe and the four main Registered Providers in the county – Paradigm, London and Quadrant, Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust and Red Kite Community Housing.

All of the Partnership members were asked to assess whether or not they could identify any Gypsy or Traveller households now living in permanent accommodation and they were asked to do this by reviewing the Bucks Home Choice register and details of previous allocations.

This exercise identified 15 such households who were subsequently contacted by letter. The letter asked the householder whether they were willing to take part in the BTANA survey and were given ORS’s number to contact. The 15 households that were contacted in this manner did not respond. 3 households in bricks and mortar accommodation did take part in the survey, but these were attained via other avenues.

Therefore, although numerous attempts were made to gather information about those in bricks and mortar accommodation from all those interviewed, this proved extremely difficult. Unfortunately, housing associations and other organisations found they were able to provide very little data or secure any contacts within bricks and mortar housing. This was mainly due to people not self-declaring their ethnicity during the housing application process or it was not possible to extrapolate this information from data sets/computer systems and tended generally not to be included in monitoring. In addition, figures from the 2011 Census suggest a relatively small population of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation (see para. 8.21).
The following sections summarises the overall findings from each of the groups interviewed:

- Council Officers (18) and members (4) in Buckinghamshire and officers in the surrounding areas (6);
- Wider Stakeholders (12) – Registered providers, support agencies and county councils.

Due to issues surrounding data protection and in order to protect the confidentiality of those who took part, this section uses minimal verbatim comments and represents a summary of the views expressed by council officers, members and stakeholders.

It should be borne in mind that the comments below reflect the opinions and experiences of stakeholders themselves, not the various Councils involved, and ORS makes no claims as to the validity or truth of their comments and as such, we have not tried to present evidence for or against statements made.

The comments in this section have not fed directly into project ions of current or future need, but rather have been taken as part of a range of evidence which has been used to draw conclusions later in the report.

**Council Officers and Members of Buckinghamshire Districts and Officers in Surrounding Areas**

**Main Policy Tools**


Respondents stated that they had some policies relating specifically to Gypsies and Travellers such as South Oxfordshire District Council’s Local Plan Policy H17 and Core Strategy Policy CSH5 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

It was generally agreed that the policies that were available were in the main effective, but there were concerns raised about the effectiveness of enforcement and Government guidance. This highlighted respondents’ perception of positive discrimination in relation to Gypsies and Travellers (or Showpeople) when planning permission was granted for sites in areas that would not normally see development, such as the Green Belt and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

It was generally agreed that there were few instances of roadside encampments within the Buckinghamshire area and when they did occur on the roadside, the Oxon and Bucks Gypsy and Traveller Service dealt with them very effectively.

When an encampment did occur a Code of Conduct was handed to those occupying the encampment and an assessment of their general health, welfare and educational needs for children where applicable would be undertaken. If the Code of Conduct was not adhered to by those occupying the encampment then action would be taken.

Officers in some surrounding authority areas mentioned emerging policies such as Three Rivers District Council’s Policy GT1: Traveller Site Allocations.
Current Accommodation Provision and Unauthorised Encampments

3.25 Officers mentioned 5 publicly owned local authority sites in the Buckinghamshire area:

- Bottoms Walton, Burnham - 10 pitches;
- Green Park, Amersham - 8 pitches;
- Mansion Lane, Iver - 32 pitches;
- The Orchards, Chalfont St Peter - 5 pitches;
- Wapseys Wood, Gerrards Cross - 17 pitches.

3.26 There is also a site in Aylesbury Vale owned by Buckinghamshire County Council (Cublington Road, Wing). However, this site is currently closed.

3.27 9 other public sites were identified by officers interviewed from surrounding local authority areas:

- Datchet (RB of Windsor and Maidenhead) – 17 pitches Council owned managed by Radian Care & Support;
- Waltham St Lawrence (RB of Windsor and Maidenhead) – 8 pitches Council owned managed by Housing Solutions;
- Colne Park, West Drayton (LB of Hillingdon) – 20 pitches owned and managed by the Borough;
- Middle Ground, Wheatley (Oxfordshire County Council) - 16 pitches;
- Ten Acre Park, Sandford-on-Thames (Oxfordshire County Council) - 16 pitches;
- Redbridge Hollow, Hinksey Hill (Oxfordshire County Council) - 24 pitches
- The Sturt, Oakley Wood, Benson (Oxfordshire County Council) - 5 pitches;
- Woodhill Lane, East Challow (Oxfordshire County Council) - 12 pitches;
- The Furlong, Downs road, Standlake (Oxfordshire County Council) - 16 pitches.

3.28 The majority of site provision is privately owned which has been, in the majority of cases, the result of retrospective planning permission. 15 privately owned sites were identified in the Buckinghamshire area and concerns were raised by some respondents that where several permissions had been given in an area, for example Stokenchurch, this would result in further sites being approved.

3.29 A few of those interviewed commented that their areas seem to be providing the majority of provision because other districts were stating that they had no need for provision in their areas.

3.30 Mention was made of the Thames Valley Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment undertaken by Tribal in 2006. It was felt by some respondents that undertaking an assessment in the same geographical area would have been preferable. It was raised that although partners had worked together, once an assessment of need had been calculated, some districts were not so keen to work together to meet the needs identified. So whilst some respondents would have liked to have worked on a wider geographical survey, it was confirmed that a thorough appraisal of how best to undertake the assessment had been undertaken and that carrying out the study on a Countywide basis was the best way forward. As per the
Duty to Cooperate, there is now a requirement for local planning authorities to work together, particularly if fundamental constraints mean that they could not meet all of their needs in their areas.

3.31 It was mentioned that it may be a good idea that once the Buckinghamshire Assessment has been completed that a meeting was held with neighbouring districts who may also be undertaking or finished their Assessments of Needs. The aim of the meeting would be to gain a better understanding of travelling patterns, unauthorised encampments and an indication of future need to see whether by working together, say in relation to temporary stopping places, a better response/service could be developed.

3.32 There appeared to be little knowledge amongst officers and members as to what sites were available for Showpeople; although officers from Chiltern mentioned one site at Holmer Green.

3.33 Officers did not have access directly to information on Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar but asked the housing associations in Bucks Home Choice to approach those in bricks and mortar to ascertain whether they would be prepared to be interviewed as part of the survey. Although 15 households were identified by housing associations, none of those contacted responded.

3.34 When Officers and members in Buckinghamshire were asked about unauthorised encampments, the vast majority mentioned the unauthorised development at Hemley Hill near Princes Risborough (Wycombe District) which is subject to an on-going legal challenge and therefore there are still Travellers living there. An encampment in Marlow town centre was also mentioned, although this has since moved on.

3.35 Several respondents, however, referred to one family that had been evicted from a public authorised site and who were moving around the north of the County, occasionally accompanied by another family.

3.36 The officers responding from the surrounding districts appeared to have few instances of roadside unauthorised encampments and a few mentioned they had no encampments over the last 5 years.

3.37 The vast majority of respondents perceived that there were many instances of unauthorised developments on private land. This was acknowledged to be generally where Gypsies or Travellers had purchased land, which was generally in the Green Belt or on agricultural land.

**Trends, Favoured Locations and Stopping Points**

3.38 When asked to consider trends in relation to these communities, Officers observed they believed there had been an overall decrease in the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers coming into their areas.

3.39 It was generally agreed that the Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople were settled in the area and were likely to have lived in the Buckinghamshire or surrounding areas for several generations.

3.40 It was acknowledged that any potential increases in numbers were more likely to be from natural population growth, rather than more of these communities coming into the area from other areas. Some respondents mentioned that they did not believe the Showpeople communities would increase in the same way as the Gypsy or Traveller communities may.

3.41 The majority responded that they had seen an increase in the amount of privately owned sites, usually following a retrospective and lengthy appeals process. Planning permission was likely to be given for a temporary, three year period possibly resulting in permanent permission.
Respondents were split on their view of any discernible seasonal fluctuations. Some believed that the majority of Gypsies or Travellers still travelled during the spring to summer months, whilst others believed that the majority travelled only for specific events such as Fairs during the summer school holidays.

It was agreed that Showpeople followed set travelling patterns during the spring to summer months and would stay on site during the winter months.

One respondent from a neighbouring authority mentioned a Showpeople site where the owner was looking to evict the occupants in order to develop the land for housing. This had, at the current time, been refused because it was contrary to planning policy.

It was mentioned that the following areas may be favoured by Gypsies or Travellers: Datchet, Horton and Wraysbury, Hemel Hempstead, Chalfont St Peter and Iver.

However the majority of respondents felt that the only attraction to the area was the availability of cheap land or because they had family living in the area. Some respondents suggested that Gypsies and Travellers preferred the south of the County because of its accessible routes to London and the opportunities to work. A few respondents mentioned that the north of the County was popular because of the existing sites and that green field land is cheaper.

Respondents believed that there were no regular travelling patterns for these communities and those that were in the area had been static for a number of years.

It was stated that as there had been few instances of roadside encampments officers and members believed that there was little need for a transit site. Although there had been a transit site at Whites Hill (On A355 just north of Beaconsfield), it has been closed for some years. This was not only because of the poor access into the site, but also because it was very seldom used. It was not believed that there has been any increase in Gypsies or Travellers stopping on the roadside as a result of this closure.

It was mentioned that a private site which had at one time had a good reputation had over the last 2 years become an issue. This was because, apparently, pitches were being offered to local residents in accommodation need by the owner, rather than being offered to Gypsies or Travellers.

**Accommodation Needs: Permanent provision**

Although it was stated that there had been few instances of unauthorised encampments in the area the majority of those interviewed believed there was a lack of permanent site provision. It was also noted that a single family moving around the area may give the impression unauthorised encampments are a greater problem than they actually are, which may then lead people to believe that there is a greater need for site provision than is actually the case.

Most respondents who believed there was a need for further site provision based their opinion on the fact that the public owned and managed sites in both Buckinghamshire and the surrounding areas are full and had waiting lists.

The majority of respondents that believed there was a need for additional site provision felt that it should be provided through small, privately owned family sites in rural areas, but still close to local amenities.
3.53 A few respondents believed that any further provision should be for publicly owned sites because not all Gypsies or Travellers could afford to purchase their own land. Some officers believed that it should not necessarily be presumed that any further provision should be provided by or managed by the county councils.

3.54 However, some respondents stated they had no need in their area and indeed some were vociferous in their views about whether there was a need for further provision at all, or if it was needed, the type, number and location of any sites. This could result in those districts already providing sites being compelled to increase their provision because of natural growth, whilst other local authorities never acknowledging a need to provide some provision however small.

3.55 Few respondents mentioned Showpeople other than to make reference to the fact that they were a separate group to Gypsies and Travellers in that they were perceived as being “business” people and the fact that their sites appeared to be well run.

**Accommodation Needs: Transit Provision**

3.56 No respondents mentioned the need for short stay (roadside) stopping places although some officers in neighbouring districts recognised that there may be a small need for transit sites. It was also mentioned that this could be a shared resource.

**Site Location and Management**

3.57 It was generally agreed that any new sites should be close to amenities such as schools, GPs, public transport and road networks although it was stated by most that this would be easier said than done.

3.58 Although the majority agreed that sites should be located in rural areas, some respondents offered an opinion that new sites should be located on the edge of towns.

3.59 Some officers put forward that the size of sites should be limited to 8-15 pitches and that each pitch should be able to accommodate both a larger static/mobile home and space for a touring caravan.

3.60 When asked about whether residents should have the right to share pitches it was generally agreed that this was acceptable providing it was not going to infringe any health or safety regulations or be used as a way of circumventing the need for future pitch provision. It was also agreed that this should not be forced on residents and sharing should only occur with the residents consent; it was also suggested that ideally there should be set policies and agreements that would be signed by the parties involved.

3.61 The majority of respondents who had stated they believed future provision should be through private sites also believed they should be privately managed, although there were a couple of respondents that were concerned about privately owned sites that were managed by Gypsies or Travellers.

3.62 No ideas for locations were put forward for new sites.

**Community, Health and Education Issues**

3.63 Most officers and members highlighted community cohesion as an issue that arose when there is an unauthorised encampment or unauthorised development in an area.
3.64 Examples were given where community relations had initially broken down but once a site had been granted permission, integration had been accomplished. It was put forward that this had been because both the residents of the site itself and the settled community with assistance of the parish council had been proactive in resolving any issues.

3.65 It appeared that no work was being undertaken to smooth relations where issues had arisen. It was generally recognised, however, that there was a need for greater understanding of the issues especially in relation to the cultural needs of Gypsies and Travellers. It was believed that this would only be achieved through the provision of Equality and Diversity training or learning seminars for the officers, members and the settled community.

3.66 However, it was also generally recognised that Gypsies and Travellers also needed to be more open and forthcoming not only about their genuine needs but also their commitment to the local community in which they wished to reside within.

3.67 There is little evidence to highlight with regard to any concerns that officers or members may have in relation to health and education for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople. One respondent did raise the issue of Gypsy or Traveller children requiring transport to be paid for as they had moved to a more rural area and wished to remain at a specific school. It was noted that this was not something that could be afforded in the current financial climate.

Cross Boundary Issues

3.68 When asked to consider cross boundary issues there was no evidence to suggest that the same Gypsies and/or Travellers were moving between district council areas.

3.69 Other than the work being undertaken for the Buckinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller and Showpeople needs assessment there was no mention of any other cross boundary working but it was often highlighted that there was a need to work together and this could be improved.

Consultation Activities

3.70 There were few examples of regular consultation with Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople. The London Borough of Hillingdon stated that they hold a regular forum to discuss a range of issues with Gypsy and Traveller groups and used such a vehicle to consult on their Policy H3 during the development of their Local Plan Part 1: Strategic Policies.

3.71 There was evidence of some specific consultation in relation to finding out residents’ needs in relation to site design, refurbishment and maintenance on the public sites and also in relation to the core strategy process.

3.72 Other than the joint working for this assessment and assessments that have recently been carried out in nearby areas, there appears to have been little consultation with Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople. There also seemed to be confusion or questions raised as to what “regular” and “consultation” actually meant and what could be consulted on.

3.73 Where specific consultation was carried out it was usually done so through face to face site visits, questionnaires or through representative organisations.
Some interviewees commented that they had attended seminars and received training and met some Gypsies or Travellers living within their areas and had found that helpful. Some respondents believed that more training was needed in order that they would be able to appreciate the issues a little better.

It was generally agreed that more consultation needed to take place and that the current way of dealing with any issues that presented itself was dealt with in an ad hoc, reactive, rather than proactive way and there was little strategic planning. It was interesting to note that scant mention was made to strategies such as housing or sustainable community strategies.

The Future and Any Additional Issues

It was generally hoped that further site provision would be provided in the areas that were interviewed.

Some responded they believed there would be little change in the areas in which they operate.

However, some officers stated that although not aware of any particular issues or trends in relation to these communities they acknowledged that there may be a need for additional site provision should other Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople move into the area or indeed, existing local families create new households.

It was generally believed that further site provision should be progressed based on any needs identified, but that this would mean a lot of consultation and that it would be a difficult process, especially politically and in relation to protecting the local landscape.

Some respondents also raised concerns over further expansion of existing sites but also not taking into account where Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople would want to live and that consultation with these groups should take place sooner rather than later.

Concerns were raised by some respondents about the reporting of issues relating to Gypsies and Travellers in the local press and the ability for local campaign groups to scupper plans for additional sites through social media and other IT mechanisms.

In response to these issues it was highlighted that more education of both Travellers and non-Travellers needed to take place in order to develop a greater understanding.

Concerns were raised about the amount and effectiveness of current government guidance and their timescale especially in relation to the drawing up a 5 year land supply for sites. In addition to this there was also some frustration of the additional work that had been caused due to the scrapping of the previous government’s targets for new sites.

Another issue that was raised was whether there would be any impact for these communities in relation to welfare benefit changes.
Wider Stakeholders

Main Policy Tools

3.85 Respondents did not have any specific policies relating to Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople. They used national policy and guidance specific to their area of expertise for example The Delivering Race Equality in Mental Health Care (DRE) 2005-2010, the Common Assessment Framework for Children and Young people (CAF) and the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

3.86 Organisations also had their own policies and examples were given as Equality and Diversity, lettings and allocations especially in relation to Choice Based Lettings, caravan site licensing and enforcement. Although not specifically used in relation to Gypsies and Travellers there was usually an equality and diversity statement included in any policy documentation.

3.87 Respondents generally agreed that both national policy and guidance was generally effective but that sometimes working in partnership and having to take into account their partners policies, meant that some adaptations had to take place in order to make them effective when working with Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople.

Current Accommodation Provision and Unauthorised Encampments

3.88 Most stakeholders were able to name either private or public sites in the area and it was mentioned that there are two Showpeople sites in the south of the County. Registered Providers tended to less aware of what site provision was available.

3.89 The majority of stakeholders interviewed were unable to help with regard to gaining contacts for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople who may have moved into bricks and mortar accommodation.

3.90 Only housing associations found they were able to provide some data regarding Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople who may have moved into their properties. It was generally thought there were far more members of these communities living in their properties, but the lack of information was due to people not self-declaring their ethnicity during the housing application process, it was not possible to extrapolate this information from data sets/computer systems and tended generally not to be included in monitoring.

3.91 This exercise did, however, identify 15 households who were subsequently contacted by letter. The letter asked the householder whether they were willing to take part in the BTANA survey and were given ORS’s number to contact; this did not elicit any response from those contacted.

3.92 Some stakeholders mentioned that there had been a few roadside encampments, in areas such as Aylesbury, Amersham, Wendover, Stokenchurch and Aston Clinton. It was mentioned that one Irish Traveller family had been evicted from a public site and they were constantly being moved around the County and their accommodation needs were not being addressed. In addition to this there were issues in relation to their children’s schooling as assistance is required to transport them to school; this was also perceived as not being addressed as quickly as it should be.

3.93 One stakeholder mentioned that a lack of, or a lot of unauthorised encampments should not be used as an indicator of need. Just because there was a regular encampment on a roadside did not mean that they
required accommodation as they could be visiting family and/or friends and there were no spare pitches or space to pitch up legally.

3.94 It was raised by a couple of stakeholders that Gypsies or Travellers would not be “attracted” specifically to the area as that indicated that they were coming from elsewhere.

3.95 The general opinion of the stakeholders interviewed stated that they believed there to be a static community of Gypsies or Travellers in the area and this was because they had family connections which had built up over a number of generations.

3.96 There was no evidence to suggest that the same Gypsies or Travellers were being moved backwards and forwards from district to district other than the one Irish Traveller family and a family that occasionally travelled with them; this family were apparently from Bedfordshire.

3.97 Some Stakeholders had experience of working with Gypsies and Travellers on both authorised and unauthorised sites. There was concern raised by some Stakeholders about the location of the public sites because of their proximity to tips, on gravel tips and/or busy roads.

3.98 Concerns were also raised about the need for refurbishment on some of the public sites and the poor facilities/condition of some of the private sites.

3.99 Stakeholders also mentioned the crowding on existing sites, lack of new public site provision and a lack of expansion on existing sites.

3.100 Some respondents believed that the smaller, privately run sites worked best and that the owners took more care of their sites than those sharing public site provision.

3.101 One respondent mentioned that there had been difficulties gaining access to some private sites because of the installation of electric gates.

Trends, Favoured Locations and Stopping Points

3.102 There was a general opinion that there had been a trend in the area for new sites being developed privately and that planning permission had been gained retrospectively.

3.103 Stakeholders generally believed there was a small trend for Gypsies and Travellers to move into bricks and mortar accommodation. Some stakeholders believed that this was through choice because of wishing for some stability especially in relation to children attending school. Some stakeholders, however, believed that Gypsies and Travellers were effectively being forced into bricks and mortar accommodation because of a lack of sites.

3.104 Some Stakeholders raised concerns about anti-social behaviour and the long term impact on mental health of some Gypsies and Travellers that have moved into bricks and mortar accommodation. With these issues in mind, some stakeholders raised concerns about Gypsies or Travellers moving in and out of rented accommodation and moving onto sites or travelling; thus creating a revolving door.

3.105 Some stakeholders acknowledged that there appeared to be a trend towards better attendance at school for Gypsies and Travellers and that many more Gypsies or Travellers were seeing the benefits of education.
The perception was that children would now be able to compete on the same level as others for higher education or opportunities for employment for example.

3.106 The majority of respondents had no knowledge of what seasonal fluctuations there are. Although one highlighted the fact that Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople are distinct communities, each having their own way of life and culture. For example Showpeople will most probably travel for work from Easter until November, which is called the backend. Irish Travellers are likely to travel back to Ireland or go abroad for work such as to Spain for fruit picking during the summer. It was reported that English Travellers/Gypsies tended to be more settled, but still wished to continue their traditions and culture.

3.107 It was perceived by some respondents that Gypsies and Travellers were travelling less, particularly over the last couple of years. Reasons for the decline in travelling were thought to be; only travelling during school holidays, the cost of diesel and the poor economic climate and resultant lack of work opportunities.

3.108 In terms of where Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople were likely to be attracted to, respondents differed in their opinion. Some respondents believed that these communities would prefer to live in rural areas, whilst others believed they preferred living on the edge of towns.

3.109 There did not appear to be any favoured stopping places in the area mainly because there was nowhere to stop and it was acknowledged that encampments were dealt with swiftly by the Police and Oxon and Bucks Gypsy and Traveller Service.

Accommodation Needs

3.110 Respondents believed that there was in the main a lack of all types of sites in order to meet the different communities’ perceived need. However, there was mention that should the Dudley Wharf site be operating as it should in terms of only Gypsies or Travellers be living there rather than plots being rented to non-Travellers, and if the two sites in the north, which were considered to be in good locations be re-opened, then this could meet some of the perceived need.

3.111 It was generally acknowledged that the more site provision was available that it was likely that some of the families that had moved into bricks and mortar accommodation may take the opportunity to move back to sites.

3.112 It was believed by some respondents that having the ability to provide temporary site accommodation would help relieve some of the pressure on enforcement officers and provide a better service for local Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople and their relatives.

3.113 It was acknowledged by some Stakeholders that there was little evidence of unauthorised roadside encampments and therefore transit stopping places along the roadside were perhaps not needed. However, the one stakeholder felt that there was a distinct need for transit sites across the county, and advocated the re-opening of the Whites Hill transit site, albeit with strict management to ensure that the site would not be used for permanent residential purposes.

Site Criteria, Location and Management of Sites

3.114 Respondents stated that the things they considered most important when determining where sites should be located were:
• Access to amenities and facilities such as GPs, schools, shops, public transport etc.;
• Safe walking routes to facilities;
• Away from health and environmental hazards such as tips, busy roads, pylons;
• Considering the needs of the communities you are catering for in terms of where they would like to live, rather than forcing them into an area that are unlikely to be sustainable;
• Making sure the needs and impact on the settled community were taken into consideration.

3.115 Very little information was gathered in relation to where new sites could be located. Suggestions included:
• Designing a separate access to the field at the bottom of the Mansion Lane site in Iver to provide a small private site;
• A piece of land off the A40 just outside Stokenchurch currently being used as a storage area (this land had been identified in the Baker Associates report);
• Looking at privately owned sites that had previously been turned down for planning.

3.116 It was recognised by the all stakeholders that providing additional sites in locations that would be acceptable to Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople and the settled community was going to be a challenge.

3.117 Respondents had differing views on the management of sites, some believed that the current balance of County run sites and privately managed sites were about right, whilst others raised specific issues. These included rumours of some sites being handed over to the residents to manage or that the system of site waiting lists was open to abuse by those managing the sites.

Community, Health and Education Issues

3.118 Stakeholders gave a very varied picture of issues relating to community cohesion in the Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas. There had been instances in the area of what could be considered as hate crime and/or racial discrimination.

3.119 It was generally felt that there were not enough networks or support for Gypsies and Travellers.

3.120 There was a general recognition that Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople communities should not be bunched together as one and that care should be taken when talking with those who said that they spoke on behalf of “their” community.

3.121 Most respondents were not able to take a view on whether there were specific issues in relation to health for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople. Those that did mentioned mental health, Arthritis, Diabetes, lack of regular eye and hearing tests, and lack of regular visits to the dentist. However, it was not felt that there was enough evidence to suggest that in Buckinghamshire the health needs or accessibility to health services were any worse for Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople over other disadvantaged groups.

3.122 One respondent did raise their concerns relating to health issues within Buckinghamshire because they believed the health inequality gaps, in pockets of deprivation, were widening. The respondent believed there should be a collective approach and that housing has an important part to play in that.
With regard to education it was reported that there had been vast improvements with regard to accessibility and attendance for children from these communities mainly as a result of changes in government policy.

A few of those interviewed did mention that there was still challenges relating to older children, especially girls, attending secondary and higher education.

It was not reported that there are any specific projects or support groups that look to improve either health or education outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers and there was a lot of concern around the cutting of services such as Traveller Education.

One respondent mentioned the low levels of literacy within these communities and highlighted the difficulties this can present for those living in bricks and mortar and their ability to sustain their tenancy.

Cross Boundary Issues

Most of those interviewed were unable to identify any routes that may be used by Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople. The few that were able to specify mentioned the M25 and M4.

There did not appear to be a trend for these communities to move to neighbouring districts and those that are in the area here are because they already have family and work connections.

Only one Stakeholder mentioned that there had been instances of the “English” Travellers and Showpeople being moved backwards and forwards between districts, but that was because of land that they had purchased.

Consultation Activities

An impression was given that there needed to be more opportunities to work together not only between public bodies and support agencies and between areas, but also between Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople and the settled community. In general terms it was raised that there needed to be more education with regard to how the different communities live and what their cultural needs are.

There were very few examples of regular consultation and there were no examples other than this study that were put forward. Views on the way this study had been carried were mixed.

There was an acknowledgement by some Stakeholders that consultation needed to be improved.

The Future and Additional Issues

Respondents hoped that the existing sites would remain and more sites would be provided, but the general consensus was that this would be unlikely. One reason put forward was the competition for land when building houses in general was difficult enough and they predicted that the situation would get worse.

Some respondents recognised the need for additional support for these communities in terms of improving community cohesion and in relation to those that had moved into bricks and mortar accommodation.

One respondent believed that there would be more from these communities that would live in bricks and mortar accommodation rather than on sites and this number would increase. It was believed this would be
inevitable because any children growing up would be more likely to live in similar accommodation, rather than reverting to their culture of living on a site or travelling. However, it was pointed out that just because a Traveller is living in bricks and mortar and/or is not travelling, it does not mean they are no longer from these communities.

3.136 There was a general consensus that there was a lack of understanding between Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople and the settled community living in bricks and mortar accommodation. It was also agreed that nothing was being done by councils to address these issues and therefore the situation was unlikely to improve.

3.137 Some respondents put forward that perhaps once this work was completed and there was a clearer idea of the needs of these communities, then some work should be done to break down barriers and improve peoples’ understanding of both the issues surrounding the need for more sites and cultural awareness.
4. Parish Council & Residents’ Association Consultation

4.01 To supplement the findings of this study, a consultation was carried out with Parish Councils and Residents’ Associations in Buckinghamshire during February 2013. This asked about the groups’ views and experiences of Gypsies and Travellers in the area. A short open-ended questionnaire was sent to 173 Parish Councils in the area (143 via email and 30 via post) and 43 Residents Associations (26 via email and 17 via post). Of the 216 sent, 49 completed questionnaires were returned; 42 from parish councils and 7 from Residents’ Associations.

4.02 It should be noted that as only 49 responses were received the summary below cannot be assumed to be a full and representative overview of Parish Councils’ and Residents Associations’ opinions in Buckinghamshire. We cannot assume that the views of non-responding Parish Councillors and Residents’ Associations are the same or otherwise and therefore the information below is purely a summary of the comments received.

4.03 It should be noted that a significant number of those that responded had no/little interaction with Gypsies or Travellers and/or had no problems with them. It is also not uncommon for consultations such as these to attract a biased response from those experiencing problems, so caution should be exercised when reviewing the summary and as with the previous chapter, it should be borne in mind that while these are the opinions and experiences of some Parish Councils and Residents’ Associations, ORS makes no claims as to the validity or truth of their comments and as such, we have not tried to present evidence for or against statements made.

4.04 This section should not be read in isolation, but rather as part of a range of evidence which has been used to draw conclusions later in the report.

Sites

4.05 13 parishes reported sites within their boundaries and many referred to occasional encampments of Travellers passing through on their way elsewhere. A few parishes reported that these temporary encampments resulted in littering and had caused damage to land. A number noted that sites had been established without prior planning applications, with some subsequently gaining retrospective planning permission. This has resulted in some sites which are felt to be dangerous or unsuitable, with little access to facilities. In some parishes, these planning disputes had caused tensions between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled community.
Dealings and Relationships with Travellers

4.06 While the majority of respondents reported some dealings with Gypsies and Travellers, 18 reported very little or no dealings or relationships with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and thus had very little to say on the subject. The comments below therefore reflect the views of the 31 respondents that had some experience of dealing with the travelling communities. Of those who reported contact, many groups had been involved in planning disputes with Travellers attempting to gain permission for sites within their parish.

4.07 Of those who had dealt with travellers, the majority felt that the relationship between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled community in their area was negative to some extent. Even one parish councillor who reported no recent dealings with Gypsies and Travellers felt that there was anxiety amongst the settled community about the possibility of sites in the parish.

4.08 Nonetheless, a small number respondents reported positive relationships in their area, including one parish with a number of Romany/Gypsy children enrolled in their school who were well integrated, whose parents had a very positive relationship with the school.

4.09 While only two Parish Councils mentioned Travelling Showpeople, their comments were generally positive, with one commenting that their resident Travelling Showpeople were considered part of the community. In contrast, the same Council reported that the Gypsies and Travellers in the area did not mix with the settled community.

Issues

4.10 Of those parishes that have dealt with Travellers, only 6 reported no issues. The remaining 21 reported a number of issues with Gypsies and Travellers, with the most common being;

- the unauthorised establishment and development of sites (often over bank holiday weekends, when local authority offices are closed), for which retrospective planning permission is then sought;
- littering/fly tipping/waste – both from Travellers in established sites and left by those stopping temporarily on their way elsewhere;
- planning violations – including the unauthorised expansion of sites (into Green Belt land), subdivision of pitches and the unauthorised use of outbuildings for residential purposes;
- other issues include the burning of large quantities wood and garden waste and pony trap racing on common land and public roads.

4.11 As noted above, Travelling Showpeople were mentioned by only two parishes, both of whom regarded them positively.

Trends

4.12 While most respondents did not identify specific trends, a few did feel that the number of unauthorised developments was increasing and some noted that incidences of unauthorised encampments had decreased in recent years.
While most parishes did not report any seasonal changes, six reported increased numbers of Travellers during the summer months, primarily in the form of temporary encampments. Two Parish Councils attributed this to seasonal events and fairs.

**Attractions**

In terms of what attracted Travellers to their area, respondents cited the availability of work opportunities (especially tree surgery, landscaping and gardening and driveway construction and maintenance), availability of land and a perception amongst Travellers of weak or ineffectual enforcement of planning rules, allowing Travellers to establish a site before applying for retrospective planning permission.

**Bricks and Mortar**

Only five parish councillors referred to Gypsies and Travellers residing in bricks and mortar in their area and in one of these, the councillor believed the Travellers had now left the area.

**Other Comments**

A number of the responses from Parish Councils explicitly stated that the parish was unsuitable for any further provision for Gypsies and Travellers and one parish councillor felt that any future sites should be situated away from the settled community.

One respondent felt that locating of Gypsy and Traveller sites in close proximity to Travelling Showpeople sites was inadvisable, and could cause tensions between these groups. The same respondent also suggested that smaller sites were more likely to integrate with the settled community.

It was also suggested that more help be given to Parish Councils and Residents’ Associations to help them prevent the unauthorised establishment of sites.

The Traveller site at Calverton was singled out by one council as an example of a well-managed site. The council also suggested that the site could be expanded to help alleviate any need.
5. Gypsy and Traveller Population

Survey of the Gypsy and Traveller Population

5.01 One of the major components of this assessment is a detailed survey of the Gypsy and Traveller population in the Buckinghamshire District Authorities. This aims to identify current households with housing needs, and to assess likely future household formation from within existing households, to help judge the need for future site provision. The survey sought to provide a baseline position on the resident Gypsy and Traveller population of the Buckinghamshire District Authorities.

5.02 Interviews were attempted with every Gypsy and Traveller household in the area who were present between January and February 2013. Therefore, the base date for the findings of this study is February 2013. Throughout the survey period interviewers from ORS worked from 9am to 7pm each day and made repeated visits to each household until a successful interview was concluded. In total, interviews were achieved on-site with 179 households, with a further 3 interviews carried out with households in bricks and mortar accommodation and 5 with Showpeople. We would note that the process of interviewing and reporting Travelling Showpeople in Buckinghamshire in discussed separately in Chapter 7 of this report. Given the low number of interviews carried with those in bricks and mortar and resultant data protection issues, the results of these interviews have not been included. The questionnaire used for the Gypsy and Traveller on-site interviews has been included in this report as Appendix F.

5.03 For the 179 on-site Gypsy and Traveller interviews, the following number took place in each local authority:

- Aylesbury Vale – 68 interviews
- Chiltern – 15 interviews
- South Bucks – 57 interviews
- Wycombe – 39 interviews

5.04 On the basis of 286 current Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Buckinghamshire this represents a good response rate. However, as discussed in more detail later the household survey threw up a number of complex issues. On a number of the sites there was clear evidence of severe overcrowding. However, a number of sites were also predominantly occupied by non-Travellers. These non-traveller households were not interviewed and therefore do not form part of the sample. It is estimated that at 9 pitches in Aylesbury Vale, 17 pitches in South Buckinghamshire and 5 pitches in Wycombe are occupied by non-Traveller households. The 9 pitches in Aylesbury Vale have seen enforcement action since the time of the survey and the non-Traveller households have been removed from the site.

5.05 Therefore, in practice there are around 255 occupied pitches in Buckinghamshire, so 179 interviews represents a high response rate of around 70%. A further 20 pitches are occupied by households who do
not see them as their permanent base, but in most cases these households travel permanently and are using the pitches on a transitory basis.

5.06 Throughout this study the person responding to the survey will be referred to as the respondent, and in questions which refer to all people in the household they will be referred to as household members. Throughout the remainder of this report the majority of numbers which appear on the charts represent the percentage of respondents who appear in that category. The purpose of showing percentages is to allow the results of the survey to be extrapolated to the whole Gypsy and Traveller population of Buckinghamshire. In a few cases, it is more appropriate to use the actual number of respondents, and these cases are clearly identified. In all charts those respondents who answered ‘don’t know’, or did not answer the question, are omitted unless otherwise stated.

Length of Residence

5.07 The majority of Gypsies and Travellers surveyed have a long period of residence on their current site, with two thirds (67%) of respondents having lived on their site for 5 years or more (see Figure 1). 90% of respondents identified their current site as being their permanent base. Of those who did not, the majority said they were constant travellers with no permanent base.

Connections with the Area

5.08 Respondents noted a variety of different connections to their local areas (see Figure 2), with the main links identified being that their family were from the area (58%), that they have lived in the area for a long time (39%), or that their friends are from the area (26%). Having family members working in the area and having always lived in the area were both identified as links by 22% of respondents.
Ethnic Background

6.09 Romany Gypsy was the most commonly reported ethnicity amongst respondents, with 46.4% explicitly identifying themselves as such. The other main ethnic groups identified were Irish Travellers (29.6%) and English Travellers (21.2%). For more discussion of different Traveller groups, see para. 9.21.

Age and Household Profile

6.10 The households showed a mixed range of ages across their members. Nearly one in ten (9.8%) household members were over 60, but 44% of all household members were aged 16 years or under. Nearly a third of all household members were of school age and another 13% were children aged 4 years or less.
Nearly three quarters (73.2%) of respondents reported just one household living on their pitch. However, a more detailed analysis of those reporting more than one household per pitch shows that some appear to have been counting the number of households on their private or unauthorised site rather than a single pitch.

**Health Problems**

31% of respondents interviewed (55 respondents) reported that their household contained at least one member with a long-term health problem. Of those who reported a long-term health problem within the household, 43.6% said their existing pitch did not meet the care needs of those with health issues. Reasons given include difficulties with wheelchair access, and inadequate toilet access. One respondent reported numerous health issues within their household and would like to move to bricks and mortar accommodation.
6. Existing Sites

Type of Site

6.01 171 interviews (95%) were carried out on authorised sites (126 on private sites and 45 on public sites. The remaining eight were carried out on unauthorised sites. (see Fig. 5 below).

6.02 All respondents were asked if they require extra caravans. 23 respondents (12.8%) indicated that they would like another caravan within their existing household. 13 of these respondents reported that additional caravans were needed for older children, 9 said they were needed for adult relatives, and two for other members of the household.

6.03 When asked how many additional caravans were needed, 9 respondents said they required a single additional caravan and 7 that an additional two caravans were needed. The remaining respondents said they required 3 or more additional caravans.

6.04 20 of these 23 respondents reported that there was space on their existing pitch for these extra caravans.

6.05 The phrasing of this question focused on a need rather than a demand for more caravans. Respondents were asked, irrespective of who was purchasing the caravans, whether they needed more caravans for household members. Therefore, this question simply reflected a perceived need for more caravans, rather than an ability to afford (demand for) more caravans.

6.06 16 respondents said there was someone else who needed to live with them, who is not able to at present. Half of these said the person(s) who needed to live with them were relatives currently travelling locally or elsewhere.
Views of Sites

6.07 Most respondents were satisfied with their sites. 93% of respondents expressed some form of satisfaction with their site, with less than 5% expressing dissatisfaction.

6.08 Figure 7 shows the improvements that respondents felt could be made to their permanent sites. 59% of respondents felt that no improvements were required.

6.09 Of those respondents who desired improvements to their sites, the main suggestions were improved road surfacing, a play area for children, and better washing and toilet facilities. Amongst “other” improvements mentioned by respondents were fencing/hedging, better surfacing on pitches and wheelchair access.

Figure 7
Improvements Which Respondents Would Like to See on Their Site, by all Respondents on Permanent Sites (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)
Nearly four fifths of respondents (79.9%) felt that their current pitch was meeting their needs in terms of accommodation quality, space, facilities, location and management. However, 36 respondents did not feel their needs were met.

The most common reasons why the site did not meet respondents’ needs included the lack of a play area, the lack of facilities, the site being dirty/polluted and the site being too small (see Figure 8 below). ‘Other’ responses expressed concern about a lack of water and electricity on sites (3 respondents) and rodents (2 respondents).

Of the 36 who felt that their current accommodation and site did not meet their needs, 4 respondents (11%) felt that their problems could not be addressed at their current pitch/site.

Figure 8
Reasons why Respondents feel their Site doesn’t meet their needs (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2013)

Propensity to Travel

62% of respondents reported that they had not travelled at all during the last 12 months, and 28% of those who did not travel in the past 12 months had not travelled in the past. More than half (56%) of those who had travelled in the past, but not in the previous 12 months, reported that this was because they wanted a more settled lifestyle. Other reasons given for not travelling in the last 12 months included illness of family members (21%) and so that children could receive education (19%).
6.14 Of those respondents who had travelled in the past 12 months, nearly three fifths (58.8%) had spent less than three months away from their permanent base. Only 13.2% (9 respondents) had travelled all year round.

6.15 These respondents were asked to give their reasons for travelling. The main reasons identified were for fairs (52%), for a holiday (48%), and for work (30%).

**Bricks and Mortar**

6.16 Around a fifth (21%) reported that they had previously lived in a house, bungalow or flat. Nearly half of those who had previously lived in a house, bungalow or flat had not lived in this type of accommodation for 10 years or longer. 29% had lived in bricks and mortar at some point less than 5 years ago.

6.17 The common reasons given for living/having lived in this accommodation were; having grown up in bricks and mortar accommodation, trying out a more settled lifestyle, having nowhere else to go, and for their children’s education.
Moving to a New Permanent Base

6.18 12% of respondents (20 respondents) indicated that they would want or need to move to a new permanent base in the next 15 years.

6.19 The most common reasons for wanting or needing a new permanent base included a desire to live a more settled lifestyle/security (6 respondents) and a desire to live in a house (3 respondents).

6.20 9 of the 20 respondents wanting a new permanent base said they would most like to live in some kind of bricks and mortar accommodation (either a house or a bungalow). 6 respondents wanted to live on a Council run site.

6.21 Over half (11 respondents) expressing a need or want for a new permanent base wanted to remain within the Buckinghamshire area.
7. Travelling Showpeople

Introduction

7.01 This section focuses on the needs and aspirations of Showpeople in Buckinghamshire. As noted in the introduction, Travelling Showpeople are not a recognised ethnic group under the Equalities Act 2010, but within Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012 they are defined 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 family’s or dependent’s 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. (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).

Travelling Showpeople Households in Buckinghamshire

7.02 The population of Travelling Showpeople is typically smaller than that of Gypsies and Traveller and planning records also tend to be more disparate. Working with the respective authorities in Buckinghamshire, we were able to identify that there are the following number of active Showpeople yards in the study area with their number of plots (all are authorised unless otherwise stated):

» Aylesbury Vale – 1 unauthorised yard with 3 plots;
» Chiltern – 2 yards with 17 plots;
» South Buckinghamshire – no yards;
» Wycombe – 2 yards with 10 plots.

7.03 Therefore in total the study area contains 5 Showpeople yards with a total of 30 plots between them.

Survey of the Travelling Showpeople Population

7.04 During the course of the household survey with Gypsies and Travellers interviews were attempted with all Showpeople households in the area. Contact was made with most residents of almost all known Travelling Showperson sites and they confirmed that there are no immediate needs in the area.

7.05 In total, 5 interviews were carried out with Travelling Showpeople. Given the limited number of full interviews undertaken with Showpeople and also the less structured information gained from site visits, we have chosen not to provide detailed statistics on the population.

7.06 Chiltern District Council also provided ORS with the contact details of a group of Travelling Showpeople who own land in Chiltern and wish to develop their site in the area. They are mostly living in areas outside of Buckinghamshire and are sharing the sites of others. All 13 households self-completed a household
survey and these confirmed that none has permanent accommodation anywhere else and that all would wish to live in Chiltern District.

7.07 It could be argued that the wishes of this group represent a desire rather than a need to move to Chiltern District and that potentially other areas could meet their needs. However, similar arguments have been made on other applications such as a recent case in Selby and the planning inspectorate has found in favour of the Travelling Showpeople. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites requires local authorities to address the needs of in-migrant households. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites paragraph 22 states:

Local planning authorities should consider the following issues amongst other relevant matters when considering planning applications for traveller sites:

» 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;
» that the locally specific criteria used to guide the allocation of sites in plans or which form the policy where there is no identified need for pitches/plots should be used to assess applications that may come forward on unallocated sites;
» that they should determine applications for sites from any travellers and not just those with local connections.

7.08 Therefore the lack of current empty provision for Travelling Showpeople in Chiltern District may count against the authority and there is no requirement for applicants to prove local connections to the area when submitting an application to develop a site.

7.09 To exclude these households from being part of the needs figures, but to include households on unauthorised sites, as is the case with Gypsies and Travellers in the next section, would encourage households to move on to land they own rather than go through the formal planning process in the correct manner. Therefore, we have counted them as a need for 13 plots to fulfil the obligation of the local authorities under the Housing Act 2004.
8. Future Site Provision

Site Provision

8.01 This section focuses on the extra site provision which is required in Buckinghamshire currently and over the next 10 years by 5 year segments. This time period allows for robust forecasts of the requirements for extra provision based upon the evidence contained within this survey and also secondary data sources.

8.02 This section concentrates not only upon the total extra provision which is required in the area, but whether there is a need for any transit sites and/or emergency stopping place provision.

8.03 We have not considered provision made in the period 2006-2012 and instead we are taking 2013 as a baseline position for our estimates. However, any backlog of unmet need will have been captured within figures for current need. In this case the backlog of need refers to households who need to have their own accommodation. This includes concealed households, those on unauthorised sites who do not wish to move, those in bricks and mortar seeking to move to sites and other households on the waiting list.

8.04 We would also note the location for future provision is a key issue within studies such as this one. The estimates for local authorities within this study are based upon the location where needs will arise. This is not necessarily the same location as where need should be met. For example it is difficult for households to express a desire to live on a public site in an area which currently has no provision. Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are not constrained by local authority boundaries and potentially the requirement for one local authority could be met in a neighbouring area. However, for this to occur will require cooperation from both planning authorities. Therefore, we have not made explicit assumptions about the allocation of needs arising in one area being met in another area, but we would recommend that consideration is given within strategic planning documents that a more equitable allocation of provision is made between the authorities.

8.05 ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites’, requires an assessment for future pitch requirements, but does not provide a suggested methodology for undertaking this calculation. However, as with any housing assessment, the underlying calculation can be broken down into a relatively small number of factors. In this case, the key issue for residential pitches is to compare the supply of pitches available for occupation with the current and future needs of the households. The key factors in each of these elements are set out below:
Supply of pitches

8.06 Pitches which are available for use can come from a variety of sources. These include

» Currently vacant pitches;
» Any pitches currently programmed to be developed within the study period;
» Pitches vacated by people moving to housing;
» Pitches vacated by people moving out of the study area;
» Pitches vacated due to the dissolution of households (normally through the death of a single person household).

Current Need

8.07 There are four key components of current need. Total current need (which is not necessarily need for additional pitches) is simply:

» Households on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected;
» Concealed households;
» Households in brick and mortar wishing to move to sites; and
» Households on waiting lists for public sites.

Future Need

8.08 There are three key components of future need. Total future need is simply the sum of the following:

» Households living on sites with temporary planning permissions;
» New household formation expected during the study period; and
» Migration to sites from outside the study area.

8.09 We will firstly provide the model as set out above for Gypsies and Travellers within the whole Buckinghamshire area and then for each planning area contained within it. We will then separately analyse the possible need for additional transit provision in the study area before repeating the calculation for Travelling Showpeople.

Current Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision

8.10 There are currently 75 pitches on public sites and up to 211 on private or unauthorised sites in Buckinghamshire.

8.11 The next stage of the process is to assess how much space is, or will become available on existing sites. The main ways of finding this is through:

» Current empty pitches;
» New sites or site extensions which are likely to gain planning permission;
8.12 Currently, the Council owned site Haddenham in Aylesbury Vale is expected to provide 6 additional pitches and therefore these have been counted as future supply. Potentially under the terms of the 1997 permission The Orchards public site in Chiltern has permission for 11 pitches, so a further 6 pitches could be brought forward in the future. However, there are no imminent plans to bring these pitches forward so no other new sites are scheduled to be developed following the granting of planning permissions. If the 6 pitches are subsequently brought forward they would count as part of the future supply. For private sites, most are for one family and have no available space on them. Evidence from the household survey phase of this study indicates only a small number of pitches currently vacant. These could be sold to anyone across the country, generating inmigration, so we have not included them as vacant space within this study. There are also cases such as the Lowlands site in Wycombe which has a personal permission to meet the needs of a specific family. Our understanding is that one additional pitch on this site will be developed to meet locally generated needs, while the second additional pitch will meet the needs of a household from outside of the area. Therefore, we have counted one pitch as being vacant.

8.13 We would also note that the on-site survey uncovered that around 31 pitches were occupied by non-Gypsy and Traveller households, with parts of sites being sub-let. Given that most Gypsy and Traveller pitches and sites are conditioned on their use for only this community we have considered whether these 31 pitches can be considered as additional supply. However, this would require the assumption of enforcement action to be taken by the Councils concerned. Since the survey, 9 non-Traveller households have been removed from sites in Aylesbury Vale District, freeing them for use by the Traveller community and allowing the pitches to be counted as vacant. However, no other action has been scheduled at the time of writing. Therefore, we have not considered the 17 pitches at Dudley Wharf in South Buckinghamshire and 5 pitches at Pendle’s Paddock in Wycombe occupied by non-Travellers to be vacant, but also have not considered the households occupying these pitches to form part of the future growth of Gypsy and Traveller households in the area. Support for this position comes from other studies undertaken by ORS and also in West Somerset where a number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches were occupied by non Gypsies and Travellers. However, if enforcement action is taken, or the pitches are otherwise vacated, then these pitches could be counted towards future supply.

8.14 It is also the case that some households wish to move from sites to bricks and mortar. Currently there are nine households who would wish to leave their pitch for bricks and mortar housing. Of these, one is in Aylesbury Vale, two in Chiltern, five in South Buckinghamshire and one in Wycombe. The figure of 2 households wishing to move to bricks and mortar in Chiltern does not include any households at Brickfield Barn Prestwood where there is a current planning application for the conversion of existing barn to dwelling house.

8.15 For out-migration to other areas, households will also wish to move in the opposite direction. Therefore, we have treated these as being part of the future need section of the calculation.

8.16 The dissolution of a household occurs when all the members leave the household. Common reasons for the dissolution of a household are for a person living on their own to die, or to move to an existing household.
Given that households will also form in the future we have treated the net growth in household numbers as being part of the future need.

Additional Site Provision: Current Need

8.17 The next stage of the process is to assess how many households are currently seeking pitches in the area. Groups of people who are likely to be seeking pitches will include those:

» Households on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected;
» Concealed households;
» Households in brick and mortar wishing to move to sites; and
» Households on waiting lists for public sites.

Current Unauthorised Developments

8.18 As noted earlier, 8 of the 179 on-site interviews occurred on unauthorised developments or encampments. Of these, 2 households were passing through the area and did not see the sites as their permanent address, and are not seeking permanent accommodation in the area. However, the household survey when combined with planning records indicates that there are 4 pitches currently on unauthorised developments in Aylesbury Vale District, one pitch in Chiltern District, 7 pitches in South Buckinghamshire District and 6 in Wycombe District. These figures exclude any long-term unauthorised developments which are likely to gain certificates of lawful occupation if they were to be sought.

Concealed Households

8.19 A concealed household is one who is living within another household and would wish to form their own separate family unit, but are unable to do so because of a lack of space on public or private sites. For public sites no interviewees indicated that there was more than one household on their pitch and with only a small number of exceptions there were five or fewer persons per pitch. No households on public sites identified a lack of space and none wished to form new households in the next two years. Therefore, there is no evidence of any concealed households on public sites in Buckinghamshire.

8.20 The findings of the household survey and feedback from interviewers indicate that a small number of private sites in Buckinghamshire are in use beyond their capacity. However, this appears to largely be linked to the sub-letting of pitches to non-Traveller households described earlier rather than extensive sharing of pitches by concealed households. In total the household survey found 5 adult children over the age of 23 years living with their parents and 5 grandchildren within a household. None of these households expressed any wish to form their own households in the near future and it not uncommon for Gypsy and Traveller households to live as extended families. There is only one concealed household on the waiting list for public sites and they have been counted in the waiting list section. Therefore, this would indicate that there are very few concealed households within the survey data. It is also the case that only one household is seeking to form from within existing households in the near future and this is due to a planned marriage. Therefore, there is no clear evidence for including any concealed households within the needs figures.
Bricks and Mortar

8.21 Identifying households in bricks and mortar has been frequently highlighted as an issue with Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments. The 2011 UK Census of Population identified a population of 614 Gypsy and Traveller persons in the whole of Buckinghamshire. This is likely to be an under-estimate of the total population due to some Gypsies and Travellers not declaring their ethnic status or completing the Census at all. However, given the size of the on-site population, it does indicate that there is a small population in bricks and mortar.

8.22 As noted earlier, ORS worked with stakeholders, the local authorities and on-site interviewees to identify households in bricks and mortar and this process yielded three interviews, none of who wished to move on to sites. If any households had been identified as wishing to move from bricks and mortar to sites they would have been included in the needs figures.

8.23 We would note that households who are seeking to move from housing to public sites can express a desire to do so through registering on the waiting list for public sites and therefore will have been counted elsewhere in this calculation. Meanwhile those seeking to live on a private site could seek to do so on their own or pursue a privately rented pitch on an existing private site and pitches are currently for sale within Buckinghamshire.

8.24 We would also note that in a number of recent studies undertaken by ORS we have worked with national Gypsy and Traveller representatives to identify households in brick and mortar. For a number of recent studies the representatives reported over 100 known households in housing and they encouraged them to come forward to take part in the survey. The actual number who eventually took part in the surveys ranged from zero to six household per area, and not all wished to move back to sites. Therefore, while there is anecdotal evidence of many Gypsies and Travellers in housing most appear to be content to remain there and when provided with the opportunity by national representatives to register an interest in returning to sites few choose to do so.

Waiting Lists for Public Sites

8.25 The method of registering a desire to obtain a pitch on a public site is through placing your name on the waiting list held by Buckinghamshire County Council. Currently there are 26 registrations on the waiting list for a site in Buckinghamshire. However, households are allowed to apply for more than one site and in practice there are only 7 unique applications for a pitch on a public site in Buckinghamshire. The 7 unique applications come from the following sources:

- Two households in housing
- One household with no fixed abode
- One household in prison outside of Buckinghamshire
- Two households in housing outside of Buckinghamshire
- One household sharing a pitch on an existing site.
When undertaking assessment such as this it is accepted that it is not necessary to count all households as need. It can be the case that some of the households may be on waiting lists elsewhere in the country and will have their needs met elsewhere.

Therefore, we have counted the households in Buckinghamshire including the household of no fixed abode. This amounts to 2 pitches in Chiltern and 2 pitches in South Buckinghamshire.

Additional Site Provision: Future Need

The next stage of the process is to assess how many households are likely to be seeking pitches in the area in the future. Groups of people who are likely to be seeking pitches will include those:

» Households living on sites with temporary planning permissions;
» New household formation expected during the study period; and
» Migration to sites from outside the study area.

Temporary Planning Permissions

Buckinghamshire currently has 8 sites with temporary planning permissions, 3 in Aylesbury Vale District, 2 in Chiltern District, 1 in South Bucks District and 2 in Wycombe District. The Aylesbury Vale sites contain a total of 21 pitches, the Chiltern sites have 2 pitches, the South Bucks site has 2 pitches and the Wycombe sites have 3 pitches. In all cases the permissions will expire within the next 5 years, and the households on these sites have therefore been counted as need within this assessment, and pitches on the sites have not been counted as supply. However, if any of these pitches were to be granted permanent permission, they could be counted towards provision at that time.

New Household Formation

It is recognised that an important group for future pitch provision will be older children who form their own households. Many studies of Gypsy and Traveller populations assume a net growth in the population of around 3% per annum, and this figure was used in the South East of England Regional plan. However, long-term trends indicate that the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans on site has grown by 134% nationally in the past 34 years, which equates to a net growth of around 2.5% per annum. This figure may be slightly overstated because it includes some international migration from Irish Travellers, but represent the best indicator of long-term national on-site household growth. While it is possible to argue that because most studies use a net growth rate of 3% per annum it should be used here, we believe that an evidence base should use most accurate information possible and not simply rely upon precedent. The household survey for Buckinghamshire indicates an age profile for the population which is very typical of those obtained elsewhere by ORS. Therefore, we consider it appropriate to allow for future projected household growth to occur in line with national trends because the age profile for Buckinghamshire is similar to national patterns. Therefore, we have used 2.5% growth per annum for this study. When including the impact of compound growth, a 2.5% growth per annum provides for 13% growth over 5 years and 28% over 10 years.
On the basis that there are approximately 250 households on site (286 pitches minus 31 vacant or non Gypsy and Traveller pitches, minus 9 household moving to bricks and mortar plus 4 households on the waiting list), a growth rate of 28% would see an additional 70 households in the area by 2023.

In-migration from Other Sources

The most complicated area for a survey such as this is to estimate how many households will require accommodation from outside the area. Potentially Gypsies and Travellers could move to Buckinghamshire from anywhere in the country. The number of households seeking to move to Buckinghamshire is likely to be heavily dependent upon pitch provision elsewhere. It has been noted that a weakness of many Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments conducted across the country has been that they either allowed for out-migration without in-migration which led to under-counting of need, or they over-counted need by assuming every household visiting the area required a pitch.

Overall the level of in-migration to the Buckinghamshire is a very difficult issue to predict. Movement to the public sites is covered by the waiting list and therefore does not need to be included within the model again. Currently 4 households on sites in Buckinghamshire wish to move to sites elsewhere in the country. While this may not be possible, it does indicate that some households wish to leave the area. However, it is also the case that households do move into Buckinghamshire. Therefore, we have allowed for a balanced level of migration on to existing sites. The advantage of allowing for net migration to sum to zero is that it avoids the problems seen with other Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments where the modelling of migration clearly identified too low or high a level of total pitch provision. An assumption of net nil migration implies that the net pitch requirement is driven by locally identifiable need.

Beyond this number, rather than assess in-migrant households seeking to develop new sites in the area, we would propose that each case is assessed as a desire to live in the area and that site criteria rules are followed for each new site. It is important for the authorities to have clear criteria based planning policies in place for any new potential sites which do arise.
Overall Needs for Buckinghamshire

The estimated extra site provision that is required now and in the next 10 years for the four planning authorities will be 116 pitches to address the needs of all identifiable households. 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.

Figure 11
Extra Pitches which are Required in Buckinghamshire from 2013-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Pitches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement to and from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>98</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>133</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Overall Needs for Each Planning Authority

### Aylesbury Vale

**Figure 12**  
Extra Pitches which are Required in Aylesbury Vale from 2013-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Pitches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement to bricks and mortar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>46</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Chiltern

**Figure 13**
Extra Pitches which are Required in Chiltern from 2013-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Pitches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement to bricks and mortar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South Buckinghamshire

Figure 14
Extra Pitches which are Required in South Buckinghamshire from 2013-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Pitches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement to bricks and mortar</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stay in the area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wycombe

Figure 15
Extra Pitches which are Required in Wycombe from 2013-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Pitches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement to bricks and mortar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Split by Local Authority to 2023 in 5 year time period

8.36 In terms of providing results by 5 year time periods we have assumed that all unauthorised sites, waiting list needs and sites with temporary planning permissions are addressed in the first 5 years. Any supply from undeveloped sites is assumed to be developed in the first 5 years. Household formation is apportioned over time.

8.37 In summary, Figure 16 sets out the net requirement for new pitch provision by local authority until 2023. Any current need is included in the initial period 2013-2018 along with any need arising from new household formation during that time. Any supply of pitches has also been taken into account in the first period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Authority</th>
<th>2013-2018</th>
<th>2018-2023</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aylesbury Vale</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiltern</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Buckinghamshire</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wycombe</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>69</strong></td>
<td><strong>39</strong></td>
<td><strong>108</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transit Site/Emergency Stopping Place Provision

8.38 Transit sites serve a specific function of meeting the needs of Gypsy and Traveller households who are visiting an area or who are passing through on their way to somewhere else. A transit site typically has a restriction on the length of stay (around 13 weeks) and has a range of facilities such as water supply, electricity and amenity blocks. Transit sites are usually in public ownership i.e. provided and maintained by the Local Authority. They do not meet local need as this must be addressed on permanent sites.

8.39 An alternative to a transit site is an emergency stopping place. This type of site is typically more basic than a transit site, with comparatively limited facilities. It site also has restrictions on the length of time for which Travellers can stay and this is often much shorter than that applied to a transit site.

8.40 There are currently no operational transit sites or emergency stopping places in the study area. A former transit site at Whites Hill (nr Beaconsfield), owned and managed by Bucks CC, fell into disuse and was closed in 2010. ORS has spoken to a number of local authorities across the country and many indicate that publically provided transit sites are poorly used and in some cases have fallen out of use. This is part due to the location away from major travelling routes.

8.41 The household surveys and stakeholder interviews undertaken as part of this assessment have provided little evidence to suggest that any major travelling routes exist in Buckinghamshire. Where ORS have conducted household surveys with households on unauthorised encampments in Bucks, those households were generally seeking permanent accommodation as opposed to travelling through or visiting the study area. Neither does information from the caravan count indicate a need for accommodation to be provided
in Buckinghamshire for any one travelling through the study area. Equally there is little evidence from neighbouring authorities to suggest that there are currently any regular and established travelling routes through Buckinghamshire.

8.42 The authorities will need to monitor the situation over time, and should circumstances change and regular travelling routes emerge resulting in an increase in unauthorised encampments, a transit site or temporary stopping place might be considered.

### Needs for Plots for Travelling Showpeople

8.43 The estimated need for plots for Travelling Showpeople in Buckinghamshire is much simpler to model than for Gypsies and Travellers. No plots are expected to be freed due to any reason, there is no waiting list for sites, though there are 3 households on an unauthorised site in Aylesbury Vale District. Therefore, the needs are primarily driven by the needs for households from outside of the area and household growth.

8.44 As discussed in Section 7, the households who are seeking accommodation in Chiltern could be considered to be a want, not a need. However, none of the households are currently occupying their own plots elsewhere in the country and are instead sharing with other Travelling Showpeople, potentially in violation of site licenses and health and safety legislation relating to site capacity. Therefore, as with any other household in their current situation, we would argue that they do have clear unmet needs which require to be addressed somewhere.

8.45 While there is no clear reason why their needs must be met in Chiltern, there is also no reason they must be met anywhere else and they have identified the area they want to have them met as being Chiltern District. We would also acknowledge that there is a potential for double counting with the households seeking to live Chiltern District. Potentially they may have been counted as need in other areas where they currently reside. Data protection laws make the sharing of information from within this study with other authorities impossible, so this issue cannot be checked. However, we would note that one spokesperson for the Travelling Showpeople stated that they had not been interviewed as part of any other study and would not wish to be counted as part of the need in other areas.

8.46 For Gypsies and Travellers we have counted any household who are on unauthorised sites and wish to remain there as being part of the needs of that area. In this case the Travelling Showpeople have not chosen to move on to the site they own. However, if they had have done so then to be consistent with the Gypsy and Traveller needs calculation they would have been counted as need in Chiltern District. We would consider it a very perverse incentive within such calculations to count households who buy land and move on to it, but not those who seek to work through the planning process in a legitimate way by seeking planning permission before moving on to their land. It would simply represent an encouragement for any household seeking to develop a site to buy land and occupy it, which runs counter to government policy.

8.47 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites when read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework is clear that local authorities must deal with anticipated in-migration and cannot reject sites because of a lack of local connections. Therefore, following the principles adopted for Gypsies and Travellers that needs are met where they arise we have counted their needs as being met in Chiltern.

8.48 We would note that Planning Policy for Traveller Sites paragraph 25 states that:
8.49 It is therefore clear that responsibility for identifying land to address needs lies with the local authority and not potential applicants for sites. However, we would consider that the Travelling Showpeople seeking to live in Chiltern District are an area where cross boundary working may be useful. If the site owned by the applicants is deemed inappropriate for development another site will still be required to meet their needs. Potentially this could be anywhere in the wider area and Chiltern may wish to work with Buckinghamshire County Council and neighbouring authorities to identify potential alternative sites.

8.50 For other Travelling Showpeople households, the typical growth rate for the Travelling Showpeople population is typically lower than for Gypsies and Travellers with estimates normally being from 1%-1.5%. Given evidence from the on-site survey that there is no evidence of overcrowding, we have used the lower of these figures to allow for future household growth. A growth rate of 1% provides for total net growth of 10% over 10 years which equate to 4 households from the existing 30 plots. Including 13 in-migrant households and 3 households residing on an unauthorised site, the total provision for Travelling Showpeople needed in Buckinghamshire over the next 10 years is 20 plots.

8.51 The table below shows the need for Travelling Showpeople Plots in the period 2013-2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Pitches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement to bricks and mortar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>--</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** 20 0 20
Split by Local Authority to 2023 in 5 year time periods for Travelling Showpeople

In summary, Figure 18 sets out the net requirement for new pitch provision by local authority by local authority sites until 2023. Any in-migration need is included in the initial period 2013-2018 along with any need arising from new household formation during that time. Any supply of pitches has also been taken into account in the first period.

Figure 18
Extra Travelling Showpeople Provision in Buckinghamshire by Local Authority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Authority</th>
<th>2013-2018</th>
<th>2018-2023</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aylesbury Vale</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiltern</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Buckinghamshire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wycombe</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Again, it is still important for the authorities to have criteria based planning policies in place in the event of someone seeking to develop a new Showpeople’s yard or expand an existing one in the area.
9. Conclusions

Introduction

9.01 This chapter brings together the evidence presented earlier in the report to provide some key policy conclusions for Buckinghamshire. It focuses upon the key issues of future site provision for Gypsies and Travellers and also Travelling Showpeople.

Gypsy and Traveller Future Pitch Provision

9.02 Based upon the evidence presented in Chapter 8, the estimated extra pitch provision that is required for Gypsies and Travellers in the next 10 years in Buckinghamshire is 108 pitches. The table below shows the requirement by local authority by type of pitch in 5 year intervals. These figures should be seen as the minimum amount of provision which is necessary to meet the statutory obligations towards identifiable needs of the population.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Authority</th>
<th>2013-2018</th>
<th>2018-2023</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aylesbury Vale</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiltern</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Buckinghamshire</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wycombe</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>69</strong></td>
<td><strong>39</strong></td>
<td><strong>108</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transit Sites

9.03 There are currently no operational transit sites or emergency stopping places in the study area. A former transit site at Whites Hill (nr Beaconsfield), owned and managed by Bucks CC, fell into disuse and was closed in 2010. ORS has spoken to a number of local authorities across the country and many indicate that publically provided transit sites are poorly used and in some cases have fallen out of use. This is part due to the location away from major travelling routes.

9.04 The household surveys and stakeholder interviews undertaken as part of this assessment have provided little evidence to suggest that any major travelling routes exist in Buckinghamshire. Where ORS have conducted household surveys with households on unauthorised encampments in Bucks, those households were generally seeking permanent accommodation as opposed to travelling through or visiting the study area. Neither does information from the caravan count indicate a need for accommodation to be provided
in Buckinghamshire for any one travelling through the study area. Equally there is little evidence from neighbouring authorities to suggest that there are currently any regular and established travelling routes through Buckinghamshire.

9.05 The authorities will need to monitor the situation over time, and should circumstances change and regular travelling routes emerge resulting in an increase in unauthorised encampments, a transit site or temporary stopping place might be considered.

**Travelling Showperson Requirements**

9.06 There are two sources of requirements for the Travelling Showperson population in Buckinghamshire, namely; one group of Travelling Showpeople who are seeking accommodation in the area and the growth in the population over time. In total the area requires 17 extra plots to 2023. If any existing plots are lost through conversion to alternative uses then these plots will also need to be replaced through alternative provision.

**Figure 20**
Extra Travelling Showpeople Provision in Buckinghamshire by Local Authority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Authority</th>
<th>2013-2018</th>
<th>2018-2023</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aylesbury Vale</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiltern</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Buckinghamshire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wycombe</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Policy Recommendations**

**Safeguarding existing sites**

9.07 In developing their local plans, “Planning Policy for Traveller Sites” requires local planning authorities to identify and keep up-to-date a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years’ worth of sites against those locally set targets and a supply of specific developable sites or broad locations to meet needs, where possible, for up to 15 years.

9.08 We would suggest that an initial starting point would be for the Councils to consider safeguarding existing authorised Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites, to ensure that existing needs continue to be met in perpetuity. If sites are lost from these uses, then new replacement sites may need to be found to maintain an adequate supply to meet needs in accordance with the identified pitch and plot targets.

**Broad Geographical Locations**

9.09 Where specific deliverable or developable sites for further Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople provision cannot be identified, the Councils should consider including broad geographical locations within their Local Plans.
This document recommends that the identification of further Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople residential sites should focus on the broad geographical locations and should take into account where the need arises and the capacity of local infrastructure to determine the most appropriate broad location to commence the site search.

If suitable sites cannot be identified within the most appropriate broad location, other broad locations should be investigated before sites outside broad locations are considered.

The Councils should investigate public sites within the most sustainable broad locations, particularly in locations where there is good access to main facilities and services such as local hospitals.

The Councils should be reasonably flexible about the location of small private sites and should consider sites outside but close to the broad locations.

**Sites with Potential to Meet Future Needs**

The Councils should investigate the potential from existing sites to achieve additional pitches/plots either through increasing the capacity within existing boundaries or through site extension onto adjoining land.

The Councils should also undertake site assessment work to identify new sites to meet identified future Gypsy and Traveller needs.

If there is an immediate need to identify a supply of deliverable sites to provide a five years’ worth of sites, then the Councils should consider supporting planning applications on the most appropriate sites.

To provide a medium and long term supply, the Councils should consider allocating sites through their Local Plans. This can either be through a Core Strategy, Local Plan or a Site Allocations DPD, depending upon the nature of the development plan within each area.

**Delivery**

As with other forms of development, the release of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites should be managed to ensure a good fit with identified need.

However, there is no direct correlation between existing and future needs and sites which may have potential to meet those needs. For example, a family may need further pitches in the future to meet the future needs from existing children, but their current site may not have capacity, whilst an existing family may not require pitches in the future but they may have a site where there is potential for future provision.

It is important to note that the future availability of existing private sites to accommodate needs is entirely dependent on existing site owners being prepared to accommodate future needs on these sites.

It is also important to note that Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers have separate traditions and patterns of movement and may not be prepared to share sites. Similarly, Travelling Showpeople families operate separate commercial businesses and are unlikely to share sites.
9.22 There is therefore a strong likelihood that more than the bare minimum of sites will need to be identified and brought forward to provide a flexible and sufficient pool of sites to meet identified existing and future needs.

9.23 We would suggest that it would be prudent for the Councils to identify a potential reserve supply from the identified sites or other sites which could be brought forward in the future if required to ensure a continuous supply of deliverable and developable sites.

9.24 The Councils should consider whether there is scope to work together to meet identified needs across district boundaries.

**Phasing, Monitoring and Review**

9.25 Any release of land to meet future needs would require active monitoring of supply against need, at least on an annual basis. It would also require the Councils to undertake periodic reviews of the needs evidence base.

**Site Criteria**

9.26 To meet any other unidentified need through the plan period and to provide a base for considering planning applications, we would recommend the development of suitable criteria based-policies which could be incorporated within each Council’s Core Strategy, Local Plans or other DPD.
Appendices
Appendix A: Existing Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Buckinghamshire (as of February 2013)

Aylesbury Vale District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number of Pitches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Local Authority Sites</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cublington Road, Wing</td>
<td>0*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LOCAL AUTHORITY SITES</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Sites with Permanent Permission</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baghill Lane, Haddenham</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Horwood Road, Nash</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cow Lane, Edlesborough</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Road, Weston Turville</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willows Park (Green Acres), Slapton</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Acre, Weston Turville</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romany Tan, Cublington</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pony Field, Weston Turville</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dun Roaming Park, Biddlesden</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakhaven Park, Gawcott</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON PRIVATE SITES WITH PERMANENT PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Sites with Temporary Permission</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land opposite Causter Farm, Great Horwood</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Adjacent Dun Roaming Park, Biddlesden</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Adjacent Dun Roaming Park, Biddlesden</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON PRIVATE SITES WITH TEMPORARY PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lawful Sites – now Immune from Enforcement</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LAWFUL SITES</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unauthorised Developments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land at Swan Edge Plot 1, Wendover</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land at Swan Edge Plot 2, Wendover</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pony Field, Weston Turville</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land adjacent New Park Farm, Arncott</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS</strong></td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Site is currently closed.
### Chiltern District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number of Pitches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Local Authority Sites</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Park, Amersham</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Orchards, Chalfont St Peter</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LOCAL AUTHORITY SITES</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Sites with Permanent Permission</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Oaks Farm, Chalfont St Peter</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON PRIVATE SITES WITH PERMANENT PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Sites with Temporary Permission</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acres Farm, Chalfont St Peter</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waggoners Bit Stables, Coleshill</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON PRIVATE SITES WITH TEMPORARY PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lawful Sites – now Immune from Enforcement</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brickfield Barn, Honor End Lane, Prestwood</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Kiln Stabled, Honor End Lane, Prestwood</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LAWFUL SITES</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unauthorised Developments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toby’s Stables, Little Missenden</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
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South Bucks District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom Waltons Caravan Site, Burnham</td>
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<td>Wapseys Wood Caravan Site, Gerrards Cross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mansion Lane Caravan Site, Iver</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LOCAL AUTHORITY SITES</strong></td>
<td><strong>62</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Sites with Permanent Permission</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Tree Farm, Iver</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Wharf, Iver</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Lodge, Iver</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wickford Farm, Denham</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garry Owen, Iver</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renard, Iver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thorney Mill Road, Iver</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lawful Sites – now Immune from Enforcement</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LAWFUL SITES</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unauthorised Developments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Sutton Lane, Iver</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Warren, Wexham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ponderosa, Iver</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land r/o Alderbourne Cottage B (Area 1), Fulmer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land r/o Alderbourne Cottage (Area 2), Fulmer</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES</strong></td>
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Wycombe District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Local Authority Sites</strong></td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LOCAL AUTHORITY SITES</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Sites with Permanent Permission</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashbrook Farm, Marsh</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Tree Park, Marsh</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield Farm, Marsh</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stables Farm, Kimble</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin Oaks West, Princes Risborough</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin Oaks East, Princes Risborough</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pendles Paddock, Stokenchurch</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpine Lodge, Stokenchurch</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five Oaks Farm, Studley Green</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowlands, Marsh</td>
<td>1*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanfoin Farm, Wooburn Moor</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON PRIVATE SITES WITH PERMANENT PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>The Willows, Marsh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spurlands End Road, Great Kingshill</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES ON LAWFUL SITES</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unauthorised Developments</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemley Hill, Saunderton</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hedgerow, Walters Ash</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td><strong>6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PITCHES</strong></td>
<td><strong>55</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*The Lowlands site currently has only one pitch, but has permission for an additional two pitches, personal to the family that own the site.*
Appendix B: Existing Travelling Showpeople Sites in Buckinghamshire (as of February 2013)

Aylesbury Vale District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number of Plots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Sites with Permanent Permission</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total plots on private sites with permanent</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>permission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Sites with Temporary Permission</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total plots on private sites with temporary</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>permission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawful Sites – now immune from Enforcement</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total plots on lawful sites</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorised Developments</td>
<td>Fairview, Stoke Hammond 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total plots on unauthorised developments</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total plots</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chiltern District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number of Plots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Sites with Permanent Permission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Vale, Chesham</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Acres, Holmer Green</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON PRIVATE SITES WITH PERMANENT PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Sites with Temporary Permission</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON PRIVATE SITES WITH TEMPORARY PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawful Sites – now Immune from Enforcement</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON LAWFUL SITES</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorised Developments</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

South Bucks District

There are currently no known Travelling Showpeople sites in South Bucks District.
Wycombe District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Number of Plots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Sites with Permanent Permission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pettigrove, Longwick</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111 Green View, High Wycombe</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON PRIVATE SITES WITH PERMANENT PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Sites with Temporary Permission</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON PRIVATE SITES WITH TEMPORARY PERMISSION</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawful Sites – now Immune from Enforcement</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON LAWFUL SITES</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorised Developments</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS ON UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PLOTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix C: Email to Stakeholder Contacts

Good Morning/Afternoon,

The District authorities within Buckinghamshire have asked me to contact you to see whether you would be prepared to participate in a telephone interview regarding a Needs Assessment that will look to investigate the future accommodation needs of Gypsies & Travellers and Show people in their areas.

The Council has commissioned Opinion Research Services (ORS) to undertake a Needs Assessment that will look to identify the future accommodation needs of Gypsies & Travellers and Show people in the District authority areas within Buckinghamshire. The key outputs of the final study will be to:

- Provide a breakdown of the components of current supply, current backlog of demand and future demand for traveller pitches within each District.
- Provide a separate breakdown of the components of current supply, current backlog of demand and future demand for Travelling Show people plots and transit pitches.
- Demonstrate the needs arising from bricks and mortar accommodation for these communities and
- Clearly distinguish between genuine need for pitches/plots and Travellers’ preferences.

Stakeholder consultation will be undertaken by telephone. This will cover stakeholders from housing, planning, Council members and also Gypsy & Traveller and Showpeople representative groups working within the Buckinghamshire area and also in nearby surrounding areas. It is important we speak to officers within the surrounding areas to understand any cross border issues. In addition to this we are undertaking visits to Gypsies & Travellers and Show people on sites that are both authorised and unauthorised.

We would welcome your input into the Study and hope that you can spare the time to take part. I will be ringing around over the next couple of weeks to arrange/conduct the interviews, but if you would like to contact me before then to arrange a suitable date and time, please either reply to this email or ring me on xxxxxxxx.

I look forward to hearing from you/speaking to you.

Kind regards,

xxxxxxx
Appendix D: Topic Guide for Stakeholder Interviews

Buckinghamshire GTA
COUNCIL OFFICERS / ELECTED MEMBERS

Topic Guide

Introduction

Thank for participation
Stress anonymity and confidentiality and request permission to record interview

Explain

The Council has commissioned Opinion Research Services (ORS) to undertake a Needs Assessment that will look to identify the future accommodation needs of Gypsies & Travellers and Show people in the District authority areas within Buckinghamshire. The key outputs of the final study will be to:

I have been asked by Andrew Parry Senior Planner (Sustainable Development Planning Policy) at South Bucks District Council to invite you to participate in a confidential interview that will take 20-30 minutes. The key outputs of the final study will be to:

  Provide a breakdown of the components of current supply, current backlog of demand and future demand for traveller pitches within each District.

  Provide a separate breakdown of the components of current supply, current backlog of demand and future demand for Travelling Show people plots and transit pitches.

  Demonstrate the needs arising from bricks and mortar accommodation for these communities and

  Clearly distinguish between genuine need for pitches/plots and Travellers’ preferences.

As part of this study were are undertaking:

  Interviews with the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Communities (un/authorised sites and bricks and mortar)

  A stakeholder engagement programme which will include Borough and County Council Officers, Elected Members and neighbouring areas;

  A Parish and Residents Association postal survey.

Your cooperation on this matter as a representative of your organisation is appreciated, which will help to ensure the study is as robust as possible.

Free to express both positives and negatives.
Background/About You:

Name

What is your job title/department?

What dealings/relationships do you have with Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the course of your role as a Council Officer?

Policy Tools

What are the main policies that YOUR AREA use in relation to Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople (e.g. legislation, national guidance)?

[Interviewer Prompt: How effective are these? How could these be improved? By whom]

Current authorised provision and bricks and mortar

Are you aware of any Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites in the area? Please give location details. [Interviewer Note: This will determine the interviewee’s level of knowledge about the issues and if there are any sites that have not been identified].

In your experience to what extent does the current provision meet the needs of...?

The Residents

The wider Gypsy and Traveller Community/wider community

The Local Authority/surrounding local authorities

Are you aware of any Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the area who live in bricks and mortar? [Interviewer explain the Data Protection Act: It would be helpful if we could speak to those people who currently live in bricks and mortar and would like to live on a site. Would you be able to contact those people on our behalf and explain that we would like them to take part in a short confidential interview with an experienced member of our research team?]

Unauthorized/roadside encampments

Are you aware of any longstanding/short term unauthorized encampments in the area?

Are there any locations in the area (e.g. near specific towns or villages) which are generally favoured by Travellers and do you have any suggestions why this is so?

What in your experience attracts Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople to the area or keeps them here? [Interviewer Prompt: Traditional travelling routes? Employment? What kinds of work? Homelessness? Family connections ]

What are your perceptions of any trends you may be experiencing with regard to Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in the area [Interviewer Prompt: increase/decrease in privately owned
sites; increase/decrease in numbers of un/authorised sites; increase/decrease in numbers of un/authorised sites]?  
Are you aware of any seasonal fluctuations?  
[Interviewer Prompt: Increase/decreases at particular time of the year]

**Future Accommodation Needs**

Do you feel there is a lack of or a sufficient amount of accommodation provision? Please explain your reasons.

IF YES. What type of accommodation should be provided?  
[Interviewer Prompt: Public site/private site; transit provision, temporary stopping site (seasonally provided)]

In terms of site location, what do you consider are the important criteria that must be borne in mind when determining where a site should be placed?

Could you recommend a preferred location for a site? Please explain your reasons  
[Interviewer Prompt: constraints]

Do you have any view on the management and ownership of sites?  
[Interviewer Prompt: Preferred management structure; size of pitch provision best practice examples]

**Community, health and education Issues**

In your experience are you aware of any particular issues in relation to:

Community cohesion? Please explain these issues  
What is being done to address these issues? (when, by whom)  
What needs to be done in the future? (When, by whom)

Health  
What is being done to address these issues? (when, by whom)  
What needs to be done in the future? (When, by whom)

Education  
What is being done to address these issues? (when, by whom)  
What needs to be done in the future? (When, by whom)

**Cross-Boundary Issues**

In terms of cross-boundary issues, what in your opinion, are the main travelling routes through your area? Why is this?

Are you aware of any trend for Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople to move to neighbouring Districts?

Are the same local Gypsies and Travellers being shifted back and forth from district to district or are they long distance travellers passing through on traditional routes?

Are you aware of any cross-border working? Could this be improved?  
[Interviewer Prompt: Examples of joint working, examples of best practice]
Consultation Activities

Are there any mechanisms for regular consultation with Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in your area?
What methods are used?
Are they effective?

The Future

How do you see the situation with regard to Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in your area in fifteen years’ time?
[Interviewer Prompt: Summary of actions/ what needs to be done by whom]

Any further issues

Are there any further issues you would like to discuss?

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO PARTICPATE AND SHARE YOUR VIEWS
Appendix E: Parish Councils and Residents’ Associations Surveyed

Parishes and Residents’ Associations Surveyed

Questionnaires were emailed or posted to all Parish Councils, Meetings and Residents Associations listed on the local authority websites below:

http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/council-democracy/parish-councils-meetings/contact-details-parish-councils-meetings/

http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/ParishCouncils

http://www.southbucks.gov.uk/council_democracy/elected_representatives/parish_council/default.aspx

http://councillors.wycombe.gov.uk/mgListCommittees.aspx?PC=1&bcr=1

Respondents

Of the 216 Parish Councils, Meetings and Residents Associations contacted, responses were received from the following:

» MAMAV Residents’ Association
» Newton Longville (Save Our Village) Residents’ Association
» Richings Park Residents’ Association
» Little Chalfont Community Association
» The Chiltern Society
» Bletchley Park Area Residents’ Association
» Aston Hill Residents’ Association
» Shalstone Parish Meeting
» Drayton Beauchamp Parish Meeting
» Waddesdon Parish Council
» Thornton Parish Council
» Chepping Wycombe Parish Council
» Latimer & Ley Hill Parish Council
» Little Marlow Parish Council
» West Wycombe Parish Council
» Piddington & Wheeler End Parish Council
» Hughenden Parish Council
» Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards Parish Council
» Chalfont St Peter Parish Council
» Mursley Parish Council
» Slapton Parish Council
» Little Missenden Parish Council
» Boarstall Parish Meeting
» Fulmer Parish Council
» Nash Parish Council
» Great Horwood Parish Council
» Longwick-cum-Ilmer Parish Council
» Great & Little Kimble-cum-Marsh Parish Council
» Lacey Green parish Council
» Winslow Parish Council
» Buckingham Town Council
» Throstonborough Parish Council
» Little Horwood Parish Council
» Dorton Parish Meeting
» Lillingstone Dayrell Parish Council
» Dunton Parish Council
» Weston Turville Parish Council
» Ashley Green Parish Council
» Turville Parish Council
» Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council
» Aston Abbotts Parish Council
» Stoke Mandeville Parish Council
» Granborough Parish Council
» Stowe Parish Council
» Westcott Parish Council
» Kingswood Parish Council
» Bradenham Parish Council
» Biddlesden Parish Council
Iver Parish Council
Appendix F: On Site Survey Questionnaire
INTERVIEWER READ OUT: Good Morning/afternoon/evening. My name is < > from Opinion Research Services, working on behalf of The Councils of Buckinghamshire. The council is undertaking a study of Gypsy & Traveller accommodation needs in this area. We would like you to take part because it is important that we interview a wide cross-section of people. Your family will not be identified and all the information collected will be anonymous and only used to help understand the needs of Gypsy and Traveller households. You do not have to answer all the questions but the more information you can provide the better the survey will be. The survey will take around 20-25 minutes to complete.

Name of Site and address:

A General Trends

A1a Do you consider this site to be your permanent base?

Yes ☐  Go to A2
No ☐  Ask (b)

A1b INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS IT’S NOT THEIR PERMANENT BASE.
If this isn’t you permanent base, why are you currently living on the site?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible or at least name of town/village

A1c Where do you consider your permanent base to be?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible or at least name of town/village

A1d Thinking of your current location, have you travelled to this area before?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes ☐  Ask (e)
No ☐  Go to A2

A1e When did you start coming to this area?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Less than 2 years ago ☐  5 years ago but less than 10 years ago ☐
2 years ago but less than 5 years ago ☐  10 years ago or longer ☐
### A2 What are your connections with this area?

*INTERVIEWER: Please read out options and code all that apply*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Always lived in this area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lived here a long time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grew up in the area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have a tradition of travelling to/through this area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family are from this area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends are from this area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family members work here</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children go to school here</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family members receive care/support from Council/other local services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B Your accommodation

*INTERVIEWER READ OUT: I'd now like to ask you some more detailed questions about you and your family’s needs and hopes.*

#### B1 Including this accommodation, how many of each type of accommodation do you have on this pitch?

*INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box in each row*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Accommodation</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>One</th>
<th>Two</th>
<th>Three or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trailer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chalet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other type of home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(Please write in)</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B2 How long have you and your family lived on this site?

*INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than a week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 week but less than one month</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 month but less than 6 months</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 months but less than 1 year</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year but less than 3 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years but less than 5 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 years or more</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### B3 Is this pitch…? *INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please cross one box only*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Site</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner occupied pitch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Privately rented pitch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An authorised public site (Council)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An unauthorised development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An unauthorised encampment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A transit site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other type of site <em>(Please write in below)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### B4a Does your current accommodation and site meet all of your needs in terms of accommodation quality and space; and site facilities, location and management?

*INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Go to B5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ask (b) and following</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B4b Why does this accommodation not meet your needs?

*INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation in poor state of repair</th>
<th>No play area for children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Too small</td>
<td>Site management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too large</td>
<td>Pitch location on site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacking facilities</td>
<td>Too far from other family members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site too far from services</td>
<td>No space for visiting caravans on site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site too noisy</td>
<td>Can’t conduct business on site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site not safe enough</td>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site too dirty/polluted</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B4c If you feel existing facilities are lacking, what further facilities are needed?

*Please write in below giving as much detail as possible*

### B4d Do you feel that your needs can be addressed at this pitch or would you have to move to another pitch/site?

*INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please cross one box only*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Can be addressed at this pitch</th>
<th>Go to B5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Would like to move to another pitch at this site</td>
<td>Ask (e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would like to move to another site</td>
<td>Ask (e)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B4e Are you on any of the following accommodation waiting lists?

*INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please code all that apply.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing (bricks and mortar)</th>
<th>Ask (f)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Council site</td>
<td>Ask (f)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private site</td>
<td>Ask (f)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>Go to B5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td>Ask (f)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B4f  IF ON A WAITING LIST: INTERVIEWER READ OUT

Which waiting lists are you currently on? Please write in below giving as much detail as possible, i.e. Which Council or Housing Association?

B5a  Is there anyone else who needs to live with you, but is not able to at present?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Yes  [ ]  Ask (b)

No   [ ]  Go to B6

B5b  Who are the people who would need to live here that are not able to at present?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>[ ]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband, wife or partner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Son or daughter (inc. adopted, step-, fostered &amp; -in-law)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brother or sister (inc. half-, step &amp; -in-law)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent (inc. –in-law)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niece or nephew</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grandparent  [ ]

Grandchild  [ ]

Not related  [ ]

Other related Please write in below  [ ]

B5c  Where do they currently live? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible (at least town/village)

B5d  In what type of accommodation do they currently live?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>[ ]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have their own pitch on an authorised site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharing with another household on an authorised site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorised development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unauthorised encampment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bricks and mortar  [ ]

Overseas  [ ]

Don’t know  [ ]

Other Please write in below  [ ]
B6a Are additional caravans needed at this pitch? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box

Yes  □  →  Ask (b)
No  □  →  Go to B7 and following

B6b Which members of your household need additional caravans?
INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply

Older children  □  Adult relatives  □  Other (Please write in)  □

B6c How many additional caravans are needed?
INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

One  □  Two  □  Three  □  Four  □  Five or more  □

B6d Is there space on your existing pitch for these extra caravans?
INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes  □  No  □

B7a Would any members of your household like to leave permanently to live elsewhere in the next two years?
INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Yes  □  →  Ask (b)
No  □  →  Go to B7 and following
Don't know  □  →  Go to B10

B7b INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS YES

Which members of the household Would like to leave permanently to live elsewhere in the next two years and why? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

B7c What type of accommodation would they like to move to?
INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and probe for most desired.

Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:
House  □  Private site owned by others  □
Bungalow  □  Private site owned by you  □
Flat  □  Authorised transit site  □
Caravan/trailer that is on a:
Council run site  □  Unauthorised encampment  □
Don't know  □  Other Please write in below  □
B7d  Where would they like to move to? INTERVIEWER: write in below.


B7e  If it is not possible for them to move to their preferred location, where else would they consider moving to? INTERVIEWER: write in below.


B7f  Are they on any of the following accommodation waiting lists? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Waiting List</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing (bricks and mortar)</td>
<td>Ask (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council site</td>
<td>Ask (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private site</td>
<td>Ask (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>Ask (h)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>Ask (h)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please write in)</td>
<td>Ask (g)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B7g  IF ON A WAITING LIST: INTERVIEWER READ OUT

Which waiting lists are they currently on? INTERVIEWER: Please write in below giving as much detail as possible


B7h  Do you expect them to be able to move to their desired location?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Go to B8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ask (i)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B7i  Why do you expect them not to be able to move to their desired location?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible


B7j  Do you expect them to move to any new permanent base in the next two years?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ask (k)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Go to B10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>Go to B10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B7k What type of accommodation would you expect them to move to? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and probe for most desired.

**Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:**

- Private site owned by others
- Private site owned by you
- Authorised transit site
- Unauthorised encampment
- Don’t know
- Other Please write in below

**Caravan/trailer that is on a:**

- Council run site
- Don’t know
- Council run site
- Other

B7l Where do you expect them to establish this permanent base?

Please probe and write in below giving as much detail as possible

B8 Which facilities would be required at this accommodation for use just by the new household? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.

- Fresh water
- Hot water
- Toilet
- Electricity
- Laundry
- Shower/bath
- Domestic rubbish storage/collection
- None
- Other Please write in below

B9 Which of the following shared (communal) facilities and amenities would be required at the accommodation for the new household? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.

- Toilet
- Shower/bath facilities
- Laundry
- Play area
- Lorry park
- Telephone
- Electricity
- Gas
- Refuse collection
- Parking spaces
- Visitors parking spaces
- Cooking facilities
- Space for eating/sitting
- Heating
- Firefighting equipment
- Emergency phone
- Workshops for business
- Storage for business needs (e.g. for tools)
- None
- Other Please write in below
**B10** Are any of the following facilities available at your current accommodation for use just by you and your family? *INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresh water</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot water</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower/bath</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic rubbish storage/collection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please write in below*

**B11** Which of the following shared (communal) facilities and amenities do you have access to on this site? *INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toilet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower/bath facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitors parking spaces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space for eating/sitting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorry park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firefighting equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency phone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops for business</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage for business needs (e.g. for tools)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refuse collection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking spaces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please write in below*

**B12** What improvements, if any, could be made to this site? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe but do not prompt and code all that apply.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Improvement</th>
<th>Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better toilet facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better washing facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better site management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better site layout</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More pitches</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Less pitches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larger pitches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better access to main road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCTV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space for visitors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car parking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorry parking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved road surfacing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest control</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better landscaping</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site safety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No improvements required</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable (if unauthorised site)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please write in below*
B14a How satisfied or dissatisfied are you living here? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and cross one box only

Very satisfied ✏️ Fairly satisfied ✏️ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied ✏️ Fairly dissatisfied ✏️ Very dissatisfied ✏️

B14b Why do you say that? INTERVIEWER: Probe but do not prompt. Please write in below

C Travelling

C1a How many trips, living in a caravan or trailer, have you made away from this site / your permanent base in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

None — did not travel ✏️ One ✏️ Two ✏️ Three ✏️ Four ✏️ Five or more ✏️

Go to C4a

Ask (b)

Ask (b)

Ask (b)

Ask (b)

C1b In total how much time did you spend travelling in a caravan or trailer away from this site / your permanent base in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Less than 1 month ✏️ 1 month but less than 3 months ✏️ 3 months but less than 6 months ✏️ 6 months but less than 12 months ✏️ Travelled all year round ✏️

C1c Which of the following types of stopping places did you travel to in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply,

An authorised private site ✏️ An authorised public site (Council) ✏️ An unauthorised development ✏️ An unauthorised encampment ✏️

A transit site ✏️ A travelling show site ✏️ Other type of site Please write in below ✏️

C2a Was this level of travelling normal, or has it changed in the past few years? INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Normal ✏️ Travelled less in recent years ✏️ Travelled more in recent years ✏️

Go to C3

Ask (b)

Ask (b)
C2b  Why have your travelling patterns changed in recent years? INTERVIEWER: Please probe

C3a  Do you travel to particular places at certain times of the year? INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes  →  Ask (b)
No  →  Go to C5

C3b  What time of year/season do you typically travel? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply

Summer  Autumn  Winter  Spring  All year round

C3c  What are your main reasons for travelling? INTERVIEWER: Please probe but do not prompt and code all that apply.

For work  →  Go to C5
Family reasons  →  Go to C5
For a holiday  →  Go to C5
Fairs  →  Go to C5
Other (please write in)  →  Go to C5

C4a  You reported that you did not travel in the last 12 months. Have you travelled in the past? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Yes  →  Ask (b)
No  →  Go to D1

C4b  If yes, why did you not travel in the last 12 months? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply,

So children can receive education  Want a more settled lifestyle
Due to ill-health of some family members  Lack of casual employment in other areas
Due to old age of some family members  Other Please write in below
No longer easy to camp on the side of the road when travelling

C5a  Have you ever used a transit site? INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

IF NECESSARY: A transit site is intended for short-term use by gypsies/travellers. They are normally permanent, but the residents are temporary and a maximum period of stay is usually imposed.

Yes  →  Ask (b)
No  →  Go to D1
C5b Have you experienced any problems at transit sites? INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

- Yes → Ask (c)
- No → Go to (d)

C5c What problems have you experienced? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

C5d Which of the following facilities and amenities do you feel should be provided on transit sites? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply,

- Toilet
- Post box
- Standpipes or water supply
- Telephone
- Shower/bath facilities
- Electricity
- Laundry
- Gas
- Play area
- None
- Standpipes or water supply
- Other Please write in below

C5e How long would you normally stay on a transit site?

- A few days
- Up to a week
- Up to two weeks
- Up to a month
- Longer than a month

D Bricks and Mortar

D1a Do you own or rent a house, bungalow or flat? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

- Yes → Go to (e)
- No → Ask (b)

D1b Have you ever lived in a house, bungalow or flat? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

- Yes → Ask (c)
- No → Go to Section E
D1c  Why did you leave?  INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below


D1d  When did you last live in this type of accommodation?
INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

- Less than one year ago
- 1 year but less than 3 years ago
- 3 years but less than 5 years ago
- 5 years but less than 10 years ago
- 10 years ago or longer

D1e  Why do you/did you live in ‘bricks and mortar’ accommodation?  INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below


E  The Future

E1a  Do you need to move to a new permanent base, either now or in the next 15 years?
INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know

- Ask (b)
- Go to E5

E1b  What are your main reasons for needing a new permanent base?
INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

E1c  Ideally, where do you need to establish this permanent base?
INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply.
E1d  What are your main reasons for needing to move to this location?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

E1e  If you move to a new permanent base, would you prefer to live in a city/town or village, close to a town or village, or in a rural location? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and

In a city/town/village
Adjacent or close to a town/village
Rural

E1f  Do you expect to be able to move to your ideal location? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Yes
No
Don't know

E1g  Why do you expect not to be able to move to your desired location? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below in as much detail as possible

E1h  Do you expect to move to a new permanent base in the next two years? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Yes
No
Don't know

E1i  Where do you expect to establish this permanent base? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below in as much detail as possible
E2a  If you move to a new permanent base, which of the following types of accommodation would you most like to move to? INTERVIEWER: Please READ OUT and probe for most desired. Cross one box only.

**Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:**
- House ➔ Go to E5
- Bungalow ➔ Go to E5
- Flat ➔ Go to E5

**Caravan/trailer that is on a...**
- Council run site ➔ Go to E3
- Private site owned by others ➔ Go to E3
- Private site owned by you ➔ Ask (b)
- Transit site ➔ Go to E3
- Unauthorised encampment ➔ Go to E3
- Don’t know ➔ Go to F1
- Other Please write in below ➔ Go to E3

E2b  If you purchased your own land to establish a site, in which of the following ways would you be most likely to live on that site?

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and cross one box only
- Just your family live on the land ➔ Go to (d)
- Allow other families/anyone to rent/have pitches ➔ Ask (c)
- Don’t know ➔ Go to (d)

E2c  Who in general would you let pitches to?

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.
- Close family
- Extended family
- Close friends
- Anyone
- Other Please write in below

E2d  Ideally, how many pitches would you expect to accommodate on the land?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe for estimate and write in below. If answer is given in trailers MAKE SURE this is CLEARLY stated.

E2e  Would you be able to afford to buy your own land?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only
- Yes
- No
- Don’t know
E3 Which of the following facilities would you need to be available at your new base for use just by you and your family? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply

- Fresh water
- Hot water
- Toilet
- Electricity
- Laundry
- Shower/bath
- Domestic rubbish storage/collection
- Letter box
- Sewerage connection
- None
- Other Please write in below

E4 Which of the following shared (communal) facilities would you need to be available at your new base? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply,

- Toilet
- Shower/bath facilities
- Laundry
- Play area
- Lorry park
- Post box
- Telephone
- Electricity
- Gas
- Refuse collection
- Parking spaces
- Water
- Visitors parking spaces
- Cooking facilities
- Space for eating/sitting
- Heating
- Firefighting equipment
- Emergency phone
- Workshops for business
- Storage for business needs (e.g. for tools)
- None
- Other Please write in below

E5a Do you know of any sites or land that would be suitable for Gypsy and Traveller use which would need permanent planning permission? INTERVIEWER: The Council are looking for potential sites anywhere in the district. Please cross one box only

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know

E5b Where is the land/site located?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible on location and write in
### E5c  Who owns the land/site?  
*INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible and write in*


### E5d  Can you provide contact details for the landowner?  
*INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible and write in*


### F  Family Profiles

#### F1  To which of these groups do you consider (i) you and (ii) other members of your household belong? Choose as many or as few as apply.  
*INTERVIEWER: READ OUT and code one for (i) and all that apply for (ii)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>(i) You</th>
<th>(ii) Other household members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romany Gypsy</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Traveller</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scots Gypsy or Traveller</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Showperson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Traveller</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Traveller</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### F2a  For each person in your household, including yourself, please provide their age, gender and relationship to you.  
*INTERVIEWER: Please write gender as ‘M’ or ‘F’, the age in years. Do not include those who only live in the household for some of the time/part of the year.  
E.g. a 7 year old daughter would be...*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Person 1-respondent (YOU)</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Person 3</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Person 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Person 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Person 6</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Person 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Person 8</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F2b How many households live at this pitch?

INTERVIEWER: WRITE NUMBER IN BELOW

IF THIS NUMBER IS MORE THEN ONE THEN PLEASE SEEK TO CARRY OUT ANOTHER FULL INTERVIEW WITH OTHER HOUSEHOLD (S) LIVING AT THE PITCH.

F2c How many people live at this pitch?

INTERVIEWER: WRITE NUMBER IN BELOW

INTERVIEWER: If respondent or anyone else in the household is currently undertaking work, please ask F3b. If respondent is not currently working, please go to F3c.

F3a INTERVIEWER: Please ask if respondent is currently working.

What type of work do you or any other household members currently undertake?

INTERVIEWER: Please write in type of work (e.g. building work or gardening) for respondent only.

F3b Have you undertaken any other type of work during the last two years? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Yes  [ ] Ask (c)
No   [ ] Go to F4a

F3c What other types of work have you undertaken?

INTERVIEWER: Please write in types of work (e.g. building work or gardening) for respondent only.

F4a Is there anyone apart from the people you have already told me about who lives in this household some of the time/part of the year? If so please provide their age, gender and relationship to you. INTERVIEWER: Please write gender as ‘M’ or ‘F’, the age in years

E.g. a 19 year old daughter would be...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person 1</th>
<th>Person 2</th>
<th>Person 3</th>
<th>Person 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOU</td>
<td>Relationship</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relationship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person 5</th>
<th>Person 6</th>
<th>Person 7</th>
<th>Person 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationship</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Relationship</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Age</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
F4b  For each person living in this household some of the time/part of the year, please tell me how much time they spend here each year.

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box for each relevant person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person 1</th>
<th>Person 2</th>
<th>Person 3</th>
<th>Person 4</th>
<th>Person 5</th>
<th>Person 6</th>
<th>Person 7</th>
<th>Person 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 1 month</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 month but less than 3 months</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 months but less than 6 months</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 months but less than 9 months</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almost all year round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varies from year to year</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F5a  Do you or any of the people currently living as part of your household suffer from any health problem? INTERVIEWER: Please probe such as asthma, back problem, nerves or depression and cross one box only

Yes [ ]  Ask (b)
No [ ]  Go to F6

F5b  Does your existing pitch meet the needs of those suffering with health problems identified in F5a? INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes [ ]  Ask (c)
No [ ]  Go to F6

F5c  If not why?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in.

F6  Are you aware of anyone in the Gypsy and Traveller community living in bricks and mortar housing in Buckinghamshire who may wish to take part in this survey?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes—but details to be provided at a later [ ]  Go to end
Yes [ ]  Please provide contact details below
No [ ]  Go to end

Name

Address

Telephone

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT: Thank you very much for your time.
Thank you for your time and help completing this questionnaire.

**Interviewer Declaration**

I certify that I have conducted this interview personally with the person named above in accordance with the Market Research Society Code of Conduct.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interviewer’s signature</th>
<th>Interview Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of interview (DD/MM/YYYY)</th>
<th>Time of interview (24HR CLOCK)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

Duration of Interview

May I also take your name, telephone number and address? ORS may wish to contact you to confirm that this interview took place. These details will only be used for this purpose and will not be passed on to anyone else.

**INTERVIEWER: IN THE FIRST INSTANCE WE REQUIRE THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBER, FOLLOWED BY THEIR POSTAL ADDRESS**

**RESPONDENT’S NAME**

**RESPONDENT’S TEL**

**RESPONDENT’S ADDRESS**

**RESPONDENT’S POSTCODE**

**INTERVIEWER: IF THE RESPONDENT REFUSES ON ANY OF THE ABOVE DETAILS, PLEASE TRY TO OBTAIN AN EMAIL ADDRESS**

**RESPONDENT’S EMAIL ADDRESS**

**RESPONDENT’S TEL**

**RESPONDENT’S ADDRESS**

**RESPONDENT’S POSTCODE**

**INTERVIEWER: IF THE RESPONDENT REFUSES ON ANY OF THE ABOVE DETAILS, PLEASE TRY TO OBTAIN AN EMAIL ADDRESS**

**RESPONDENT’S EMAIL ADDRESS**

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**RESPONDENT’S EMAIL ADDRESS**