Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment 2024/25

Kirklees Council

Final Report

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Executive Summary

Introduction

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

The TANA has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data.
- Stakeholder consultation with a range of stakeholders.
- A household survey and site/yard observation. There are currently no Gypsy and Traveller sites in Kirklees but 20 households were identified who live in bricks and mortar accommodation. Interviews are achieved with 16 households.
- There are 3 authorised Travelling Showpersons yards across Kirklees with 19 plots which accommodate 17 households. There is also an unauthorised yard with 3 plots.
- Information from 16 Gypsy and Traveller households living in bricks and mortar were obtained through household interviews. Data on all 20 Travelling Showpeople living on yards was obtained through interviews and discussions with yard and community representatives.

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

We are very grateful to the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson communities across Kirklees for their positive engagement with the work. We would particularly like to thank the Yorkshire Section of the Showman's Guild for their assistance in publicising the study and engaging with households.

Population and current accommodation provision

The 2021 Census identified a population of 180 people who identified as 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' or 'Gypsy/Romany', 20 people identifying as 'Roma' living in Kirklees district and an estimate of 90 households where the household reference person identifies as being a Gypsy/Traveller.

Across Kirklees there are currently no Gypsy and Traveller sites (Table ES1). There are 3 authorised Travelling Showpersons' yards (Table ES2) with a total of 19 plots occupied by 17 households, with 3 vacant plots used for transit provision and two households occupying 1 plot) and one unauthorised yard (3 plots, 3 households).

In January and July each year, councils carry out a Traveller caravan count to inform MHCLG statistics. The latest six bi-annual MHCLG Traveller caravan counts (January 2022 to July 2024) recorded an average of 12 caravans across the district during the period January 2022 to July 2024. All of these were reported on unauthorised sites without planning permission. The Travelling Showperson count has consistently reported zero caravans, however as stated in paragraph 4.10, this is

due to issues with the annual monitoring and is not a representative picture, and therefore provides limited evidence to support the TANA.

Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

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

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

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

Need assessment period

Need has been assessed over a short-term period 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term period 2029/30 to 2042/43.

Table ES1 Summary of Gypsy and Traveller sites in Kirklees

Type of site	No. Sites	No. Pitches	Total occupied pitches	Total vacant pitches	Total G&T households	Interviews / info obtained	No household information
No sites	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table ES2 Summary of Travelling Showperson yards in Kirklees

Yard Code	Yard Name	Yard Address	Type of yard	Yards and plots	Total plots occupied	Total plots vacant	Number of households on plots	Interviews achieved	Yard representative/ local knowledge	Total household information	Non response
TSP1	Crow Trees Yard	Central Mills, Bradford Road, Cleckheaton	Authorised	1 yard with 4 plots	4	0	4	0	4	4	0
TSP2	Showman's Yard	Feast Ground, Ridings Road, Dewsbury	Authorised	1 yard with 12 plots	9	3 (used for transit)	10	0	10	10	0
TSP3	Showman's Yard	Leeds Road, Birstall	Authorised	1 yard with 3 plots	3	0	3	3	0	3	0
TSP4	Anonymous location			1 yard with 3 plots	3	0	3	3		3	0
TOTAL				**4 yards with 22 plots**	**19**	**3 (used for transit)**	**20**	**6**	**14**	**20**	**0**

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

For the period 2024/25 to 2042/43, there is a minimum need for 8 Gypsy and Traveller pitches across Kirklees (Table ES3). Of this need, 6 pitches are needed in the first five years and 2 over the longer-term period 2029/30 to 2042/43.

Needs analysis considers the needs arising from existing households in bricks and mortar accommodation and newly forming households. The main driver of need across Kirklees is from existing households living in bricks and mortar who prefer to live on a pitch for cultural reasons.

Table ES3 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2042/43

Residential Pitch need	Kirklees
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)	**6**
Longer-term need	
Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)	1
Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)	1
Over period 2039/40 to 2042/43(D)	0
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2042/43 (14 years) E=(B+C+D)	2
NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2042/43 (A+E) (19 years)	**8**

Meeting the need

In order to meet its need for pitches, the council has a site allocated in its Local Plan at Bankwood Way for 12 permanent residential pitches which would address the needs identified. This allocation also includes 8 transit pitches.

Notwithstanding evidence in this TANA on need, additional need may arise over the plan period, for instance households moving into Kirklees. It is therefore recommended the council has criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for sites should they arise. These are policies that set out a series of requirements that should be met by development proposals.

Transit provision

There is currently no provision to address transit need but given unauthorised encampment activity, the council will need to consider appropriate responses. These can include transit pitches, stopover places and negotiated stopping arrangements. There is a Local Plan allocation for 8 transit pitches at Bankwood Way which would make appropriate provision for transit need. It is also recommended that the council considers developing a negotiated stopping policy to support the needs of Travellers passing through Kirklees. More information can be found at click here to find out more about negotiated stopping. In the short-term, the potential to use land at the site at Bankwood Way for negotiated stopping could be considered.

Travelling Showperson plot requirements

There is an overall minimum need for 15 additional Travelling Showperson plots across Kirklees over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43. Of this need, 12 are needed in the first five years 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 3 over the period 2029/30 to 2042/43.

The council has made provision in the Local Plan for 4 additional plots on the Ridings Road yard which are yet to be implemented. In addition, one Showperson wants to work with the council to develop a new yard to meet identified needs.

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

Table ES4 Travelling Showperson plot need 2024/25 to 2042/43

Residential plot need	Additional plot need
5yr Authorised Plot Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)	**12**
Longer-term need	
Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)	1
Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)	1
Over period 2039/40 to 2042/43(D)	1
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2042/43 (14 years) E=(B+C+D)	3
NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2042/43 (A+E) (19 years)	**15**
Annual net shortfall	**0.8**

1. Introduction

Overview

1.1 In November 2024, arc[4] was commissioned by Kirklees Council to prepare a 2024/25 Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (TANA). This report updates the findings of the previous 2015 study.

1.2 The overall scope of the study is to ensure that the council has a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision needed over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43 for Gypsies and Travellers and plots for Travelling Showpeople over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43.

1.3 The 2024 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) and section 124 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 provide the policy context for this work.

Who the study covers?

1.4 The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites provides the updated definition of Gypsies and Travellers as set out within Annex 1 of the 2024 PPTS:

"Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependants' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such."

1.5 Similarly, the following definition from Annex 1 of the Guidance in respect of Travelling Showpeople is used:

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

1.6 In addition:

'For the purposes of this planning policy, "pitch" means a pitch on a "gypsy and traveller" site and "plot" means a pitch on a "travelling showpeople" site (often called a "yard"). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for "gypsies and travellers" and mixed-use pitches for "travelling showpeople", which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.' (DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites December 2024 Annex 1, para 5).

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

Report structure

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

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

1.9 Stakeholder feedback is presented in relevant sections throughout the report.

1.10 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:

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

2. Policy and local context

2.1 This study is grounded in an understanding of the national legislative and planning policy context that underpins the assessment and provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

2.2 This chapter sets out the policy context within which this TANA has been prepared, including a consideration of the previous Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) for Kirklees district.

Government policy and guidance

2.3 The 2024 National Planning Policy Framework states in Paragraph 63 **'the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies'**. It then lists a number of groups including Travellers. A footnote to the paragraph states **'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers' housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document'.**

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

2.5 Policy A of the 2024 PPTS relates to evidence needed to plan positively and manage development. This states **'in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:**

- **pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities (including discussing travellers' accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups);**
- **cooperate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups; other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas over the lifespan of their development plan, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities; and**
- **use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions'.**

2.6 In the absence of further guidance on preparing Traveller accommodation needs assessments, the methods adopted by arc[4] reflect Policy A of the PPTS; build upon those methods established through previous guidance; our practical experience and findings from planning inquiries and appeals.

2.7 The calculation of pitch/plot requirements is based on established DCLG modelling methodology, as advocated in **Gypsy and Traveller**

Accommodation Needs Assessment Guidance (DCLG, 2007). Although this guidance was formally withdrawn in December 2016, in the absence of any updated guidance on the subject, it continues to provide a good practice approach for needs modelling.

2.8 Policy B of the 2024 PPTS relates to planning for traveller sites and requires Local Plans:

- to be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and consistent with the policies of the NPPF; and
- to set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople as defined in Annex 1 which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.

2.9 Policy B (paragraph 10) sets out that local authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:

a. identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5-years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;

b. identify a supply of specific, developable sites, or broad locations for growth, for years 6 to 10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;

c. consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);

d. relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density; and

e. protect local amenity and environment.

2.10 Policy B (paragraph 13) sets out that local authorities should ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally and therefore ensure that their policies:

a. promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;

b. promote, in collaboration with commissioners of health services, access to appropriate health services;

c. ensure that children can attend school on a regular basis;

d. provide a settled base that reduces both the need for long-distance travelling and possible environmental damage caused by unauthorised encampment;

e. provide for proper consideration of the effect of local environmental quality (such as noise and air quality) on the health and well-being of any travellers who may locate there or on others as a result of new development;

f. avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;

g. do not locate sites in areas at high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains, given the particular vulnerability of caravans; and

h. reflect the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

Intentional unauthorised development

2.11 The planning policy statement issued with PPTS 2015 (click here to read PPTS statement) and confirmed by Ministerial Statement (click here to read ministerial statement) makes clear that if a site is intentionally occupied without planning permission this would be a material consideration in any retrospective planning application for that site. Whilst this does not mean that retrospective applications will be automatically refused, it does mean that failure to seek permission in advance of occupation will count against the application.

2.12 In addition, PPTS 2024 (Paragraph 12) makes clear that in exceptional cases where a local authority is burdened by a large-scale unauthorised site that has significantly increased their need, and their area is subject to strict and special planning constraints, then there is no assumption that the local authority will be required to meet their Gypsy and Traveller site needs in full. This is intended to protect local planning authorities with significant land constraints from being required to provide for additional needs arising directly from large sites such as Dale Farm (a large unauthorised site in Essex).

Considering 'Cultural' and 'PPTS' need

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

Responding to challenges

2.14 TANAs are subject to intense scrutiny, particularly at planning inquiries and hearings. The methodological approaches taken by arc^4 aim to maximise the robustness of evidence and measures include:

- An up-to-date assessment of the number of pitches on sites and the number of households living on pitches and any vacancies.
- Maximising response rates from households.
- Carefully considering the relationship between households and the pitches they occupy.
- Sensitive analysis of the flows of existing households from and to districts.
- Consideration of overcrowding and concealed households.
- Careful consideration of turnover on council/housing association pitches, with clear assumptions over future potential capacity from households moving away from pitches.

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

Previous GTAA

2.15 The 2015 GTAA identified a need for 12 pitches which was largely driven by need arising from bricks and mortar households. Further research was carried out by LeedsGATE (Calderdale and Kirklees baseline census January-February 2015) to estimate the total number of Gypsy and Traveller households in Kirklees. This suggested there were between 147 and 148 Gypsy and Traveller households in Kirklees based on uplifts using 2011 census data and a pitch need for up to 28 pitches.

2.16 The 2015 GTAA withstood Local Plan examination scrutiny and the needs identified in the Local Plan related to the findings of this study.

2.17 It should be noted that since the GTAA was completed, there have been no planning applications for Gypsy and Traveller sites.

Kirklees Local Plan 2013-2031

2.18 Policy LP 12 Accommodation for Travellers states that:

"The Local Plan will seek to meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople set out in Table 9. The Local Plan will meet this need by:

1. Land allocated specifically for these purposes in the Local Plan
2. Permitting development for sites, taking into account:
    a. the existing level of local provision and need for sites;
    b. the availability (or lack) of alternative accommodation for the applicants;
    c. other personal circumstances of the applicant; and
3. Subject to proposals according with relevant planning policies set out in the Local Plan.

2.19 Table 9 of the Local Plan identified a need for 12 Gypsy and Traveller residential pitches, 8 transit pitches and 4 Travelling Showperson plots over the plan period to 2031.

2.20 Two sites were allocated to help meet need: GTTS1 which is an extension to the Ridings Road Traveller site and GTTS2 which is a 1.55ha site for residential and transit Gypsy and Traveller pitches located at Land south of Bankwood Way, Birstall.

Further review of the PPTS

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

3. Methodology

Introduction

3.1 The TANA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirement of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.

3.2 The methodology has comprised:

- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including data on pitches/sites, plots/yards and unauthorised encampments;
- the collection of primary data, including household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople;
- stakeholder engagement with council officers, neighbouring council officers, the Showman's Guild and advocacy groups were contacted and 6 responses were received. Stakeholder feedback is presented in relevant sections throughout the report and please note that stakeholder views may not necessarily be the views of the council or arc[4].
- an assessment of accommodation needs taking into account all available data and information.

3.3 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:

- Phase 1: Literature/desktop review.
- Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Kirklees.
- Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of the TANA 2024/25 report.

Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions

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

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

3.5 Our aim is to obtain interviews from all households living on sites using a standard questionnaire (Appendix A). This questionnaire has been carefully designed in consultation with councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents.

3.6 There are no Gypsy and Traveller sites in Kirklees and the TANA focused on engaging with households living in bricks and mortar accommodation. The

fieldwork was led by a specialist associate who was able to use her kinship and friendship networks to contact households living in bricks and mortar accommodation across the district.

3.7 Around 20 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation were identified through local knowledge of the fieldteam. A total of 16 successful interviews were achieved and interviews took place during February 2025. arc[4] also contacted LeedsGATE to help identify households living in bricks and mortar.

3.8 One potential previously unknown site was also visited in Huddersfield. There were three static caravans and three touring caravans present but access was not possible. An information leaflet regarding the TANA was left at the site leaving contact details but no response was forthcoming.

3.9 Visits to Travelling Showpersons yards took place in February 2025 and interviews took place in February and March 2025. We were very grateful to the support provided by the Yorkshire section of the Showman's Guild of Great Britain for assistance with publicising the TANA and facilitating interviews with local Showpeople.

3.10 Data for 20 Travelling Showperson households was obtained. This was achieved through interviews with yard owners or community representatives living on yards. The information was obtained for 13 households through direct discussions with yard owners/representatives, information for 4 households identified through local knowledge and 3 were anonymous interviews provided by the Showman's Guild. Therefore, all known Travelling Showperson households living in Kirklees are represented in the data collected as part of the TANA.

3.11 Regarding stakeholder engagement, a total of 24 organisations were contacted including Traveller welfare and education officers (2); housing and planning staff (3), neighbouring local authorities as part of duty to cooperate (7), Traveller organisations (4), other council staff (7) and police/community safety officers (1). Stakeholders were contacted multiple times to complete a survey. A total of 6 responses were received.

Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of report

3.12 A detailed explanation of the pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 7 but briefly comprises analysis of the following:

- current pitch supply, households living in bricks and mortar accommodation; households planning to move in the next five years, and emerging households to give total need for pitches; and
- supply based on the number of authorised pitches and turnover on sites on public pitches.

3.13 The overall need for pitches is then compared with the overall supply.

Site and pitch size

3.14 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes for Gypsies and Travellers. Although now withdrawn, the DCLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller

sites: good practice guide (2008) states in paragraph 4.4 that **'Gypsy and Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building, together with space for parking. Sites of various sizes, layouts and pitch numbers operate successfully today and work best when they take into account the size of the site and the needs and demographics of the families resident on them'.**

3.15 Paragraph 4.47 states that **'to ensure fire safety it is essential that every trailer, caravan or park home must be not less than 6 metres from any other trailer, caravan or park home that is occupied separately'.**

3.16 Paragraph 7.12 states that **'as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area'**.

3.17 Paragraph 4.13 states that **'smaller pitches must be able to accommodate at least an amenity building, a large trailer, drying space for clothes and parking for at least one vehicle'.**

3.18 As a general guide, it is suggested by arc[4] that the minimum pitch size is 25m by 25m (625 square meters or 0.0625 hectares). This would support a twin-unit chalet/mobile home (15m x 6.5m), a tourer, an amenity shed/building (5m x 4m), two vehicle spaces (minimum 2.4m x 4.8m for each space) and turning circle for vehicles, amenity space and a small garden area/play space. Residential units need to be 3m from the pitch boundary and at least 6m apart. A slightly larger pitch of 25m by 30m (750 square meters or 0.075 hectares) would be appropriate for larger household units requiring several residential units. Additionally, it may be appropriate to have several caravans on a pitch to accommodate newly-forming households who may require independent accommodation but want to stay living as part of an extended family group.

3.19 It is generally accepted amongst the Travelling community that private sites of up to 6-10 pitches are appropriate. Public sites tend to be larger and have policies and procedures in place to ensure the effective management of sites.

Showperson yard and plot sizes

3.20 In 2010, the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain prepared a document 'Travelling Showpeople's sites: a planning focus – model standard package). This document was intended to provide guidelines to Travelling Showpeople and Local Planning Authorities when considering the needs of Travelling Showpeople.

3.21 This document confirmed that:

- A plot is a piece of land occupied by a showperson with their family and equipment, used to store fairground rides, vehicles and other items as well as for living accommodation. The family unit can be large or small, for instance an extended family with grandparents, parents and children, or a single-family unit of parents and children.

- A yard is two or more plots owned by the same family who may use this for their own family purposes or may let part out to other Showpeople.
- A site is a group of plots where the land is owned by individual plot holders. Quite often a Showperson's site will have a common shared access onto the main road network.
- Showpeople's sites do not fit neatly into the definition of one land use category. The sites combine a residential use with a storage use, and maintenance is also likely to be carried out on site. The residential use can take the form of static homes and caravans.

3.22 There is no formal guidance on the minimum size of a yard or a plot. Discussions with members of the Showpersons community provides some further insight into current practice on yards.

3.23 Within West Yorkshire, a new Showperson's 6.5 acre development comprising 7 yards has been developed in Fitzwilliam, Wakefield district. The view of the Guild member who runs the development suggested a standard size of 150ft x 150ft per plot (0.2 hectares). For the Fitzwilliam yards, the basic plot size is 120ft x 220ft (0.25 hectares) but there are variations in the size of each plot depending on household circumstances.

3.24 Following further discussion with a member of the community who wants to develop new yards, it was recommended that the minimum size of a yard is 0.15ha and ideally 0.2ha. To take account of minimum spacing required under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, the minimum spacing between caravans is 6m for fire safety and 3m between the caravan and boundary. This would suggest that for a 0.15ha yard, a reasonable assumption is this could accommodate 2 caravans (or 2 plots) and a 0.2ha yard, 3 caravans (or 3 plots).

3.25 For any applications coming forward, the council should work flexibly to ensure that any development reflects the specific needs of families and that the number of caravans on each yard accords with legal requirements for distance between caravans.

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

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

Census data

4.2 In October 2023, the ONS published detailed census data relating to Gypsy and Traveller populations. This provides valuable insights into the population dynamics and comparisons with overall populations although it is widely recognised that this is likely to under-report households who chose not to divulge they were from Travelling communities.

4.3 The 2021 Census reported a population of **180** people who identified as 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' or 'Gypsy/Romany' and 20 people identifying as 'Roma' living in Kirklees district. The total number of households was estimated to be **90** based on the number of Household Reference People identified in the census.

4.4 The previous 2011 Census reported 158 people and 55 households. Of the 55 households, 53 lived in bricks and mortar accommodation and 2 in caravans.

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

- 92% live in bricks and mortar accommodation and 8% live in a caravan/mobile structure.
- 73% rent (55% privately and 18% from a social landlord) and 27% are owner occupiers.
- 17.9% were overcrowded compared with 9.2% of the general population.
- 42.5% were couples with children, 17.5% single parent, 15% singles, 12.5% couples and 12.5% were other household types.

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

Theme	Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
Dwelling Stock	Detached whole house or bungalow	40	20.5
	Semi-detached whole house or bungalow	50	25.6
	Terraced (including end-terrace) whole house or bungalow	60	30.8
	Flat, maisonette or apartment	30	15.4
	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	15	7.7
	Total	195	100.0
Tenure	Owned: Owns outright	25	12.6
	Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	30	15.1
	Private rented or lives rent free	110	55.1
	Rented Social rented	35	17.6
	Total	200	100.0
Occupancy	Occupancy rating of bedrooms 0 or more	160	82.1
	Occupancy rating of bedrooms -1 or less (overcrowded)	35	17.9
	Total	195	100
Household composition	One person household: Aged 66 years and over	*	0.0
	One person household: Other	30	15.0
	Single family household: Couple family household: No children	25	12.5
	Single family household: Couple family household: Dependent children	75	37.5
	Single family household: Couple family household: All children non-dependent	10	5.0
	Single family household: Lone parent household	35	17.5
	Other household types	25	12.5
	Total	200	100.0
General Health	Very Good	85	44.7
	Good	60	31.6
	Fair	35	18.4
	Bad	10	5.3
	Very Bad	*	0.0
	Total	190	100.0
	Net health score (VG+G-B-VB)		71.1

Source: 2021 Census
https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/ethnicity/articles/gypsyoririshtravellerpopulationsenglandandwales/census2021
Note: * = small frequencies and not reported

4.6 In terms of health 76.3% of Gypsies and Travellers said their health was very good/good and 5.3% said it was bad/very bad. The overall net health satisfaction score (% saying very good/good minus bad/very bad) was 71.1% compared with 75.5% of the overall population.

4.7 Please note that the data reported from the census may differ from the findings of the household survey. This is because of the small population base of the Gypsy and Traveller population and data highly influenced by the level of response to both the 2021 Census and households interviewed as part of the 2025 household survey. It is also important to note that an estimate of total households in bricks and mortar is very difficult to establish.

Caravan Count information

4.8 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the government in 1979 and have since been undertaken every January and July by local authorities. An annual count of Travelling Showperson caravans takes place every January. The counts provide a source of information on the number of caravans located on authorised and unauthorised sites but do not record the actual number of pitches on sites/yards.

4.9 The figures for the last six Traveller caravan counts for Kirklees are set out in Table 4.2. Data shows an average of 12 caravans across the district during the period January 2022 to July 2024. All of these were reported on unauthorised sites without planning permission.

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

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission			Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private (Temporary)	Total Private (Permanent)	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2022	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2022	0	0	0	44	44
Jan 2023	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2023	0	0	0	9	9
Jan 2024	0	0	0	14	14
Jul 2024	0	0	0	6	6
6-Count Average (Jan 2022-July 2024)	0	0	0	12	12
6-Count % Average (Jan 2022-July 2024)	0	0	0	100%	100%

Source: MHCLG Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1

4.10 In recent years, the government's annual caravan counts for Travelling Showpeople within the district have not consistently captured the full extent of

the local population, resulting in gaps in the data. There are, however, at least three known yards within Kirklees and it is important that accurate monitoring is undertaken to ensure that future counts are accurate and reflective of the community.

Local site and yards

4.11 There are several ways in which sites can be described which are associated with their planning status. Authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either public or privately-owned land. Unauthorised sites are made up of either longer-term (approximately three months or longer) unauthorised encampments and can be considered to be indicative of a permanent need for accommodation (in some instances local authorities class these as tolerated sites and do not take enforcement action to remove them); and unauthorised developments, where Travellers are residing upon land that they own and that does not have planning permission (see Appendix B for more detailed definitions).

4.12 Table 4.3 sets out the location of Gypsy and Traveller sites and Table 4.4 Traveller Showperson yards across Kirklees district as of January 2025.

4.13 Across Kirklees there are currently no Gypsy and Traveller sites. There are four Travelling Showperson yards:

- 3 Travelling Showperson's yards (3 yards with a total of 19 plots occupied by 17 households, with 3 vacant plots used for transit provision and two households occupying 1 plot).
- 1 yard with 3 plots occupied by 3 households the location of which remains anonymous at the request of the households interviewed.

Table 4.3 List of Gypsy & Traveller sites (as at January 2025)

Site Code	Site Name	Site Address	Postcode	Type of site	Number of pitches	Total pitches occupied	Total pitches vacant	Number of households on pitches	Interviews achieved	Site management/ local knowledge/ planning application	Total household information
None	None	None	None	None	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL					0	0	0	0	0	0	0

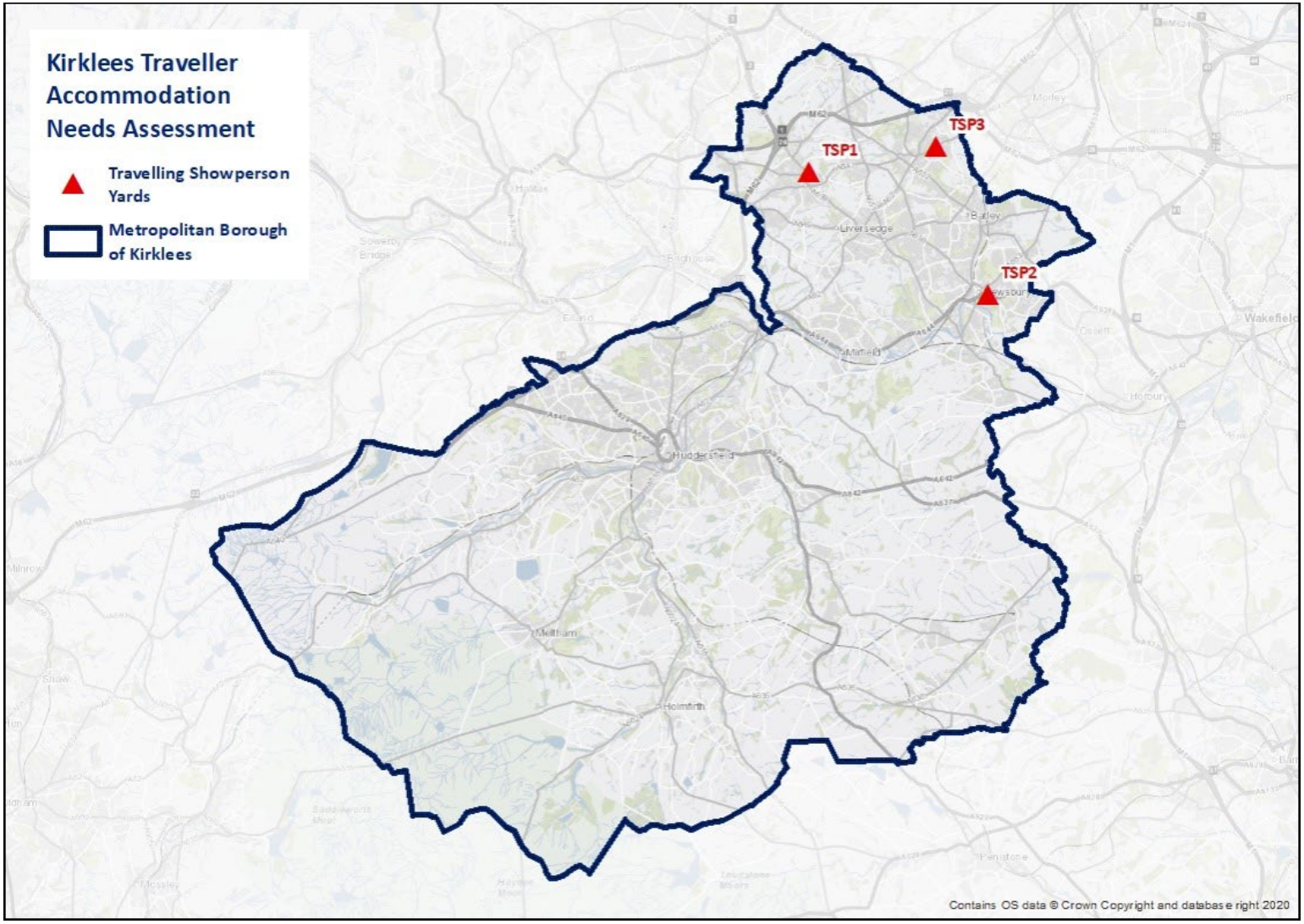
Source: Council data 2025 and fieldwork 2025

Table 4.4 List of Travelling Showperson yards (as at January 2025)

Yard Code	Yard Name	Yard Address	Type of yard	Yards and plots	Total plots occupied	Total plots vacant	Number of households on plots	Interviews achieved	Yard representative/ local knowledge	Total household information	Non response
TSP1	Crow Trees Yard	Central Mills, Bradford Road, Cleckheaton	Authorised	1 yard with 4 plots	4	0	4	0	4	4	0
TSP2	Showman's Yard	Feast Ground, Ridings Road, Dewsbury	Authorised	1 yard with 12 plots	9	3 (used for transit)	10	0	10	10	0
TSP3	Showman's Yard	Leeds Road, Birstall	Authorised	1 yard with 3 plots	3	0	3	3	0	3	0
TSP4	Anonymous location			1 yard with 3 plots	3	0	3	3		3	0
TOTAL				**4 yards with 22 plots**	**19**	**3 (used for transit)**	**20**	**6**	**14**	**20**	**0**

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

Map 4.1 Location of sites and yards in Kirklees district



5. Household survey findings

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

Gypsy and Traveller households living in Kirklees district

5.2 A review of the characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller households living in bricks and mortar accommodation in Kirklees has been based on data from a total of 16 household interviews.

5.3 The number of responses achieved to particular questions is summarised for each question. It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information, for instance by residential location, as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household data are presented in a manner which maintains respondent confidentiality. Where analysis refers to 'small numbers' this means 4 or fewer households responding.

5.4 **Ethnicity** (base=16): Of household interviewed, 75% identified as Romany Gypsy/English Traveller and 25% as Irish Traveller.

5.5 Data obtained provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on pitches.

5.6 **Household size** (base=16): 6.2% of households were single person; 43.8% two person; 25% three person; 25% four person households.

5.7 **Household type** (base=16): 6.2% of households were single person, 37.5% couples, 12.5% couples with child(ren) including adult children, 25% were single parents and 18.8% were other households with three or more adults

5.8 **Age profile:** The household survey obtained information on 43 Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation across Kirklees. Household survey data reports the following age profile (base=43) of the Travelling population in Kirklees, 18.6% were aged 13 or under, 11.6% aged 14-17, 18.6% aged 18-34, 23.3% aged 35-49, 18.6% aged 50-64 and 9.3% aged 65 and over.

5.9 **Length of residence** (base=16): 31% had lived at their current place of residence for less than 5 years, 19% between 5 and less than 10 years, 31% between 10 and less than 20 years and 19% for 20 years or more. Of households moving to a property in the last 5 years, all had previously lived on a site or were on the roadside.

5.10 **Overcrowding:** When asked if their home was overcrowded (base=16), no household said that their home was overcrowded.

Happy with living in bricks and mortar

5.11 Respondents were asked if they were happy living in their current home, whether they would prefer a pitch and if so was that linked to a 'cultural aversion' of living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

5.12 Overall, 69% were happy living in their current accommodation and 31% would prefer to live on a pitch. Of those preferring a pitch (5 responses), most said they had a cultural aversion to living in bricks and mortar.

5.13 Overall, the survey identified 1 existing household wanting to move from bricks and mortar to a site and 1 newly-forming household who wanted to move to bricks and mortar accommodation.

Help and support needs

5.14 Respondents were asked if they had any broader help and support needs. Several mentioned health concerns such as COPD, arthritis and diabetes. A small number reported depression and anxiety.

Travelling patterns

5.15 The majority of respondents interviewed (75%) identified as travelling. Reasons for travelling included to work and visit fairs and visiting family and friends.

Stakeholder views on bricks and mortar households

5.16 One of the key themes/issues from the Gypsy and Traveller Health Needs Assessment (HNA) 2022 was poor living conditions and inadequate accommodation provision. One of the recommendations from the HNA was to ensure adequate provision of good quality accommodation for both settled and nomadic Gypsies and Travellers to address the health inequalities experienced by this community. Note that this study did not cover Travelling Showpeople

5.17 A small number of respondents to the 2022 HNA expressed concerns about the quality of bricks and mortar accommodation, noting that some properties were in poor condition and had contributed to negative impacts on physical and mental health. Issues such as overcrowding and the location of housing in areas perceived to have higher levels of crime and anti-social behaviour were also mentioned. Homelessness data (records of all customers who approach the council for advice and assistance with housing issues) shows virtually no homeless presentations from the Gypsy and Traveller community. There is likely to be under-reporting within these figures but no doubt it will be a very small/negligible number.

5.18 Challenges such as access to facilities, services, health, education and any unmet needs, that are faced by Gypsy and Traveller or Travelling Showpeople's households who live in Kirklees. The 2022 HNA identified the following challenges:

- Ensuring equity of access to services by making reasonable adjustments
- Education

- Healthcare
- Housing
- Financial services
- Local welfare provision
- Ensuring that GRT (Gypsies, Roma and Travellers) can register with services even if they do not have a fixed address
- Reviewing service standard practices to make sure they meet the needs of GRT
- Offering a liaison colleague across the above 3 domains to act as a point of contact for GRT
- Offering community outreach services, and where possible working with the same members of staff to build trust and relationships.

Travelling Showperson households living in Kirklees district

5.19 A review of the characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller households living on Travelling Showperson yards in Kirklees has been based on data obtained for 20 households.

5.20 The number of responses achieved to particular questions is summarised for each question. It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information, for instance by residential location, as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household data are presented in a manner which maintains respondent confidentiality. Where analysis refers to 'small numbers' this means 4 or fewer households responding.

5.21 Data obtained provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on plots.

5.22 **Household size** (base=20): 40% of households were single person, 15% two person; 15% three person; 30% four person households.

5.23 **Household type** (base=20): 40% of households were single person, 15% couples, 20% couples with child(ren) including adult children, 25% were other households with three or more adults.

5.24 **Age profile:** The household survey obtained information on 50 Travelling Showpeople living on yards across Kirklees. Household survey data reports the following age profile (base=44) of the Travelling population in Kirklees, 13.6% were aged 13 or under, 13.6% aged 14-17, 25% aged 18-34, 11.4% aged 35-49, 20.5% aged 50-64 and 15.9% aged 65 and over.

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

Introduction

6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Kirklees district. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data. This chapter also considers transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers. Finally, the chapter presents planning policy recommendations.

6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on modelling as advocated in **Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance** (DCLG, 2007). Although now formally withdrawn, the former DCLG Guidance still provides the best-practice approach towards the assessment of pitch and plot needs (see Chapter 2 for further discussion).

6.3 This approach requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. It advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information. Modelling presents an overall need based on the revised 2024 PPTS definition which is also called the 'cultural' need.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

6.4 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2042/43) arising from children likely to need a pitch.

6.5 In terms of **need**, the 5-year model considers:

- the baseline number of households on all types of site (authorised, unauthorised and temporary authorised sites) as at January 2025;
- existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
- emerging households currently on sites and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a pitch; to derive a figure for total pitch need.

6.6 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:

- total supply of current pitches on authorised sites; and
- vacant pitches on authorised sites.

6.7 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:

- total need for pitches; and
- total supply of authorised pitches.

6.8 The longer-term model then considers the cultural need over the period to 2042/43. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches.

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

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

Need

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

6.10 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. In summary there are zero households living on authorised or unauthorised sites.

Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

6.11 The 2021 Census suggested there were 90 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation living across Kirklees district. The fieldteam identified 20 households living in bricks and mortar of whom 16 were successfully interviewed.

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

6.12 This was derived from the household survey. Of the 16 households interviewed, 4 expressed a preference for living on a pitch. This is consistent with arc[4] modelling which estimates that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site. Based on the 2021 Census estimate of 90 households, this would equate to around five households. Therefore, the model assumes a need from 5 households who would prefer to move from bricks and mortar accommodation onto a site.

6.13 There was evidence of people moving into Kirklees district but they moved into bricks and mortar accommodation and therefore the model assumes no need arising from in-migrant households.

6.14 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of 5 pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years.

Emerging households (4)

6.15 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2025 household survey information. The total number is +1. If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

Total need for pitches (5)

6.16 This is a total of current households on sites (zero) or living in bricks and mortar accommodation who would prefer to move to a pitch (5) and demand from newly-forming households who would prefer to move to a pitch (1). This indicates a total need for 6 pitches.

Supply

Current supply of authorised pitches (6)

6.17 This is zero

Reconciling supply and demand

6.18 There is a total need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29) for 6 pitches in Kirklees (Table 6.1) compared with a supply of zero authorised pitches. The result is an overall need for 6 pitches.

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

CULTURAL NEED			Kirklees Total
1	**Households living on pitches**	1a. On Housing Association site	0
		1b. On private site - Authorised	0
		1c. On private site – Temporary Authorised	0
		1d. On unauthorised site	0
		1e. Total (1a to 1d)	**0**
2	**Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation**	**2021 Census estimate**	**90**
3	**Existing households planning to move in next 5 years or on unauthorised site**	**Currently on sites**	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	0
		3b. To another site in district (no net impact)	0
		3c. From site to bricks and mortar (-)	0
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside district	0
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	5
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0
		In-migrant households	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	0
		3i. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3g+3h)	**5**
4	**Emerging households (5 years)**	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	0
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the district	0
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the district	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	1
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	**1**
5	**Total Need**	**1e+3i+4g**	**6**
SUPPLY			
6	**Current supply of authorised pitches**	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised pitches	0
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are vacant	0
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	0
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	**Total need for pitches**	**5 years (from 5)**	**6**
8	**Total supply of authorised pitches**	**5 years (from 6c)**	**0**
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2024/25 TO 2028/29			**6**

Longer-term pitch requirement modelling to 2042/43

6.19 Longer-term pitch need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households who have stated a preference for living on a pitch. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.

6.20 When calculating longer-term need, a reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage. The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in the local authority area. This approach has been tested at inquiry and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees. Demographic data indicates that over the period 2029/30 to 2042/43, there is a need for an additional 2 pitches (Table 6.2)

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

Time period	No. children	No. pitches
2029/30 to 2033/34 (5 years)	1	1
2034/35 to 2038/39 (5 years)	3	1
2039/40 to 2042/43 (4 years)	0	0
Total (2029/30 to 2042/43) (14 years)	**4**	**2**

Note: figures subject to rounding

Overall pitch need

6.21 Table 6.3 summarises the overall need for pitches across Kirklees district over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term 2029/30 to 2042/43 period. The overall need is 8 residential pitches. The main driver of need in the first five years is need from households preferring to live on a pitch.

Table 6.3 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2042/43 – Kirklees district

	Additional pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)	**6**
Longer-term need	
Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)	1
Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)	1
Over period 2039/40 to 2042/43(D)	0
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2042/43 (14 years) E=(B+C+D)	2
NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2042/43 (A+E) (19 years)	**8**
Annual net shortfall	**0.42**

Potential capacity for Gypsy and Traveller pitches on sites in Kirklees

6.22 There is potential capacity to meet the identified needs for Gypsies and Travellers through the allocated site at Land south of Bankwood, Birstall. This has capacity for 12 residential and 8 transit pitches.

Summary of need and capacity

6.23 Overall, there is a need across Kirklees for at least 8 authorised residential pitches over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43. There is a need for 6 pitches in the first five years 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 2 pitches over the period 2029/30 to 2042/43 due to anticipated levels of household formation.

6.24 There are currently no sites in Kirklees but a site has been allocated through the Local Plan at Bankwood Way, Birstall which would meet the identified need.

Tenure preferences

6.25 Most households preferring to live on a site rented from the council so it is reasonable to assume that pitches on a council/housing association site would be appropriate to meet need.

Household views on residential pitch need

6.26 The majority of households interviewed (63%) said there was a need for more Gypsy and Traveller residential pitches. One of the key themes/issues from the Gypsy and Traveller Health Needs Assessment (HNA) 2022. At least one site was needed and council ownership was the most preferred tenure, although some suggested a mix between council and community ownership.

Stakeholder views on residential pitch need

6.27 One of the key themes/issues from the Gypsy and Traveller Health Needs Assessment (HNA) 2022 was poor living conditions and inadequate accommodation provision. One of the recommendations from the HNA was to ensure adequate provision of good quality accommodation for both settled and nomadic Gypsies and Travellers to address the health inequalities experienced by this community.

6.28 Key aspects to this will be:

- Working with colleagues across the council to explore options and feasibility around negotiated stopping, authorised encampments and delivering a permanent site on identified land in Kirklees; following best practice examples as a guide.
- Working with housing colleagues to ensure ‘healthy homes’ across different tenures.
- Ensuring that nomadic Gypsies and Travellers have access to basic amenities such as clean water and sanitation.

6.29 Council stakeholders also reported (anecdotal) experience of a small number of homeless presentations from Gypsy and Traveller households, due to not having a pitch readily available to them in the district. The evidence of unauthorised encampments confirms the lack of availability of pitches.

6.30 Calderdale Council is working with LeedsGATE (Leeds Gypsy and Traveller Exchange) who are liaising with and supporting the Gypsy and Traveller community in Calderdale. They have undertaken a community mapping exercise which has provided additional evidence of need for the borough to that reported in the Calderdale Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2023 undertaken by arc[4]. Council stakeholders recommended that LeedsGATE should be consulted for their views.

6.31 Neighbouring council stakeholders suggested that Kirklees should provide enough permanent residential pitches evidenced by their need.

6.32 Regarding the location of new sites, council representatives suggested using data, which enforcement colleagues currently have on camps that have been set up in the past, will give a sense of which routes and areas are being used and what facilities are nearby. Feedback from Gypsies and Travellers is that sites are often proposed on land which no one really wants to develop, land of poor quality, and land which is unsuitable for their needs. The sites should be located near enough to community infrastructures e.g. schools, GP/health services, supermarkets, food and welfare support, rather than in isolated areas. The community themselves will have views on location preferences and requirements.

6.33 Neighbouring council representatives proposed that permanent sites should be located in the local authority area to which Gypsy and Traveller families have local connections, e.g. family relations or work.

6.34 Regarding barriers to provision. Council stakeholders identified community tensions as a main barrier to the provision of new permanent sites as any location is likely to be met with resistance from surrounding neighbourhoods.

6.35 Council representatives also highlighted possible past negative experiences where camps have been set up. High levels of pollution and noise, resulting in poor health was mentioned in the HNA.

6.36 The main barrier suggested by neighbouring council stakeholders is finding suitable and available sites for development. This includes council owned land.

6.37 Neighbouring council stakeholders also suggested that understanding barriers comes from local knowledge and consultation with the Traveller community.

6.38 A council respondent commented that there is a general assumption that there are unmet needs for legal pitches within Kirklees which would help prevent unauthorised encampments.

Migration trends

6.39 The household survey identified that 5 households had moved into Kirklees from other areas which included elsewhere in West Yorkshire and from elsewhere in England.

6.40 Wakefield Council reported that the 2016 GTAA found that most households had lived on their pitches for over five years, though some had moved from outside the area. The GTAA identified households intending to relocate to Wakefield from outside the district, which were included in the analysis. Additionally, at the time of the study 10 applicants on the council site were on waiting list living outside the district. With permission from the council, the GTAA dataset has been re-analysed to see if there were any flows of households from Kirklees to Wakefield and none were identified.

6.41 Other neighbouring council stakeholders are not aware of any regular movement of Gypsies and Travellers between Kirklees and neighbouring authorities.

6.42 Wakefield Council want to support the Kirklees TANA, and recommend that migration patterns, including in- and out-migration, be analysed through household surveys and site-specific data.

6.43 Barnsley MBC highlighted the need for potential identification of any regular cross boundary movement between Kirklees and neighbouring authorities.

6.44 Oldham Council signposted the Greater Manchester Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2024 which has recently been completed and is available to view online.

Transit requirements

6.45 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping. A good indicator of transit need is unauthorised encampment activity. An unauthorised encampment refers to land where persons unknown reside in vehicles or tents without permission. Unauthorised encampments can occur in a variety of locations and constitute trespass.

6.46 For Kirklees district during 2024 there were 10 incidences of unauthorised encampment activity (Table 6.4):

- The number of caravans on unauthorised encampments has ranged between 1 and 15.
- The median number of caravans on an encampment has been 4.5 and mode (most frequently reported) has been 4 caravans.

6.47 Recommendations for transit provision in Kirklees are presented at the end of this chapter.

Table 6.4 Unauthorised encampment activity in Kirklees district

Number of encampments recorded 2024	10 encampments	
Number of caravans	Median	4.5
	Mode	4
	Range	1 to 15

Source: Council data

Household views on transit need across Kirklees district

6.48 56% of household survey respondents stated there is a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling through the district. A mix of transit pitches and stop over places, both managed by the council were recommended.

Stakeholder views on transit need across Kirklees district

6.49 Council representatives have knowledge of unauthorised encampment activity in Kirklees. Housing Services are regularly copied into eviction notices relating to illegal encampments. Enforcement colleagues hold this data. Evidence from the 2022 HNA suggests from those interviewed, there was a view that Kirklees Council needed to develop their approach to managing roadside encampments as this was less flexible than other authorities.

6.50 Council stakeholders stated a need for transit sites in Kirklees. One of the key themes/issues from the Gypsy and Traveller 2022 HNA was poor living conditions and inadequate accommodation provision. An increase in all accommodation options came through as a recurring theme in the 2022 HNA. Council stakeholders also stated a need for temporary stop-over places in Kirklees. One of the key themes/issues from the Gypsy and Traveller 2022 HNA was poor living conditions and inadequate accommodation provision.

6.51 Regarding barriers to delivering transit provision, council stakeholders reported getting agreement to offer transit provision is challenging due to balancing needs of existing communities with the needs of Gypsies and Travellers. There also needs to be agreement within the political process, funding to ensure sites are adequate and ensuring partnerships work together to deliver.

6.52 Neighbouring council stakeholders identified finding suitable and available sites and objections from the settled community as the main barriers to transit provision.

Conclusions on transit need across Kirklees district

6.53 When considering transit need, the council needs to be mindful of the 2022 Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act (Part 4). This makes using land for stopping without permission a criminal offence rather than a civil offence. The Bill gives police increased powers to act and introduces significant penalties (fines up to £2,500, impounding vehicles and prison sentences).

6.54 The council should consider how land can be provided for short-term use and particularly in response to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

6.55 The council has identified land at Bankwood Way to provide 8 transit pitches. Assuming 2 caravans can be accommodated on each pitch, this has the potential to accommodate 16 caravans at one time. It is also recommended that the council considers negotiated stopping arrangements to positively manage unauthorised encampment activity, with a recommendation to identify land to accommodate encampments of up to 5 caravans, encampments of between 6 and 10 caravans and encampments of more than 10 caravans.

6.56 Negotiated stopping involves councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tends to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site. In the short-term, the potential to use land at the site at Bankwood Way for negotiated stopping could be considered.

7. Travelling Showperson plot requirements

Introduction

7.1 There is a well-established community of Travelling Showpeople in Kirklees district. There are three authorised developments across Kirklees for Travelling Showpeople plus families living on developments that are not authorised.

7.2 The TANA assumes a total of 20 households living on Showpersons yards across the district.

Showperson plot requirement model overview

7.3 Plot need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2042/43) arising from children likely to need a plot.

7.4 In terms of **need**, the 5-year model considers:

- the baseline number of households on plots on yards as at February 2025;
- existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on plots and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
- emerging households currently on plots and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a plot; to derive a figure for total plot need.

7.5 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:

- total supply of current plots on authorised yards; and
- vacant plots on authorised yards

7.6 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:

- total need for plots; and
- total supply of authorised plots.

7.7 The longer-term model then considers the need over the period to 2042/43. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Travelling Showperson households on plots.

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

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

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

CULTURAL NEED			Kirklees Total
1	**Households living on plots**	1a. On private yard - Authorised	17
		1b. On Unauthorised site	3
		1c. Total (1a to 1b)	20
2	**Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation**	**2021 Census estimate**	**N/A**
3	**Existing households planning to move in next 5 years**	**Currently on yards**	
		3a. To another plot/same yard (no net impact)	0
		3b. To a new plot in district	1
		3c. From plot to bricks and mortar (-)	0
		3d. To plot /bricks and mortar outside district	0
		In-migrant households	
		3e. Allowance for in-migration (+)	0
		3f. TOTAL Net impact (+3b-3c-3d+3e)	**1**
4	**Emerging households (5 years)**	4a. Currently on plot and planning to live on current yard	0
		4b. Currently on plot and planning to live on another yard in the district	7
		4c. Currently on plot and planning to live outside the district	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a plot in LA (+)	0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	**7**
5	**Total Need**	**1e+3f+4g**	**28**
SUPPLY			
6	**Current supply of authorised plots**	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised plots	16
		6b. Current authorised plots which are vacant (Note 3 plots on Ridings Road used for transit purposes)	0
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	16
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	**Total need for plots**	**5 years (from 5)**	**28**
8	**Total supply of authorised plots**	**5 years (from 6c)**	**16**
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2024/25 TO 2028/29			**12**

Need

Current households living on plots (1a to 1d)

7.9 These figures are derived from council data, site observation data and discussions with the Showman's Guild. In summary there are 17 households living on authorised plots across three yards and 3 households living on an unauthorised yard.

Weighting

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

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

7.11 This was derived from information from the 2024/5 household survey for respondents currently on pitches.

7.12 Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that one plans to move in the next 5 years.

7.13 Regarding in-migration, there is no evidence of households moving into Kirklees in the past 5 years.

7.14 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of +1 plots from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years.

Emerging households (4)

7.15 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2025 household survey information. The total number is +7. If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

Total need for plots (5)

7.16 This is a total of current households on authorised plots, households on plots planning to move in the next five years and demand from emerging households currently living on plots. This indicates a total need for 28 plots.

Supply

Current supply of authorised pitches (6)

7.17 Modelling assumes a total supply of 16 plots located across three yards on the Travelling Showperson developments in Kirklees district.

Reconciling supply and demand

7.18 There is a total need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29) for 28 plots in Kirklees compared with a supply 16 plots. The result is an overall need for 12 additional plots.

Longer-term plot requirement modelling to 2042/43

7.19 Longer-term plot need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on plots. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.

7.20 When calculating longer-term need, the model therefore reasonably assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in the local authority area. Over this period, there is a need for an additional 3 plots (Table 7.2).

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

Time period	No. children	No. plots
2029/30 to 2033/34 (5 years)	1	1
2034/35 to 2038/39 (5 years)	2	1
2039/40 to 2042/43 (4 years)	3	1
Total (2029/30 to 2042/43) (14 years)	**6**	**3**

Note: figures subject to rounding

Overall plot need

7.21 Table 7.3 summarises the overall need for plots across Kirklees district over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term 2029/30 to 2042/43 period. The overall need is 15 additional plots. The main driver of need in the first five years is need from households living on an unauthorised yard and emerging households currently living on existing plots.

Table 7.3 Plan period Travelling Showperson plot need 2024/25 to 2042/43 – Kirklees district

	Additional plot need
5yr Authorised Plot Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)	**12**
Longer-term need	
Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)	1
Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)	1
Over period 2039/40 to 2041/42(D)	1
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2042/44 (14 years) E=(B+C+D)	3
NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2042/43 (A+E) (19 years)	**15**
Annual net shortfall	**0.8**

Potential capacity for Travelling Showperson plots on yards

7.22 There are currently no vacant plots on existing yards and no capacity for the expansion of three of the existing Travelling Showperson developments. There are 3 plots on Ridings Road which are vacant but used for transit purposes.

7.23 Over the plan period there may be some household dissolution which would create a small amount of residential capacity but unlikely to meet the wider needs to accommodate equipment to be stored.

7.24 The Local Plan identified the potential to expand Ridings Road by 4 plots which has not been implemented.

Potential new Travelling Showperson's yard

7.25 Interest has been expressed by a community member to develop a new yard in Kirklees to help meet identified needs and in particular address the needs from households living on the unauthorised yard.

7.26 There is no specific locations for new yards identified from the evidence. Criteria-based policies should therefore be developed to help inform the appropriateness of locations identified.

Stakeholder views on Travelling Showperson accommodation need

7.27 Neighbouring council representatives suggested that Kirklees should provide enough permanent residential plots evidenced by their need.

7.28 Neighbouring council stakeholders suggested that permanent plots need to be located close to the main road network because of the movement of fairground equipment. However, finding suitable and available sites for development close to the main road network is a key barrier to the provision of new permanent yards. Neighbouring council stakeholders also highlighted that understanding barriers will come from local knowledge and consultation with the Traveller community.

8. Conclusion and response

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

Current accommodation

8.2 There are well-established Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson communities living across Kirklees. There are currently no Gypsy and Traveller sites and community members live in bricks and mortar accommodation.

8.3 There are three authorised Travelling Showpersons' developments which comprise 3 yards with 18 residential plots and one unauthorised yard with 3 residential plots.

Future Gypsy and Traveller residential need

8.4 There is an overall minimum need for 8 Gypsy and Traveller pitches across Kirklees over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43. This need is based on households currently living in bricks and mortar and would prefer to live on a pitch to reflect their cultural identity, Of this need, 6 are needed in the first five years 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 2 over the period 2029/30 to 2042/43. Needs analysis considers the needs arising from existing households in bricks and mortar accommodation and newly forming households. The annual need shortfall is 0.42 pitches.

8.5 In order to meet its need for pitches, the council has a site allocated in its Local Plan at Bankwood Way for 12 residential pitches which could address the needs identified.

8.6 Notwithstanding evidence in this TANA on need, additional need may arise over the plan period, for instance households moving into Kirklees district. It is therefore recommended that the Local Plan references the need in the TANA as a minimum need which is likely to be met but sets out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for sites.

Transit provision

8.7 There is currently no provision to address transit need but given unauthorised encampment activity, the council will need to consider appropriate responses. These can include transit pitches, stopover places and negotiated stopping arrangements. There is a Local Plan allocation for 8 transit pitches at Bankwood Way which could make appropriate provision for transit need. It is also recommended that the council considers developing a negotiated stopping policy to support the needs of Travellers passing through Kirklees. It is recommended that the council identifies areas of land that can be used for smaller encampments (up to 5 caravans), medium-sized encampments (between 5 and up to 10 caravan) and larger encampments (more than 10 caravans). In the short-term, the potential to use land at the site at Bankwood Way for negotiated stopping could be considered.

Travelling Showperson need

8.8 There are well-established Travelling Showperson developments comprising 3 yards accommodating 17 households living on 17 plots. There is an unauthorised yard accommodating 3 households living on 3 plots.

8.9 There is an overall minimum need for 15 additional Travelling Showperson plots across Kirklees over the period 2024/25 to 2042/43. Of this need, 12 are needed in the first five years 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 3 over the period 2029/30 to 2042/43.

8.10 The council has made provision in the Local Plan for 4 additional plots on the Ridings Road yard which are yet to be implemented. In addition, one Showperson wants to work with the council to develop a new yard to meet identified needs.

Duty to cooperate

8.11 Neighbouring authorities responding to the stakeholder survey (Barnsley, Calderdale, Oldham and Wakefield) confirmed that the TANA contributed to the duty to cooperate.

Key strategic messages from stakeholders

8.12 Council stakeholders highlighted that Gypsies and Travellers face stark inequalities across health and the wider determinants of health. This community suffers the poorest health outcomes and lowest life expectancy of any ethnic group in the UK. The most significant needs identified in the 2022 HNA were around: access to healthcare services, poor living conditions and inadequate accommodation provision, a lack of community cohesion and isolation and crime. All the above are cross cutting themes and should be considered when planning for Kirklees Traveller Accommodation needs. There is a need to think smarter in relation to how the narrative is framed and shifted around GRT in the public and political domain.

8.13 Council stakeholders also reported a general assumption that there are un-met needs for legal pitches within Kirklees, to prevent unauthorised encampments.

8.14 Calderdale Council highlighted the need for pitches and plots in Kirklees over the plan period, where pitches and plots should be located and why, plus guidance/policy on site layout and design as the key priorities.

8.15 Oldham Council highlighted the implications of cross-boundary movement, particularly in relation to Travellers passing through Oldham/Greater Manchester as the main priority.

Policy recommendations

8.16 It is recommended that the Local Plan sets out policies to inform future planning applications for private sites/yards. The following suggestions, based on a range of policies from other local authorities could be taken into account when drafting the council's policies on new residential pitch/plot provision:

- The site/yard is in a sustainable location in terms of accessibility to services and facilities, including health and schools.
- The site/yard is suitable in terms of vehicular access to the highway, parking, turning, road safety and servicing arrangements and has access to essential services such as water supply, sewerage, drainage and waste disposal. For Travelling Showpeople, yards should be a sufficient size for vehicular access and for the storage of equipment.
- Appropriate screening and landscaping is included within the proposal to protect local amenity and the environment.
- The site/yard is not affected by environmental hazards that may affect the residents' health or welfare or be located in an area of high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains.
- They promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site/yard and the local community.
- They enable mixed business and residential accommodation (providing for the live-work lifestyle of Travellers).
- They avoid undue pressure on local infrastructure and services.
- The proposal is well related to the size and location of the site and respects the scale of the nearest settled community.
- Proposals make adequate provision for on-site facilities that meet best practice for modern Traveller site/Showperson yard requirements, including play areas, storage, provision for recycling and waste management.

Future updating

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

Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire

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

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

9	**HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS**			
		Gender	**Age**	**Relationship to respondent**
	Respondent			
	Person2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			

10	**ETHNICITY**	

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

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

	WHERE YOU PLAN TO LIVE IN THE FUTURE	
20	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N
21	Why are you planning to move?	
22	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)	
23	What type of dwelling? (**c**aravan, **t**railer, **ch**alet, **h**ouse, **f**lat, **b**ungalow)	
24A	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics/family pitch)	
24B	Do you need any grazing land for any livestock?	Y / N
24C	If you are considering bricks and mortar, what are your reasons	

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

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

		HH1	**HH2**	**HH3**	**HH4**
28	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing				
29	What type of dwelling? (**c**aravan, **t**railer, **ch**alet, **h**ouse, **f**lat, **b**ungalow)				
30	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
31	If living in bricks and mortar, do you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar? (this means if affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N

	ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL PITCHES	
32	Scope to expand site (extend the boundary of the site)	Y / N
33	No. additional pitches	
34	Scope to intensify pitches (put more pitches on the existing site)	Y / N
35	No. additional pitches	
36	Are there any vacant pitches on the site which could be used by another family? If so, how many pitches	
37	In general, is there a need for more authorised pitches (for people to live on all the time?) in this part of B81 Shropshire?	Y / N
38	If so, now many are needed?	
39	Who should own them (Council, people from the Traveller Community, non-Travellers)	
40	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a site?	

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

46	Is there a need for stopover places? A stopover place is land which can be used on a temporary basis and usually include access to portaloos, waste disposal and water	Y / N
47	If so, how many are needed?	
48	Who should manage them? (Council, Traveller Community)	
49	Where should they be located?	

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

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

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

OTHER COMMENTS

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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

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

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

CRE: Commission for Racial Equality.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Plot: see pitch

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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