



Irish Traveller Movement in Britain  
The Resource Centre  
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# IRISH TRAVELLERS: “OUR PLACE IN LONDON”



## The London Plan

Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London  
Consultation on draft replacement plan

Submission by the Irish Traveller Movement in Britain

January 2010

## Endorsed by

Irish Chaplaincy in Britain

British Institute of Human Rights (BIHR)

Federation of Irish Societies (FIS)

Minority Ethnic Network (MiNET)

Irish Councilors Network (ICN)

Metropolitan Police Independent Advisory Group (IAG)

Praxis

Irish Counseling and Psychotherapy (ICAP)

Southwark Traveller Action Group (STAG)

Bromley Gypsy Traveller Project

### **and**

Traveller Inter Agency Forums in

Lewisham

Ealing

Kensington and Chelsea

Hillingdon

Brent

The Irish Traveller Movement is supporting Local Authorities in developing their Gypsy Roma and Traveller Strategies in:

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Waltham Forest

Haringey

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## SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain (ITMB) welcomes the opportunity to participate in consultation on the Mayor's London Plan and Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London (the Plan). ITMB is proud to work in partnership with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller groups, service providers and policy makers across London, to better promote social inclusion and community cohesion. Irish Travellers are a part of London: A part of its heritage and its future. This submission:

\* Welcomes the Greater London Authority support for Boroughs to undertake a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). However is disappointed that subsequent recommendations in the London Plan undermine its findings.

\* Welcomes Greater London Authority acceptance that it is required by law to identify the number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches in each Borough but disagrees with the Mayor's re-assessment of need based on misleading and erroneous argument. Rejecting independent advice and giving undue weight to "informal consultation" risks undermining confidence in the process of public consultation.

\* Rejects the argument that provision should be less than need on the basis that 'bricks and mortar' accommodation can play a role in meeting the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The proposal ignores the needs of Gypsies and Travellers as a distinct minority ethnic group and flies in the face of all available evidence of the profound health impact of an assimilations policy.

\* Regrets that the Mayor fails to provide evidence to support his assertions on housing density. Rejects the argument that a "balance has to be struck" because the land resource requirements of meeting the need for Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation are minor by comparison with overall housing commitments. While resource needs are relatively small, the social need is extreme.

\* Welcomes the Mayor's commitment to take account of potential for development proposals to impact on health inequalities. We support the Plans commitment to work in partnership with the NHS and Boroughs to reduce health inequalities and improve the health of ALL Londoners, including Gypsies and Travellers.

\* Welcomes proposals on children and young people's play and informal recreation facilities giving the Mayor responsibility to ensure that ALL children and young people have safe access to good quality, well-designed, secure and stimulating play and informal recreation provision, incorporating trees and greenery wherever possible. Deprived Gypsy and Traveller communities should be targeted.

\* Welcomes commitment to ensure that London is a city that meets the challenges of economic and population growth while ensuring a sustainable and improving quality of life for ALL Londoners. London should be a city with a strong and diverse economy and entrepreneurial spirit that benefits ALL Londoners and all parts of the city. A place that is at the leading edge of innovation and research and that makes the most of its rich heritage and cultural resources.

\* Welcomes the commitment to work with London boroughs, waste authorities, private and third sector groups to maximise management of London's waste within the City by creating positive environmental impacts from waste processing. The ITMB urge the Mayor to study the potential for the engagement of Gypsy and Traveller groups in achieving these objectives.

## INTRODUCTIONS

The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain welcomes this opportunity to participate in public consultation on the Mayor's draft replacement London Plan and Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London<sup>1</sup>. As a national charity, reflecting the particular concerns of Irish Travellers, we engage in dialogue and work in partnership with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller groups, service providers and policy makers across London, to better promote social inclusion and community cohesion. Irish Travellers are a part of London: A part of its heritage and its future – sometimes Travellers find it necessary to say that out loud. "We have a place in London. Gypsy and Traveller communities are a real part of 21st Century Britain."

## BACKGROUND

Last year, the Equality & Human Rights Commission reported<sup>2</sup> that *"some committed, forward-looking local authorities have pioneered ways of meeting the needs of these nomadic groups to preserve their traditional lifestyle, while accessing health and education services and maintaining good relations with other communities"*.

But there is a qualification: *"In other areas however, **Gypsies and Travellers continue to be the focus of social tension with accommodation issues at the core.** People living near unauthorised sites often object to developments without planning permission or where the environment is being damaged."* Such concerns receive widespread coverage in local and national media.

**Nobody benefits from such confrontations;** least of all Gypsies and Travellers. Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are legally recognised as ethnic groups, and protected from discrimination by the Race Relations Act (1976, amended 2000) and the Human Rights Act (1998). But in terms of health and education, they are still one of the most deprived groups in Britain. Life expectancy for Gypsy and Traveller men and women is 10 years lower than the national average. Gypsy and Traveller mothers are 20 times more likely than the rest of the population to have experienced the death of a child. Only 19 per cent of Irish Traveller children and 9.9 per cent of Gypsy children achieved 5 A\*-C passes at GCSE in 2006 and it is estimated that nationally over 10,000 Gypsy and Traveller children are unregistered with a school.<sup>3</sup>

The Equality and Human Rights Commission 'Simple Solutions' (2009) report, demonstrated how a lack of authorised sites for Gypsies and Travellers perpetuates many of these problems. This report

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<sup>1</sup> The London Plan: Consultation on the draft replacement plan Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London

<sup>2</sup> "Gypsies and Travellers: Simple solutions for living together", Equality & Human Rights Commission (2009)

<sup>3</sup> CLG (2007); The Road Ahead: Final Report of the Independent Task Group on Site Provision and Enforcement for Gypsies and Travellers. Available at: [www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/1284475](http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/1284475)

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did not break new ground, sadly **reiterating systematic problems that have been identified for more than forty years.** A report from 1967 'Gypsy and Travellers Together" (1967), demonstrates how little change has occurred over the last 40 years.

*"A variety of provision is probably the best answer: housing for those who wish to be housed: permanent pitches for those waiting to be housed or who prefer site life...short stay pitches for those who travel continually from place to place..."*

*"There would be no need for any authority continually to spend money and effort moving families on..."*

*"It remains for more local authorities to take the action already called for by the Minister..."*<sup>4</sup>

The obvious availability of solutions, provide an opportunity for political courage and strong leadership to exhibit itself, to seriously **approach the problems on an evidential basis** – the London GTANA is that evidential baseline.

**The Government has required all local authorities in England 'to increase significantly' the number of Gypsy and Traveller sites** in appropriate locations with planning permission in order to address under provision.<sup>5</sup>

There is a strong economic case for meeting the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers: "spending to save". Currently, local authorities spend around £18 million a year of council tax payers' money evicting Gypsies and Travellers from unauthorised sites.<sup>6</sup> Evidence suggests these costs could be significantly reduced if councils invested in providing an authorised alternative. Since Bristol City Council created two authorised sites, it has seen its costs for enforcement drop from £200,000 in the mid-90s to a current yearly average of £5,000. Once Gypsies and Travellers are in authorised sites significant returns can also be collected in rent, council tax and utility bills.<sup>7</sup>

There are also social benefits. Community tensions often arise when sites are developed without planning permission. Experience shows that well-run, authorised sites, like those in Fenlands, can be effectively integrated into local communities.<sup>8</sup> Indeed there are examples of good practice here in London – in Ealing, Hillingdon and Hackney. The Traveller Inter Agency Forums in each of these Boroughs are providing a strong partnership approach to meeting the needs of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

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<sup>4</sup> Gypsies and other Travellers (1967), Ministry of Housing and Local Government's Report, HMSO

<sup>5</sup> "Gypsies and Travellers: Simple solutions for living together" (2009), Equality & Human Rights Commission

<sup>6</sup> Morris, R & Clements, L. (Eds.) (1999) *Gaining Ground: Law Reform for Gypsies and Travellers*. Hatfield: University of Herefordshire Press

<sup>7</sup> "Gypsies and Travellers: Simple solutions for living together", Equality & Human Rights Commission (2009)

<sup>8</sup> "Gypsies and Travellers: Simple solutions for living together" (2009), Equality & Human Rights Commission  
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Good community cohesion is a duty on local authorities. **ITMB have become aware of heightened community tensions, evidenced by police reporting.** Often these tensions are contained within the community itself. The tensions are exacerbated by the lack of accommodation – too few pitches leading to overcrowding. Such poor provision and heightened internal tensions will spread. ITMB have raised this with the Independent Advisory Group and this concern has been documented with the Metropolitan police and Metropolitan Police Authority. **ITMB would strongly urge the Mayor as the Chairman of the MPA, to ensure that policies adopted by the GLA are inclusive, cohesive and rigorous.**

Unauthorised sites are often located in unsafe or unsuitable places, such as close to motorways or rubbish dumps, and lack basic toilet and waste disposal facilities. As well as being a health hazard for those who live there, such sites cause environmental damage and create an eyesore for neighbours. Johnson and Willers (2007) point out that existing accommodation “would not be tolerated [as accommodation] by any other group in society”, while planning applications for new sites or extension of sites are less likely to be approved than other developments and often receive strong objections from the wider community.<sup>9</sup>

## **ACCOMODATION**

**The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain welcomed the support of the Greater London Authority for the Boroughs to undertake a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA) (see Appendix 1) but is disappointed that subsequent recommendations in the draft London Plan significantly undermine its findings.**

The GTANA<sup>10</sup> in 2008 found an overall maximum shortfall of 554 new residential pitches in the next five years - a doubling of the present stock. The authors explain that this is less remarkable when it is considered that there have been no new socially rented sites provided in the past decade, and instead there has been a net loss of pitches. The overall addition proposed by the Assessment would be between 37 and 55 new sites (with 10-15 pitches each). There is also a need for some 40 transit pitches. The overall need over the next ten years for Travelling Showpeople is 73 plots.

The research undertaken to deliver the needs assessments had weaknesses. The report acknowledges the estimate of Gypsies and Travellers living in London is a conservative number. (p4.S.10, London GTANA, 2008). Medical research has revealed Gypsies and Travellers to be

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<sup>9</sup> Johnson, C. & Willers, M (eds), (2007); Gypsy and Traveller Law

<sup>10</sup> “London Boroughs’ Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment” Conducted by Fordham Research (2008)

hesitant to discuss medical situations (van Cleemput et al 2004)<sup>11</sup>. In order to be “eligible” for a place on a new site, Travellers had to demonstrate having a psychological aversion to bricks and mortar by providing 'personal' medical statements as part of the interviewing process; a requirement alien to most. These and other methodological weaknesses suggest an under-representation of housed Travellers wanting a home on a new site. That said, this was the first London GTANA and provides a baseline for future work.

It is the policy process that follows the Needs Assessment that will determine how many and where new sites are to be developed. At the time of publication, nearly all boroughs had a net need but over half the need arises in five boroughs. The survey found that the question of location of provision is relatively flexible and that the adequate provision of suitable pitches is a more important consideration for London's Gypsy and Traveller communities.

In May 2009, as required by law, the Greater London Authority published a draft impact assessment of the Mayor's housing strategy<sup>12</sup>. The assessment reported that in 2005 there were approx 796 Gypsy and Traveller pitches in London, 15% of which were unauthorised. It noted that the number of pitches for Gypsy and Traveller caravans has fallen in London in preceding years but concluded that a large increase will be needed to meet the needs of those currently living in unsuitable accommodation. A London wide assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople was carried out in 2007 and identified a maximum requirement for 750 new caravan pitches over the next 10 years with one third of the identified need being in the south east.

To provide for the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers to be met, the report suggested Boroughs be encouraged to protect existing Gypsy and Traveller pitches, refurbish existing sites where needed, and address the identified requirements for the provision of new sites. Despite the suggestion, sites have not been protected. In Lewisham, for example, where the site at Thurston Road was closed in 2009.

The Assessment found that proposed GLA policy for Gypsies and Travellers was very generally worded and did not explain how it contributes to the equality and diversity objectives by protecting and benefiting members of Gypsy and Traveller groups.

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<sup>11</sup> Parry, Van Cleemput et al (2004), “The Health Status of Gypsies and Travellers in England” Sheffield School of Health and Related Research

<sup>12</sup> London Housing Strategy - Equalities Impact Assessment Report draft for public consultation (2009)

It warned that some London Boroughs “may not have the will or capacity to deal with issues this raises about targeting attention to equality target groups’ housing needs in the context of significant funding constraints. What stakeholders have described as ‘unpopular’ groups among the equality target groups (such as Gypsies and Travellers) may not be adequately assisted through estate and area regeneration efforts.”

**The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain welcomes the acceptance by the Greater London Authority that it is required by law to identify the number of Gypsy and Traveller pitches required for each Borough but disagrees with the Mayor’s re-assessment of need based on misleading and erroneous argument. Further to that, rejecting independent advice and giving undue weight to “informal consultation” risks undermining confidence in the process of public consultation.**

The Mayor argues that he has considered the independent needs assessment but takes his own “strategic” view. The Mayor insists he has followed the process required by Government including engagement with a wide range of stakeholders including individual Boroughs, London Councils, adjacent regions, the London Gypsy and Travellers Forum and other representatives of the traveller communities and Government.

*“In coming to his view of needs across the region the Mayor has carefully considered those of stakeholders expressed in informal consultation on options for addressing this matter, as well as more strategic issues such as application of national guidance on pitch provision in the unique circumstances of London.” (para 3.48)*

First, the draft Plan argues that bricks and mortar accommodation can play a role in meeting the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers (or in the words of the draft: “individuals falling within government’s definition”). There are, it states *“dangers of taking a formulaic national approach to assessing need in highly urban areas: 72 per cent of the need identified by the GTAA comes from gypsies and travellers who already live in bricks and mortar accommodation”*.

**The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain rejects the argument that provision should be less than need on the basis that bricks and mortar accommodation can play a role in meeting the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The proposal ignores the needs of**

**Gypsies and Travellers as a distinct minority ethnic group and flies in the face of all available evidence of the profound health impact of an assimilationist policy.**

As part of the advisory committee for the London GTANA, the ITMB strongly disagreed, orally and in writing, with the use of the minimum and maximum figures. Stating it would create confusion and diminish the response for those Travellers in housing and needing sites. That confusion has existed and the Mayors proposals do diminish the response to the rights of housed Travellers.

In a response to this consultation, the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit have organised a postcard campaign. The message is clear: that London should develop the 811 pitches as identified in the London GTANA. The ITMB supports that call.

Secondly, the draft Plan points to the limited supply of land to accommodate housing of any type and refers to *“unique development pressures”* on London; arising from the high density of development needed to meet overall housing requirements. The Plan alludes to the *“need for realism over the viability and deliverability of any form of housing requiring public subsidy, especially in light of London land costs”*.

The Plan argues for a *“balance to be struck”* between meeting the special requirements of a group which requires provision at a density equivalent to an average of 50 dph (i.e. dwellings per hectare) when the average density to meet wider housing requirements is some 140 dph. It goes further stating that at a time when affordable housing resources are likely to be limited for at least the medium term and must be distributed equitably and effectively to meet wider-ranging needs in what will remain a uniquely high cost land market within London. The balance which has to be struck between meeting needs in ways which support existing community networks, will tend to reinforce the existing pattern of provision, and a geographically wider distribution which enables more equitable and efficient use of scarce housing land and finance resources.

**The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain regrets that the Mayor fails to provide evidence to support his assertions on housing density and the reference to ‘dph’ is only introduced in relation to Gypsy & Traveller accommodation. We reject the argument that a “balance has to be struck” because the land resource requirements of meeting the recommendations of the Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment are minor by comparison with the overall**

**commitment to provide an average of 33,400 additional homes every year<sup>13</sup>. Gypsy and Traveller communities provide a small need group who experience severe disadvantage.**

The Plan concludes that the Mayor has therefore taken the strategic London-wide view that the identified needs of defined groups already living in caravans on pitches should be addressed as a priority within the pan London monitoring benchmark of 538 pitches<sup>14</sup>. This is based on the midpoint between meeting the needs of these groups and, with minor statistical correction, meeting the additional needs of those identified by the GTANA as living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

**The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain rejects this argument. While figures for the size of the Gypsy and Traveller community in London are subject to systemic under-reporting, authors of the Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment estimate is a population as low as 13,500. While the resource needs are relatively small, the social need is that of a group that is at extreme disadvantage.**

The Travellers Advisory Panel in Ealing wrote to the ITMB in December expressing disgust that recommendations of the Needs Assessment had not been accepted into the London Plan: *“We are writing to assure you that the need of our Travelling community is great and cannot be underestimated. To ignore such vital research as that which has already been carried out through the needs assessment is to enforce the marginalisation and institutionalised racism which we feel is apparent. Our children have the right to a culturally appropriate future in a fair and equal society, which you now seek to deprive them of by undermining our right to live on sites.”*

The Ealing Panel explained that land currently designated for Traveller sites is often unsuitable for human habitation and causes significant harm to those who live there. Despite this dreadful consequence, Travellers still choose to live on sub-standard sites rather than live in houses. The Panel gives the example of the Council-run Traveller site at Bashley Road in Ealing which is on an industrial estate, next to the train tracks. *“This has caused residents long-term health complaints such as asthma and is depressing and unhealthy for residents.” The children on the site are deprived of play facilities and are kept awake by the noise of trains and large goods vehicles.”*

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<sup>13</sup> The London Plan op cit Policy Recommendation 3.3

<sup>14</sup> For the new recommendations see Appendix 2: (The London Plan Table 3.4)

*“Travellers like to live in the open with space to move around; we are used to the openness of fields and not the claustrophobic houses which we are asked to live in. We are not used to houses, nor do we want to become acquainted with them because for our Community, this is like asking a settled person to live in a caravan and to travel. It would be absurd to expect this of settled people, but conversely we are expected to adapt to a way of life in houses that we have spent generations resisting. Our entire way of life is being threatened by government officials who do not understand us and who are not prepared to offer culturally relevant accommodation for us simply because we are Travellers.”*

*“We would also like it to be noted that with all of the global concern about global warming and climate change, the life that Travellers lead is most eco-friendly and non environmentally destructive. We recycle, many of us as a trade, we live in harmony with our environment and our caravans and mobiles do not use as much energy as houses. We have always been respectful of the countryside as it is the earth which sustains us, so to let us live our traditional lives would help the carbon footprint of Britain. If everyone took a leaf out of our book then the world would be a less polluted place to live.*

#### **EXPERIENCES IN LONDON:**

##### **3 communities in Kensington & Chelsea, Southwark and Greenwich<sup>15</sup>**

The Stable Way site in Kensington & Chelsea is authorised with twenty pitches. Residents find the site is over-crowded, poorly managed, poorly located beneath a flyover giving rise to health and safety concerns. Residents appreciate ongoing dialogue with the local authority who are investing time and resources in identifying and meeting their needs. Residents believe the site should be developed with a play area for children, trees and grassed areas.

In Greenwich, the Horn Link Way site is an unauthorised development of ten mobile homes. Residents cannot recall having been involved in any needs assessment or consultation. They have no access to mains electricity, gas, water or sewerage. Speeding traffic is a constant danger, especially to young children. Problems on the site include presence of rodents and the noise, dust and sand thrown up from an adjacent quarry. The residents want a play area for children and space to maintain their cultural identity, including the keeping of horses. They want somewhere they own themselves or at least to have security of tenure.

Twenty five years ago when Travellers first arrived at the Springtide site in Southwark, they were petrol-bombed by local racists. Things are different now. One resident told the author: “Now the settled community has got to know us, their kids come onto the site to play with our kids.” The site which is “in the shadow of the local police station” is authorised and permanent with five pitches. Residents were involved in the Travellers’ needs assessment and actively consulted through the Southwark Travellers Action Group and the independent advice centre, Willowbrook. Their prime need is a larger site with adequate facilities for young people.

<sup>15</sup> “Challenging perspectives: Gypsy Roma Traveller Views on Accommodation” from PowerPoint presentation by Phil Regan, Irish Traveller Movement in Britain (April 2009)

## “AVERSION TO BRICKS AND MORTAR”

In her report<sup>16</sup> on Gypsies, Travellers and Accommodation, Margaret Greenfields regrets the shortage of published research into the experiences of housed Gypsies and Travellers. But she also found the wealth of anecdotal data on experience of racism, discrimination and poor health outcomes to be compelling.

From initial Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment data, she found *“that between half and two-thirds of Gypsies and Travellers in housing moved into such accommodation as a result of inadequate site provision and exhaustion caused by a constant cycle of eviction, or to meet the health or educational needs of family members”*.

Isolation from relatives and community structures, resulting from enforced movement into housing and repeated experiences of high levels of racism and discrimination, has a profoundly negative impact on Gypsies and Travellers well-being, social functioning and both mental and physical health. A new report<sup>17</sup> by Cemlyn and her colleagues finds the transition into housing, coupled with low self-esteem as a result of experiences of racism and discrimination, can lead to a breaking away from Gypsy/Traveller constraints and conventions in urban situations. This in turn may result in high rates of marriage break-up and alcohol abuse due to ‘cultural trauma’. Reports from community workers and others within Gypsy and Traveller communities suggest that individuals seek to distance themselves from experiences of racism, discrimination, unemployment and poor life chances through substance abuse, leading to a negative cycle of contact with the criminal justice system and high rates of suicide

A 2004 report<sup>18</sup> from studies linked to Sheffield School of Health found that the health impacts of residence in housing were profound. It appears the practice of travelling acts as a protective factor in terms of both physical and mental health. Gypsies and Travellers living in housing, who rarely travelled, had the worst health status of all groups, reporting the highest levels of anxiety. Numerous needs assessments have reported housed Gypsies and Travellers experiencing hostility from neighbours. For children, the regularity of experiences of racist abuse, when coupled with a lack of positive images of Gypsies and Travellers, can lead to negative self-image and fear of revealing their ethnicity.

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<sup>16</sup> “Gypsies, Travellers and Accommodation” by Margaret Greenfields. Race Equality Foundation Briefing Paper (January 2009)

<sup>17</sup> “Inequalities Experienced by Gypsy and Traveller Communities” by Cemlyn, Greenfields, Matthews, Whitwell & Burnett. University of Bristol, Buckinghamshire New University and Equality & Human Rights Commission (2009)

<sup>18</sup> “The Health Status of Gypsies and Travellers in England” by Parry, Van Cleemput, Peters, Moore, Walters, Thomas & Cooper. Sheffield School of Health and Related Research (2004)

In a perceptive 'Inside Housing' article<sup>19</sup>, Beena Nadeem described the plight of Gypsies and Travellers being forced to live on housing estates against their will because *"councils are dragging their feet over creating new sites for them to live on"*. Charities and academics have said the situation is leading to depression and isolation amongst Travellers living in bricks and mortar housing.

In a survey of 30 Travellers living in permanent homes, the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit found that 80 percent wanted to leave the housing system. However their ability to do this has been hampered by a shortage of authorised sites for them to move to. Gill Brown, a research worker at the LGTU, said: *'In our experience, most Travellers go into housing simply because there is no alternative.'*



Photograph taken by members of a Traveller family living in council accommodation in east London, with support from community arts organisation "On Site Arts".

Testimony below is taken from an interview conducted by members of the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit, a Hackney-based community development organisation and a regional strategic organisation.

**"I came to London 15 years ago when I was 33 and I had all the nine children with me. I split up from my husband and came to get a break with the past and to get a better life for me and for my children.**

**I have a permanent council place now but we have had a bad time with it all. It's very run down and I don't read good so it's hard for me to know what the letters that come are for. We had terrible times with local children here because we are Travellers. They attacked us a lot, they put out our windows all the time and they even broke the door down. In the end the police came and sorted it but it was a long time and frightening to us.**

<sup>19</sup> "Lack of sites forces 'depressed' travellers into housing estates" by Beena Nadeem, Inside Housing 24 April 2009 Available at [www.insidehousing.co.uk/story.aspx?storycode=6504260](http://www.insidehousing.co.uk/story.aspx?storycode=6504260)  
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**If I could live on a council-run Travellers' site, I would. But there are no sites to go to. I would feel safer with other Travellers and my children. If they could get a pitch, they could bring their own children up as Travellers – that's who they are."**

**Maria, 48**

In December 2009, a report from the Equality and Human Rights Commission revealed that at the current rate of progress it would take councils 18 years to provide enough permanent sites for Gypsies and Travellers.

Emma Nuttall, project manager at the charity Friends, Family and Travellers, said the problem was getting worse as local authorities are being so slow to provide new sites. She said families living on illegal pitches would get priority for new pitches *"so those in houses remain there, becoming more and more despondent"*.

## **HEALTH INEQUALITIES**

**The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain welcomes the Mayor's commitment, outlined in the draft Plan, to take account of the potential impact of development proposals on health inequalities within London. We welcome the Mayor's commitment to work in partnership with the NHS in London, the London Health Commission and the London Boroughs to reduce health inequalities and improve the health of all Londoners.**

The Plan foresees that the Mayor will promote London as a healthy place for all by co-ordinating investment in physical improvements in areas of London that are deprived, physically run-down, and not conducive to good health.

We welcome the promise that the Mayor will "engage a wider range of partners in action" but feel more attention is needed to reach out to vulnerable groups. We urge the Mayor to make specific resources available for the engagement of the Gypsy, Roma & Traveller community provision and will encourage Irish Travellers Gypsies and Roma to participate at every level.

In preparing Local Development Frameworks, the London Boroughs should, as the Plan suggests, promote the effective management of places that are safe, accessible and encourage social cohesion. The health inequalities impact of development must be taken into account in light of Best Practice Guidance on Health Issues in Planning.

The living environment has a fundamental impact on public health. For the settled population and Travelling community alike, good housing, employment and a good start in life can all help to reduce health inequalities. Poor environmental quality, housing conditions or pollution can exacerbate them. We urge the Mayor to take account of the specific needs of Travellers and promote initiatives of inclusion to create healthier and safer environments for all Londoners.

The 2004 Sheffield University report on the Health Status of Gypsies and Travellers in England demonstrates that members of these communities have a significantly poorer health status and significantly more symptoms of ill-health than other UK-resident, English speaking ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged white UK residents.

For Gypsies and Travellers, living in a house is associated with long term illness, poorer health state and anxiety. Those who rarely travel have the poorest health. There was some evidence of an inverse relationship between health needs and use of health and related services in Gypsy Travellers, with fewer services and therapies used by a community with demonstrated greater health needs.

From these results, and from comparison with UK normative data, researchers found “it is clear that the scale of health inequality between the study population and the UK general population is large, with reported health problems between twice and five times more prevalent”.

“The aspects of Gypsy and Traveller health that show the most marked inequality are self-reported anxiety, respiratory problems including asthma and bronchitis, and chest pain. Gender differences were found with women twice as likely as men to experience anxiety. The excess prevalence of miscarriages, stillbirths, neonatal deaths and premature death of older offspring was also conspicuous.

“Results demonstrate a cultural pride in self-reliance. There is stoicism and tolerance of chronic ill health, with a deep-rooted fear of cancer or other diagnoses perceived as terminal and hence avoidance of screening. Some fatalistic and nihilistic attitudes to illness were expressed; that is, illness was often seen as inevitable and medical treatment seen as unlikely to make a difference. There is more trust in family carers rather than in professional care.



“Accommodation was the overriding factor, mentioned by every respondent, in the context of health effects. These effects are seen to be far reaching and not exclusively concerned with actual living conditions, although these are clearly seen as crucial. Other issues include security of tenure, access to services and ability to register with a GP, support and security of being close to extended family, a non-hazardous

environment and the notion of freedom for the children.

“There are also other factors aside from health considerations that come into play such as availability of work and access to education. For most respondents the ability to choose their style of accommodation and to decide for themselves whether, or how, they continue to live a traditional travelling lifestyle is of fundamental importance and crucial to their sense of independence and autonomy.

“The lack of choice or the intolerable conditions, mentioned by the majority of respondents, are an indication to them of the negative way in which they are viewed by the non-Traveller society. It is this feeling of injustice and persecution that is often forcibly expressed as much as concern about the adverse effects of the conditions per se. In relation to Gypsy Travellers’ experiences in accessing health care and the cultural appropriateness of services provided, we found widespread communication difficulties between health workers and Gypsy Travellers, with defensive expectation of racism and prejudice.

“Barriers to health care access were experienced, with several contributory causes, including reluctance of GPs to register Travellers or visit sites, practical problems of access whilst travelling, mismatch of expectations between Travellers and health staff, and attitudinal barriers. However, there were also positive experiences of those GPs and health visitors who were perceived to be culturally well-informed and sympathetic, and such professionals were highly valued.

As Margaret Greenfields has argued<sup>20</sup>, accommodation is key to understanding inequalities and barriers to accessing public services that are experienced by Gypsies and Travellers. Appropriate

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<sup>20</sup> “Gypsies, Travellers and Accommodation” by Margaret Greenfields. Race Equality Foundation Briefing Paper (January 2009)

accommodation (whether on sites or in housing) is fundamental to enabling people to access health, education and other public services, which the majority population takes for granted. Residents of roadside sites in particular are frequently unable to access appropriate facilities, with predictably negative impacts on population well-being.

She explains that since 2003, local authorities have been urged to use 'best value' methodologies to encourage site delivery. In 2004, there was a full review of all aspects of government guidance. New policy was announced, including a replacement to planning guidance Circular 01/06. This specified how local authorities should respond to planning applications and identify land for new sites. Subsequently, guidance on GTAAs (Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessments) provided detailed advice on the conduct of assessment of need. Importantly, the need for site provision for housed Gypsies and Travellers were also to be considered and built into Local Development Frameworks and Regional Spatial Strategies.

Margaret Greenfields outlines how public policy has developed through government reports, recommendations and guidelines, aimed at clearing the blockage on site provision, simplifying planning procedures and ensuring that Gypsies and Travellers who wish to reside on sites are facilitated in meeting their accommodation needs.

In 2007, the government-commissioned Independent Task Group on Gypsy and Traveller issues made thirty-six recommendations covering the role of central and local government and other stakeholders. The report focused on the most urgent and the need to monitor delivery of sites within the new planning regimes. The Royal Town Planning Institute produced best practice guidance for its members on Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and reminded planners that estimates of need should be regularly reviewed in partnership with the Gypsy and Traveller community. Further best practice recommendations on engaging with Gypsies and Travellers have been produced by voluntary sector agencies such as Shelter (2007) and Irish Traveller Movement in Britain (2006).

## CHILDREN'S NEEDS

**The Irish Traveller Movement in Britain welcomes inclusion in the draft London Plan of a section on children and young people's play and informal recreation facilities. The Mayor, working with appropriate organisations, would have responsibility to ensure that all children and young people have safe access to good quality, well-designed, secure and stimulating play and informal recreation provision, incorporating trees and greenery wherever possible. (Policy 3.6 page 71)**

The draft Plan suggests that development proposals that include housing should make provision for play and informal recreation, based on the expected child population generated by the scheme and an assessment of future needs. The Mayor's Supplementary Planning Guidance 'Providing for Children and Young People's play and informal recreation' sets out guidance to assist in this process.

In drawing up Local Development Frameworks, the draft Plan proposes that each Borough should undertake an audit of existing play and informal recreation provision and assessments of need in their areas, "considering the qualitative, quantitative and accessibility elements of play and informal recreation facilities and produce strategies on play and informal recreation supported by policies to improve access and opportunity for all children and young people in their area".

The ITMB urges the Plan make an explicit requirement for provision of children's play areas to be attached to existing Gypsy and Traveller sites. Further, we believe that site development proposals make specific provision for children and that Borough audits should be required to examine provision for Gypsies and Travellers.



## **LONDON'S ECONOMY**

**The Irish Traveller Movement welcomes the Mayor's commitment, set out in the London plan to ensure that London is a city "that meets the challenges of economic and population growth in ways that ensure a sustainable good and improving quality of life for all Londoners and helps to tackle the huge issue of inequality among Londoners, including inequality in health outcomes; and an internationally competitive and successful city with a strong and diverse economy and an entrepreneurial spirit that benefit all Londoners and all parts of London; a city that is at the leading edge of innovation and research, and which is comfortable with – and makes the most of – its rich heritage and cultural resources." (Policy 4.1)**

Further, the draft Plan (4.12) commits the Mayor to improving opportunities for all by working with strategic partners "to provide the spatial context to coordinate the range of initiatives necessary to improve employment opportunities for Londoners, to remove barriers to employment and progression and to tackle low participation in the labour market". In planning decisions, the Plan provides that the Mayor should support local employment, skills development and training opportunities.

ITMB argue that the Irish Traveller community is a vital part of London's cultural heritage and has much to contribute to our shared city. Presently, poor accommodation and social exclusion present a formidable barrier to the participation of Gypsies and Travellers in the economic life of the city.

For Travellers, frequent moving has an economic basis and is geared to employment patterns and opportunities - the length of stay will often depend on the duration of the event or exhaustion of the employment opportunity<sup>21</sup>.

Some Gypsies and Travellers are in waged employment but most are self-employed and flexible, changing occupations as opportunities and economic circumstances change. Current occupations include tarmac-laying and other building work, tree and garden work, scrap dealing and seasonal agricultural work. Unfortunately, many of these business opportunities are being lost.

Although many Gypsies and Travellers are self-employed, they receive little financial help or advice on starting a business. Support services for small businesses have limited experience in dealing with Gypsies and Travellers and know little about their needs and circumstances. One of the biggest and growing problems is not having a permanent address, or having a site for a permanent address, since this is often required as part of identity checks carried out by banks and insurance companies.

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<sup>21</sup> Submission by the Gypsy & Traveller Law Reform Coalition (GTLRC) to the Social Exclusion Unit study into Better Service Delivery For Disadvantaged Groups Who Move Frequently

Lack of basic skills can also mean that they are unsuitable for many jobs - applicants for even low paid jobs such as cleaning often need to prove that they can read health and safety literature. In addition, a new national focus on literacy and numeracy skills in areas that previously required practical skills, has limited the employment chances of those with low levels of literacy even further. A good example of this is the new theory test to obtain a driving licence.

With the increased importance that many Traveller families now place on education for their children, literacy levels are improving, mainly among those who are settled. This also reflects the hopes of parents that their children will have access to better (including mainstream) employment opportunities with improved basic skills

Few employment programmes have initiatives or schemes suitable for this group who need training in practical skills as well as opportunities to obtain qualifications for the skills they already have. Jobcentre Plus programmes tend to be designed for people who live in one place long term and this can exclude Gypsies and Travellers from participating because they are unable to complete programmes.

Complaints received by the then Commission for Racial Equality confirm anecdotal evidence that Gypsies and Travellers are discriminated against when they apply for jobs. Many hide their identity and for those who do not, or whose ethnicity is discovered, experiences of harassment are all too common. There are reports of Gypsies and Travellers being turned down for a job when their application shows that they live on a site, then being given the same job when they apply using a different address.

## **THE TRAVELLER ECONOMY**

There are several defined characteristics of what is known as the “Traveller economy”:

- \* focus on income generation and services of waged employment
- \* flexibility of self-employment meets cultural obligations; avoids discriminatory relationships
- \* extended family basis of work unit – skills and knowledge passed on to young members
- \* nomadism gives access to wide range of markets and economic activities – makes marginal activities viable

\* flexibility – multi-skilling and adaptability between activities

\* home space and work space often shared – storing materials, home as base from which to work

Little work has been done in England to study the Traveller economy but in Ireland Traveller “scavenging” is increasingly recognised<sup>22</sup> as serving a valuable economic and ecological function in Irish society. Tons of steel, iron, copper, lead, and other metals would be wasted if not reclaimed in this way. Travellers also recycle used clothing, appliances, and furniture from the middle classes to the poor<sup>23</sup>.

“It is perhaps their nomadism, a strong cultural/family identity and their general marginalisation from mainstream society that has influenced the nature and structure of Traveller work patterns. Such work patterns have always differed significantly from those of their settled neighbours, fuelled mainly by their resistance to wage-labour” and thus a preference for self employment<sup>24</sup>.

Colin Clark and Micheál Ó'hAodha argue that Travellers were the first 'greens': *“They lived on their wits and like other Traveller and Gypsy groups they adapted to new employment niches in the 'mainstream' economy as and when they presented themselves and were worth engaging in”* The common feature to all the types of different occupations was that they revolved around nomadism and self-employment. *“They were a vital niche in the economy of the pre-industrialised Ireland of the 1950s as they bartered, sold and recycled items that the settled population found difficult to obtain due to the paucity of shops in rural areas.”*

One Traveller describes how his family adapted to the sudden disappearance of their traditional tin-smithing trade with the arrival of the first factory-produced goods: *“Back on the road, I began to relearn the art of making a living from it. The tinsmith's trade was dead, so that new means of making a living had to be found. My own parents tried their hand at everything possible. We, in turn and season, at every house, fair and meeting, mooched our living. Likewise, we sold halters, readers, Old Moore's Almanacs, baskets of swag and rolls of waxie [linoleum]. Throughout the country we collected rabbit skins, porter dreepers [Porter bottles], jam-jars, old tugs, horsehair, feathers, copper, brass - in fact anything saleable’.*<sup>25</sup>

Okely describes<sup>26</sup> how the Travellers came to recycle everything - even the news and gossip from the different towns and villages throughout the country. The onset of industrialisation and the

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<sup>22</sup> See “We were the First Greens”: Irish Travellers, Recycling and the State” by Colin Clark and Micheál Ó'hAodha

<sup>23</sup> “Irish Tinkers: The Urbanization of an Itinerant People” by George Gmelch (1985)

<sup>24</sup> “Irish Travellers: Culture and Ethnicity - an anthropological perspective on Irish Travellers' by Okely, McCann, Ó Síocháin & Ruane (eds), Belfast: The Institute of Irish Studies and Queen's University of Belfast (1994)

<sup>25</sup> “The Road to God Knows Where” by Maher, S.. The Talbot Press, Dublin (1972)

<sup>26</sup> *“The Traveller-Gypsies”* by Okely, J. Cambridge University Press. (1980)

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mechanisation of agriculture changed profoundly the lives of the Travellers. The introduction of plastics and the mechanisation of farming damaged the rural basis of their economy. They found themselves migrating in large numbers to urban areas such as Dublin in the search for employment. They were quick to adapt to their new environment. The shift from horse-drawn wagons to motor vehicles gave rise to new opportunities and even greater commercial nomadism.

While actual occupations have changed, the skills and ways in which such activity is organised has continued to some extent, especially in the market and trading economies that many Travellers now engage in. A recent study<sup>27</sup> found that as many as 20% of the estimated 15,000 market traders in Ireland were from a Traveller background. A small but significant minority have also established very successful businesses, especially those dealing in antiques and carpets. The same figures may well apply in England.

**The Irish Traveller Movement welcomes the Mayor's commitment to work with London Boroughs and waste authorities, the Waste and Recycling Board, Environment Agency, private sector, third sector groups, and neighbouring regions and authorities to manage as much of London's waste within London as practicable and create positive environmental impacts from waste processing, working towards zero waste to landfill by 2031(policy 5.16). We urge the Mayor to study the potential for the engagement of Gypsy and Traveller groups in achieving these objectives.**

The Mayor wants to see a step change in London's recycling performance. Although there have been recent improvements in municipal waste recycling rates (up from 8 per cent in 2001 to 21 per cent in 2008), the Mayor wishes to see a doubling to 45 per cent by 2015 and then 50 per cent by 2020

Over the past decade industry in the developed countries has greatly increased its re-use rate of residues. Today, reclamation and recycling is internationally organised by large corporations and is of considerable commercial and financial value. The reclamation industry is one of the world's top ten in terms of value, and it employs hundreds of thousands of people. In the more industrialised countries scrap metal accounts for at least 45 per cent of steel production with similar high figures for copper, lead, zinc and aluminium.<sup>28</sup>

Considerable quantities of waste material are used by Irish industry with the major market for scrap metal being Irish Steel. Approximately 60 per cent of the raw material for Irish Steel is sourced from

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<sup>27</sup> "Market Economies: trading in the Traveller economy" by McCarthy & McCarthy. Pavee Point, Dublin.: (1998)

<sup>28</sup> "Waste Disposal in Ireland a discussion of major Issues, An Foras Forbartha, Dublin (Unpublished briefing 1987)  
Irish Traveller Movement in Britain, The Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, London, N7 6PA. Charity No.1107113 Company No. 4038939

scrap metal collected in Ireland, constituting 150,000 metric tonnes. Of this quantity of raw material, approximately 50per cent (75,000 metric tonnes) is collected and segregated by the Traveller community. The value of this scrap metal, in terms of revenue to the Irish economy is over £1.5 million<sup>29</sup>. This is not the only company that sources scrap metal collected by the Traveller community. It is estimated that on average 50per cent of scrap metal collected and supplied to scrap merchants for recycling is sourced, collected and transported by the Traveller community. This percentage may be significantly greater for some of the more valuable non-ferrous metals.

Travellers have been in the vanguard of scrap recycling initiatives in Ireland for some years. But their contribution to the success and viability of the recycling industry is often underestimated and unrecognised. This may be due to the nature and structure of Traveller recycling activities, which differ significantly from that of the settled community. Changing policies in waste management at both national and European Union levels, although based on a greater commitment to recycling, could threaten grass-roots Traveller recycling initiatives. However, if new policies and legislation in the area of waste management take account of the existing successful recycling operations undertaken by many Traveller families and the factors which render them successful, the future of these activities might be safe.

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<sup>29</sup> Recycling and the Traveller Economy (Income, Jobs and Wealth Creation), Pavee Point (1993)

## **WHO WE ARE**

ITMB is a national policy and voice charity, working to raise the capacity and social inclusion of the Traveller communities in Britain. We were established in 2002 and are a registered charity and company limited by guarantee.

ITMB acts as a bridge builder, bringing the Traveller communities, service providers and policy makers together, thereby stimulating debate and promoting forward-looking strategies to promote increased race equality, civic engagement, inclusion, service provision and community cohesion.

ITMB has an established track record of active policy development, campaigning, community engagement, training and awareness raising and social cohesion work. We are shared custodians of the Liberty Human Rights Award 2004.

We have an established Traveller Advisory Group (TAG) which leads on the strategic direction and development of our policy engagement. This TAG is made up entirely of members of Traveller communities with nation wide representation.

### **AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

- To create an evidence and resource base for positive change for the Irish Traveller community
- To promote the social inclusion of Irish Travellers by campaigning on issues that contribute to their exclusion and to promote equality of access to statutory and voluntary services
- To develop policy models for working with Irish Travellers and educate statutory and other services who work with Irish Travellers
- To maintain a presence on strategic groups and become a greater source of influence and a leading authority on Irish Travellers
- To build the capacity of the Irish Traveller community to self advocate and represent themselves.

**Vision:** Our vision is of a world in which members of the Irish Traveller community reach their full potential; where they are accepted, proud of who they are and are given an equal voice.

**Mission:** Our mission is to develop and facilitate a national network of groups, organisations and individuals working with and within the Traveller community, to promote the interests and welfare of the Irish Traveller community in Britain.

**Ambition:** Our ambition is to become the UK's national resource, information and lobbying charity for groups, organisations and individuals working for and with Irish Traveller communities in Britain so that collectively we can bring about significant, positive change for people living in those communities.

## REPRESENTATION AND CAMPAIGNING

ITMB engages with local, regional and national Government in relation to the development and implementation of Government policy affecting the Irish Traveller community. There was a very unsavoury local action taken by police in London and inflammatory self-serving speeches were made by a small number of politicians against the Traveller population.

ITMB is a member of the London Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment, which published its findings in May 2008. ITMB made a written response to the report, outlining its strong points and making recommendations for revision of the report.

ITMB has begun a monitoring process of the implementation of the GTANA recommendations across London.

ITMB has contributed to the development of an East of England Spatial Strategy, specifically the allocation of 1187 Traveller site pitches. Following protests by some local councils, the ITMB were reported in local news media as being fully supportive of full and proper implementation of the strategy as it affected Travellers.

ITMB made a formal complaint to the Race Independent Advisory Group against police following a late night raid at Lynton Close Travellers Site in Brent, involving a mechanical digger and over 380 police officers. The site houses some 130 Traveller children who were deeply affected by the excessive and unusual action taken by the police.

More positively, ITMB acquired Traveller input into the drafting of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) written guidance on unauthorised encampments.

A small number of local MP's made inflammatory speeches or produced literature against Irish Travellers during the year. ITMB wrote to the MP's concerned and also to the relevant party leader. A full apology was given in some cases. There was a significant rise of inflammatory articles in the press particularly in relation to 'nimbyism' and local Traveller site quotas.

ITMB has requested the Equalities and Human Rights Commission to intervene and increase their engagement with Travellers.

ITMB has pressed political parties to reach a cross-party consensus on Traveller accommodation. ITMB produced a full policy statement.

ITMB also issued a policy statement on Traveller education in response to the Education and Skills Bill in Parliament. This outlines measures to raise the educational attainment of Irish Travellers.

ITMB jointly hosted the launch of the key Race Equality Foundation briefing paper “Gypsies, Travellers and Accommodation” authored by Margaret Greenfields at the House of Commons in January 2009. The ITMB assisted the research into what Travellers and Gypsies think about working in the health and social care sector (“A good job for a Traveller?”)

ITMB has secured funds from the Big Lottery to produce its own research into the economic inclusion of Irish Travellers. It is anticipated that recommendations will contribute an Irish Traveller dimension into emerging Government strategies and policy on economic inclusion.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



To ensure ultimate ownership, we are a community led, and fully inclusive of the community and their agenda, ITMB have developed an Irish Traveller Executive Advisory Group (TAG)

Membership and voting rights are exclusively based on identity and heritage of the Irish Traveller community. The group meets fully five times a year and meets in subgroups as and when

required.

The group is fluid and flexible in its approach and will meet on Traveller sites, community centres, when and where required. The TAG generates the policy work and broad campaign strategy of the ITMB and has been instrumental in:

Input and management of the strategic direction of the organisation from the community is vital. To ensure confidence and pro-active participation we offer capacity building and skills development training to all members if required. Areas and issues of particular personal interest are also identified. When self-confident (by their own assessment) they fully participate and represent the organisation externally in their own right,

Some of the external groups where the TAG are very proactive are HM Prison Service; Irish Travellers, Gypsy and Roma Advisory Group; National Gypsy and Traveller Steering Group; Conferences, Training and Awareness Raising.

TAG members - all Irish Travellers - are recruited from a wide geographical spread with an incredible range of diverse backgrounds and skills base. Some of these include – a classroom assistant, two school teachers, a district councillor, traders, community and youth workers and respected activists and community advocates.

## TRAVELLER INTER-AGENCY FORUM

'In the experience of 'Safer Communities Initiative', the most productive work in promoting good race relations tends to be done when groups work together in partnership, as members of 'multi-agency forums', where representatives from both the statutory and community sectors – local authorities, the police, local racial equality organisations, and the media – as well as Gypsies and Irish Travellers themselves, can discuss their concerns.' [CRE: Safer Communities Initiative, 2006]

"The positive role of inter-agency forums in developing a partnership approach to improving services to Gypsies and Travellers has become increasingly highlighted. There tends to be a range of differing models in use in terms of stakeholders involved; objectives and level of participation, if any from Gypsies and Travellers."

The ITMB is funded by London Councils to help stimulate Traveller Inter Agency Forums (TIAFs) in each of the London Boroughs. Currently operating in:

- Hillingdon
- Brent
- Ealing
- Barnet
- Kensington and Chelsea
- Lewisham
- Hackney

The ITMB can provide advice, consultancy and support to establish a Traveller Inter- Agency Forums.



## Appendix 1

Gypsy and Traveller accommodation: estimated need for residential pitches by Borough, 2007-17

	'Minimum' need			'Maximum' need		
	2007-12	2012-17	2007-17	2007-12	2012-17	2007-17
Barking and Dagenham	2	2	4	9	3	12
Barnet	0	0	0	13	2	15
Brent	7	7	14	13	8	21
Bexley	2	5	7	46	11	57
Bromley	17	12	29	96	23	119
Camden	1	1	2	4	1	5
City of London	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croydon	7	3	10	15	4	19
Ealing	5	6	11	52	12	64
Enfield	0	0	0	2	0	2
Greenwich	14	8	22	35	10	45
Hackney	8	5	13	27	7	34
Hammersmith and Fulham	0	0	0	5	1	6
Haringey	4	2	6	50	8	58
Harrow	0	0	0	14	2	16
Havering	12	5	17	17	6	23
Hillingdon	3	3	6	35	8	43
Hounslow	3	3	6	11	4	15
Islington	0	0	0	3	0	3
Kensington and Chelsea	3	3	6	8	4	12
Kingston upon Thames	-1	4	3	11	5	16
Lambeth	2	2	4	7	3	10
Lewisham	4	1	5	16	3	19
Merton	2	2	4	12	4	16
Newham	7	3	10	15	4	19
Redbridge	2	3	5	13	4	17
Richmond upon Thames	2	2	4	11	3	14
Southwark	6	6	12	10	7	17
Sutton	4	4	8	8	5	13
Tower Hamlets	19	6	25	33	7	40
Waltham Forest	-1	3	2	4	4	8
Wandsworth	1	2	3	7	3	10
Westminster	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>London total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>768</b>

Source: London Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment, May 2008.

Note: London total does not match total given in the Gypsy and Traveller Needs Assessment Report due to rounding of borough figures. The 'maximum' need figure is most consistent with government guidance as it takes into account need arising from those with a psychological aversion to bricks and mortar housing.

## Appendix 2

**Table 3.4 Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Provision 2007–2017**

<b>Borough</b>	<b>Pitches</b>
Barking & Dagenham	14
Barnet	22
Bexley	27
Brent	20
Bromley	58
Camden	6
City	0
Croydon	22
Ealing	26
Enfield	5
Greenwich	32
Hackney	19
Hammersmith & Fulham	5
Haringey	25
Harrow	9
Havering	42
Hillingdon	22
Hounslow	10
Islington	5
Kensington & Chelsea	7
Kingston upon Thames	15
Lambeth	10
Lewisham	15
Merton	9
Newham	17
Redbridge	12
Richmond upon Thames	9
Southwark	15
Sutton	10
Tower Hamlets	28
Waltham Forest	11
Wandsworth	10
Westminster	2
<b>London</b>	<b>538</b>

## Appendix 3

## FURTHER READING

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