



Gloucestershire County

Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment



October 2013



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1. Introduction

The Survey

- 1.1 Opinion Research Services (ORS) and Peter Brett Associates (PBA) were commissioned by the Local Authorities of Gloucestershire to undertake a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment (GTTSAA).
- 1.2 The study seeks to provide an evidence base to enable authorities to comply with their requirements towards Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople under the Housing Act 2004, the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012. The main objective of this study is to provide the Local Authorities with robust, defensible and up-to-date evidence about the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Gloucestershire during the period until 2031 in five year sections covering 2013-2017, 2018-2022 and 2023-2027 and 2028-2031. It seeks to identify whether any extra site provision over these periods should be on public or private sites, and whether or not any of the Local Authorities need to plan for the provision of transit sites or emergency stopping places. The study also seeks to identify broad locations for any future site searches by Local Authorities in Gloucestershire.
- 1.3 The authorities involved in this study are:
 - » Cheltenham Borough Council;
 - » Cotswold District Council;
 - » Forest of Dean District Council;
 - » Gloucester City Council;
 - » Stroud District Council;
 - » Tewkesbury Borough Council; and
 - » Gloucestershire County Council.
- 1.4 We would note at the outset that the study covers the needs of Gypsies (including English, Scottish, Welsh and Romany Gypsies), Irish Travellers, New Travellers, Barge Dwellers and Travelling Showpeople, but for ease of reference we have referred to the study as a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment.
- 1.5 This document is the main report and summarises the key findings of the study, in particular where they relate to existing policies, or have implications for future policy decisions across the Gloucestershire Local Authorities. A separate executive summary has also been produced.

Definitions

1.6 For the purposes of the planning system, Gypsies and Travellers means:

Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependents' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such. (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).

1.7 Within the main definition of Gypsies and Travellers, there are a number of main cultural groups which include:

- » Romany Gypsies;
- » Irish Travellers;
- » Barge Dwellers;
- » New Travellers.

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

1.9 Alongside Gypsies and Travellers, a further group to be considered are Travelling Showpeople. They are defined as:

Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their family's or dependent's more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above. (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).

Legislation and Guidance for Gypsies and Travellers

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

- » Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012;
- » National Planning Policy Framework 2012;
- » Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments Guidance October 2007;
- » Environmental Protection Act 1990 for statutory nuisance provisions;
- » The Human Rights Act 1998, when making decisions and welfare assessments;
- » The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as subsequently amended);
- » Homelessness Legislation and Allocation Policies;
- » Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (sections 61, 62);

- » Anti-social behaviour Act 2003 (both as victims and perpetrators of anti-social behaviour);
- » Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004;
- » Housing Act 2004 which requires local housing authorities to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople as part of their housing needs assessments. This study complies with this element of Government guidance;
- » Housing Act 1996 in respect of homelessness.

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

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

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

^{1.14} The Coalition Government announced that the previous Government's guidance contained in Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (Circular 01/06) was to be repealed, along with the Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) which were used to allocate pitch provision to Local Authorities. The CLG published 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' in March 2012 which set out the Government's planning policy for traveller sites. It should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework.

Planning Policy for Traveller Sites

^{1.15} The document 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' which came into force in March 2012 sets out the direction of Government policy. Among other objectives, the new policy's aims in respect of Traveller sites are (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites Page 1-2):

- » local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning;
- » to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites;
- » to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale;

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

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

Local planning authorities should set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of Travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.

^{1.17} Local planning authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:

- » identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
- » identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years six to ten and, where possible, for years 11-15;
- » consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints across its area (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);
- » relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density;
- » protect local amenity and environment.

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

Where there is no identified need, criteria-based policies should be included to provide a basis for decisions in case applications nevertheless come forward. Criteria based policies should be fair and

should facilitate the traditional and nomadic life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.

1.19 Therefore, criteria based planning policies sit at the heart of the new guidance, irrespective of whether need is identified or not.

Tackling Inequalities for Gypsy and Traveller Communities

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

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

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

Funding

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

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

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

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

Methodology

- 1.26 This section sets out the methodology we have followed to deliver the outputs for this study. Over the past 10 years ORS have developed a methodology which provides the required outputs from a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment and this has been updated in light of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.
- 1.27 The stages below provide a summary of the process undertaken by ORS, with more information on each stage provided in the appropriate section of the report.

Stage 1: Background

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

Stage 2: Household Survey

- 1.29 The research methodology for identifying the housing needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople adopted in this report was largely based upon face to face interviews with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the Gloucestershire area. We sought to undertake a census of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households in November and December 2012. Interviews were sought with every known Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople household present during this time period and 149 interviews were achieved in total on Gypsy and Traveller sites, with a further 24 interviews in bricks and mortar and 39 interviews on Travelling Showperson yards. Though only one member of each household was interviewed, the survey questions cover other members of the same household. We would note that a single Traveller household may occupy several caravans.

Stage 3: Stakeholder Engagement

- 1.30 This study includes extensive stakeholder engagement with council officers and elected members from the Local Authorities of Gloucestershire, the County Council and neighbouring Local Authorities as well as other stakeholders. The aim of this engagement was to help understand the current situation in the study area, particularly in relation households not on known existing sites, and also to discuss Duty to Cooperate issues with neighbouring Local Authorities, and any issues regarding education, health and community cohesion.

Stage 4: Future Pitch and Plot Requirements

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

^{1.32} The overall principles behind assessing future needs are relatively simple. The model assesses the current backlog of need for pitches based upon unauthorised sites, concealed households, the net movement of households from bricks and mortar and those on the waiting list for public sites. It then adds in future arising need in the form of newly forming households (at a rate informed by the results of the household survey), households on sites with temporary planning permissions and net migration to the area. From this figure any empty or undeveloped pitches with planning permission are then subtracted to provide for a final net pitch requirement. The residential and transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers are identified separately from those for Travelling Showpeople and for each group the requirements are identified in 5 year periods to 2031 in line with the requirements of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.

Stage 5: Broad Locations

^{1.33} The methodology used by PBA to identify broad locations for future sites is based upon technical land use considerations such as how the site would fit with other spatial strategies, the needs of households, physical constraints and protected areas. The assumptions for the broad locations work were also discussed at a workshop attended by Officers and Members from partner authorities and Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople representatives.

Stage 6: Conclusions

^{1.34} This stage draws together the evidence from Stages 1 to 5 to provide an overall summary of the requirements for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Gloucestershire.

2. Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Sites and Population

Sites in Gloucestershire

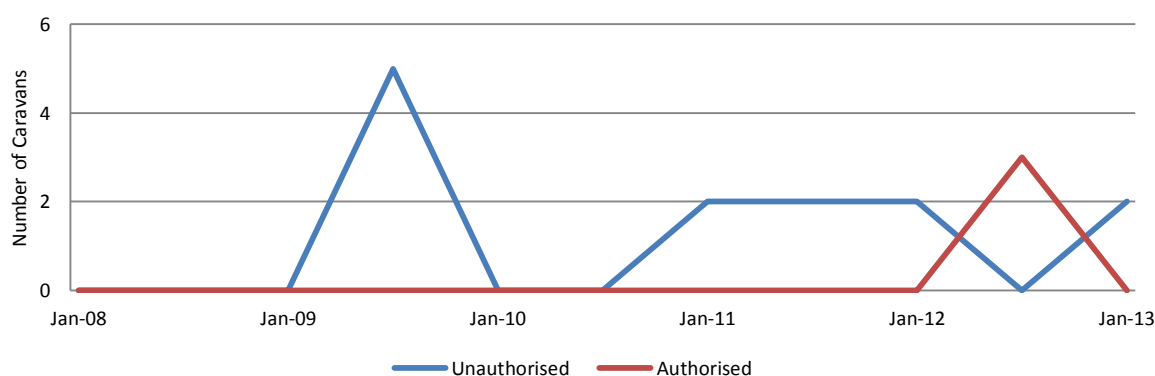
- 2.1 A Strategic Housing Market Assessment focuses upon the number of dwellings required in an area, and how many of these should each be provided by the public and private sector. The central aim of this study was to follow a similar format for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation requirements.
- 2.2 One of the main considerations of this study is the provision of pitches and sites for Gypsies and Travellers. A **pitch** is an area which is large enough for one household to occupy and typically contains enough space for one or two caravans, but can vary in size. A **site** is a collection of pitches which form a development exclusively for Gypsies and Travellers. For Travelling Showpeople the most common descriptions used are a **plot** for the space occupied by one household and a **yard** for a collection of plots which are typically exclusively occupied by Travelling Showpeople. Throughout this study the main focus is upon how many extra pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and plots for Travelling Showpeople are required in Gloucestershire.
- 2.3 The public and private provision of mainstream housing is also largely mirrored when considering Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. One common form of Gypsy and Traveller sites is the **publicly-provided residential site**, which is provided by the Local Authority, or by a Registered Provider (usually a housing association). Pitches on public sites can be obtained through signing up to a waiting list, and the costs of running the sites are met from the rent paid by the licensees (similar to social housing).
- 2.4 The alternative to public residential sites is **private residential sites** for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. These result from individuals or families buying areas of land and then obtaining planning permission to live on them. Households can also rent pitches on existing private sites. Therefore, these two forms of accommodation are the equivalent to private ownership and renting for those who live in bricks and mortar housing.
- 2.5 The Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population also has other forms of sites due to its mobile nature. Transit sites tend to contain many of the same facilities as a residential site, except that there is a maximum period of residence which can vary from a few days or weeks to a period of months. An alternative is an emergency stopping place. This type of site also has restrictions on the length of time for which someone can stay on it, but has much more limited facilities. Both of these two types of site are designed to accommodate, for a temporary period, Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople whilst they travel.
- 2.6 Further considerations for the Gypsy and Traveller population are unauthorised developments and encampments. **Unauthorised developments** occur on land which is owned by the Gypsies and Travellers,

but for which they do not have planning permission to use for residential purposes. **Unauthorised encampments** occur on land which is not owned by the Gypsies and Travellers.

Caravan Count

- 2.7 One source of quantitative information available on the Gypsy and Traveller population is the bi-annual survey of Gypsy and Traveller caravans, required by Government, conducted by each Local Authority in England on a specific date in January and July of each year, and reported to CLG. This count is of caravans and not households, which makes it more difficult to interpret for a study such as this because it does not count pitches or resident households. It must also be remembered that the count is merely a 'snapshot in time' conducted by the Local Authority on a specific day and that any unauthorised encampments which occur on other dates will not be recorded. Likewise any caravans that are away from authorised sites on the day of the count will not be included.
- 2.8 The charts below show the cumulative number of unauthorised and authorised caravans in each Local Authority area at the time of the counts.¹ Please note that the scale on each chart varies and that the charts are to be read cumulatively to give the total caravan count. They do not include any Showpeople caravans in the area. We would also note the figures are provided for illustrative purposes to demonstrate the relative size of the populations and are not used in any modelling of future pitch requirements.

Figure 1
Gypsy Caravan Count for Cheltenham Borough: January 2008– January 2013 (Source: CLG Bi-annual Local Authority Caravan Count)

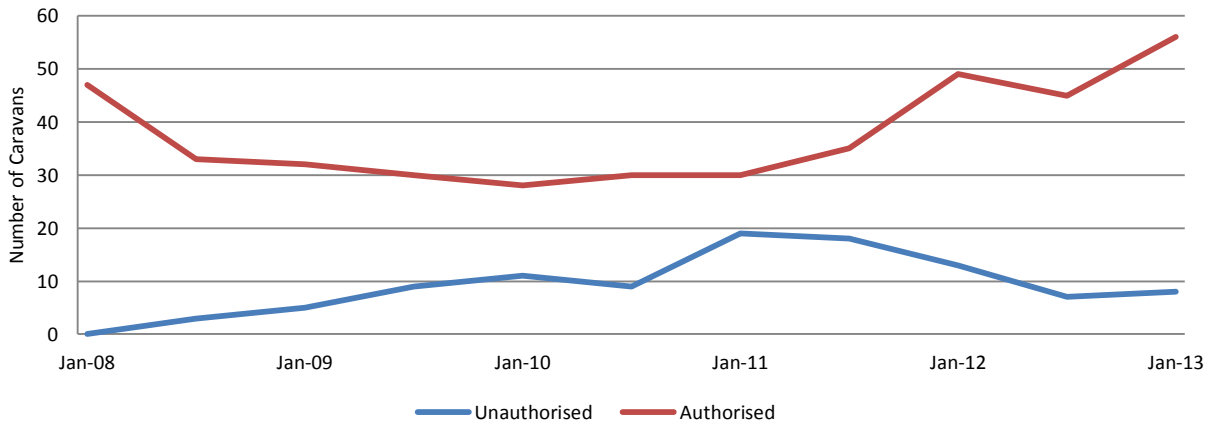


- 2.9 Compared to other Local Authorities in Gloucestershire, Cheltenham Borough has little Gypsy and Traveller activity, with a peak of 5 unauthorised caravans in July 2009. According to the most recently published count, there were 2 caravans on unauthorised sites and none on authorised sites.

¹ Gloucester City has not been included, as its caravan counts have not recorded any caravans on authorised sites (although there has been one temporary authorised pitch within the city since January 2011), and have recorded no caravans on unauthorised sites since 2008 (Source: CLG Bi-annual Local Authority Caravan Count).

Figure 2

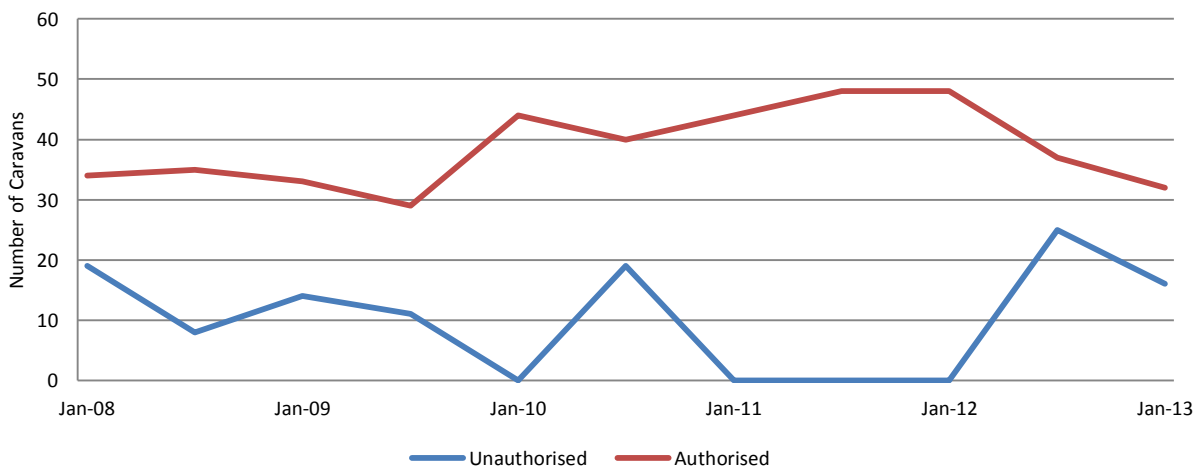
Gypsy Caravan Count for Cotswold District: January 2008 – January 2013 (Source: CLG Bi-annual Local Authority Caravan Count)



^{2.10} Cotswold District has seen a slight increase in the number of caravans on unauthorised sites since January 2008. The most recent figures for the district indicate 8 caravans on unauthorised sites, with a further 56 on authorised sites.

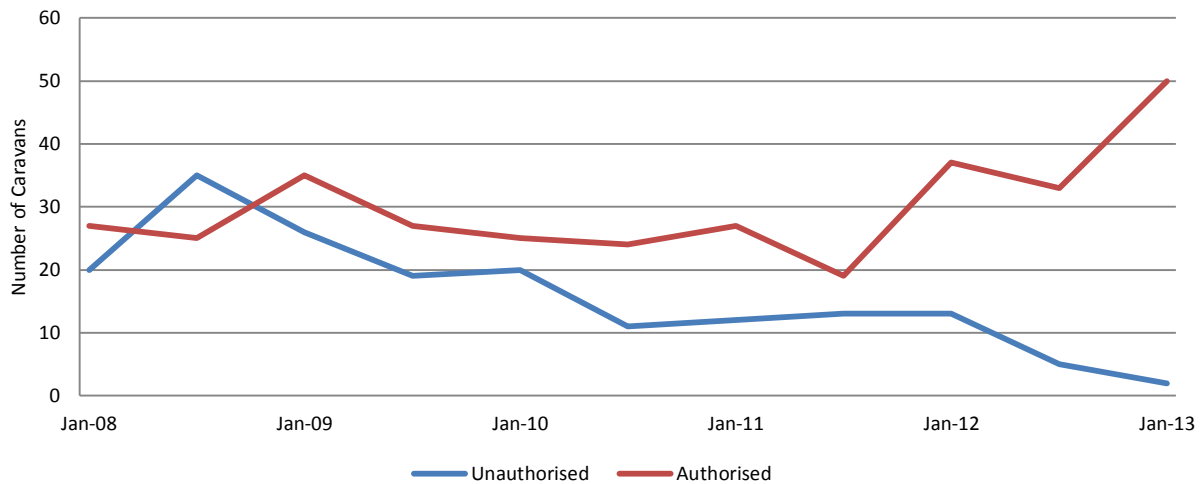
Figure 3

Gypsy Caravan Count for Forest of Dean District: January 2008 – January 2013 (Source: CLG Bi-annual Local Authority Caravan Count)



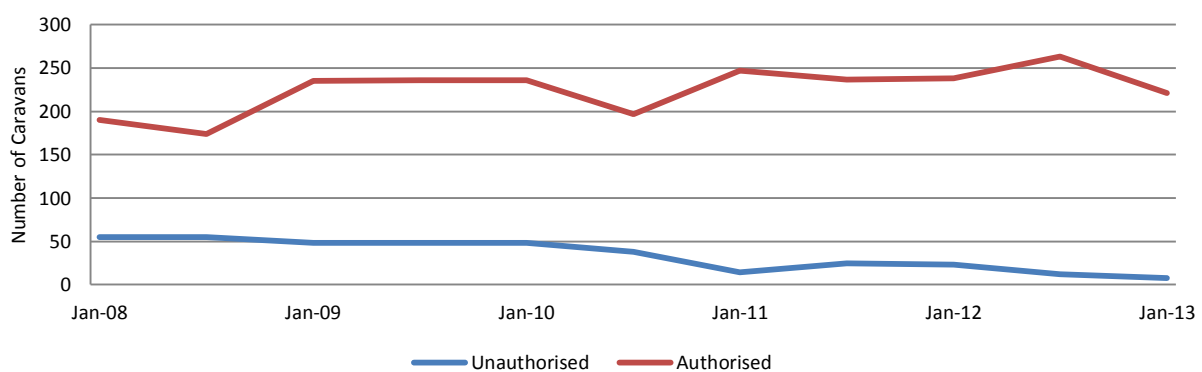
^{2.11} Forest of Dean District has seen a slight increase in caravans on authorised sites since 2008. Numbers of caravans on unauthorised sites seem to fluctuate considerably. The most recent figures indicate 16 caravans on unauthorised sites and 32 on authorised sites.

Figure 4
Gypsy Caravan Count for Stroud District: January 2008 – January 2013 (Source: CLG Bi-annual Local Authority Caravan Count)



^{2.12} Stroud District have recorded a significant increase in the numbers of caravans on authorised sites over the last 5 years. Meanwhile, caravans on unauthorised encampments have been slowly declining. The most recent figures indicate 50 caravans on authorised sites and 2 on unauthorised sites.

Figure 5
Gypsy Caravan Count for Tewkesbury Borough: January 2008 – January 2013 (Source: CLG Bi-annual Local Authority Caravan Count)



^{2.13} Tewkesbury Borough’s caravan counts indicate a significantly larger population of Gypsies and Travellers than other districts, with more caravans than the rest of Gloucestershire combined. In comparison to other districts, a relatively small proportion of these are unauthorised, and there has been a considerable decline in recent counts. The most recent figures indicate 221 caravans on authorised sites and 8 on unauthorised sites.

3. Gypsy and Traveller Population

Survey of the Gypsy and Traveller Population

- 3.1 One of the major components of this assessment was a detailed survey of the Gypsy and Traveller population in Gloucestershire. This aimed to identify current households with housing needs, and to assess likely future household formation from within the existing households to help judge the need for future site provision. The survey sought to provide a baseline position on the resident Gypsy and Traveller population of Gloucestershire. As noted in the introduction, “Gypsy and Traveller” refers to;

Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependents' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).

- 3.2 Interviews were attempted with every Gypsy and Traveller household in the area who were present between November and December 2012. Therefore, the baseline point for the findings of this study is December 2012. Throughout the survey period interviewers worked from 9am to 7pm each day and made repeated visits to each household until a successful interview was concluded.
- 3.3 In total, interviews were achieved on-site with 149 households. For the public sites, the interview process achieved 64 interviews from 72 pitches, which is a success rate of 89%. However, fieldwork on private sites was more difficult with some sites locked and inaccessible and others not wishing to cooperate with any survey for their Council. A further 24 interviews were achieved in bricks and mortar and are discussed in Chapter 6, while 39 interviews were achieved with Travelling Showpeople and these are discussed in Chapter 7 of this report.
- 3.4 We noted in Chapter 2 the estimated number of caravans per Local Authority and these sum to over 400 caravans. Appendix E shows details of all known occupied pitches in Gloucestershire and is derived from Local Authority planning records. When taking into account public, private, temporary, tolerated and unauthorised pitches in Gloucestershire there are 300 potentially occupied pitches, excluding those which have yet to be developed. We would note that the position in Tewkesbury Borough is difficult to assess with many sites having permission for caravan numbers rather than pitches. In these cases we have divided the number of caravans by 2 to obtain an estimate for the number of pitches on the site.
- 3.5 For the on-site interviews, the following number took place in each Local Authority:
- » Cheltenham Borough – 1 interview
 - » Cotswold District – 14 interviews
 - » Forest of Dean District – 23 interviews
 - » Gloucester City – 0 interviews

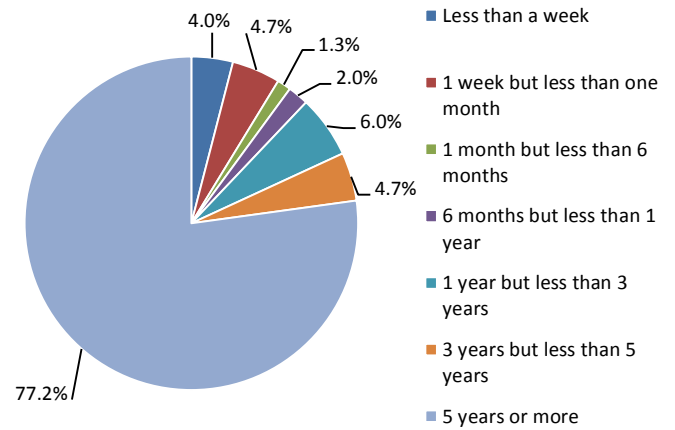
- » Stroud District– 15 interviews
- » Tewkesbury Borough – 96 interviews

^{3.6} Throughout this study the person responding to the survey will be referred to as the respondent, and in questions which refer to all people in the household they will be referred to as household members. Throughout the remainder of this report the majority of numbers which appear on the charts represent the percentage of respondents who appear in that category. The purpose of showing percentages is to allow the results of the survey to be extrapolated to the whole Gypsy and Traveller population of Gloucestershire. In a few cases it is more appropriate to use the actual number of respondents, and these cases are clearly identified. In all charts those respondents who answered 'don't know', or did not answer the question are omitted unless otherwise stated.

Length of Residence

3.7 The majority of Gypsies and Travellers surveyed have a long period of residence in Gloucestershire, with 77% (115 respondents) having lived on their current site for more than 5 years. Over 90% of respondents to the survey identified their current site as being their permanent base (including 5 respondents currently residing on a transit site at Bromsberrow Heath, Forest of Dean District).

Figure 6
Length of Time Respondents Have Lived on Their Current Site, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)

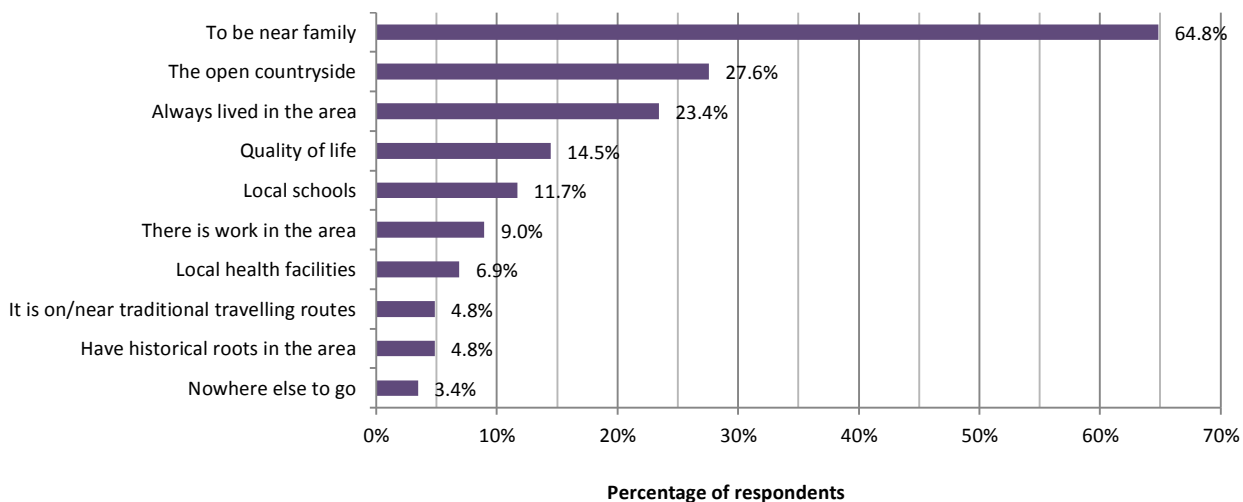


Attractions of Living in Gloucestershire

3.8 Respondents were asked to identify the main reasons that attracted them to live in Gloucestershire. They were allowed to select as many reasons as they wished from a list of nine options.

3.9 The main factors that attract respondents to the area are to be near to their family (65%, 94 respondents) and the open countryside (28%, 40 respondents). Almost a quarter of respondents said that they have always lived in the area (23%, 34 respondents).

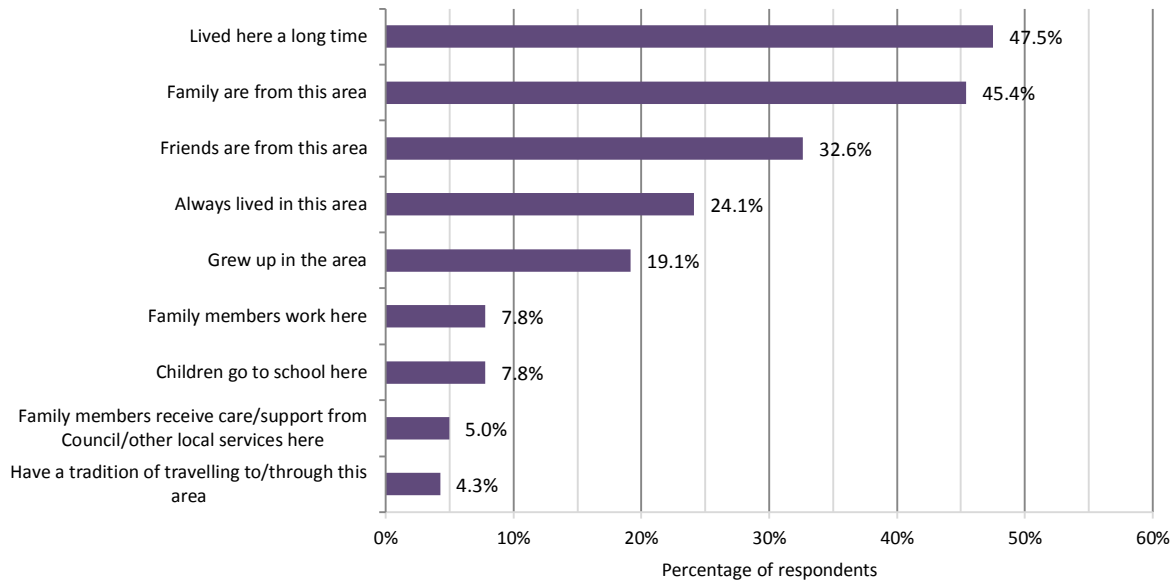
Figure 7
What Attracted Respondents to Live in the Area, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)



Connections with the Area

- 3.10 95% of respondents feel that they have strong connections to Gloucestershire with the main links identified being that respondents have lived in the area a long time (48%, 67 respondents), their family are from the area (45%, 64 respondents) or their friends are from the area (33%, 46 respondents).

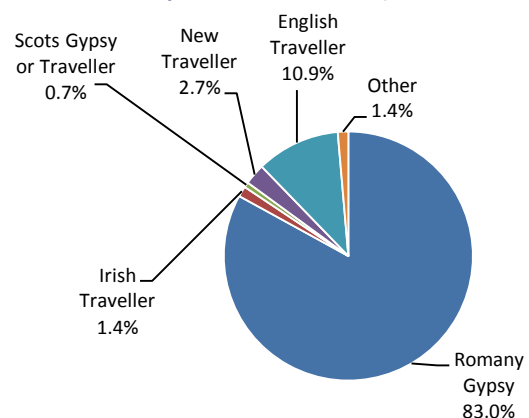
Figure 8
Nature of Local Connections in Gloucestershire, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)



Ethnic Background

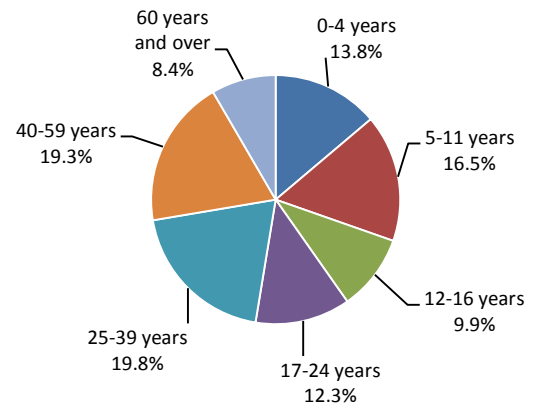
- 3.11 Just over four fifths (83%, 122 respondents) explicitly identified themselves as being Romany Gypsies, while around 14% stated they are English Travellers or New Travellers. Only 1% of respondents are Irish Travellers – a significantly lower proportion than in other authorities surveyed by ORS, in which Irish Travellers have made up as much as half of the total Traveller population.

Figure 9
Ethnic Group by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)



^{3.12} The households showed a mixed range of ages across their members. The households contained 8% of people who are of retirement age, but over 40% of all household members were aged 16 years or under. 26% of all household members are of school age and another 14% were children aged 4 years or less.

Figure 10
Age of Household Members, by all Household Members
(Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)



Health Problems

^{3.13} 23% of those interviewed (34 respondents) reported that their household contains at least one member with a long-term health problem. Of those who report a long term health problem within the household, eight respondents report that they require an adaption in their home to meet the care needs of those with health issues. The adaptations needed included: bathroom adaptations and better toilet facilities.

4. Existing Sites

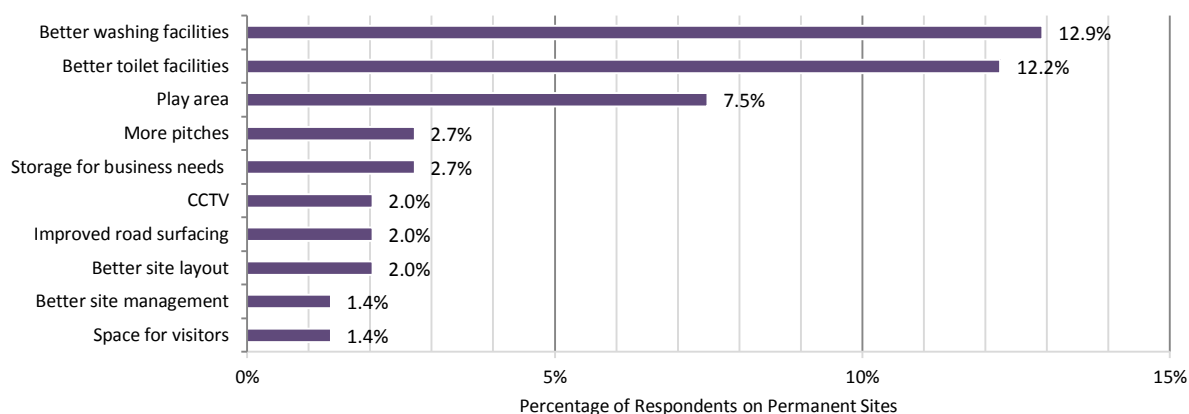
Type of Site

- 4.1 90% of interviews conducted were completed on authorised sites (77 on private sites and 64 on public sites). The remaining 8 interviews were completed on an unauthorised development or encampments.
- 4.2 All respondents were asked if they require extra caravans. The evidence from the survey is that around 10% of households (14 respondents) would like more caravans within their existing household. 7 respondents reported the additional caravans are for older children, while 5 respondents say that they are required for older relatives.
- 4.3 The phrasing of this question focused on a need rather than a demand for more caravans. Respondents were asked, irrespective of who was purchasing the caravans, whether they needed more caravans for household members. Therefore, this question simply reflected a perceived need for more caravans, rather than an ability to afford (demand for) more caravans.

Views of Sites

- 4.4 The majority of respondents are satisfied with their sites. 93% of respondents expressed some form of satisfaction with their site, with only 3% (4 respondents) expressing dissatisfaction. Those who were dissatisfied refer to a lack of facilities on their site.
- 4.5 Figure 11 overleaf shows the improvements which are identified by respondents as being required at their permanent sites. Despite over 90% being satisfied with their sites, only 69% of respondents feel that no improvements are required.
- 4.6 Of those respondents who cite improvements, 13% (19 respondents) cite a need for improved washing facilities, 12% (18 respondents) require improved toilet facilities, and 7.5% (11 respondents) want a play area for children.

Figure 11
Improvements Which Respondents Would Like to See on Their Site, by all Respondents on Permanent Sites (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)



- 4.8 More than four fifths of respondents (84%) feel that their current accommodation and site meets all of their needs in terms of accommodation quality, space and site facilities. However, 24 respondents state that this was not the case for them.
- 4.9 Those who feel that their current accommodation and site do not meet their needs said that this is because their accommodation was lacking facilities, was too small and because there was no play area for children.
- 4.10 Of the respondents who feel that their current accommodation and site did not meet their needs, all but 6 respondents report that their needs could be met at their current site.

Private Sites

- 4.11 7 respondents to the survey report that they have attempted to gain planning permission for their site. Of these, none feel that it was easy to obtain. 2 respondents feel that it was neither easy nor difficult and 5 think it was very difficult to obtain. Most of these report that their difficulties were due to public opposition to their applications.

Propensity to Travel

- 4.12 77% of respondents report that they have not travelled at all during the last 12 months and only around a third (31%) of those who did not travel in the past 12 months have travelled in the past. The most common explanation for this is that they want a more settled lifestyle, the ill-health and older age of some family members had inhibited their ability to travel and so that their children could receive education.
- 4.13 Therefore, the low rate of travelling among the Gypsy and Traveller population in Gloucestershire appears to be due to a desire to settle in one place.

5. Bricks and Mortar Households

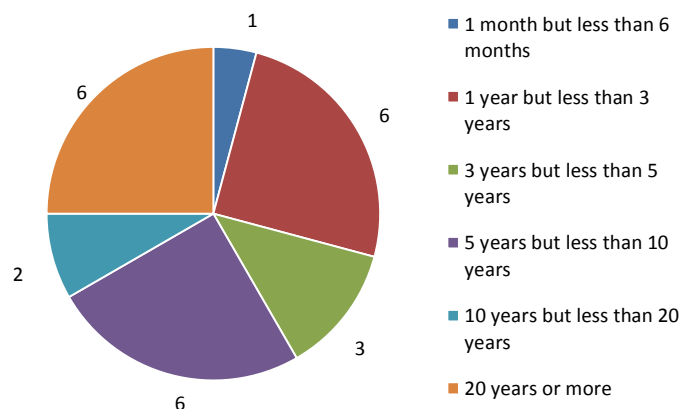
Introduction

- 5.1 This section focuses on the needs and aspirations of Gypsy and Traveller households in bricks and mortar in Gloucestershire. Households in bricks and mortar were identified by working with stakeholders and also through contacts identified during the on-site survey. In total 24 interviews were achieved including 5 with Travelling Showpeople. Due to the low number of interviews obtained, figures have been quoted in number of respondents rather than percentages.

Length of Residence

- 5.2 During the assessment 24 interviews were attained with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople residing in bricks and mortar in the Gloucestershire area.
- 5.3 Over half of the respondents in bricks and mortar have lived there for at least 5 years (14 respondents) and all but one respondent have lived in their current accommodation for at least a year. 23 of the 24 respondents also consider their current accommodation to be their permanent base.

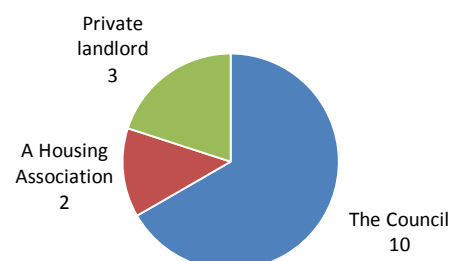
Figure 12
Length of Time Respondents Have Lived on Their Current Site, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population Bricks and Mortar 2012)



Tenure

- 5.4 The majority of respondents in bricks and mortar rent their accommodation (15 respondents) while a further 8 own their own homes outright.
- 5.5 Of those respondents who rent their accommodation, 10 respondents do so from the Council, while 3 rent privately and 2 from a housing association.

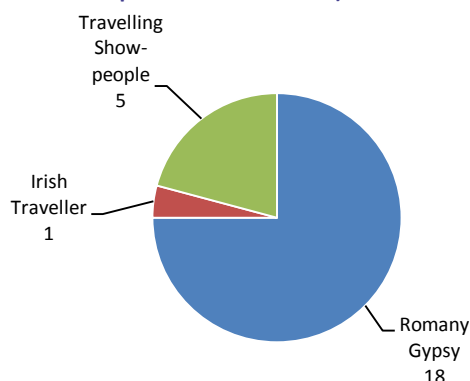
Figure 13
From Whom do you Rent your Current Home, by all Respondents who rent in Bricks and Mortar (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population Bricks and Mortar 2012)



Ethnic Background

- 5.6 18 of all the respondents identify themselves as being Romany Gypsies, while 5 state they were Travelling Showpeople. 1 respondent states that they are an Irish Traveller.

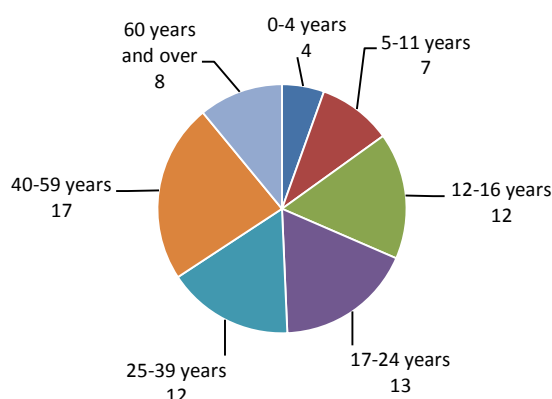
Figure 14
Ethnic Group by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)



Age of the population

- 5.7 When considering all household members and not just the respondent, the households show a fairly young age profile. Across all households there are 23 members in bricks and mortar under the age of 16, with 11 of these under 11 years old. 25 household members are between 17 and 39 years old and only 8 are 60 years or older.

Figure 15
Age of Household Members, by all Household Members (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population bricks and mortar 2012)



Health Problems

- 5.8 10 respondents interviewed report that their household contained at least one member with a long-term health problem. Of those who report a long term health problem within the household, 6 respondents said that they require an adaption in their home to meet the care needs of those with health issues. The adaptations needed comprised of bathroom adaptations including hand and grab rails and wet rooms.

Views of Housing

- 5.9 When asked if their current accommodation met all of their needs in terms of quality, space facilities and location, 20 respondents agreed, but 4 feel that their accommodation did not meet all of their needs. 2 feel that their accommodation is too small, while 1 respondent said that this is due to harassment problems. Of the 4 respondents who feel that their accommodation does not meet their needs, 3 feel that their needs could not be addressed at their current accommodation and that they would like to move.
- 5.10 17 respondents are satisfied with their current accommodation (with 15 respondents expressing that they are very satisfied). 5 respondents are dissatisfied and 3 of these said that they are very dissatisfied. Of

those who are dissatisfied to some extent, 3 referenced issues with neighbours. It should not be assumed that the respondents' levels of satisfaction in their current bricks and mortar accommodation are correlated with their preference to remain in bricks and mortar/return to a site. As noted below, some respondents wish to move to other bricks and mortar accommodation.

Propensity to Travel

- ^{5.11} 21 respondents said that they have not travelled at all during the last 12 months and only 6 of those who did not travel in the past 12 months have travelled in the past. The most common explanation for this is ill-health or a desire for a more settled lifestyle.
- ^{5.12} 1 respondent living in bricks and mortar said that they currently have a pitch on an authorised caravan site, while 8 respondents report that they have lived on a site at some point in the past, although 7 respondents refused to answer this question. There were various reasons given for why respondents had moved from living on-site, which included: getting married, ill health and disputes with other residents.
- ^{5.13} Respondents were asked if they want or need to move to a new permanent base (i.e. other residential accommodation, whether on a site or in bricks and mortar) in the future and 8 report that they did. 5 of the 8 respondents who want to move want to move into other bricks and mortar accommodation, while the remaining 3 want to move to site accommodation. Of these 3, 2 wanted to move to sites in Forest of Dean District, and one wanted to move to Tewkesbury Borough.
- ^{5.14} 3 respondents said that other members of the household would like to leave to live elsewhere in the next 2 years and all respondents reported that these were their children.

6. Travelling Showpeople

Introduction

- 6.1 This section focuses on the needs and aspirations of Showpeople in Gloucestershire. As noted in the introduction, Travelling Showpeople are not a recognised ethnic group under the Equalities Act 2010, but within Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012 they are defined as:

Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their family's or dependent's more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above (Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, March 2012).

Travelling Showpeople Households in Gloucestershire

- 6.2 The population of Travelling Showpeople is typically smaller than that of Gypsies and Travellers and planning records also tend to be more disparate. Working with the respective authorities in Gloucestershire with input from the Travelling Showpeople themselves we were able to identify that there are the following number of Showpeople yards in the study area with their number of plots:

- » Cheltenham Borough – no yards;
- » Cotswold District – no yards;
- » Forest of Dean District – no yards, but one group seeking accommodation for 12 plots in the area;
- » Gloucester City – two yards with a combined capacity of up to 61 plots, but not all plots in use;
- » Stroud District – two existing yards with 26 plots and one site with planning permission for 8 plots and currently under development;
- » Tewkesbury Borough – one yard with temporary permission for 17 plots.

- 6.3 Therefore in total the study area contains 6 Travelling Showpeople yards.

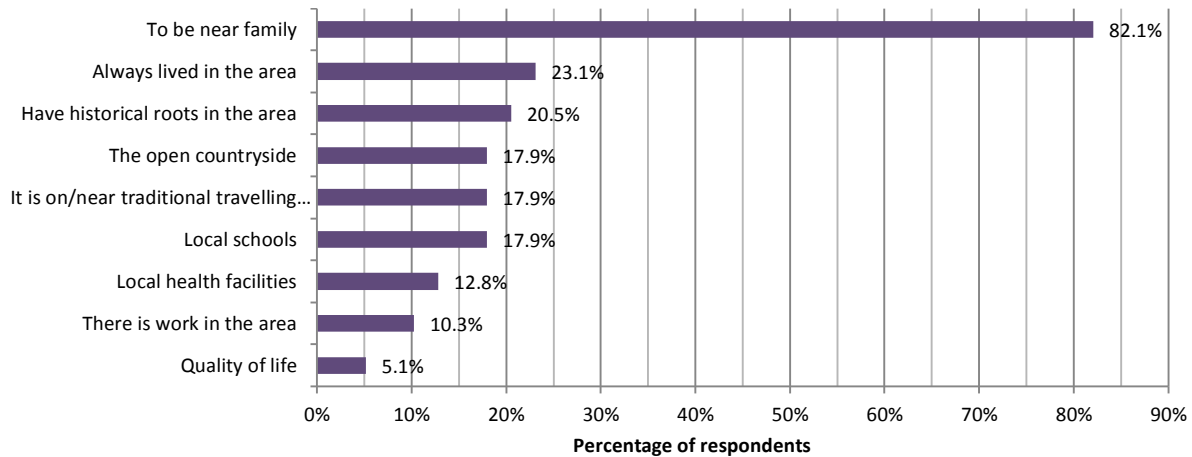
Attractions of Living in Gloucestershire

- 6.4 During the assessment 39 interviews were completed with Showpeople residing in the Gloucestershire area. All but one of the respondents interviewed considered their current yard to be their permanent base and when asked to identify the main reasons that attract them to live in Gloucestershire, 80% said that it is to be near their family.

- 6.5 Other factors that attract respondents to Gloucestershire are that they had always lived in the area (23%) and that they have historical roots in the area (21%).

Figure 16

What Attracted Respondents to Live in the Area, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Travelling Showpeople Population On-site 2012)

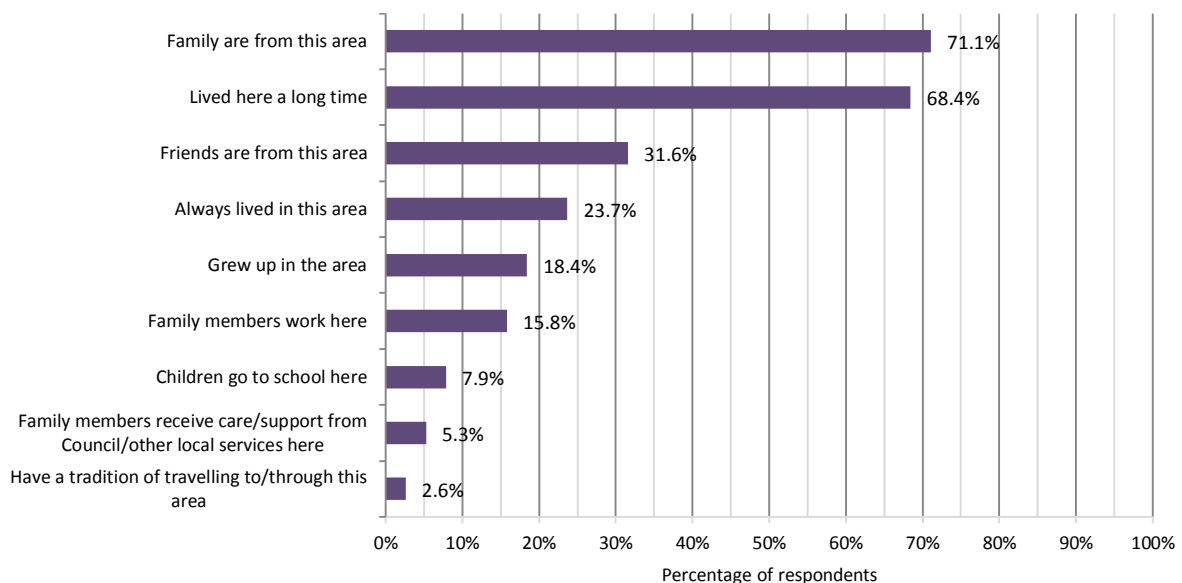


Connections with the Area

- 6.6 All but one of the respondents feel that they have strong connections to Gloucestershire with the main links identified being that family members of the respondents are from the area (71%) and that they have lived in the area for a long time (68%).

Figure 17

Nature of Local Connections in Gloucestershire, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Travelling Showpeople Population On-site 2012)

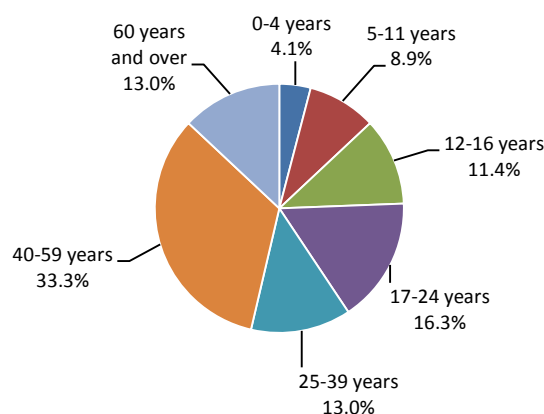


Age of the population

- 6.7 46% of the Travelling Showpeople surveyed are over 40 years of age, with over 10% aged 60 years or older and around a quarter are 16 or under (24%), with 13% under 11 years old.

Figure 18

Age of Household Members, by all Household Members (Source: Survey of Travelling Showpeople Population On-site 2012)



Health Problems

- 6.8 15 respondents interviewed identified that their household contains at least one member with a long-term health problem. Of these respondents, only 2 report that they require an adaption in their home to meet the care needs of those with health issues.

Views of Yards

- 6.9 37 of the 39 respondents are satisfied with their yard and 24 reported that there are no improvements required. However 8 respondents feel that the road surfacing could be improved, and there could be better landscaping (2 respondents) and increased pest control (2 respondents).
- 6.10 35 respondents report that their current accommodation and yard meets all of their needs in terms of accommodation quality, space and yard facilities. However, 4 respondents state that this was not the case for them as their current yard is not safe enough (2 respondents) and there is no play area for children (2 respondents).
- 6.11 11 of the respondents had to gain planning permission for their yard and of these, 9 feel that it was very difficult to do so. Amongst these latter respondents, 4 put their difficulties down to negative/unhelpful attitudes from their local authorities.

7. Stakeholder Consultation

Introduction

- ^{7.1} In addition to face-to-face interviews with Travellers, ORS conducted 49 semi-structured, in-depth telephone interviews between November 2012 and February 2013 in order to set the context of the research and ensure the study is based on a sound understanding of the relevant issues. The interviews typically lasted between 15 and 40 minutes, and were undertaken with officers (representing Housing and Planning) and Elected Members in the following Local Authorities:
- » Cheltenham Borough Council (four officers and two elected members);
 - » Cotswold District Council (two officers and one elected member);
 - » Forest of Dean District Council (three officers and one elected member);
 - » Gloucester City Council (one officer and one elected member);
 - » Stroud District Council (two officers and four elected members);
 - » Tewkesbury Borough Council (two officers and four elected members).
- ^{7.2} Wider stakeholders also contributed and included representatives from the following:
- » Gloucestershire Highways;
 - » Gloucestershire County Council Education Department;
 - » Health Improvement;
 - » Natural England;
 - » Showman's Guild of Great Britain.
- ^{7.3} ORS contacted the National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups on multiple occasions via email and telephone, but they were unable to provide any contacts with knowledge of the Gloucestershire area. For a full list of wider stakeholders approached to contribute to the study, please see Appendix B.
- ^{7.4} Interviews were also conducted with 10 Travelling Showpeople who own land/seek accommodation at Foscombe Hill (Forest of Dean) but do not currently have planning permission. Summaries of the interviews can be found in Appendix D.
- ^{7.5} As stated in the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, Local Authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries. For this purpose, the following nine neighbouring Local Authorities also contributed to the study:
- » Herefordshire Council;
 - » Malvern Hills District Council;

- » Monmouthshire County Council;
- » Oxfordshire County Council;
- » South Gloucestershire Council;
- » Swindon Borough Council;
- » West Oxfordshire District Council;
- » Wiltshire Council;
- » Wychavon District Council.

- 7.6 Attempts were also made to contact Warwickshire County Council to obtain an interview, but without success.
- 7.7 ORS contacted a further 28 stakeholders who did not wish to take part, largely due to their belief that they would not be able to contribute in a meaningful way.
- 7.8 Themes covered in the interviews included: the need for additional provisions and facilities; travelling patterns; the availability of land; accessing services; and work taking place to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. A copy of the Topic Guide used can be found in Appendix C.
- 7.9 Interviews allowed interested parties to reflect and feedback on the general situation - as well as how matters relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are currently handled and perceived within Gloucestershire and the surrounding areas. Qualitative research of this type attempts to gain a deeper understanding of the issues and is used to supplement the statistical information gathered through quantitative surveys of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities.
- 7.10 The interviews also gave stakeholders the opportunity to share any information and contacts for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople who live in bricks and mortar but would prefer site/yard accommodation. Despite asking all stakeholders to provide details of Travellers living in bricks and mortar, no additional contacts were provided to those already contacted through the household survey.
- 7.11 This section summarises the key findings from each of the six areas. Different areas had a lot of common ground, but also diverged in considering unique issues relevant to their individual areas (all of which are reported fully below). The findings from the interviews with Travelling Showpeople, wider stakeholders and surrounding authorities are reported separately. Recommendations for further work are provided after each section.
- 7.12 Due to issues surrounding data protection and in order to protect the confidentiality of those who took part, this section uses few verbatim comments. Where verbatim comments have been included, these are indicated by italics.

Cheltenham Borough: Views of Officers and Elected Members

Current and Future Accommodation Need

- 7.13 There is one authorised site within Cheltenham Borough, which consists of one household, with two pitches, under a three year temporary permission that expires in September 2013.
- 7.14 When asked if they felt the current provision was sufficient, two officers referred to the 2007 GTAA's identification of the need for four pitches. They acknowledged that the current provision of two pitches was insufficient in this respect. One officer also noted that they had received enquiries from agents representing Travellers about the availability of sites in the area, but did not see these as significant as they are apparently sent to all Local Authorities and no follow-up correspondence had been received.
- 7.15 There was little awareness of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar in the area.
- 7.16 On the whole, other than the application to extend the current site, stakeholders did not perceive a need for additional permanent pitches in Cheltenham Borough. However, one stakeholder considered that there is insufficient provision across Gloucestershire.
- 7.17 According to officers, there is little Traveller movement through the area. One officer reported two recent unauthorised stops; one on Morrison's car park, and another at Sanford Parks Lido. Both sites were apparently short-term. One Member referred to a past issue with unauthorised encampments on a car park in the town – but preventative measures have since been introduced at the car park, and the encampments no longer occur there.
- 7.18 Stakeholders were not aware of any demand for Travelling Showpeople yards in the Borough.

Site Provision

- 7.19 Officers did not regard Cheltenham Borough as a favourable location for Gypsies and Travellers due to its urban nature. Indeed, an officer and an Elected Member believed that rural areas are favoured by Travellers because they allow them to graze their horses - and felt that Travellers' preferences should be taken into account. Future site provision is also said to be constrained by: restrictions on the use of Cheltenham's Green Belt land and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB); high land values; flood risk; and land contamination.
- 7.20 Locating sites in built up areas like Cheltenham Borough was considered untenable, both in terms of perceived tensions with the settled community and because of the spatial requirements of the travelling community - such as grazing horses or, in the case of Travelling Showpeople, storing equipment. For the aforementioned reasons, officers felt that the fringes of urban areas are the most suitable locations for site/yard provision.

- 7.21 Given the aforementioned considerations and constraints, one officer and an Elected Member felt that any future provision for Cheltenham is likely to be located outside the Borough and, considering the boundary, probably in Tewkesbury Borough.
- 7.22 The now revoked Regional Spatial Strategy² for the South West proposed two urban extensions to Cheltenham; one to the south and one to the northwest (onto green belt land that would have its protected status revoked). An officer and an Elected Member proposed that any new site provision could be located within these areas. However, the officer noted that both are cross boundary extensions, and would therefore require collaboration with Tewkesbury Borough.
- 7.23 When asked about site management, officers noted the apparent undesirability of Local Authority management, with one suggesting that such an approach is intrusive. The officer proposed that self-management by the Traveller communities themselves would be preferable, with some regulation.
- 7.24 Officers differed in their opinions as to whether temporary unauthorised sites are an issue in Cheltenham, but most agreed that a transit site would be useful for Travellers passing through the area. It was certainly suggested that a transit site would eliminate the problem of unauthorised encampments by allowing authorities to direct Travellers to a suitable stopping place.
- 7.25 An officer suggested that the current approach to dealing with Gypsy and Traveller issues is disjointed, and that it may be beneficial to have one person focusing on Gypsies and Travellers. They could then act as a point of contact, rather than the work being spread across different departments.

Consultation Activities

- 7.26 Officers and Members were not aware of any regular consultation with the Travelling community, though one officer felt that it is typically unnecessary as Gypsy and Traveller accommodation is not a particular issue in Cheltenham. However, it was suggested that consultation will be required if the GTTSAA identifies additional need.
- 7.27 One officer suggested a need to change the public and political mood towards Travellers. In this respect, they felt that seminars with representatives from the Traveller community would be helpful.

Community Relations, Education and Health Issues

- 7.28 Interviewees raised no specific issues in relation to education and health, though one Elected Member noted that there was concern amongst the settled community regarding unauthorised encampments.

Cross-Border Issues

- 7.29 Officers and Elected Members were not aware of any cross-boundary routes used by Travellers.
- 7.30 In terms of cross-boundary working, officers mentioned: a joint call for sites; the Joint Core Strategy; and the current GTTSAA. One officer suggested that more joint work could be done with Tewkesbury Borough

² The South West RSS is no longer valid as a material consideration.

with regard to accommodating any unmet need in Cheltenham, given the latter's limited space – and noted that similar work has been undertaken in the past on the provision of affordable housing in Cheltenham.

Recommendations

^{7.31} From the interviews, the following recommendations for possible future work can be identified:

- » Undertake public awareness work to improve the perceptions held by the settled community;
- » Co-operation with neighbouring authorities with regards to meeting Gloucestershire County's needs (in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate). This may include approaching neighbouring authorities with regard to meeting Cheltenham's need within their areas, should any need arise that cannot be accommodated with the borough itself;
- » Establish a single role or individual within Cheltenham Borough Council with responsibility for Traveller issues, and who may act as a point of contact with the communities.

Cotswold District: Views of Council Officers and Members

Current and Future Accommodation Need

- 7.32 Cotswold District Council officers and Elected Members were aware of two authorised sites in the south of their district – one at Shornecote and the other at Culkerton. The former is a private site and is the largest in the district: it has a number of pitches with permission currently, with another 11 pending. The latter is smaller and is run by the County Council. One officer also commented that a planning application for a site within the district had been submitted.
- 7.33 There is a tolerated, permanent unauthorised site at Foss Cross (five pitches) – as well as a number of unauthorised transit sites, the most notable on the Foss Way junction near Bourton-on-the-Water, which is a fairly regular stopping point because of its proximity to the bi-annual Stow Fair.
- 7.34 One officer was aware of a small number of Gypsy and Traveller families who are living in bricks and mortar accommodation but would prefer to live on a site. However, they were unable to provide more details.
- 7.35 Another example was given of a family that ideally would not have wanted to move into bricks and mortar accommodation, but had to do so for health reasons. A Member was aware of a few Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation, particularly around Stow-on-the-Wold.
- 7.36 When asked whether these families would be prepared to take part in a confidential interview with ORS, the sense was that, although people are happy to talk to Housing Advice, they would not want to be interviewed formally. It was, however, thought that the main issue for Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation is acceptance by the settled community.
- 7.37 Stakeholders were unaware of any Travelling Showpeople in Cotswold District. It was believed that the provision available in nearby Tewkesbury Borough means that Travelling Showpeople tend to gravitate there as opposed to Cotswold District.
- 7.38 In general, the majority of unauthorised encampments in Cotswold District arise around the time of the Stow Fair. There is apparently also a traditional route through the area, which evidently attracts Gypsies and Travellers – and there was a sense that many will pass through on the way to other activities throughout the UK.
- 7.39 When officers were asked their opinion on the extent to which the current level of supply meets demand, they felt that a lack of accommodation is a possibility – a feeling based on the fact that the need identified in the previous GTAA has not been met and also on a lack of confidence in the last study. Overall, however, need was certainly thought to be increasing – but officers were reluctant to make assumptions of unmet need while awaiting the result of this study.

Site Provision

- 7.40 When considering site location and criteria, officers felt that thought must be given to the accessibility of services and ensuring the site is of an adequate size so there is sufficient room. With respect to site size,

one officer referenced some advice they had recently received, which stated that smaller sites are preferred.

^{7.41} Also, it was strongly suggested that sites must be carefully located where they are required to ensure they are used, which indicates that consultation with the Traveller community is crucial in such a sparse area as Cotswold District.

^{7.42} As for where any new provision should be sited, one officer again referred back to the apparent deficiency in the north of the district (as highlighted in the 2007 GTAA) which, as reported by an Elected Member, is where many unauthorised encampments occur. Neither officer could, however, identify any suitable locations there. A Member noted a number of restrictions on site development – particularly in relation to the National Trust’s ownership of a number of the villages in their area and the limitations on what can be done there.

^{7.43} The identification of land (by the County Council) was certainly considered important in addressing any future need.

^{7.44} The CDC Member was of the view that providing transit sites should be the Local Authority’s future priority. However, they acknowledged that location choices are critical in appeasing settled communities (who, it was said, are inherently opposed to the establishment of sites nearby) – and that the one location that seems to be uncontroversial is the area around the Cotswold Water Park.

Community Relations, Education and Health Issues

^{7.45} Officers were unaware of any real tensions between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled community locally. Members attributed this to better management of the issue on the part of the local council. The one issue that seems to cause friction, however, is the changed nature of the Stow Fair. The Fair has been established since medieval times and used to be a traditional gathering for local people. Now it is a Gypsy horse fair that is somewhat resented by some in the Stow community.

^{7.46} Few views were expressed on the health and education issues of Gypsies and Travellers – although one officer felt that consistency in education and accessing healthcare can be difficult due to their transient nature.

Consultation Activities

^{7.47} Consultation activities with Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople were considered somewhat limited in Cotswold District: historically there has been a heavy reliance on one person for such purposes.

^{7.48} Officers and Members endorsed the development of a regular liaison forum, with one expressing a clear preference for a County-wide mechanism as opposed to smaller, more local activities. Considering the appropriateness of such a forum for the Travelling community was also thought to be imperative, and officers were open to advice on how to establish something meaningful.

^{7.49} A Member also considered it prudent that residents are sufficiently informed of the situation with regard to Gypsies and Travellers, so that ignorance does not breed fear among the settled community. They

mentioned Cotswold Conversation (an informal meeting held with Parishes every couple of months) as a potential mechanism for providing this information.

Cross-Border Issues

^{7.50} Cross-border working between authorities is apparently somewhat lacking and it was hoped that this GTTSAA will ultimately result in closer partnerships with other Local Authorities in the region. However one Member also acknowledged its difficulties insofar as each Local Authority is working towards a different Local Development Framework.

Recommendations

^{7.51} From the interviews, the following suggestions for possible future work can be identified:

- » Establish a regular forum or group (including Traveller representation) to improve communication between Authorities and Travellers, possibly at County level;
- » Given the political sensitivity of Traveller issues, the provision of independent advice may be helpful;
- » Examine any potential sites in the Cotswold Water Park area;
- » Co-operation with neighbouring authorities with regards to meeting Gloucestershire County's needs (in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate);
- » Undertake further cross boundary working with neighbouring authorities in terms of meeting need to the North and East of the District. It may also be helpful to discuss policy regarding the siting of sites within the Cotswolds AONB, in order to ensure consistency in approach between authorities (see para. 7.214).

Forest of Dean District: Views of Council Officers

Current and Future Accommodation Need

- ^{7.52} Officers referred to a number of sites in the area. The largest, at Bromsberrow Heath, has been there since 2002, currently has 46 pitches and caters for Gypsies and Travellers. It is currently a transit site with a six month occupancy limit, but has an outstanding planning permission for 20 permanent and 15 transit pitches, which would reduce the site to 35 pitches. The site has apparently had problems with flooding in the past, but officers reported that there is provision within the outstanding permission for a flood alleviation scheme.
- ^{7.53} There is an unauthorised site at Southend Lane, Newent (a temporary permission for this site expired in January 2012) and a family-sized site at Churcham which has temporary planning permission.
- ^{7.54} There is also a tolerated New Traveller site at Horsefair Lane, on a County-owned depot. Officers reported that there are a large number of occupants for a very small site. This site is also said to suffer from flooding and was considered to be inadequate by officers.
- ^{7.55} Officers and Members were not aware of any Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- ^{7.56} When asked if current supply meets need, officers and Members were of the opinion that little has changed over recent years and that the current population is stable. Therefore, there is thought to be sufficient accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers, although the Horsefair Lane site is apparently inadequate. In essence, concerns were raised that, while it is possible to meet the quantity of sites required currently, quality is lacking.
- ^{7.57} One Member felt that need has been addressed through the success of planning applications over the past two years. This was attributed to the change in Members' attitudes whereby they now understand that: *just saying no is not a sustainable position.*
- ^{7.58} In terms of transit provision, it was felt that the District is providing its fair share across Gloucestershire, even when there is a reduction to 15 pitches (at the aforementioned Bromsberrow Heath site). However, the Member felt the District would benefit from having more transit pitches, which they considered to be valuable provision.
- ^{7.59} With regard to the need generated by the Travelling Showpeople community, the Member felt the forthcoming GTTSAA would reveal the extent to which additional need has been generated since 2007.
- ^{7.60} Officers referred to a piece of land owned by Travelling Showpeople in the Foscombe Hill area and to attempts that have been made by the group to acquire planning permission for a yard on this land. Generally speaking, officers recognised that there is an under supply of Travelling Showpeoples' plots across Gloucestershire – and more information about this issue can be found in Chapter 8.

Site Provision

- ^{7.61} As noted earlier, there is some demand for further accommodation from Travelling Showpeople in Forest of Dean District, but officers raised concerns that there are very few pieces of land that suit their needs. The south of the District is said to be unsuitable for Showpeople's large vehicles due to the single lane, narrow, windy roads with low bridges.
- ^{7.62} The east of the Forest of Dean was said to be favoured by Travelling Showpeople as they apparently have difficulties negotiating the road network elsewhere in the district. Proximity to the Midlands was thought to be beneficial and the main routes through the area are reported as:
- » The M50 from South Wales to the Midlands;
 - » The A48 road from Chepstow to Gloucester;
 - » The A40 road from West Gloucester to Ross on Wye.
- ^{7.63} Traditional routes were thought to influence where Travellers settle - and the Elected Member claimed that, despite the District being a perfectly reasonable place to do so, Travellers do not have any historic ties or social networks in the area and there are little opportunities for work. It is therefore not a very attractive area to them.
- ^{7.64} Smaller sites were considered preferable, because larger sites are apparently intimidating to the settled community. Smaller sites were also thought to be easier to screen, and to allow the development of better relationships with the settled community
- ^{7.65} When considering site provision, the Member felt that water, electricity, washing and toilet facilities are a necessity - and also that overall consideration should be given to the location of sites in relation the national and County distribution of permanent and transit accommodation.

Community Relations, Education and Health Issues

- ^{7.66} Officers and Members did not raise any issues in relation to health; they felt that the health needs of the Traveller community are similar to those of the settled community.
- ^{7.67} Officers did not raise any issues in relation to education; it was reported that all sites are in close proximity to schools. Further, it was considered imperative that any future sites must have safe access to schools.
- ^{7.68} The limited attendance of Traveller children at secondary school was viewed as an impediment to community cohesion and for the aspirations of the Traveller community long-term. The Elected Member suggested that the way forward may involve finding ways to involve Traveller parents in their children's schooling, so that they begin to see the value of education.

Consultation Activities

- ^{7.69} Officers noted the work of the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer, and felt that the independence of the role means that it is successful. The Elected Member reported annual discussions and meetings with the

Travelling Showpeople community and felt that these have been beneficial. The Member was less aware of consultation with Gypsies and Travellers other than through the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer.

Cross-Border Issues

- ^{7.70} Officers reported that those currently resident at Southend Lane have links with other areas outside of Gloucestershire, including Herefordshire and Bristol where, it was alleged, some own sites.
- ^{7.71} In terms of cross-border work within Gloucestershire, officers said that liaison with other areas does happen. For instance, some children in the area are said to access education in Tewkesbury Borough. Officers felt that they try to understand the needs of other areas (for instance, there is recognition that land availability in areas like Cheltenham is problematic) and stressed the importance of clear recommendations on the location of accommodation.
- ^{7.72} Dialogue between Local Authorities was viewed as key to delivering accommodation for the Traveller population, and the Elected Member praised the efforts made within Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcester on other planning issues. It was the Member's belief that this partnership approach could be taken in the County-wide planning group.

Recommendations

- ^{7.73} From the interviews, the following recommendations for possible future work can be identified:
- » Improve the quality of existing sites, particularly that at Horse Fair Lane;
 - » Monitor the use of the transit site at Bromsberrow Heath when this reduces to 15 – and work with other areas within Gloucestershire to see if transit provision can be offered to them;
 - » Co-operation with neighbouring authorities with regards to meeting Gloucestershire County's needs (in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate).;
 - » Consider the needs of Travelling Showpeople and the status of the Foscombe Hill site;
 - » Ensure where possible that any future provision is for smaller sites, and is considered in terms of its location relative to others to ensure provision is consistent across the area;
 - » Involve Traveller parents in the schooling of their children to encourage appreciation for education, and thus improve attendance and future prospects.

Gloucester City: Views of Council Officers and Elected Members

Current and Future Accommodation Need

- 7.74 Travelling Showpeople make up the main Traveller population in Gloucester City, with two large privately owned sites - Fairview and Pool Meadow - adjacent to which a number of smaller private yards are located. Both the officer and Elected Member referred to pressure from the Travelling Showpeople community for additional plot provision and noted that the 2007 GTAA had identified a need for 26 Travelling Showpeople plots across Gloucestershire.
- 7.75 Interviewees noted that the January 2012 Showpeople Caravan Count had revealed that existing yards are not being utilized fully, with a number of plots left vacant. Nonetheless, through the on-site survey and site visits, ORS determined that there are some households sharing plots at the sites. While it may be the case that there are vacant plots at these yards, those sharing with other households may still represent a need, as the vacant plots may be owned/rented by other Showpeople who are away from the site, and/or are not willing for their plots to be used by other families. Just as with traditional housing, empty accommodation does not necessarily indicate availability.
- 7.76 The officer was of the view that there may have been some movement from the Fairview and Pool Meadow sites to the Gotherington site in Tewkesbury Borough.
- 7.77 The Gypsy and Traveller Population in Gloucester City is small, with one site at Sims Lane consisting of one family with two fixed caravans. This site has been granted temporary planning permission on the basis of the applicant's special circumstances. The officer was of the opinion that, even although the site is not in the most desirable location, it is likely that the residents will want to continue living there.
- 7.78 When asked to consider the extent to which current accommodation meets demand, it was felt that there is no immediate need for Gypsy and Traveller sites within Gloucester City. However, Gloucester City, as well as Gloucestershire as a whole, was thought to be favoured by Travelling Showpeople due to: transport links (especially the M4/M5 crossover); the availability of employment; and family ties (there is a long established Showpeople community in Gloucester). Additional need from Travelling Showpeople was certainly considered a possibility.
- 7.79 Although information was, with the permission of the householder, made available to researchers, no additional bricks and mortar contacts were provided through stakeholder interviews. The Elected Member was, however, aware of a small number of Gypsies and Travellers currently living in bricks and mortar – but believed them to be comfortable with their present accommodation and did not feel that ORS should contact them. The officer interviewed spoke of a number of Travelling Showpeople in bricks and mortar accommodation alongside the Pool Meadow and Fairview sites, but believed that they had no desire to live on a site. This perception is to some extent validated by the responses to the quantitative survey, in which the vast majority of those interviewed in bricks and mortar accommodation expressed no desire to move into site accommodation (see para. 5.13).

- 7.80 Unauthorised encampments were not considered to be a major issue, though there are apparently slight rises during the summer period. The Elected Member felt that the provision of some transit provision could be of benefit for seasonal Travellers.

Site Provision

- 7.81 County-wide, future site/yard provision is said to be constrained by: the Severn flood plain; Green Belt land; and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The officer suggested that the most likely locations for achievable sites would be on the edge of urban areas, where land values are lower but which are still close enough to facilities to be sustainable. The Elected Member was of the opinion that when seeking suitable locations, the needs of the settled community and the capacity of local schools to cope with an increase in pupils needs to be considered.
- 7.82 Clearly there is greater demand in Gloucester City for Travelling Showpeople accommodation; therefore, when considering yard provision, the officer noted associated difficulties related to the large vehicles and equipment used by Travelling Showpeople and the requirement that their yards be located near main roads (but also not too close to residential areas due the noise generated by repairs and work on their equipment).
- 7.83 The officer felt that efforts to find suitable land for Travelling Showpeople within Gloucester have been unsuccessful due to limited land availability and higher land values. At a County-wide level, the officer noted that the urban extensions, proposed as part of the forthcoming Joint Core Strategy, could potentially provide locations to meet future need.
- 7.84 When discussing potential options for site management and ownership, it was clear that there are differences when thinking about distinct communities. For example, Travelling Showpeople are independent business people who would probably prefer to own and manage their own yards. However, the officer suggested that land availability research in the area has yielded no opportunities for site provision at this time.
- 7.85 The officer was of the opinion that, although the Gypsy and Traveller community desires privately owned and managed sites, a mix of different site types is preferable. The officer suggested using Registered Providers to oversee some sites and ensure they are well-maintained, providing this would be acceptable to the communities themselves. Considering community cohesion, the officer felt that the local community displays less opposition to sites when these management practices are employed.

Community Relations, Education and Health Issues

- 7.86 The officer reported no community cohesion problems with regard to Travelling Showpeople, probably due to their long established presence in the community and the peripheral location of existing yards.
- 7.87 The Sims Lane site application was met with some objections from members of the settled community. The Elected Member felt that many within the settled community hold negative perceptions of Gypsies and Travellers.

- 7.88 The Elected Member mentioned educational issues amongst Traveller children, including irregular attendance, integration issues and low literacy levels.

Consultation Activities

- 7.89 Despite regular communication with members of the Showman's Guild, the officer was not aware of any mechanisms for regular consultation with the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities that exist for planning at either the City or County level. The officer considered the GTTSAA to be the start of the consultation process.
- 7.90 The Elected Member felt that the consultation process should be improved, but stressed that it requires engagement from both sides.

Cross-Border Issues

- 7.91 It was commented that, given the limited land supply in the City, cross-boundary working is likely to be required in order to identify deliverable sites to provide for identified future need.

Recommendations

- 7.92 From the interviews, the following recommendations for possible future work can be identified:
- » Continue communication with neighbouring district authorities with regards to Traveller issues and meeting Gloucestershire County's needs (in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate);
 - » Introduce a regular mechanism for consultation with the Travelling Showpeople community (in particular) and other Traveller communities where necessary.

Stroud District: Views of Officers and Elected Members

Current and Future Accommodation Need

- ^{7.93} Officers and Members referenced a number of authorised sites at Naas Lane, Moreton Valence, Stonehouse and Cam. One officer suggested trends in the geographic spread of the different Traveller groups; the Hardwicke and Naas Lane areas are apparently populated by Irish Travellers while the English Gypsy population is centred on Moreton Valence. There is currently an extension planned to increase provision at Moreton Valence.
- ^{7.94} In terms of Travellers moving through the District, one officer felt that the lack of transit sites may have been the cause of unauthorised encampments, including one at a car park in Cainscross.
- ^{7.95} One Elected Member believed there to be a small number of Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation within Stroud District, but did not have any contact details for them.
- ^{7.96} Officers were aware of a number of New Travellers in the area, with unauthorised encampments at Wotton-Under-Edge and Stinchcombe. The occupants of these sites reportedly have strong ties to Dursley, and have no wish to move away from the area.
- ^{7.97} When asked about the supply of accommodation, most Members felt the current level is sufficient due to the small number of Travellers coming to the area. However, one felt that further accommodation should be provided because of the duty to do so.
- ^{7.98} There was definite feeling that meeting the need of New Travellers presents an acute difficulty. There was certainly thought to be unmet need from this community – but it was also said that the on-going extension to the Moreton Valence site is unlikely to meet this need as it is considered unsuitable to New Travellers on a cultural basis. Officers and Members agreed that providing formal sites clashes with the ideals of the community.
- ^{7.99} The future provision of transit sites was considered valuable by both officers, particularly due to the various fairs in Cotswold District. Indeed, one officer noted that the previous GTAA had identified a need for such sites – and the other added that a transit site would be useful for Travelling Showpeople passing through the area to fairs in the North or Southwest. Most Elected Members were unable to comment on the need for transit provision in the area, but thought it unlikely given the small numbers travelling through. One Member desired the provision of a mixture of permanent and transit provision within the District.

Site Provision

- ^{7.100} Officers felt that, as the M5, A38 and A46 are common routes through the area, any future permanent site provision would need to be located nearby.
- ^{7.101} One Elected Member identified Dursley, Wotton-Under-Edge and the South of the District as suitable geographical locations within the District.

- 7.102 The location of sites apparently creates tension between national guidance and the desires of Travellers insofar as the latter wish to be as 'rural' as possible, whereas planning authorities would prefer sites to be well-connected to local facilities and services.
- 7.103 One officer felt that accessibility is important for transit sites, which should thus be located near major roads: the A38, A46 and M5 for north-south travel; and the A419 for east-west movement (see Appendix G). However, another officer suggested that, as most transit provision is seasonal, temporary tolerance areas may be a viable solution (discussed in Chapter 8).
- 7.104 Various preferred management structures were put forward, including County Council or Housing Association models. One Elected Member referred positively to the Park Homes structure that has been used in South Somerset.
- 7.105 Provision for New Travellers was considered problematic because, by their very nature, they do not want accommodation that is official. An Elected Member desired more intelligence and resources to help distinguish between those who have chosen to live an unconventional lifestyle from those who have been forced into such a lifestyle through social, economic or personal problems.

Community Relations, Health and Education Issues

- 7.106 One officer acknowledged that the settled community's perceptions of Travellers are generally negative, and that this is at least partially due to negative press coverage. They also suggested that such perceptions are somewhat unfounded. Members agreed, and reasoned that more education is needed to dispel some of the myths held by the settled community.
- 7.107 Members felt that poor health amongst the Traveller community is attributable to a number of causes - including accommodation (particularly during the winter months) and the lack of GP registration (which may be due to lack of a permanent address). Educating the Traveller community, through peers within the community itself, was viewed as a way to improve health outcomes.
- 7.108 When asked about education issues, one officer reported that while Traveller children tend to have good attendance at primary school level, there are problems at secondary school level. One Elected Member felt that access to education is far greater when children live on authorised sites – but another felt that the Traveller community culture has a large role to play in the extent to which children attend school. Work with the community to address this issue is therefore considered important.

Consultation Activities

- 7.109 Officers did not report any formal mechanisms for regular consultation, but did mention a number of ad hoc consultations with:
- » Representatives of the Travelling Showpeople community on specific issues, which gave them an insight into the ambitions and actions of the wider Showpeople community;

- » Agents representing Traveller communities during work on the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). Through these consultations, officers were able to develop links with communities.

^{7.110} Officers and Members suggested that quarterly or biannual forums might help authorities understand Traveller needs and deal with any problems on sites. There should also be a greater understanding about what sort of accommodation will be required in the future – and this is where consultation with the community would be beneficial. Members felt this should take place at a District level and that Elected Members should be involved.

Cross-Border Issues

^{7.111} In terms of future site provision, the current distribution of sites across Gloucestershire was considered problematic by one officer, who suggested that it would be beneficial to have more evenly spread provision in Berkeley, Alkington, Bisley or Minchinhampton. Therefore, it is suggested that more work should be done with other areas to address need at a County-wide level.

^{7.112} When asked about cross-boundary working, officers referred to a number of previous and current examples. One identified previous and on-going joint work on GTAA/GTTSAAs as examples of good practice, and another officer referenced regular discussions with officers in Gloucester regarding possible joint work on site provision.

Recommendations

^{7.113} From the interviews, the following recommendations for possible future work can be identified:

- » Gather information about the needs and aspirations of New Travellers and any Traveller movements through the District;
- » Co-operation with neighbouring authorities with regards to meeting Gloucestershire County's needs (in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate);
- » Educate settled populations regarding Travellers to alleviate some of their assumptions and prejudices and help ease community tensions;
- » Educate Travellers on health issues through the use of community-based peers;
- » Work with Traveller communities to help tackle attendance problems amongst children;
- » Hold a bi-annual or quarterly forum for consultation with Travellers. Involvement of Elected Members would help increase awareness;
- » Consider work to identify and distinguish those living a transient/traveller lifestyle by choice from those forced into such lifestyles by social, economic or personal problems.

Tewkesbury Borough: Views of Council Officers and Elected Members

Current and Future Accommodation Need

- ^{7.114} Officers were aware of a number of Gypsy and Traveller sites in the area, three of which are currently being managed by the County Council. Further, Elected Members were aware of several Gypsy and Traveller sites and some Travelling Showpeople yards in the Borough.
- ^{7.115} It is clear that a considerable amount of the total Traveller population of Gloucestershire resides in Tewkesbury Borough. Indeed, an Elected Member claimed that the size of the population can cause issues in some areas where the population is disproportionate to the settled community.
- ^{7.116} In terms of the Gypsy and Traveller population, the caravan counts show that the three County Council sites are above capacity (they are at 100 when the official capacity is 75). It was, however, noted that this may not be a permanent issue if there were visitors at the sites at the time of the count. 10 names are known to be on the waiting list for the three sites.
- ^{7.117} Officers were aware of two Travelling Showpeople yards; Gotherington is the larger of the two with 17 plots and the other is smaller and home to one family. This provision was thought to be sufficient – though officers conceded that, due to the lack of data such as a waiting list, this view is based on anecdotal evidence.
- ^{7.118} Officers knew of Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation in the area. For example, it was said that one Traveller was forced to move into bricks and mortar accommodation for health reasons and is looking to move back to a site – but that there are difficulties finding a site that could provide for their health needs. Elected Members were aware of some Travellers living within the Borough, with Bishops Cleeve thought to have a large number living in social housing.
- ^{7.119} One officer mentioned that, though there are New Travellers in the area, they did not know how their needs might differ to other Traveller groups.
- ^{7.120} In terms of movement through the Borough, Tewkesbury Borough was said to be ideally situated for both Gypsy and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in transit due to its proximity to the M50, M5, M4, A40 and A38. Therefore, when asked if short-term unauthorised encampments arise in the area, one officer revealed that there had been one on the main A38 around the time of the interview - with the occupants apparently selling goods at the side of the road. Members also gave examples of unauthorised encampments in the area, including one in Abbey car park and one in Twyning.
- ^{7.121} Such encampments are apparently asked to move on in a friendly manner; interviewees were of the opinion that they attract few problems and usually move-on quickly with no further action needed.
- ^{7.122} When asked what attracts Travellers to set up short-term unauthorised encampments, officers and Elected Members felt that family ties, the availability of work (sometimes seasonal), and fairs (particularly the Stow

fair) are important factors. One officer added that historic ties and the availability of schools and facilities are also important to Travellers who wish to settle in the area.

^{7.123} Overall when thinking about current accommodation, officers and Elected Members felt that the aforementioned issues suggest a shortfall, particularly with regard to the Gypsy and Traveller community. In terms of future accommodation and considering issues such as future family formation and natural growth, they are of the opinion that Tewkesbury Borough will need to provide more accommodation and sites.

^{7.124} An Elected Member felt that the number of planning applications being passed on appeal indicates a shortfall - and that Tewkesbury Borough should meet the shortfall to ensure they have more future control about where sites are located.

^{7.125} One officer desired pre-planning advice services, which could be given for free or at reduced cost to Gypsies and Travellers to help with understanding of what is considered appropriate development. This, it was felt, could reduce the number of unauthorised developments in future.

^{7.126} Given the presence of short-term unauthorised encampments, one officer cited the need for a temporary stopping site in the area, but acknowledged that the need is difficult to quantify.

Site Provision

^{7.127} When considering how future accommodation need should be met, one officer claimed that extending existing sites would be difficult due to nearby land being under private ownership and its close proximity to flood risk areas. Therefore, it is clear that further sites (and not extensions to existing sites) are required to fulfil the shortfall.

^{7.128} Officers feel they are currently lacking a set of criteria by which to evaluate locations, but felt that proximity to services and facilities such as transport, schools, electricity and water is important. One officer, however, was of the view that the degree of proximity necessary varies between the different Traveller communities.

^{7.129} It was suggested that finding further suitable land is a difficult task considering the already large Gypsy and Traveller population – and is made all the more difficult by issues such as restrictions on the use of Green Belt land and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. One officer also said that the potential strain on the existing facilities of rural areas (such as drainage and sewers) must be borne in mind when looking to locate Traveller sites nearby. Given these constraints, there was a sense that finding suitable land in the Borough is a struggle and that planning permission is difficult to obtain.

^{7.130} When asked about potential site locations, one officer noted that that the Twyning, Minsterworth and Coombe Hill areas are popular locations for Travellers. A number of specific suggestions were also made:

- » Land north of Brockworth, near facilities in Gloucester and with transport links to the M5 - given the site's proximity to boundaries with Stroud District and Gloucester City. The officer also believed there was a possibility of catering for the needs of the neighbouring authorities here.

- » Land northwest of Cheltenham, with access to the town and the M5, and near to employment opportunities. Given its proximity to Cheltenham's boundary, the officer felt that this site may also provide for some of the need in that authority.
- » Less specifically, the officer also mentioned the area along the A46 towards Evesham as a potential site location.

^{7.131} There was a consensus that smaller sites are generally preferable as they are easier to manage, are more acceptable to the settled community and have less impact on the countryside. All of these were felt to be important considerations for the location of sites.

^{7.132} In terms of management, one officer regarded the Bromsgrove site in Worcestershire (managed by Rooftop Housing Group) as an example of best practice:

The site needed repair and renovation and they worked with the community to do this and they formed a utility block. [...] Once the community could see what was happening, the relationship between them got better because they could see something was being done to improve the site.

Community Relations, Health and Education Issues

^{7.133} Officers were not aware of any specific tensions between settled and Traveller communities and suggested that the Local Authority would try and help resolve any issues should they arise. Interviewees referred to activities such as theatre and dance projects that have attempted to integrate minorities - but this was thought to be challenging as some are willing to be integrated and involved, whereas others choose to be private because it is their community and culture.

^{7.134} Access to local health facilities should, it was felt, be taken into account when considering the location of any future sites. An Elected Member suggested that there are services locally (such as the Children's Centre) that are contributing to better health outcomes among those in areas of high social deprivation - and that it would be beneficial if more from the Traveller community utilised such services. There was also a sense that smaller, permanent sites would provide a stable base from which to access these services.

^{7.135} The rate at which Traveller children drop out of secondary school was an issue for one Elected Member, who felt that more specialist support should be provided to enable more of them to stay in the school system.

Consultation Activities

^{7.136} Officers and Elected Members were not aware of any regular consultation activities with the Traveller community, although one officer noted that ad hoc discussions on housing issues had occurred in the past. An officer cited attempts to engage with Travellers that have apparently not been met with great enthusiasm, but it was hoped that the current study will go some way to breaking down some barriers between authorities and Travellers.

^{7.137} According to an officer, there has supposedly been some talk of setting up a Forum involving representatives of all groups across the whole of Gloucestershire (or at least the Joint Core Strategy area).

Similarly, an Elected Member was of the view that future consultation should to be taken forward at the County rather than District level. On the other hand, another Elected Member felt strongly that, when considering broad locations, it is essential that the Traveller community is consulted at District level.

Cross-Border Issues

^{7.138} One officer and all Elected Members felt that the GTTSAA will help establish the level of need within each area, but added that provision should be delivered across Gloucestershire according to where the best locations are. In this context, there was a strong sense that other authorities should also deliver some site provision and, although it was acknowledged that this will be difficult in Cheltenham and Gloucester City, participants desired evidence to show that every avenue has been explored. It was also suggested that any transit provision should be located close to a boundary.

^{7.139} It was hoped that surrounding authorities will be willing to cooperate, with one Elected Member suggesting that the Joint Core Strategy provides a good basis for cross-boundary working.

^{7.140} Although land availability seems to be the major issue in providing additional sites, limited funding must also be a consideration. One officer thus suggested that joint funding between authorities and the Traveller communities might offer an alternative to overcome financial limitations:

Like a partnership scheme. The thing is Councils and authorities don't have pots and pots of money. It's not that there isn't a want to provide for residents it's just that it's hard to spread the money. It's getting the Gypsy and Travellers involved and that's something we need to explore.

Recommendations

^{7.141} From the interviews, the following recommendations for possible future work can be identified:

- » Establish a criteria-based policy for the identification and evaluation of potential sites;
- » Work with neighbouring authorities to establish cross-border cooperation on the provision of additional sites (in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate);
- » Examine the possibility of situating a temporary or transit site within the Borough or on the borders with surrounding areas;
- » Limit future site developments to smaller sites in order to aid integration and effective management;
- » Provide more specialist support to encourage and enable Traveller children to remain in education;
- » Investigate the possibility of joint public-private funding of sites with Traveller groups;
- » Offer free or discounted pre-planning advice to Travellers in order to minimise unauthorised site developments;

- » Initiate a consultation with Travellers and others to provide feedback on the forthcoming GTTSAA and future site provision.

Travelling Showpeople

- ^{7.142}As part of the Stakeholder Consultation, interviews were carried out with Travelling Showpeople representatives, including the Showman's Guild of Great Britain and a number of Showpeople involved in planning applications for a site at Foscombe Hill in Forest of Dean District. Amongst these interviewees, there was a strong belief that there is a lack of provision for Travelling Showpeople across Gloucestershire. Overall, this lack of sites was felt to be making their work more difficult, forcing them to find alternative places to store equipment (which are sometimes unsecure) and increasing their travel costs. The Showpeople also felt that there is a general lack of sites coming forward for development.
- ^{7.143}In addition, the majority of wider stakeholders were of the opinion that Gloucestershire's existing site provision for Showpeople is inadequate. Although they had no firm evidence to support their view, a few Showpeople interviewed believed there to be Travelling Showpeople in the area living under the radar of Local Authorities on unauthorised developments or encampments. Though Gloucester stakeholders reported evidence of vacant plots on the Pool Meadow and Fairview sites from the January 2012 caravan count, Showpeople felt the yards are currently at capacity. These two views may seem to be inherently contradictory, but as noted previously in para. 7.75, the existence of vacant plots does not necessarily indicate their availability. It may therefore be the case that existing sites are full in so far as there are no plots available, and yet there are still plots on the site that are not currently being used.
- ^{7.144}Stakeholders agreed that there are difficulties associated with yards for Travelling Showpeople because of the size of the land required to store and maintain equipment, and the need to be located near to road networks.
- ^{7.145}One interviewee suggested that the Showpeople site at Gotherington is adequate to provide for its current tenants and any natural family growth for 10-15 years if it were to be granted permanent planning permission (the current temporary permission expires in November 2014). The stakeholder also felt that there is currently enough room on the site to provide transit provision for Travelling Showpeople passing through the area.
- ^{7.146}Some stakeholders were pessimistic about future provision for Showpeople in Gloucestershire as planning applications for new yards are generally refused.
- ^{7.147}One interviewee expressed disappointment at the seeming lack of concern on the part of Local Authorities about the provision of new sites (especially given the traditional presence of Showpeople in Gloucestershire) and noted that applications for Showpeople yards are rarely granted.
- ^{7.148}It was said that, while authorities seem to understand and tolerate the needs of Gypsies and Travellers, the needs of the Travelling Showpeople community are less understood.
- ^{7.149}Interviews were carried out with a group of 10 Travelling Showpeople who have been looking for permanent accommodation for themselves and their families. Some members of the group purchased 9.7 acres of land at Foscombe Hill in the Forest of Dean District with a view to developing a site eight years ago, but failed to secure planning permission on two separate occasions. An application for a 15 plot site was refused on appeal – and a subsequent public inquiry and High Court case (instigated by the Travelling

Showpeople) found in favour of the planning authority. A second application for 12 plots was also refused on appeal. The land is considered ideal for transformation into a Showpeople yard due to its location on a low traffic road and its proximity to services and the existing Showpeople community in Gloucester. According to one Travelling Showperson, Foscombe Hill *ticked eight or nine out of the 10 boxes for the perfect site*. Interviewees felt that permission for a permanent site at Foscombe Hill would give them the security they lack in their current accommodation.

^{7.150} Officers from the Forest of Dean explained that the site has been deemed unsuitable - a decision backed-up by the High Court case result.

^{7.151} All interviewees expressed a desire for a site within Gloucestershire, with the majority preferring a location near Gloucester City. They all spoke of strong personal and family ties to Gloucester, either having grown up there themselves, or married into a local family.

^{7.152} The area around Gloucester is thought to be ideal for Travelling Showpeople businesses because of its connections to the wider road network and proximity to fairs. All of the Foscombe group discussed connections to the existing community at Pool Meadow/Fairview. As these Travelling Showpeople are involved in attempts to establish a site, and would seem to represent a genuine need within Gloucestershire, it was felt that the interviews would aid in informing policy in general and provide a detailed picture of specific need in the County.

Recommendations

^{7.153} Given the above information, a number of recommendations for future actions may be identified:

- » The need for further provision of accommodation for Travelling Showpeople arises from Gloucester City, Tewkesbury Borough, Forest of Dean District and to a lesser extent Stroud District. Therefore, action is needed across the County to source potential locations and options for this group to purchase land;
- » County-wide consultation with any Travelling Showpeople looking to develop yards within Gloucestershire – and communication with those involved in the various planning applications at Foscombe Hill about possible alternatives;
- » Spread this need across a number of smaller sites; public or private ownership are all possible options, and seem to be acceptable to the Foscombe Hill Showpeople to varying degrees.

Bargee Travellers

Introduction

^{7.154} During the study period, ORS was asked to consider the needs of Bargee Travellers. This was as a result of the lead officer from Stroud District receiving contact from a representative of the Bargee Traveller community wishing to highlight issues facing this particular client group.

^{7.155} An interview was undertaken with a representative of the Bargee community in order to ascertain some of the issues faced by the community, as well as what action, if any, they desire from Gloucestershire County Council and Local Authorities. Other members of the Bargee community were contacted, but refused to take part in a telephone interview. Interviews were also undertaken with officers from Wiltshire and Bath and North East Somerset Councils, who have some experience of dealing with issues relating to this group of Travellers. The Canal and River Trust were also invited to comment on the issues raised, and the response from the Trust's Boater Liaison Officer (for the South) is included below.

Issues

^{7.156} The primary issues raised by the Bargee Traveller representative related to the management practices of the Canal and River Trust (the successor organisation to British Waterways³), which is responsible for 2,000 miles of inland waterways in England and Wales. Within Gloucestershire, this includes the Severn Navigation, which runs from Gloucester to Stourport, and the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal.

^{7.157} The Canal River Trust (CRT) operates according to legislation set down in the 1995 British Waterways Act. The act states that in order to be eligible for a license, boats must either have a permanent "home" mooring, or must:

be used bona fide for navigation throughout the period for which the consent is valid without remaining continuously in one place for more than 14 days or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances (British Waterways Act, 1995).

^{7.158} According to the Bargee Traveller representative, the interpretation and enforcement of the above statement by the CRT has caused friction with Bargee Travellers – who, by definition, do not have permanent moorings. As the navigational authority, CRT is permitted to terminate boat licenses and ultimately remove unlicensed boats from waterways, potentially rendering any inhabitants homeless.

^{7.159} The terms "reasonable circumstances", "place" and "bona fide for navigation" are not further defined in the 1995 act, and the Bargee Traveller representative reported that many amongst the Bargee Traveller community feel that the CRT's interpretation goes above and beyond the legislation. The representative suggested that CRT was unsympathetic to those who exceed the 14 day limit in a single place due to exceptional circumstances - including illness, pregnancy, injury, on-going treatment at a nearby GP or dentist, or mechanical failure.

³ British Waterways managed 2,200 miles of waterways in England, Scotland and Wales until July 2nd 2012, when the public corporation's assets and responsibilities were transferred to the Canal and River Trust, except in Scotland, where BW continues to operate under the name Scottish Canals.

- ^{7.160}The representative reported that, as the guidance offered by CRT does not include a minimum distance for which boaters must travel, many Bargee Travellers who have been issued with enforcement notices were unclear how far they were required to travel in order to comply with regulations.
- ^{7.161}With reference to Gloucestershire, the representative said that a number of Bargee Travellers were warned that they had remained on the 16 mile Gloucester and Sharpness Canal for too long, and had felt pressurised into taking their boats onto the tidal section of the River Severn in order to comply with CRT requests to move on. As the tidal River Severn could be difficult to navigate, the Bargee representative felt that such pressure could endanger Travellers and their boats. However, the CRT's Boating Liaison Officer, while acknowledging that the Severn could be challenging for boaters, did state that it was indeed navigable, and thus could still be incorporated into the journey of those required to continuously navigate the waterways as per their license.
- ^{7.162}The representative also referred to a lack of amenities blocks and facilities along the river to provide for the needs of Bargee Travellers and river users. The facilities that are currently provided were also felt to be difficult to access during the winter, due to slippery or muddy banks.
- ^{7.163}The representative also felt that a combination of CRT's enforcement and the lack of clarity concerning how far boaters are required to travel meant that members of the Bargee community were worried about their licenses being revoked, and their boats being removed from the waterways, effectively rendering them homeless (and thus the responsibility of the Gloucestershire authorities). It was therefore suggested that Local Authority intervention is needed to act as a buffer between the Bargee community and CRT, and to protect the former from effectively being evicted from their homes. The representative also felt that the housing needs of Boat Dwellers and Bargee Travellers should be assessed.
- ^{7.164}Bath and North East Somerset are apparently in the process of securing a memorandum of understanding with CRT to ensure that the housing needs of boaters are respected. However, the Bath and North East Somerset stakeholder made no reference to this document during their interview, though they did refer to a Task and Finish group that has been recently established to investigate the practical measures and policy developments needed to deal with the housing needs of Bargee Travellers and Boat Dwellers. At the time of writing, the group was outlining the geographical boundaries of their work and estimating the number of households using public waterways. As part of this project, Bath and North East Somerset is inviting submissions and suggestions from members of the boating community, and has helpfully provided ORS with a copy of its Consultation Invitation (included in Appendix F).
- ^{7.165}The Bargee representative also reported that Wiltshire County Council has recognised the Bargee Traveller community within its Gypsy and Traveller strategy, and has proposed to carry out a separate needs assessment for live-aboard boaters.
- ^{7.166}With regard to boating communities, a stakeholder representing Wiltshire Council mentioned a canals policy within the Core Strategy, which lays responsibility for applications for mooring points with the owners of the waterway (previously British Waterways, though currently the CRT). However, the interviewee felt that there had been confusion since the transfer and abolition of British Waterways as a public body.

Response From the Canal and River Trust

^{7.167} When asked to comment on the issues raised above, the CRT's Boater Liaison Officer (for the South) recognised that the lack of clarity in the British Waterways Act (1995) could cause difficulties for boaters without a permanent mooring, as well as for the CRT itself. Nonetheless, it is the job of the CRT's enforcement teams to ensure that boats that do not have home moorings travel continuously, as per their license, and do not exploit the legislation in order to avoid travelling.

^{7.168} In response to the suggestion that the Trust had not been sympathetic to those with particular circumstances that prevented them from travelling, the Boater Liaison Officer acknowledged that illness and mechanical problems were legitimate reasons for not doing so, and confirmed that action would not be taken against those boaters who were genuinely experiencing such issues. However, the Boater Liaison Officer noted that this exemption could not be expected to be indefinite, and that the CRT would always try to accommodate the issues of boaters, while also trying to find a solution to ensure that boaters were abiding by the terms of their licenses. The Officer noted that the relatively recent creation of Boater Liaison roles and Waterways Partnerships around the country were part of an effort to ensure solutions to such problems could be found.

^{7.169} Nonetheless, the Boater Liaison Officer also stated that the option of taking a permanent mooring was available to those who felt unable to comply with the requirements of continuous cruising (such as those who did not feel able to navigate the Severn waterway).

^{7.170} The Boater Liaison Officer did however note that in other areas CRT were piloting schemes whereby those who did not feel able to completely fulfil the requirements of their license could opt for a middle ground between continuously cruising and a permanent mooring. Those that felt the need to stay within a certain area, for work, education or socioeconomic reasons may be allowed to register for a *roving* license which would allow them to travel within a smaller area. It may be the case that such an approach could be used by CRT within Gloucestershire to accommodate for those unable (or unwilling) to cruise larger stretches of waterway.

^{7.171} With regards to the reported lack of accessible facilities for boaters along waterways, the Boater Liaison Officer reported that CRT were keen to hear from any boaters who felt there were not enough facilities being provided. However, the officer also noted that there were a number of constraints (such as environmental concerns) that occasionally made such provision difficult.

Recommendations

^{7.172} Given the above information, a number of possible areas for future action have been identified:

- » Undertake a similar information gathering exercise to that currently being carried out by Bath and North East Somerset to establish what (if any) practical steps and policy tools are needed to meet the needs of Bargee Travellers in the area;
- » Relevant Agencies and Local Planning Authorities should consider whether further facilities along canals/rivers should be encouraged; and whether they should be

located in areas accessible to wider services and facilities for those who use riverboats or barges as their living accommodation;

- » Liaison with CRT in terms of the issues raised above – and in an attempt to reach an understanding with regard to the implications and enforcement of their policies, and where local authorities and CRT may be able to work together;
- » Consider the needs of Bargee Travellers in any future policy documents relating to both Gypsies and Travellers and housing need. Again, it may be necessary to involve CRT in any such actions.

Wider Stakeholders

^{7.173} The views of wider stakeholders are summarised – and include representations from the following groups and organisations:

- » Gloucestershire County Council Education;
- » Gloucestershire Highways;
- » Health Improvement;
- » Natural England.

Current and Future Accommodation Need

^{7.174} Wider stakeholders were generally of the opinion that existing accommodation provision in Gloucestershire is insufficient. One interviewee cited an unauthorised Traveller site development at South End Lane, Newent as an example of unmet need in the County.

^{7.175} Two interviewees reported that the four County Council-managed sites are overcrowded; inadequate facilities for the number of tenants have apparently led to families sharing insufficient resources.

^{7.176} One interviewee also noted that while waiting lists exist for the Council sites, these do not necessarily reflect the extent of need in the area. They believed that around half of those who express an interest in a pitch fail to fill in an application for the waiting list after learning that the likelihood of getting onto a site is very low. So while there is demand, it is apparently not recorded anywhere. The waiting list is therefore considered to be mainly made up of individuals who are on the sites already, as they are given priority in terms of pitch allocation.

^{7.177} When asked if there is a need for transit sites in Gloucestershire, one stakeholder suggested not as Travellers are unlikely to use them. In addition, they considered such sites to be costly and ineffective. The participant could see the argument for overnight stopping places where Travellers could stay for a couple of nights and move on, but felt that there may be problems finding suitable locations and managing these.

^{7.178} One interviewee reported three families in bricks and mortar housing who have described themselves as Travellers, but acknowledged that there are more who have not identified themselves and are therefore hidden. The three aforementioned families are apparently happy with their accommodation, although not all their preferences (such as space for a trailer) could be met.

^{7.179} Another stakeholder suggested that those in bricks and mortar would only leave their accommodation for a site if certain conditions are met, for instance that they can own and manage it themselves. Therefore, satisfying their needs would be a question of their own finances, rather than local policy.

^{7.180} A few stakeholders mentioned a number of New Travellers who drift around the County in unauthorised encampments, including a site at Newent and in the Cotswolds. Similar to the view expressed by officers and Members, these groups were not thought to be interested in formal sites (whether permanent or temporary) and simply wish to be left alone.

- 7.181 When asked to identify trends in relation to Travelling communities, one stakeholder noted an improvement in the condition of sites and a very minor increase in the number of private sites. Otherwise they felt that there had been very little change in the last 15 years.
- 7.182 One interviewee reported Traveller movement through the area in the summer, particularly around Gloucester, and said that these groups often set up encampments in inappropriate places such as on roundabouts. However, they did not consider the groups to be representative of any unmet need, but simply travelling through the area during the summer period.
- 7.183 The highest area of demand is apparently in and just around the boundaries of Gloucester.

Site Provision

- 7.184 When considering the necessary criteria for new Traveller sites, it was said that they require access to the same facilities as a standard housing development.
- 7.185 Significant restrictions on the areas in which Traveller sites can be situated were noted, including: flood plains; Green Belt land; and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the Cotswolds. On this basis, one stakeholder considered Tewkesbury Borough and Stroud District to be the most appropriate areas for site development due to their transport connections to Gloucester and other areas in which Travellers make their living. While the stakeholder could not provide any specific locations, it was suggested that somewhere along the A38 would be suitable for small, discreet developments.
- 7.186 Regarding the management of sites, two stakeholders believed that Travellers' preference is for small sites (of fewer than ten pitches) with some room for expansion, primarily occupied by a family group and close relatives and privately owned and managed by the family itself.
- 7.187 Affordability is an issue for one interviewee; they felt that Travellers who cannot afford to provide their own sites would prefer a similar arrangement to that above, but managed by the County Council or a Registered Provider.
- 7.188 When asked about examples of best practice, one interviewee cited District or County Council owned sites that have received a reasonable amount of funding from central Government for improvement and upgrades.
- 7.189 A stakeholder also mentioned that more Registered Providers are becoming interested in site provision and management, but would rather take on a brand new site because existing older sites are expensive to maintain.

Community Relations, Health and Education Issues

- 7.190 In terms of dealing with community tensions, one interviewee mentioned the Longford and Sandhurst Engagement Group, which has been set up to deal with issues relating to the County Council's Willows site. The group meets regularly and was thought to have been very effective in easing community tensions and dealing with issues such as stray horses.

^{7.191} There is, however, some alleged mistrust of Travellers amongst the settled community - which then apparently influences Elected Members. Education of the general public and Elected Members regarding Traveller issues was certainly considered necessary.

^{7.192} When asked about health issues relating to Travelling communities, one stakeholder referred to a health needs assessment conducted in 2004⁴. While acknowledging that some things will be different as provision will have implemented since then, the following were thought to be representative of the barriers to Travellers accessing healthcare:

- » Difficulties registering with GPs, because of high mobility or not knowing where to go to access services;
- » Low literacy;
- » Cultural beliefs and attitudes to accepting the help offered by health services;
- » Racial discrimination or the expectation of discrimination (which may discourage Travellers from using health services);
- » Language issues – some Travelling communities may not have English as a first language.

^{7.193} The stakeholder did feel that, since the 2004 report, some of these issues had begun to be addressed as follows:

- » Improved access to healthcare services by having health workers visit sites, rather than expecting Travellers to visit surgeries themselves;
- » Health services looking to recruit 'health champions' within Traveller communities. After a short period of training, these volunteers will work in their respective communities to help encourage healthy behaviour changes with regard to diet, smoking and exercise.

Nonetheless, they also noted that health disparities still exist between settled and Traveller communities, with the latter experiencing lower life expectancies and increased infant mortality rates. However, the stakeholder also reported that 85% of Gloucestershire's Traveller population are now registered with GPs.

^{7.194} Moving forward, the stakeholder desired action in the following areas to improve the provision of healthcare for Travellers:

- » Cultural awareness training for professionals across all agencies, which recognises the different cultural groups within the Traveller community;
- » Greater understanding of Travellers' cultural beliefs around health in order to allow the tailoring of health messages to better suit their understanding;
- » Greater involvement of Traveller communities in how services are designed and delivered to ensure they meet their needs;
- » Support for Travellers to access mainstream health services, lessening the need for the provision of specialist health teams.

⁴ At the time of writing, this report has not been made public.

- 7.195 Another stakeholder referred to a recent measles outbreak amongst Travellers, and suggested that this was largely due to the reluctance of Traveller families to have their children immunised. The issue has apparently been dealt with by health services through site visits and awareness programs to help families understand the importance of vaccinations - and the interviewee actually suggested that the outbreak may have done some good in that respect.
- 7.196 A few stakeholders noted issues with Traveller children either attending school irregularly, or even missing whole years; and there is certainly a strong need to narrow the attainment gap between them and the children of settled communities. One interviewee suggested that the problem is greater among the more mobile Irish Travellers, some of whose children have missed three or four years of education.
- 7.197 One stakeholder felt that the intermittency of their school attendance means that Traveller children do not receive the same amount of healthy eating, alcohol, drugs and sex education as children from the settled community.
- 7.198 Through the efforts of the education service, take-up of preschool was described as good and growing. Help to fill in the forms for a place in reception class was considered to be important in aiding this development.
- 7.199 A number of stakeholders noted that, while Traveller children generally complete primary school education, uptake of secondary education continues to be an issue. Indeed, even those Traveller children who begin secondary education apparently rarely complete it. The provision of vocational courses was viewed positively by one stakeholder, who referred to a private provider called Prospects that delivers vocational courses for those who have dropped out of secondary education.
- 7.200 Some of those not in secondary education are apparently being home-schooled by parents or guardians, with support from the elected home education team. However, it was noted that a number of Traveller children are neither in secondary education nor being home-schooled and are recorded as missing from education - though the interviewee could not provide figures.
- 7.201 One stakeholder suggested that there may be issues with bullying and racial discrimination towards Travellers in schools – and another noted that the Traveller educational services that currently exist to help alleviate these problems are due to be reduced by the County Council, to be replaced with a ‘vulnerable unit’.
- 7.202 Moving forward, action in the following areas was desired to narrow the education gap between the national average and the attainment of Travellers:
- » Targeting children at key stage 2 who have poor literacy and numeracy skills;
 - » Encouraging children to attend secondary school;
 - » A targeted approach based on sites and communities with very low levels of attendance.

Consultation Activities

- 7.203 Little consultation activity was acknowledged by stakeholders, which led one to suggest that discussions should be undertaken with representatives from the sites concerned.

Recommendations

^{7.204} From the interviews, the following recommendations for possible future work can be identified:

- » Renew permission for the Showpeople site at Gotherington (Tewkesbury Borough) to help ensure provision for the future growth of the Showpeople community in Gloucestershire;
- » In terms of health, one stakeholder identified specific points of action for the future:
 - Cultural awareness training for health professionals;
 - Health messages and campaigns tailored to the beliefs of Travellers;
 - Consultation with Travellers on health provision;
 - Support for travellers to access mainstream services.
- » In terms of education, another stakeholder identified some specific actions for the future:
 - Targeting poor literacy and numeracy at Key Stage 2;
 - Encouraging secondary school attendance;
 - Targeting communities and sites with low attendance.
- » Establish a political agreement amongst Elected Members across Gloucestershire on a plan for site delivery.

Neighbouring Authorities

^{7.205} As stated in the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, Local Authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries. Therefore, as part of the stakeholder consultation, ORS conducted nine interviews with officers representing the following neighbouring areas:

- » Herefordshire Council;
- » Malvern Hills District Council;
- » Monmouthshire County Council;
- » Oxfordshire County Council;
- » South Gloucestershire Council;
- » Swindon Borough Council;
- » West Oxfordshire District Council;
- » Wiltshire Council;
- » Wychavon District Council.

Current Accommodation

^{7.206} Almost all stakeholders reported that their authorities had either recently conducted a Gypsy and Traveller Needs assessment, or were due to undertake one shortly.

^{7.207} The accommodation situations of Gloucestershire's surrounding authorities (as reported by their respective officers) is summarised below:

- » Herefordshire Council currently provides 45 pitches across a number of Local Authority sites, with a further 27 pitches on tolerated private sites. There is an outstanding need of 31 pitches. There is also a 17 pitch transit site in the County, though it is currently not in use.
- » Malvern Hills District currently has 11 authorised sites and four unauthorised sites, with nearly half of the pitches in the district on a single Travelling Showpeople site. Based on data from their 2008 GTAA, the stakeholder reported a need for 30 pitches until 2017.
- » Monmouthshire County currently has two authorised sites with a total of three pitches. The stakeholder felt that this was sufficient for the area's needs and was not aware of any evidence of additional need.
- » Oxfordshire County Council manages six sites. The stakeholder was unable to give a figure for the remaining need there, but suspected that there are a number of Travellers currently living in bricks and mortar within Oxford City who want to be accommodated on a site.
- » Swindon Borough currently has one Local Authority-managed site of 37 pitches, as well as a Local Authority-managed transit site. However, at the time of interview,

the transit site was reportedly closed, due to its misuse by a group of Travellers. There was thought to be an outstanding need of between eight and 15 pitches within the borough.

- » West Oxfordshire District current has provision for 83 pitches, with an outstanding need of six pitches.
- » Having carried out a light touch review of the 2006 GTAA in 2011, Wiltshire Council has an identified need of 82 pitches until 2021, though this figure is apparently disputed. There is currently a transit site in the South of the County, though the stakeholder reported it to be under-used, with barely more than two or three pitches full at any one time.
- » Wychavon has 114 pitches and has met its current identified need, although applications for Gypsy and Traveller pitches are still being submitted. A new GTAA is likely to be published by the end of 2013 and will include all Districts within Worcestershire.

Transit Provision

^{7.208}As noted above, a number of stakeholders discussed issues relating to transit sites. Those representing Swindon and Herefordshire both referred to transit sites in their areas that are currently out of use; the first due to misuse by elements of the Traveller community, and the latter due to simple lack of demand. According to the stakeholder from Herefordshire, this lack of use is due in large part to the transit site being located some distance from the major routes through the County; the A49 and M50. There is apparently an intention to find an alternative site – possibly near where the M50 crosses between Gloucestershire and Herefordshire.

^{7.209}The Wiltshire representative thought that their transit site is under-utilised because of conflicts between its mixed users and a nearby Romany Gypsy site. The future of the site is being considered, with the possibility that it may become permanent. The interviewee also noted that New Travellers present a particular problem in that they are not likely to use formal Transit sites – and that informal provision is the better option for them.

^{7.210}The stakeholders from Malvern Hills and Wychavon reported that the District Council has a formal temporary toleration policy⁵ which generally meets the needs of Travellers moving through the County without having to establish a formal transit site.

^{7.211}The Oxfordshire representative expressed concern about families being unwilling to leave transit sites, and felt that such sites are difficult to manage. They considered emergency stopping places to be a better alternative.

⁵ See 'Joint Policy Towards Unauthorised Encampments of Gypsies and Travellers in Worcestershire': <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/pdf/unauthorised%20encampments%20joint%20policy.pdf>

Cross-Border Issues

^{7.212} In terms of cross-border routes, stakeholders highlighted the following routes in relation to Gloucestershire:

- » The A419 from Swindon;
- » The M50 from Herefordshire;
- » The M5 from South Gloucestershire;
- » A Traveller route to the northwest towards Stow (reported by Oxfordshire and West Oxfordshire stakeholders).

^{7.213} While few stakeholders made any reference to existing cross-border working with Gloucestershire, the stakeholder for West Oxfordshire reported some cooperation with Cotswold District. Further, other examples of cross-boundary working were reported as follows:

- » Malvern Hills and Wychavon District stakeholders noted that Worcestershire County Council operates a County-wide temporary toleration policy in relation to unauthorised encampments, whereby districts liaise with the County about any unauthorised sites.
- » The Malvern Hills stakeholder also noted that their District and Worcestershire County Council once explored the opportunity to develop a joint funding bid to expand an existing site.

^{7.214} A number of suggestions for possible opportunities to improve cross-border working were made:

- » Herefordshire's stakeholder suggested that:

It may be useful to discuss transit provision with Gloucestershire in relation to the M50. A single one, either in Herefordshire or near to the border in Gloucestershire.

- » The officer for West Oxfordshire noted that:
 - There is a need for discussion about whether the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is an appropriate location for sites, as policy currently varies between Districts
 - Cooperation between authorities could help inform good practice, policies and new site layouts, and identify site designs that would be appropriate for the Cotswolds AONB landscape
 - There is an opportunity for sharing information and practice between primarily urban districts (such as Oxford City, Bristol, Gloucester and Cheltenham) with regard to the possibility of meeting their need in their respective surrounding authorities.
- » A number of stakeholders suggested a need for information sharing with regard to data on unauthorised encampments and/or GTAA/GTTSAA results. Such joint-working could, it was felt, help inform authorities on locations for transit sites and prevent unauthorised encampments that arise in relation to the biannual Stow Horse Fair.

- » The Wiltshire stakeholder suggested setting up a task group to ensure a consistent approach to monitoring highway authority enforcements in relation to unauthorised stopovers. However, the stakeholder also noted that, in the past, authorities have been at different stages with their Gypsy and Traveller assessments, and that this has been a barrier to cooperation. They felt that the introduction of the 2012 National Planning Policy Framework should see most authorities having completed their GTAA/GTTSAs, and provide a starting point for cooperative work between authorities in the South West.

Recommendations

^{7.215} From the interviews a number of recommendations for possible future actions can be made:

- » Consider (in conjunction with Herefordshire authorities) locating a transit site for the M50 route on or near the County boundary – and also consider alternative options, such as emergency stopping points or a temporary toleration policy which can operate across the County, but also link up to surrounding areas;
- » Consider the specific preference of New Travellers for semi-formal transit sites (i.e. with no registration requirements);
- » Clarify the possibility of locating traveller sites within the Cotswolds AONB and develop a consistent policy approach across the relevant authorities;
- » Specifically for Cheltenham and Gloucester: approach other urban authorities with extensive land-use restrictions (such as Oxford City) with a view to sharing inter-authority practice on providing need outside their administrative areas;
- » Establish a task force with bordering authorities to formulate a consistent approach to data collection on unauthorised encampments;
- » Create a forum for sharing GTAA/GTTSAA data and insights between authorities in the region;
- » The adoption of the NPPF⁶ (2012) provides a rare point of synchronisation in the policy cycles of the various authorities, and thus a strong basis for cooperation between Gloucestershire and its neighbouring areas.

⁶ Though the NPPF was published in March 2012, local authorities were given 12 months to ensure their plans were compliant with the framework.

8. Future Pitch Provision

Pitch Provision

- 8.1 This section focuses on the extra pitch provision which is required in the Gloucestershire Authorities currently and over the next 20 years to 2031 by 5 year segments. This includes both current unmet needs and needs which are likely to arise in the future. This time period allows for robust forecasts of the requirements for extra provision based upon the evidence contained within this survey and also secondary data sources.
- 8.2 We would note that this section is based upon a combination of the on-site survey, planning records and waiting list information. In many cases, the survey data is not used in isolation, but instead is used to validate information from planning records or other sources.
- 8.3 This section concentrates not only upon the total extra provision which is required in the area, but whether this provision should be in the form of public or private sites, and need for any transit sites and/or emergency stopping place provision. The calculation will be firstly provided for Gypsies and Travellers, before being repeated for Travelling Showpeople.
- 8.4 Before commencing on the identification of future needs we would wish to note some key points. The South West of England Regional Spatial Strategy identified required pitch provision for each Local Authority. However, with the abolition of the South West RSS in May 2013, it should be the case that Local Plans replace the RSS as material consideration in planning decisions. It is also the case that we have not considered provision made in the period 2006-2012 and instead we are taking 2012 as a baseline position for our estimates. While there is a case to argue that authorities who failed to meet their needs in the period 2006-2012 should be expected to meet these in the future there is no clear mechanism in place for this to occur. Instead we have modelled on any current needs in each authority being a backlog which has derived over time and then allowed for additional future needs as they are likely to arise.
- 8.5 We would also note the location for future provision is a key issue within studies such as this one. The estimates for Local Authorities within this study are based upon the location where needs will arise. **This is not necessarily the same Local Authority as where need should be met.** For example, it is difficult for households to express a desire to live on a public site in an area which currently has no provision. Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are not constrained by Local Authority boundaries and potentially the requirement for one Local Authority could be met in a neighbouring area. However, for this to occur, cooperation is required from both planning authorities. Therefore, we have not made explicit assumptions about the allocation of needs arising in one area being met in another area, but we would recommend that consideration is given within strategic planning documents that a more equitable allocation of provision is made between the authorities.

- 8.6 On this point we would note that the 2007 Gloucestershire GTAA identified a need for pitches in the north of Cotswold District. This study found no evidence of any need in this area. However, many households did say that they would be willing to consider living anywhere in the wider Gloucestershire area. However, we would note again that any allocation across local authority boundaries requires the agreement of both local authorities and ORS have not sought to make any such allocation of needs.
- 8.7 To identify future need, the March 2012 CLG document 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites', requires an assessment for future pitch requirements, but does not provide a suggested methodology for undertaking this calculation. However, as with any housing assessment, the underlying calculation can be broken down into a relatively small number of factors. In this case, the key issue for residential pitches is to compare the supply of pitches available for occupation with the current and future needs of the households. The key factors in each of these elements are set out below:

Supply of pitches

- 8.8 Pitches which are available for use can come from a variety of sources. These include:
- » Currently vacant pitches;
 - » Any pitches currently programmed to be developed within the study period;
 - » Pitches vacated by people moving to housing;
 - » Pitches vacated by people moving out of the study area – this will be identified as set out above;
 - » Pitches vacated due to the dissolution of households (normally through the death of a single person household).

Current Need

- 8.9 There are four key components of current need. Total current need (which is not necessarily need for additional pitches because they may be able to be addressed by space available in the study area) is simply:
- » Households on unauthorised developments (i.e. unauthorised pitches on land owned by the Travellers themselves) for which planning permission is not expected;
 - » Concealed households;
 - » Households in brick and mortar wishing to move to sites; and
 - » Households on waiting lists for public sites.

Future Need

- 8.10 There are three key components of future need. Total future need is simply the sum of the following:
- » Households living on sites with temporary planning permissions;
 - » New household formation expected during the study period; and
 - » Migration to sites from outside the study area.

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

Current Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision

- 8.12 As noted in Chapter 3, planning records indicate that there are approximately 295 occupied pitches across Gloucestershire plus further space available for households in transit through the area. However, through the on-site survey, ORS discovered an additional 5 households in permanent residence on a transit site at Bromsberrow Heath. These have therefore been treated as permanently occupied pitches, and as contributing to future household formation, but their pitches have not been included as supply.⁷ There is also a waiting list for public sites which adds to the likely number of future households. The table below shows the number of households by authority.

Figure 19
Number of Households by Local Authority

Local Authority	Permanent permission and developed	Temporary permission	Waiting list for a site	Tolerated sites	Unauthorised sites	Total
Cheltenham Borough	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cotswold District	26	0	0	18*	0	44
Forest of Dean District	12†	3	0	11	13	39
Gloucester City	0	1	0	0	0	1
Stroud District	41	1	0	5	1	48
Tewkesbury Borough	136	19	10	0	12	177
Total	215	25	10	34	26	310

* This includes 11 pitches on a site at Shornecote which have not yet been given planning permission due to objections from the Environment Agency. However, Cotswold District Council have no issues with the site and are not seeking enforcement action.

† This includes 5 pitches on the Bromsberrow Heath transit site occupied by households who consider the site to be their permanent base, and whom have been on the site for at least one year (with 4 out of the 5 reporting they had been on the site for more than 5 years).

- 8.13 The next stage of the process is to assess how much space is, or will become available on existing sites. The main ways of finding this is through:
- » Current empty pitches;
 - » New sites or site extensions which have already been granted permission or are likely to gain planning permission in the foreseeable future or sites which are likely to come back into use following refurbishment;

⁷ However, as the site has outstanding planning permission that would change the site into 20 residential pitches and 15 transit pitches, it is likely that these 5 households will likely be accommodated within the 20 new residential pitches (leaving 15 pitches available as supply to meet other future needs).

- » Migration away from the area;
- » Movement to bricks and mortar;
- » Dissolution of households.

8.14 Currently, all authorised public site pitches are occupied, so there is no available space. For private sites, many are for one family and have no available space on them, while some have a transitory population and are only in use for part of the time. In Forest of Dean District, planning permission was granted for five additional pitches in 2012 for a site at Blakeney which has not yet been implemented. Also in Forest of Dean District, the Bromsberrow Heath transit site also has an outstanding permission that would convert the site into 20 permanent pitches and 15 transit pitches, but we would note that 5 of these pitches are already occupied on a permanent basis. Meanwhile, in Stroud District a site at Moreton Valence has permission for 20 permanent and 6 transit pitches, and is currently being developed. Therefore, we have counted these 40 permanent pitches as being part of the future supply.

Figure 20
Future Supply of Pitches with Planning Permission by Local Authority

Local Authority	Number of Pitches
Cheltenham Borough	0
Cotswold District	0
Forest of Dean District	20
Gloucester City	0
Stroud District	20
Tewkesbury Borough	0
TOTAL	40

8.15 For out-migration to other areas or movements to bricks and mortar, households will also wish to move in the opposite direction. Therefore, we have treated these as being part of the current and future need sections of the calculation.

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

Additional Site Provision: Current Need

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

- » Households on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected;
- » Concealed households;
- » Households in bricks and mortar wishing to move to sites; and

- » Households on waiting lists for public sites.

Current Unauthorised Developments

- 8.18 Recent caravan counts have shown around 75 caravans on unauthorised sites across Gloucestershire: 45 caravans on land owned by Gypsies and Travellers and another 30 on land not owned by them. The household survey interviewed 11 households on unauthorised sites. However, four of these households stated that the address was not their permanent location and they either travelled permanently or were just passing through the area and therefore do not need to be accommodated on permanent sites.
- 8.19 A problem with many Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments is that they have counted all caravans on unauthorised sites as requiring a pitch in the area when in practice many are simply visiting. In order to remedy this, ORS' approach is to treat as need only those households on unauthorised sites already in the planning system (i.e. sites/pitches for which a planning application has been made), those otherwise known to the Local Authorities as being resident in the area or those identified through the household survey as requiring pitches. In this case we have counted two households not currently on site who have active planning applications as requiring pitches in Tewkesbury Borough. There are also many occupied unauthorised sites across Gloucestershire. For unauthorised sites, evidence from the Local Authorities and the household survey indicates that there is one caravan in Cheltenham Borough which links to the existing private site and does not require an additional pitch, no households in Cotswold District, 13 households in Forest of Dean District, none in Gloucester City, 1 in Stroud District and 10 in Tewkesbury Borough. Therefore, in total we have counted 2 households seeking planning permission in Tewkesbury Borough and another 24 on unauthorised sites.
- 8.20 We would note that these figures exclude another 23 long-standing pitches across the County which do not have planning permission, but which are not subject to enforcement action and can be considered as being tolerated and therefore not generating needs.

Figure 21
Unauthorised Pitches by Local Authority

Local Authority	Number of Pitches
Cheltenham Borough	0
Cotswold District	0
Forest of Dean District	13
Gloucester City	0
Stroud District	1
Tewkesbury Borough	12
Total	26

Concealed Households

- 8.21 The household survey sought to identify concealed households who require a pitch immediately. A concealed household is one who is living within another household and would wish to form their own separate family unit, but are unable to do so because of a lack of space on public or private sites.
- 8.22 The process of identifying concealed households includes many considerations. ORS sought to identify multiple households on a pitch and also households who do not have any pitch at all. In the case of Gloucestershire, no pitches included multiple interviews, but 11 interviews were conducted with households who stated they were not at their permanent pitch. However, of these, 5 were on unauthorised sites and have been counted elsewhere in this calculation. A further 4 stated that they were visiting and their permanent address was elsewhere at a named location. The final 2 households stated that they travel constantly. Therefore, the household survey alongside feedback from interviewers indicated that there are few concealed households in Gloucestershire. We would also note that the waiting list for public sites may include concealed households and therefore these have been counted elsewhere. We have also allowed for a relatively high rate for new household formations which will allow for concealed households to form.

Bricks and Mortar

- 8.23 Identifying households in bricks and mortar has been frequently highlighted as an issue with Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments. The 2011 UK Census of Population identified a population of 731 Gypsy and Traveller persons in the whole of Gloucestershire. Given that there are over 400 caravans on site in the area, the vast majority of the population are likely to be living on sites. The figure of 731 persons is likely to be an under-estimate of the total population due to some Gypsies and Travellers not declaring their ethnic status or completing the Census at all, but it does still indicate a relatively low population in bricks and mortar.
- 8.24 As noted earlier, ORS worked with stakeholders, the Local Authorities and on-site interviewees to identify households in bricks and mortar and this process yielded 24 interviews, 3 of whom wished to move on to sites. All households identified as wishing to move from bricks and mortar to sites have been included in the needs figures.
- 8.25 We would note that households who are seeking to move from housing to public sites can express a desire to do so through registering on the waiting list for public sites and therefore will have been counted elsewhere in this calculation. Meanwhile those seeking to live on a private site could seek to do so on their own or pursue a privately rented pitch on an existing private site and pitches which are currently for sale within Gloucestershire.
- 8.26 We would also note that in a number of recent studies undertaken by ORS we have worked with national Gypsy and Traveller representatives to identify households in brick and mortar. For a number of recent studies the representatives reported over 100 known households in housing and they encouraged them to come forward to take part in the survey. The actual number who eventually took part in the surveys ranged from zero to six households per area, and not all wished to move back to sites. Therefore, while there is anecdotal evidence of many Gypsies and Travellers in housing most appear to be content to remain there

and when provided with the opportunity by national representatives to register an interest in returning to sites few choose to do so.

- 8.27 It should be remembered that movement between housing and sites runs in both directions. The on-site survey also contained three interviews with households who wished to move from sites to bricks and mortar. Therefore the net movement between sites and bricks and mortar is zero. On this basis we have modelled the future pitch requirement on the basis that as many households will want to move from sites to housing as will want to move from housing to sites and therefore the net requirement is zero. This also applies at Local Authority level with desired moves, coincidentally, balancing for each authority.

Figure 22
Movements between Sites and bricks and Mortar by Local Authority

Local Authority	Movement from sites to bricks and mortar	Movement from bricks and mortar to sites	Net Total
Cheltenham Borough	0	0	0
Cotswold District	0	0	0
Forest of Dean District	1	1	0
Gloucester City	0	0	0
Stroud District	0	0	0
Tewkesbury Borough	2	2	0
Total	3	3	0

Waiting Lists for Public Sites

- 8.28 The method of registering a desire to obtain a pitch on a public site is through placing your name on the waiting list held by Gloucestershire County Council. Currently there are 10 households on the waiting list for a site in Gloucestershire including 7 who are part of households resident on the sites and three who are not currently resident on any of these sites.
- 8.29 However, officers responsible for maintaining the list report that on average they send out around 12 forms per annum to households interested in joining the list, but few are returned. On average only one pitch per annum becomes vacant and many households choose not to join the list because they recognise it would take many years to obtain a pitch. Therefore, the true demand for space on public sites in Gloucestershire may be higher, but we are not able to include any more than the 10 households on the list due to a lack of evidence of genuine interest in living on the sites.

Additional Site Provision: Future Need

- 8.30 The next stage of the process is to assess how many households are likely to be seeking pitches in the area in the future. Groups of people who are likely to be seeking pitches will include:
- » Households living on sites with temporary planning permissions;
 - » New household formation expected during the study period; and
 - » Migration to sites from outside the study area.

Temporary Planning Permissions

- 8.31 Gloucestershire currently has 6 Gypsy and Traveller sites with temporary planning permissions, one in Cheltenham Borough with one pitch, one on Forest of Dean District with three pitches, one in Gloucester City with one pitch, one in Stroud District with one pitch and two in Tewkesbury Borough with four and fifteen pitches respectively. In all cases the permissions will expire within the next 5 years and no-one interviewed on any of these sites wished to leave. They have therefore been counted as need within this assessment, but not as supply of pitches.

Figure 23
Temporary Planning Permissions by Local Authority

Local Authority	Number of pitches
Cheltenham Borough	1
Cotswold District	0
Forest of Dean District	3
Gloucester City	1
Stroud District	1
Tewkesbury Borough	19
Total	25

New Household Formation

- 8.32 It is recognised that an important group for future pitch provision will be children from existing households who will wish to form their own households. Many studies of Gypsy and Traveller populations, including the (now abolished) South West Regional Spatial Strategy, assume a net growth in the population of around 3% per annum. However, long-term trends indicate that the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans on site has grown by 134% nationally in the past 34 years, which equates to a net growth of around 2.5% per annum. Unfortunately no figures are available for Gypsy and Traveller households. However, UK Census of Population 2011 and ORS own national survey data both indicate the population of Gypsies and Travellers grows at a rate which could be as low as 1.25% per annum. Evidence for this is covered in the ORS Technical Appendix available on request.

- 8.33 While previous studies have used a net growth figure of 3%, ORS firmly believe that any evidence base, including the present study should use the most accurate information available, rather than simply relying on precedent. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Practice Guidance 2007 (Page 25, footnote 5) states that:

The 3% family formation growth rate is used here as an example only. The appropriate rate for individual assessments will depend on the details identified in the local survey, information from agencies working directly with local Gypsy and Traveller communities, and trends identified from figures previously given for the caravan count

- 8.34 The household survey for Gloucestershire indicates an age profile for the population which is very typical of those obtained elsewhere by ORS. Given that the age demographic of Gloucestershire's Gypsy and Traveller community appears to be roughly representative of the wider Gypsy and Traveller population, we consider it appropriate to allow for future projected household growth to occur in line with the long-term

national trends identified above. Therefore, an annual growth rate of 2.5% has been used in this assessment. Given that the evidence for population is as low as 1.25% per annum, we consider that this relatively high rate will provide enough pitches to accommodate all newly forming households in Gloucestershire and will also allow for concealed households and those living in bricks and mortar who may not have been identified in the survey.

- 8.35 When including the impact of compound growth, a 2.5% growth per annum provides for 13% growth over 5 years, 28% growth over 10 years and 45% growth over 15 years. Over the same time period, using ONS 2011 based population projections and extrapolating to 2031, the total population of the whole of Gloucestershire is projected to grow by around 17%, with natural change providing for only a 6% growth and migration a further 11%.
- 8.36 In terms of the total number of household formations per district the table below set out the baseline position for population and the growth rate based upon 60% over 19 years. It is assumed that each forming household requires a pitch of their own.

Figure 24
Number of Household Formations in the Period 2013-2031

Local Authority	Households on site including those on the waiting list	Household growth based upon 60% over 19 years
Cheltenham Borough	1	1
Cotswold District	44	26
Forest of Dean District	39	23
Gloucester City	1	1
Stroud District	48	29
Tewkesbury Borough	177	106
Total	310	186

In-migration from Other Sources

- 8.37 The most complicated area for a survey such as this is to estimate how many households will require accommodation from outside the area. Potentially Gypsies and Travellers could move to the Gloucestershire area from anywhere in the country. The number of households seeking to move to Gloucestershire is likely to be heavily dependent upon pitch provision elsewhere. It has been noted that a weakness of many Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments conducted across the country has been that they either allowed for out-migration without in-migration which led to under-counting of need, or they over-counted need by assuming every household visiting the area required a pitch.
- 8.38 Overall the level of in-migration to Gloucestershire is a very difficult issue to predict. As noted in Chapter 3, over 75% of residents have lived in Gloucestershire for over 5 years. However, over 10% of respondents to the household survey had lived at their current site for less than a year. While a number of these were only visitors there is some movement within existing permanent sites. The household survey indicates that 13 households are currently seeking to move, with three seeking to move to bricks and mortar and one wishing to move outside of Gloucestershire to Swansea. The remainder are looking for permanent or better sites within Gloucestershire and most are happy to consider anywhere in the County. Therefore,

there is little evidence that households are seeking to leave Gloucestershire, which mirrors the pattern of few arriving. While it would be possible to extrapolate migration trend from within the household survey we would suggest that with only one household seeking to leave the area this would not be a robust position to adopt.

- ^{8.39} We would note that movement to the public sites is covered by the waiting list and therefore does not need to be included within the model again. We have allowed for a balanced level of migration on to existing private sites. The advantage of allowing for net migration to sum to zero is that it avoids the problems seen with other Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments where the modelling of migration clearly identified too low or high a level of total pitch provision. An assumption of net nil migration implies that the net pitch requirement is driven by locally identifiable need. This is also consistent with the findings from the stakeholder consultation on the Duty to Co-operate, where neighbouring Local Authorities identified that they were seeking to address their own needs, but were not making provision for more than this figure. We have also assumed a net nil migration between Local Authorities in Gloucestershire, but as noted above many Gypsies and Travellers would be happy to consider alternative locations within the County and therefore migration across boundaries may occur.
- ^{8.40} Beyond this, rather than assess in-migrant households seeking to develop new sites in the area, we would propose that each case is assessed as a desire to live in the area and that site criteria rules are followed for each new site. It is important for the authorities to have clear criteria based planning policies in place for any new potential sites which do arise.

Overall Needs for Gloucestershire

- 8.41 The estimated extra site provision that is required now and in the near future for the 6 authorities will be 207 pitches to address the needs of all identifiable households. This includes the existing households on unauthorised sites, those on the waiting list for a public site, those currently seeking to develop a private site and growth in household numbers due to household formation.

Figure 25
Extra Pitches which are Required in Gloucestershire Authorities from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	40	
Total Supply		40	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	26		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	10	-	
Total Current Need	36		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	25	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	186	-	
Total Future Needs	211		
Total	247	40	207

Overall Needs for Each Planning Authority

- 8.42 To provide estimates for each Local Authority we have apportioned the needs outlined above by Local Authority on the basis of where the need currently arises, or where future household growth will arise from. As discussed earlier, this process inevitably places a low amount of need in areas which currently have low populations while placing higher needs in authorities with larger populations. Therefore, potentially the requirement being generated in one Local Authority could be met in a neighbouring area.
- 8.43 The Regional Spatial Strategy process sought to allocate provision across the entire region, and had the potential to allocate sites to areas with a low current population to help to relieve potential pressures on those with little available building land or who had provided a high number of pitches already. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites encourages Local Authorities to produce joint plans for Gypsy and Traveller needs, but there is now no formal process for allocating needs arising in one authority as provision in another authority. Feedback from the Department for Communities and Local Government indicates that the Duty to Cooperate is not a Duty to Agree and therefore it will require the Local Authorities to plan strategically across boundaries if needs are not to be met where they arise.

Cheltenham Borough

8.44 The only identified requirements for Cheltenham Borough is one pitch due to the expiry of a temporary planning permission and one for household formation.

Figure 26
Extra Pitches which are Required in Cheltenham Borough from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	1	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	1	-	
Total Future Needs	2		
Total	2	0	2

Cotswold District

8.45 The lack of any households waiting for the public site in Cotswold District implies that the only projected requirements arise from household growth.

Figure 27
Extra Pitches which are Required in Cotswold District from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	

Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	0	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	26	-	
Total Future Needs	26	-	
Total	26	0	26

Forest of Dean District

8.46 Households on unauthorised sites in Forest of Dean District and long-term population growth account for the need generated within the district. However, the undeveloped pitches on a site with planning permission help to reduce this requirement.

Figure 28
Extra Pitches which are Required in Forest of Dean District from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	20	
Total Supply		20	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	13		
Concealed households		-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	13		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	3	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	23	-	
Total Future Needs	26		
Total	39	20	19

Gloucester City

- 8.47 There is a need for a single pitch in Gloucester City due to a site which currently has temporary planning permission and an allowance for future household growth.

Figure 29
Extra Pitches which are Required in Gloucester City from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	1	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	1	-	
Total Future Needs	2	-	
Total	2	0	2

Stroud District

8.48 Households on an unauthorised site in Stroud District and long-term population growth account for the need generated within the district. However, unimplemented planning permissions contribute significantly to meeting its needs.

Figure 30
Extra Pitches which are Required in Stroud District from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	20	
Total Supply		20	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	1		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	1		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	1	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	29	-	
Total Future Needs	30		
Total	31	20	11

Tewkesbury Borough

8.49 Tewkesbury Borough has the largest number of households on sites and therefore the area will generate the highest internal growth. It also has more households on sites with temporary permissions and has households on the waiting list for its public sites. Therefore, the requirement arising in Tewkesbury Borough is much higher than in other authorities. Again we would wish to acknowledge that this need can potentially be met in neighbouring authorities, but only if those authorities choose to do so under Duty to Cooperate.

Figure 31
Extra Pitches which are Required in Tewkesbury Borough from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	12		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	10	-	
Total Current Need	22		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	19	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	106	-	
Total Future Needs	125	-	
Total	147	0	147

Split by Public/Private Sites by Planning Authority to 2031

- 8.50 In terms of providing public and private sites we have treated those on the waiting list as requiring public sites, those currently on unauthorised developments or sites with temporary planning permission as requiring private sites and for household growth to follow the pattern of existing sites. Any New Traveller need has been allocated to private sites.
- 8.51 In terms of providing results by 5 year time periods we have assumed that all unauthorised sites, waiting list needs and sites with temporary planning permissions are addressed in the first 5 years. Any supply from undeveloped sites is assumed to be developed in the first 5 years. Household growth is apportioned over time. Where household growth is projected to be low, for example for Cheltenham Borough and Gloucester City, we have allocated the growth to the 2028-2031 time period.
- 8.52 In summary, Figure 32 sets out the net requirement for new pitch provision by Local Authority by public and private sites until 2031. We would note the comparatively low number of pitches required in Forest of Dean and Stroud Districts for private sites in the period 2012-2017 reflects the granted planning permissions for new sites which have yet to be developed. Under cross boundary planning these sites might be considered as being available to address the needs of households from other areas. However, we have not made this assumption and instead the sites can be seen to count against future arising needs.

Figure 32

Extra Pitch Provision in Gloucestershire by Local Authority by Public and Private Sites to 2031

Local Authority	2013-2017		2018-2022		2023-2027		2028-2031	
	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private
Cheltenham Borough	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cotswold District	0	5	0	6	1	7	1	6
Forest of Dean District	0	1	0	6	0	6	0	6
Gloucester City	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stroud District	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	8
Tewkesbury Borough	20	44	12	15	13	16	12	15
Total	20	52	12	27	14	32	13	37

Transit/Emergency Stopping Site Provision

- 8.53 Transit sites serve a specific function of meeting the needs of Gypsy and Traveller households who are visiting an area or who are passing through on the way to somewhere else. A transit site typically has a restriction on the length of stay of around 13 weeks and has a range of facilities such as water supply, electricity and amenity blocks. They do not have a function in meeting local need which must be addressed on permanent sites.
- 8.54 An alternative to a transit site is an emergency stopping place. This type of site also has restrictions on the length of time for which someone can stay on it, but has much more limited facilities with typically only a source of water and chemical toilets provided.

- 8.55 The presence of a transit site or emergency stopping place in an area can speed up enforcement on unauthorised encampments, with households facing committing an offence if they fail to move from the site of their unauthorised encampment. However, we would note that Local Authorities are not able to use transit provision on private sites as part of their enforcement action policies and therefore while it does provide an option for visiting households it is at the discretion of the site owner who is allowed on to the site.
- 8.56 There are currently two operational private transit sites in the study area with additional provision also granted planning permission in Stroud District. ORS have spoken to a number of Local Authorities and County Councils across the country such as those in Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Buckinghamshire, Wiltshire and Hertfordshire with many indicating that publically provided transit sites are poorly used and in some cases have fallen out of use. This in part is due to the location away from major travelling routes.
- 8.57 A key issue in determining if there is a requirement for further transit site provision is whether there is evidence of sufficient travelling through the area. While some of those on unauthorised encampments who were interviewed as part of the survey were seeking permanent pitches rather than transit site accommodation, there were four households on unauthorised sites in the study area who did not consider their location to be their permanent base. Evidence provided by Gloucestershire County Council and the Local Authorities indicates that there are a significant number of encampments which occur each year. While many of these encampments are from New Travellers, who would typically not reside on Gypsy and Traveller transit sites, there were also cases of unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments. This is particularly the case around the time of the Stow Fair.
- 8.58 Transit site provision is clearly a complex issue for an area such as Gloucestershire which sees many households travel through the area each year for the Stow Fair. One option available, and one which ORS would propose the authorities follow, is to follow the likes of Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils who have a formal temporary toleration policy which generally meets the needs of Travellers moving through the County, without establishing a formal transit site. This is relatively effective, cheap, simple and avoids the need to have a permanently managed public site.
- 8.59 If the authorities wished to have a more powerful mechanism for addressing unauthorised encampments they could seek to provide a suitably located publically provided transit site of at least 10 pitches. 10 pitches is generally considered to be the minimum size of site necessary to be effective for addressing unauthorised developments. We would note that transit sites are an area where cross boundary working could prove to be particularly effective and that the needs of Gypsy and Travellers visiting Gloucestershire are an issue which should be considered at a strategic level.
- 8.60 A further issue to consider with transit sites is that the pitches on one existing site in the Forest of Dean and also the undeveloped site in Stroud District may be considered for conversion to permanent pitches. If this occurs then these pitches would count towards the future supply of permanent pitches in these areas. However, it would leave only one small private transit site in operation across the whole of Gloucestershire.

Needs for Plots for Travelling Showpeople

- 8.61 The estimated need for plots for Travelling Showpeople is typically much simpler to model than for Gypsies and Travellers. In our experience, it is normally the case that none are on unauthorised sites, no plots are expected to be freed due to any reason and there is no waiting list for sites. Therefore, the needs are typically driven by the expiry of temporary planning permissions, concealed households at existing sites and household growth.
- 8.62 However, as outlined in Section 7, the situation with Travelling Showpeople in Gloucestershire is much more complicated than normal. In terms of empty plots, there is some evidence from both stakeholders and ORS interviewers that there are around 10 empty plots on the Pool Meadow/Fairview sites in Gloucester, but there are also cases on the same site of households doubling up on other plots. This was confirmed by other stakeholders who noted there are pressures on existing sites in Gloucestershire. Therefore, we cannot simply assume that households are able to occupy the empty plots on Pool Meadow/Fairview. Even if the empty plots on Pool Meadow/Fairview sites were to be sold by their current owners they are equally as likely to be sold to households from outside the area and hence will generate additional in-migration to the area. They cannot therefore be counted towards supply in need calculations.
- 8.63 It is also the case that while many reside on the four large Travelling Showpeople sites in Gloucestershire, there are also a number of households living on unauthorised plots, or who are seeking to develop new sites in the area. Therefore, as with any other household in their current situation, we would argue that they do have clear unmet needs which require to be addressed somewhere.
- 8.64 The situation involving the Foscombe Hill in Forest of Dean sees 12 households seeking accommodation on land which has seen planning applications and appeals fail. The Travelling Showpeople acknowledge that they would like a site anywhere in Gloucestershire, but consider Foscombe Hill to be a suitable site. Two of the households are living in sites in Gloucestershire, but the remainder are currently outside of the area and have been included as net migrants to the area.
- 8.65 While there is no clear reason why their needs must be met in Forest of Dean, there is also no reason they must be met anywhere else and they have identified the area they want to have them met as being Forest of Dean. We would also acknowledge that there is a potential for double counting with the households seeking to live the area. Potentially they may have been counted as need in other areas where they currently reside. Data protection laws make the sharing of information from within this study with other authorities impossible, so this issue cannot be checked.
- 8.66 For Gypsies and Travellers we have counted any household who are on unauthorised sites and wish to remain there as being part of the needs of that area. In this case the Travelling Showpeople have not chosen to move on to the site they own. However, if they had have done so then to be consistent with the Gypsy and Traveller needs calculation they would have been counted as need in Forest of Dean. We would consider it a very perverse incentive within such calculations to count households who buy land and move on to it, but not those who seek to work through the planning process in a legitimate way by seeking planning permission before moving on to their land. It would simply represent an encouragement for any household seeking to develop a site to buy land and occupy it, which runs counter to Government policy.

- 8.67 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites when read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework is clear that local authorities must deal with anticipated in-migration and cannot reject sites because of a lack of local connections. Therefore, following the principles adopted for Gypsies and Travellers that needs are met where they arise we have counted their needs as being met in Forest of Dean.
- 8.68 We would note that Planning Policy for Traveller Sites paragraph 25 states that:
- » if a local planning authority cannot demonstrate an up-to-date five-year supply of deliverable sites, this should be a significant material consideration in any subsequent planning decision when considering applications for the grant of temporary planning permission
- 8.69 It is therefore clear that responsibility for identifying land to address needs lies with the local authority and not potential applicants for sites. However, we would consider that the Travelling Showpeople seeking to live in Forest of Dean are an area where cross boundary working may be useful. If the site owned by the applicants is deemed inappropriate for development another site will still be required to meet their needs.
- 8.70 Beyond this number we would note that the site at Gotherington in Tewkesbury Borough has a temporary planning permission for 17 plots which expires in the near future.
- 8.71 It is also the case that a site in Stroud District for 8 plots has been granted planning permission and is currently under development.
- 8.72 For household growth, the typical growth rate for the Travelling Showpeople population is lower than for Gypsies and Travellers with estimates normally being from 1%-1.5%. From the household survey 25% of the population are children and 13% are over 60 years of age. Given the evidence of pressures on existing sites we have used the higher of these figures to allow for future household growth. A growth rate of 1.5% provides for total net growth of 33% over 19 years. Given that there are approximately 100 households on site this equates to 33 additional households by 2031.
- 8.73 The table overleaf shows the need for Travelling Showpeople Plots in the period 2012-2031.

Figure 33
Extra Plots which are Required for Travelling Showpeople in Gloucestershire from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	8	
Total Supply		8	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	17	-	
Net migration	10	-	
New household formation	33	-	
Total Future Needs	60		
Total	60	8	52

Overall Needs for Each Planning Authority

^{8.74} To provide estimates for each Local Authority we have apportioned the needs outlined above by Local Authority on the basis of where the need currently arises, or where future household growth will arise from. As discussed earlier for Gypsies and Travellers, this process inevitably places a low amount of need in areas which currently have low populations while placing higher needs in authorities with larger populations. Therefore, potentially the requirement being generated in one Local Authority could be met in a neighbouring area.

Cheltenham Borough

8.75 There is no identified need generated in Cheltenham Borough.

Figure 34
Extra Plots which are Required in Cheltenham Borough from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	0	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	0	-	
Total Future Needs	0	-	
Total	0	0	0

Cotswold District

8.76 There is no identified need generated in Cotswold District.

Figure 35
Extra Plots which are Required in Cotswold District from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	0	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	0	-	
Total Future Needs	0	-	
Total	0	0	0

Forest of Dean District

8.77 The requirements for the Forest of Dean are driven by the 12 households who wish to move to the area.

Figure 36
Extra Plots which are Required in Forest of Dean District from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	0	-	
Net migration	12	-	
New household formation	4	-	
Total Future Needs	16		
Total	16	0	16

Gloucester City

8.78 While a small number of households in Gloucester City want to move to Forest of Dean District, household growth from the existing site will still generate new future needs.

Figure 37
Extra Plots which are Required in Gloucester City from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	0	-	
Net migration	-2	-	
New household formation	16	-	
Total Future Needs	14	-	
Total	14	0	14

Stroud District

8.79 The existing planning permission for 8 plots on a site under development should meet all of the needs generated in Stroud District.

Figure 38
Extra Plots which are Required in Stroud District from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	8	
Total Supply		8	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	0	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	8	-	
Total Future Needs	8	-	
Total	8	8	0

Tewkesbury Borough

8.80 The needs in Tewkesbury Borough are generated by the loss of the temporary planning permission from its one existing site and a small amount of future household growth associated with this site.

Figure 39
Extra Plots which are Required in Tewkesbury Borough from 2013-2031

Reason for Requirement/Vacancy	Gross Requirement	Supply	Net Requirement
Supply of Pitches			
Additional supply from empty pitches	-	0	
Additional supply new sites	-	0	
Total Supply		0	
Current Need			
Current unauthorised developments or encampments	0		
Concealed households	0	-	
Net movement from bricks and mortar	0	-	
Waiting list for public sites	0	-	
Total Current Need	0		
Future Needs			
Currently on sites with temporary planning permission	17	-	
Net migration	0	-	
New household formation	5	-	
Total Future Needs	22	-	
Total	22	0	22

Travelling Showpeople Split by Local Authority to 2031

- 8.81 In terms of providing results by 5 year time periods, as with Gypsies and Travellers we have assumed that in-migration and sites with temporary planning permissions are addressed in the first 5 years. Any supply from undeveloped sites is assumed to be developed in the first 5 years. Household growth is apportioned over time.
- 8.82 In summary, Figure 40 sets out the net requirement for new plot provision by Local Authority until 2031. We would note the lack of need in Stroud District for new plots reflects the granted planning permissions for a new site which has yet to be developed. Under cross boundary planning this site might be considered as being available to address the needs of households from other areas. However, we have not made this assumption and instead the sites can be seen to count against future arising needs.

Figure 40
Extra Plot Provision in Gloucestershire by Local Authority to 2031

Local Authority	2013-2017	2018-2022	2023-2027	2028-2031
Cheltenham Borough	0	0	0	0
Cotswold District	0	0	0	0
Forest of Dean District	12	1	1	2
Gloucester City	1	3	5	5
Stroud District	0	0	0	0
Tewkesbury Borough	17	1	2	2
Total	30	5	8	9

9. Broad Site Locations

Introduction

- 9.1 The study has investigated the potential for the identification of broad geographical locations which will be a guide for the subsequent identification of sites by the local authorities, for the allocation of sites within policy documents. This work has been completed by Peter Brett Associates.
- 9.2 Broad locations have been defined using criteria which takes account of national and local policy, guidance, the results of the needs assessment and identified physical constraints.
- 9.3 The work has been informed by stakeholder interviews set out in section 3 and a stakeholder workshop held on 9 January 2013. Stakeholders included Local Authority representatives, Gypsy and Traveller support services, planning agents and representatives from the travelling communities from the Gloucestershire area.

Policy background

National policy

- 9.4 National planning policy for Gypsies and Travellers is contained within “Planning Policy for Traveller Sites”⁸. This identifies three key criteria for identifying appropriate sites for delivery through the planning system. To be deliverable within five years or developable within years 6-15, sites should:
- Be suitable – the site should be in a suitable location for development
 - Be available - the site should be available now or there should be a reasonable prospect that the site is available at the point envisaged;
 - Be achievable – there is a realistic or reasonable prospect that traveller sites could be viably developed at the point envisaged.
- 9.5 Local Planning Authorities should identify sufficient deliverable sites to provide five years’ worth of sites against their locally set targets. For years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15, they should identify a supply of specific developable sites or broad locations for growth.
- 9.6 National policy recommends that criteria based policies should be developed irrespective of whether need is identified or not. If need is identified they should be used to guide land allocations, while if there is no identified need they should provide a basis for determining planning applications which may nevertheless come forward.

⁸ Planning policy for traveller sites, Communities and Local Government, March 2012

- 9.7 Criteria “*should be fair and should facilitate the traditional and nomadic life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community*” (para. 10). Many previous studies and local plan criteria based policies across the country have used very restrictive criteria which have prevented many reasonable sites from coming forward. Local authorities should no longer rely simply upon criteria based policies to bring forward suitable sites for Gypsies and Travellers, and instead identify specific deliverable sites to provide for identified need.
- 9.8 “Planning Policy for Traveller Sites” identifies a series of issues for criteria to address to ensure that Traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally. Specific policies set out the national approach towards sites in rural areas and the countryside (Policy C), rural exception sites (Policy D), sites in Green Belt (Policy E), mixed planning use sites (Policy F), major development projects (Policy G) and determining planning applications (Policy H).

Local policy

- 9.9 There are no saved policies relating to Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople contained within the adopted Gloucester Local Plan 1983. However, Policy H.20 from the Second Stage Deposit Draft Local Plan (2002), which was not adopted but was approved by the Local Authority for development control purposes, safeguards an existing Travelling Showpeople site at Pool Meadow for its current use. The boundary on the proposal map includes both Pool Meadow and Fairview. Also the 2006 Local Development Framework documents reached the ‘preferred options’ stage before being put on hold, but did include two potential site allocations for Travelling Showpeople (both of which have since been found to be undeliverable).
- 9.10 The Cheltenham Borough Local Plan Second Review, which was adopted by the Local Authority in June 2006 and its policies saved beyond 2009, does not contain any policies relating to Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople.
- 9.11 The Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan to 2011 (the Local Plan) was adopted in March 2006 but criteria policy HOU15 relating to Travellers’ sites was not saved beyond 2009. Policy HOU16 relating to the Minsterworth Travellers’ sites was saved and this policy safeguards these existing sites for residential Gypsy and Traveller purposes.
- 9.12 Gloucester City Council, Cheltenham Borough Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council are now working together on the preparation of a Joint Core Strategy (JCS) for their collective areas. The JCS is moving towards ‘preferred options’ stage later in 2013. In 2011/12, the Local Authorities consulted on a document entitled “Developing the Preferred Option”. This sets out that a criteria based policy will be provided within the next stage of the plan, at preferred options. It also sets out that sites for traveller communities should be provided at strategic allocations and broad locations.
- 9.13 The Stroud District Local Plan was adopted in November 2005 but policy HN18 relating to criteria for the establishment of Gypsy sites was not saved beyond 2009 in the context of the former RSS and national policy. The Local Authority is currently progressing a new Local Plan, which will contain a criteria based policy for new Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites in Policy CP10.
- 9.14 The Cotswold District Local Plan 2001-2011 was adopted in April 2006 and criteria policy 23 relating to sites for Gypsy and Travellers was saved beyond 2009. The Local Authority is currently progressing a new Local Plan. Policy 6 within the Second Issues and Options Paper stated that the Authority would consider

allocating sites to meet identified needs for accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

^{9.15} The Forest of Dean Core Strategy was adopted in February 2012 and contains Policy CSP6 which states that sites will be provided for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople according to needs identified within the district and sets criteria for allocated and unallocated sites.

Other policy and guidance

^{9.16} Other relevant considerations which should be taken into account include:

- National policy set out within the National Planning Policy Framework; and
- Communities and Local Government (CLG) Best Practice Guidance: Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites (2008).

^{9.17} These policies and guidance have been taken into consideration when developing site criteria and identifying broad locations within Gloucestershire.

Criteria for identifying broad locations

^{9.18} Taking account of the national and local policy context, detailed discussion at the stakeholder workshop centred around the following themes:

- How potential sites relate to spatial strategies
 - Settlement hierarchy and the relationship of sites to sustainable settlements
 - Access to the road network and major public transport corridors
 - Accessibility to key services
 - Impact on local infrastructure
- How potential sites fit with identified needs
 - Location of current site provision
 - Pattern of movements through the district
 - Projected future needs
 - Needs of different travelling communities
 - Reducing the need for long distance travelling
- Avoiding physical constraints and protected areas
 - Nature conservation designations
 - Green Belt considerations

- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and landscape considerations
- Historic built environment designations
- Floodplain and areas of high flood risk
- Relationship with other land uses
- Co-existence with local communities
- Residential amenity
- Scale of sites relative to settled community
- Mixed planning use sites
- Noise and air quality

^{9.19} Having regard to the national and local policy context, engagement with both the Traveller and non-Traveller communities and following discussions at the stakeholder workshop, the following site criteria for determining broad settlement locations have been identified:

Figure 41
Criteria for Identifying Broad Locations

<i>Fit with spatial strategy and approach to location</i>	<p>Gypsy and Traveller residential sites and Travelling Showpeople sites should, where possible, be located reasonably close to sustainable settlements with a range of local services.</p> <p>Gypsy and Traveller transit sites or temporary stopping places should be very close to main transport routes.</p> <p>Local infrastructure should be capable of accommodating development.</p>
<i>Fit with identified needs</i>	<p>Gypsy and Traveller residential sites and Travelling Showpeople sites should have good access to local services.</p> <p>New Gypsy and Traveller residential sites should reflect the patterns of emerging needs to avoid the need for long distance travelling. Extensions to existing sites may be appropriate to accommodate the future family needs.</p> <p>Strategic Green Belt releases should only be made through the development plan process unless there are very specific circumstances.</p> <p>Gypsy and Traveller transit sites or temporary stopping places should be located along historic transit routes.</p>
<i>Avoiding physical constraints and protected areas</i>	<p>Sites should not be located within an international, national or local nature conservation designation or in a location where it will have a significant effect upon any designation.</p> <p>Sites should not be located within Green Belt except in very special circumstances.</p>

	<p>Sites within Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty may be acceptable in principle but conserving landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage are important considerations.</p> <p>Sites should not be located within areas at high risk of flooding which cannot be mitigated.</p> <p>Sites should not be located within historic parks and gardens or scheduled ancient monuments.</p>
<i>Relationship with other land uses</i>	<p>Sites, or a combination of sites, should respect the scale of the nearest settlement.</p> <p>The location of sites should avoid adversely impacting upon neighbouring residential amenity.</p> <p>Residential sites should not be located immediately adjacent to major transport corridors unless noise, safety and air quality impacts can be mitigated.</p> <p>Sites with mixed residential and business uses can contribute to sustainability.</p> <p>Sites should, where possible, make effective use of previously developed or derelict land.</p> <p>Sites should not be located on unstable land or on contaminated land which cannot be mitigated.</p>

Identifying broad locations

Fit with spatial strategies and approach to location

- ^{9.20} National Government provides guidance on suitable locations for Gypsy and Traveller sites within “Planning Policy for Traveller Sites”. Local Planning Authorities should strictly limit the provision of sites in the open countryside away from existing settlements or areas allocated in the development plan but can provide for sites in rural areas subject to further considerations (para. 23).
- ^{9.21} Sites should be located so as to provide a settled base that reduces the need for long distance travelling and unauthorised encampments (para. 11).
- ^{9.22} The Gloucestershire Local Authorities assessed how their current spatial strategies could be developed further to provide for Gypsy and Traveller sites. At Gloucester City, Cheltenham Borough and Tewkesbury Borough, the Joint Core Strategy - Developing the Preferred Option proposes a policy direction which would see sites provided at the strategic allocations and at broad locations. The Forest of Dean District Local Plan states that allocations will reflect the needs for sites in particular parts of the district and preference will be given to locations near or within the towns and larger villages.
- ^{9.23} Views were expressed at the stakeholder workshop that due to high property and land prices and the expectations of current landowners in some locations for higher value development, it was unrealistic to expect private residential Gypsy sites to come forward within or immediately adjacent to settlements and that a more flexible approach should be taken. It was pointed out that national policy does not preclude development within the countryside.

- ^{9.24} At the stakeholder workshop, it was stated that the Joint Core Strategy authorities are looking to incorporate sites for the travelling communities within planned urban extensions. However, it was noted that some urban extensions are more advanced than others and, by implication, may be too far advanced to be able to accommodate future sites. Policies should be provided within local plans to allocate sites within urban extensions.
- ^{9.25} Stroud District Local Plan Policy HN18 (unsaved) and emerging Policy CP10 states that sites should be well located in relation to local services and facilities. Forest of Dean Core Strategy Policy CSP6 states that sites should be reasonably close to or in a settlement with services and facilities and should provide safe and convenient access to the highway network. Cotswold Local Plan Policy 23 states that sites should be a reasonable distance of community services and facilities. These policies provide flexibility to the distance sites can be related to settlements and related community facilities and services. At the stakeholder workshop, it was agreed that sites should be located within a reasonable distance to services.
- ^{9.26} For the purposes of defining broad locations, it is recommended that the priority should be to identify sites within a reasonable distance of approximately 1 mile of key facilities within settlements. This figure has been accepted as representing a reasonable maximum walking distance for site residents, and provides some flexibility, to be able to access those facilities without reliance on the use of the private car.
- ^{9.27} National policy identifies health services, schools, welfare services and employment as key local services which Local Authorities should promote access to. Workshop attendees identified primary schools, shops and bus stops as the key facilities. Generally, families with children and/or older people would like to be close to community facilities.
- ^{9.28} Whilst access to local employment was identified in the interviews as the key consideration for most Travellers in Gloucestershire (89.7% of respondents to on-site interviews said this was an attraction), it is noted that many Travellers are self-employed and sites are effectively live-work units. Therefore, Local Authorities should be flexible when defining sustainable locations for sites. Within this context, national policy states that Travellers working and living from the same location could contribute to sustainability (Planning Policy for Traveller Site, CLG, para. 11).
- ^{9.29} A number of Local Authority policies state that sites should provide safe and convenient access to the highway network, including Cotswold Local Plan Policy 23, Forest of Dean District Core Strategy Policy CSP6 and Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan Policy HOU15 (unsaved). It was recognized at the workshop that this is a particular requirement for transit sites or temporary stopping places, as well as Travelling Showpeople sites, where the aim should be to identify locations very close to main transport routes.
- ^{9.30} Appendix G (map 1) shows the sustainable settlements in Gloucestershire, which have key facilities for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, including a primary school, shop, bus route/stop and/or health facilities.

Fit with identified needs

- ^{9.31} There is a current concentration of private residential Gypsy and Traveller sites within semi-rural countryside to the west of Cheltenham and to the west, north and south of Gloucester, predominantly within Tewkesbury Borough and Stroud District. There is a smaller concentration of sites to the north of the Forest of Dean District and to the north of Tewkesbury Borough. There are relatively few sites located

- within Cotswold District. There are 4 publicly owned and managed Gypsy and Traveller residential sites located at Culkerton (Cotswold), Cursey Lane, Showborough and Willows (Tewkesbury Borough). The majority of these more 'settled' Travellers are Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers.
- ^{9.32} There is a pattern of historic unauthorised encampments around the south of Gloucestershire, in particular within Stroud District. We were told at the workshop that this pattern of movement is generally related to New Travellers who may not want a permanent site, but instead wish to roam.
- ^{9.33} Existing private Travelling Showpeople sites are located to the north and south of Gloucester, as well as sites at Stonehouse, Stroud District and Gotherington.
- ^{9.34} This study included 149 interviews with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living on authorised and unauthorised sites and a further 24 in bricks and mortar. 39 interviews were achieved with Travelling Showpeople. All interviewees were from different households and are either the head of household or their partner.
- ^{9.35} The evidence suggests that the existing spatial pattern reflects a long period of residence for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. Amongst the reasons given by respondents to the on-site survey for living in their current location were; being near work, schools and family and because the respondent had lived in the area for a long time.
- ^{9.36} A large majority of respondents wish to remain on their current sites, although three Gypsy and Traveller respondents wish to move onto new private sites within the area and three respondents into bricks and mortar accommodation.
- ^{9.37} Future residential Gypsy and Traveller site needs are predominantly generated from a combination of achieving pitches for those currently living on unauthorised sites or sites subject to temporary permissions within the area, for those in currently overcrowded conditions or on the waiting list for public sites or to meet future household growth from existing sites.
- ^{9.38} Stakeholders commented that the easiest and most appropriate way of meeting future needs would be to extend existing sites or to locate new sites in the same general locations. The best location to meet future need is where they are now. New sites should be small, family owned sites located relatively close to local facilities. This supports the approach that is happening across the country in other Local Authorities, where PBA have been working with Local Authorities and the local Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- ^{9.39} Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan unsaved policy HOU15 supported proposals at existing Gypsy and Traveller sites. Supporting text to The Forest of Dean Local Plan Policy CSP6 refers to the need to fully utilise any surplus accommodation at existing sites and to investigate the scope for the expansion of existing sites.
- ^{9.40} A view was expressed at the workshop that there are many Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar who wish to return to a caravan, and people who own their own land in the Forest of Dean but who were encouraged to build houses in the past – rather than living in caravans. Many have been forced into bricks and mortar through personal circumstances or a lack of caravan site provision.
- ^{9.41} In terms of longer distance travelling patterns, 77% of Gypsy and Traveller interview respondents reported that they had not travelled at all during the last 12 months. Nearly half of all households reported that they had never travelled.

- 9.42 At the workshop, stakeholders stated that Gypsies and Travellers have traditionally travelled through the area to visit Stow Fair twice a year, Cheltenham races, to get to work, visit family and for business. However, the population is becoming more settled.
- 9.43 Traditional transit routes include main transport corridors through Gloucestershire, including the M5, A40, A48, A4136 and A417/A419 and, in particular, those routes through Cotswold district for those visiting Stow on the Wold for the Stow Fair.
- 9.44 A view was expressed that tolerated temporary stopping places along these routes may be more appropriate than a permanent transit site.
- 9.45 The Local Authorities provided information relating to recorded historic encampments, which are mapped in Appendix G (Map 1). These probably do not provide all historic encampments, but it does provide a picture of historic movement across the County.
- 9.46 At the workshop, stakeholders stated that New Travellers tend to be a more mobile population wishing to move around the countryside, particularly within Stroud and Cotswold districts, preferring to locate within rural/countryside locations rather than stopping places along highway land. It was doubted whether New Travellers would wish to locate on official Council transit sites.
- 9.47 At the workshop, it was stated that Travelling Showpeople have a lot of connections in the local area and have been in their existing locations for a long time. Families organise the annual Mop Fair in Tewkesbury Borough and attend the biannual fairs at Stow and attend the two-week annual Gloucester fair.
- 9.48 Stakeholders stated that Travelling Showpeople sites should be relatively large to meet residential and business needs and to meet future family needs. One view was that it didn't matter where the provision was made, as long as it was made and that sites have decent access to and from the highway network. Another view expressed was that the priority area is in and around Gloucester, but there is a shortage of available and suitable land.
- 9.49 Appendix G (map 1) shows the location of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites throughout Gloucestershire in April 2013.

Avoiding physical constraints and protected areas

- 9.50 The National Planning Policy Framework and Circular 06/2005 identify the protection that should be given to international, national and locally designated biodiversity and geological conservation sites. Heritage assets of the highest significance, such as Scheduled Monuments, battlefields and historic parks and gardens should also be protected and development at these locations wholly exceptional. The NPPF also states that Local Planning Authorities should give great weight to conserving landscape and scenic beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage in National Parks.
- 9.51 Workshop attendees agreed that Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty cannot be an absolute constraint. However, landscape, wildlife and heritage impacts should be given great weight in determining appropriate locations.
- 9.52 "Planning Policy for Traveller Sites" identifies areas at high risk of flooding including functional floodplains should be avoided given the particular vulnerability of caravans.

- 9.53 There are various local policies within each Local Authority development plans that support national policy, and also protect these international, national and local designated areas.
- 9.54 In discussing these issues, the workshop group agreed that there are a number of constraints within national and local policy which identifies such locations as generally inappropriate for built development.
- 9.55 For the purposes of defining broad locations, these areas are:
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Local Nature Reserves and other sites of importance for nature conservation and within buffer zones where a significant effect is determined
 - Ancient Woodland
 - Green Belt
 - Areas at high risk of flooding
 - Historic Battlefields
 - Historic parks and gardens
 - Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- 9.56 The workshop attendees agreed that for other designations, such as listed buildings, conservation area, etc. whilst being a major constraint on development, should not be considered absolute constraints, as the acceptability or otherwise of development depends upon a site assessment of impact.
- 9.57 Appendix G (map 2) shows the key planning constraints location of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites throughout Gloucestershire.

Relationship with other land uses

- 9.58 The Government is keen to promote a peaceful and integrated co-existence between a Gypsy or Traveller site and the local settled community. In order to facilitate this, CLG guidance⁹ states that “*where possible, sites should be developed near to housing for the settled community as part of mainstream residential developments*” (para 3.7). However, “*Planning policy for traveller sites*” states that “*Local Planning Authorities should ensure that the scale of such sites does not dominate the nearest settled community*” (para. 12).
- 9.59 In addition, Local Authorities should give proper consideration to the effect of local environmental quality (such as noise and air quality) on the health and well-being of occupants of sites.
- 9.60 The Cotswold District Local Plan 2001-2011 saved Policy 23 states that sites should not cause significant harm to neighbouring businesses, agricultural activities or settlements.
- 9.61 The Forest of Dean Core Strategy Policy CSP6 states that sites should minimise their impact on the surrounding landscape and be compatible with nearby land uses.

⁹ Communities and Local Government (2008) *Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide*

- ^{9.62} The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain "*Model Standard Package*" states that the site should respect amenities of any occupants of residential properties nearby.
- ^{9.63} Stroud District Policy CP10 states that sites should minimise their impact on the surrounding landscape and be compatible with nearby land uses. Policy CP10 has been subject to public consultation.
- ^{9.64} CLG guidance on the design of sites for Gypsies and Travellers also emphasises the importance of locating sites away from heavy industry and states that locations adjacent to industrial areas are unpopular because of their relative isolation, distance from local facilities and because of safety fears.
- ^{9.65} An important consideration is avoiding noise and disturbance. This can be to the settled community, in terms of the movement of vehicles to and from the site, from the stationing of vehicles on site and on-site business activities. However, it can also be noise and disturbance from adjoining uses, such as from industrial areas, railway lines or from highways, given the greater noise transference through walls of caravans than through the walls of conventional housing.
- ^{9.66} Generally speaking, these issues are site specific and it is difficult to identify any general implications for the identification of broad locations.

Recommended broad locations

- ^{9.67} Taking into consideration the themes and criteria outlined above, broad locations have been identified for the purposes of the subsequent identification of specific sites by the Local Authorities and as a guide in development management decision making. The Maps in Appendix G show the existing sites, key planning constraints and broad locations for Travelling Showpeople, Gypsy and Traveller residential sites and transit sites within Gloucestershire.

Travelling Showpeople Residential sites

- ^{9.68} The broad locations for Gypsy and Traveller residential sites are provided within Appendix G (map 3).
- ^{9.69} There is no need for Travelling Showpeople sites within Cheltenham and Cotswold Local Authority areas. Therefore the broad locations do not extend into these Local Authority areas.
- ^{9.70} The GTTSAA has confirmed that Travelling Showpeople needs relates to where existing sites are located (Stroud District, Gloucester City and Tewkesbury Borough authority areas), where there are existing sites within Gloucestershire. The exception is in the Forest of Dean where there is a need for 12 plots from in-migration, but no existing site.
- ^{9.71} For those sites already existing in Gloucestershire, Travelling Showpeople would prefer to gain full permission or extend existing sites. New sites would ideally be located close to the existing need, due to family/settlement connections and existing use of nearby facilities. Therefore broad location 1a relates to the need of existing sites in Stroud District, Gloucester City and Tewkesbury Borough.
- ^{9.72} Only if the need for Gloucester City, Tewkesbury Borough and Stroud District cannot be met within broad location 1a, should sites should be considered within broad location 1b. They will still be subject to other policies and potential planning constraints.

- 9.73 Broad location 2 relates to the need of Travelling Showpeople in the Forest of Dean. Ideally the site would be located on the eastern side of the Local Authority area due to better transport links. Although sites within the whole district could be considered subject to good road links.
- 9.74 The broad locations should inform allocations in these locations. Planning applications should to be assessed against a criteria based policy.
- 9.75 Within each broad location, proximity to settlements should be a key consideration. An assessment of sites should take into consideration the distance from each site to health and education and if opportunities exist for residents to access public transport services.
- 9.76 The broad location 1a for Travelling Showpeople sites includes land within a reasonable distance to main urban areas, towns and larger villages, where there is potential need from existing families.
- 9.77 All new sites identified for Travelling Showpeople use should be located within a reasonable distance to facilities and services. They should also have good transport links.
- 9.78 Green Belt locations are generally inappropriate for built development, and in the NPPF it states that within the Green Belt 'inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances.' Workshop attendees agreed that any Gypsy and Traveller development can only be developed in the Green Belt in 'very special circumstances' and should only be made through the plan-making process. Appendix G (map 2) shows the other constraints that would relate within the broad location areas.
- 9.79 AONBs are not absolute constraints, as national policy does not preclude development in these designated areas. However, as stated above, workshop attendees agreed that the landscape, wildlife and heritage impacts should be given great weight in determining appropriate locations.
- 9.80 The identification of further Travelling Showpeople sites should focus on the broad locations and should take into account where the need arises and the capacity of local infrastructure to determine the most appropriate broad location to commence the site search.

Transit sites or temporary stopping places

- 9.81 The broad locations for transit sites or temporary stopping places, if required, include land immediately adjacent to the M5, A40, A417/A419, A48, A4136 and A429 and those routes going to Stow on the Wold to meet the temporary needs of those attending the biannual Stow Fair, as well as routes going to Cheltenham to meet the temporary needs of those attending the Cheltenham Races. Appendix G (map 4) provides the broad locations for transit and temporary stopping places. The broad locations were informed by historic encampments; information provided by the Local Authorities and other organisations during the project; as well as discussion with attendees at the workshop.
- 9.82 For Gypsies and Travellers travelling through the area, the Local Authority should focus the search for suitable sites with good access within these appropriate broad locations.
- 9.83 The Local Authority could also consider allowing one or two pitches within or adjacent to existing private residential pitches to accommodate the needs of seasonal visitors to existing families.

Gypsy and Traveller Residential sites

- 9.84 The broad locations for Gypsy and Traveller residential sites are provided within Appendix G (map 5).
- 9.85 The on-site interviews revealed that one person was looking to move to within the Tewkesbury Borough area, and a few other respondents wanted to be located 'somewhere around here'. Suggesting that they would like to remain close to where they already live, hence close to where existing need arises. The GTTSA has confirmed Gypsy and Traveller needs relate to where existing sites are located. Gypsies and Travellers would prefer to have extensions to existing sites or have new sites located close to the existing need, due to family connections and use of nearby facilities. Therefore the broad location 1 relates to existing need.
- 9.86 Within broad location 1, proximity to settlements should be a key consideration. An assessment of sites should take into consideration the distance to health, education, welfare services and employment opportunities and if opportunities exist for residents to access public transport services.
- 9.87 Broad location 1 for residential Gypsy and Traveller sites include land within approximately 1 mile of the edge of the main urban areas, towns and larger villages, where there is potential need from existing families. At the workshop, it was agreed that this was a reasonable distance for families to be located in relation to services and facilities, and provides flexibility for identifying suitable Gypsy and Traveller sites.
- 9.88 Broad location 1 based around existing need, hence existing sites. New sites would ideally be located in and around the same settlements, to provide for local need. This will allow for families to live close to each other and retain the use of the same key facilities and services. Broad location 1 should inform allocations and criteria based policies for determining planning applications can help direct development to sites in these broad locations.
- 9.89 Within broad location 1, developments should be avoided in area where constraints exist along with any relevant buffer zones, identified in para 9.55 and map 2, as agreed at the workshop.
- 9.90 Green Belt locations are generally inappropriate for built development, and in the NPPF it states that within the Green Belt 'inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances.' Workshop attendees agreed that any Gypsy and Traveller development can only be developed in the Green Belt in 'very special circumstances'.
- 9.91 AONBs are not absolute constraints, as national policy does not preclude development in these designated areas. However, as stated above, workshop attendees agreed that the landscape, wildlife and heritage impacts should be given great weight in determining appropriate locations.
- 9.92 The identification of further Gypsy and Traveller residential sites should focus on the broad locations and should take into account where the need arises and the capacity of local infrastructure to determine the most appropriate broad location to commence the site search.
- 9.93 In addition to broad location 1, locations that are deemed to be sustainable against criteria-based policies and settlement hierarchies, as defined in the development plan, should be considered favourably.
- 9.94 The Local Authorities should be reasonably flexible about the location of small private sites and should consider sites outside but close to the broad locations.

- ^{9.95} The needs assessment has concluded that there is a local need for pitches to be provided on public sites in order to meet waiting list and household growth needs in Cotswold District and Tewkesbury Borough. The Local Authorities should investigate public sites within the most sustainable broad locations, particularly in locations where there is good access to main facilities and services such as local healthcare services.

Other considerations

- ^{9.96} This study has identified appropriate broad locations for the further identification of sites if required and for use in development management decision making. However, there will be other site specific considerations which should be taken into consideration when assessing the suitability of future sites.
- ^{9.97} These site specific considerations are set out in national and local policy, but include, in particular, the relationship of the site to other land uses. For example, by ensuring that the scale of sites in rural locations does not dominate the nearest settled community. More detail on site specific considerations is provided within the next chapter of this report.

10. Site Design, Management and Delivery

^{10.1} The following sections below provide recommendations for site design, management and delivery in Gloucestershire:

Site design

Types of sites

^{10.2} There are three general types of sites which are required to meet Gypsy and Traveller needs across Gloucestershire. These are:

- Residential sites – these provide residents with a permanent home;
- Transit sites – these are permanent sites that provide temporary accommodation for their residents, normally between 28 days and 3 months;
- Emergency/Temporary stopping places – these are pieces of land in temporary use as authorised short term (less than 28 days) stopping places for all travelling communities. This can include emergency stopping places, if preferred.

^{10.3} The needs of Travelling Showpeople are different to Gypsies and Travellers. Their sites often combine residential, storage and maintenance uses. Typically a site contains areas for accommodation, usually caravans and mobile homes, and areas for storing, repairing and maintaining vehicles and fairground equipment. These combined residential and storage sites are known as plots.

^{10.4} Although Travelling Showpeople travel for extended periods they require a permanent base for storage of equipment and for residential use during the winter. These plots or yards are also occupied throughout the year, often by older people and families with children, for example.

Size of sites

^{10.5} National evidence, backed up by current provision in Gloucestershire, would suggest that Gypsies and Travellers prefer small sites containing a small number of pitches to accommodate their immediate family and extended family.

^{10.6} Many sites contain only one or two pitches, reflecting the family nature of many sites. “*Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites*” states that “*a maximum of 15 pitches is conducive to providing a comfortable environment which is easy to manage. However, smaller sites of between 3-4 pitches can also be successful, particularly where designed for one extended family*” (para 4.7).

- ^{10.7} Local Planning Authorities should also have regard to the needs of Travelling Showpeople to have mixed use yards containing residential accommodation and space for the storage of equipment (Planning Policy for Traveller Site, CLG, para. 17).

Site Conditions

- ^{10.8} CLG guidance on the design of sites for Gypsies and Travellers identifies that “*no sites should be identified for Gypsy and Traveller use that would not be appropriate for ordinary residential dwellings*” (para. 3.6).
- ^{10.9} The Forest of Dean Core Strategy Policy CSP6 states that sites should be capable of providing a satisfactory environment.
- ^{10.10} “*Planning policy for traveller sites*” states that sites should not be located in areas at high risk of flooding such as functional floodplains given the vulnerability of caravans.
- ^{10.11} Contaminated land is unlikely to be suitable, such as:
- Sites adjacent to rubbish tips;
 - Sites on landfill sites; and
 - Sites close to electricity pylons.

Essential services

- ^{10.12} CLG guidance on the design of sites for Gypsies and Travellers states that sites must have access to water, electricity, drainage and sanitation, with electricity and sewerage for permanent sites normally through mains systems, although in some locations alternative provision may be appropriate.
- ^{10.13} The Forest of Dean Core Strategy Policy CSP6 states that sites should be able to provide services including water supply and sewage disposal.
- ^{10.14} Cotswold Local Plan Policy 23 states that the site has to have the potential to provide facilities appropriate for the nature of the use proposed.
- ^{10.15} Tewkesbury Borough Local Plan Policy HOU15 (unsaved) states that sites will be granted provided there is availability of services.
- ^{10.16} The Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain “*Model Standard Package*” states that the site should provide amenities normally expected for human occupation.
- ^{10.17} “*Planning policy for traveller sites*” states that Local Planning Authorities should avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services (para. 11).

Layout and Capacity

- ^{10.18} Gypsy and Traveller sites are made up of one or more caravan pitches and associated facilities. However, there is no national definition of what a pitch should look like or indeed contain. As

*“Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites”*¹⁰ states *“there is no single, appropriate design for sites, any more than there is for general housing development.”* (para. 1.7).

^{10.19} Sites often reflect the differing cultural needs and practices of Gypsies and Travellers. For example, New Travellers may look for less formal pitch layout and design and may seek low impact environmental solutions rather than more formal and traditional layouts favoured by Romany Gypsies or Irish Travellers.

^{10.20} *“Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites”* aims to provide good practice in general design but in particular, to assist Local Authorities to develop new or refurbish existing public managed sites.

^{10.21} For residential sites, the guidance states that *“an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan... drying space for clothes, a lockable shed...parking space for two vehicles and a small garden”* (para. 7.12). On average, usage is approximately 1.7 caravans per pitch.

^{10.22} On public sites and larger private sites, pitches are often laid out side by side either side of a central access road. *“Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites”* states that many Gypsies and Travellers prefer a circular or horseshoe design rather than this more traditional linear layout of pitches.

^{10.23} Peter Brett Associates has developed templates for various forms of Gypsy and Traveller development, including for residential and transit sites. Examples of these templates are set out in Appendix H.

^{10.24} In practice, many small private Gypsy and Traveller residential sites do not contain amenity blocks but include all living and sleeping accommodation within modern park homes. Many private sites also include land for grazing horses and workspace and storage areas. Layouts are often informal and relate more to the individual characteristics of a site and context rather than a standard template. Although some small private Gypsy and Traveller residential sites do contain amenity blocks as well. It depends on the individual choice.

^{10.25} Transit sites may be used all year round but are intended to only provide temporary accommodation for occupants. The same general design principles apply to transit pitches as they do to permanent residential pitches. Locational criteria are different, however, as sites need to be located close to transit routes and effective management of these sites is also particularly important.

^{10.26} Temporary stopping places need to be well located to the highway network and provide safe, but basic facilities only, including hardstanding for caravan and vehicles and connection to water, electricity, toilet and sewerage services.

^{10.27} The Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain *“Model Standard Package”* includes model site layouts for small and large Travelling Showpeople sites. Plots or Yards contain separate areas for residential use and for the storage and maintenance of vehicles and equipment. Residential areas are similar to residential Gypsy and Traveller pitches, with space for trailers or park homes and touring caravans, vehicles and gardens. Vehicle storage areas and access roads should involve hardstanding and need to be of sufficient size to allow large vehicles to manoeuvre and turn.

¹⁰ Communities and Local Government (2008) *Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites Good Practice Guide*

- ^{10.28} Site capacity should take account of on-site constraints and the need, where appropriate, for landscaping and other mitigation measures to achieve a suitable development. A generous approach to landscaping and access arrangements should generally be taken to ensure a high standard of design can be achieved on site and to create a site which Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople find attractive. At the same time, sufficient space and landscaping will help to conserve the residential amenity of neighbouring uses.
- ^{10.29} Site capacity also needs to take account of whether the pitch is solely for residential uses or whether employment space is required. National policy states that some sites may be suitable for a mix of residential and business uses. In these cases, sites will need to be of sufficient size to accommodate business uses and appropriate landscaping and mitigation.

Site Management

- ^{10.30} Most Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople prefer to own and manage their own private sites. National policy encourages the provision of more small, private sites.
- ^{10.31} However, there continues to be a need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in Gloucestershire which can be rented by individual families, either from a private landlord or from a public body.
- ^{10.32} Stakeholder interviews have identified that in Gloucestershire there has been concern about the management practices of private landlords in the past.
- ^{10.33} It is a consistent theme of views expressed by the settled community that Gypsy and Traveller sites would be better received if proper management practices were to be employed.
- ^{10.34} The interviews with Gypsies and Travellers within Gloucestershire identifies that a large majority of occupants are happy with their sites. Many identify improvements being required including the provision of a play area, more pitches, storage, improved road surfacing and/or a better site layout. However, site management was not identified as an issue to be addressed on public sites in Gloucestershire.
- ^{10.35} Stakeholder interviews generally concluded that sites managed by Local Authorities or registered providers in Gloucestershire are well regarded. One interviewee stated that public management of sites could help ensure fair rental prices for Gypsies and Travellers.
- ^{10.36} One stakeholder identified the management practices of registered providers such as Rooftop as constituting best practice and helping to develop community cohesion. However, the stakeholder commented that registered providers tend to wish to establish new sites rather than take over existing sites.
- ^{10.37} Transit sites can present management challenges because of the relatively high turnover of families visiting them and "*Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites*" recommends that provision should be made for a resident manager, subject to usage and local considerations.
- ^{10.38} Another approach, being pursued in relation to a transit site in Southampton, is to set up a management group that includes representatives from local businesses and residents as well as

agencies such as the police and schools, which can respond to any issues as they arise. This can assist with community cohesion as well as the effective co-ordination of support services.

Mechanisms for Securing New Provision

^{10.39} Set out below are a number of potential mechanisms for securing new provision which should be considered when the Local Authorities have identified suitable sites to meet any future identified needs. These mechanisms reflect the existing sites within Gloucestershire and are likely to meet future needs within the County. It is important that the Local Authorities consider this at an early stage, to ensure that sites can demonstrably contribute to the supply of deliverable sites and/or can be allocated through a Local Plan.

^{10.40} Mechanism 1: Existing privately owned and occupied sites where there is potential for additional pitches to be created either within the existing site boundaries or by extending current boundaries to meet future immediate family needs. Under this model, planning permission would be needed. The Local Authorities should consider encouraging planning applications to meet short and medium term needs through entering into dialogue with site occupants. The Local Authorities should consider allocating sites to meet longer term needs through Local Plans.

^{10.41} Mechanism 2: Existing privately owned and occupied sites where there is potential for additional pitches to be created either within the existing site boundaries or by extending current boundaries to meet the wider needs of the travelling communities either through selling or renting pitches to other families. The Local Authorities should consider encouraging planning applications to meet short and medium term needs through entering into dialogue with site occupants. The Local Authorities should consider allocating sites to meet longer term needs through Local Plans.

^{10.42} Mechanism 3: Sites which are not currently owned by the travelling communities but have been identified as available for these uses. Allocation in future Local Plans would identify these sites to travelling communities and they could be purchased on the open market.

^{10.43} Mechanism 4: Existing public sites where the Local Authority considers that additional affordable pitch provision may be appropriate, either through intensification or extension of the site. Extended sites could then either be managed by a Council or a registered provider.

^{10.44} Mechanism 5: New sites where the Local Authority considers that additional affordable pitch provision may be appropriate. In this case, the Local Authorities should investigate the potential for either buying sites or developing their public assets using New Homes Bonus or central Government site grant funding or other monies to secure or increase affordable provision (see "Funding Sources" overleaf). Sites could then either be managed by a Council or a registered provider.

^{10.45} Mechanism 6: Provision required as part of the planning of large housing urban extension sites. There is the opportunity to require large housing allocations in Core Strategies/Local Plans and/or subsequent allocations DPDs to provide for Gypsy and Traveller pitches or Travelling Showpeople plots. These could then be sold on the open market or affordable pitches brought forward and managed by the Local Authorities or registered providers.

Funding Sources

^{10.46}The Government has identified that it is focusing on incentivising Local Authorities to deliver new housing, including Traveller sites. "Planning for traveller sites"¹¹ identifies three potential sources of funding for Local Authorities.

- a. Firstly, the New Homes Bonus scheme operates in the same way for Traveller sites as for other forms of housing. Namely, for every new pitch, a Local Planning Authority will get six years of matched Council Tax funding, with an extra supplement for affordable pitches (such as sites owned or managed by Local Authorities).
- b. Secondly, the Government has allocated, as part of its National Affordable Housing Programme for 2011-15 £60m to fund the provision of Traveller sites. Local Authorities are required to bid for this funding.
- c. Thirdly, the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy provides a further potential funding source for enabling works required to deliver Local Authorities' priorities. This could include the provision of infrastructure to provide public sites.

^{10.47}There are also emerging examples within the country of Local Planning Authorities planning for the future provision of sites for travelling communities by allocating urban extension sites for housing and Traveller pitches, requiring developers to design and layout serviced pitches/plots for private sale to Gypsies, Travellers or Travelling Showpeople. Where there is a demonstrable need for affordable provision, some Local Planning Authorities are identifying a need for developers to provide pitches/plots or commuted sums as part of the overall affordable housing contribution required for new housing sites.

^{10.48}There are also innovative delivery models being developed in other parts of the country which could provide for funding of initial sites to be recycled to provide for further sites, in the same way as affordable housing and shared equity schemes have been delivered by housing bodies for some years.

^{10.49}For example, the Local Authorities or the County Council could consider using New Homes Bonus or other monies to buy a site or identify their own public assets and then make them available to organised Gypsy and Traveller groups on a non-profit making basis for them to develop and manage. Such groups could also be offered the opportunity to buy stakes in the site, allowing the income from such sales to be recycled to provide further sites.

^{10.50}The Local Authorities should investigate these sources of funding further, in partnership with the County Council, registered providers and other delivery partners.

¹¹ Communities and Local Government (2011) *Planning for traveller sites*

11. Conclusions

Introduction

^{11.1} This chapter brings together the evidence presented earlier in the report to provide some key policy conclusions for Gloucestershire. It focuses upon the key issues of future site provision for Gypsies and Travellers and also Travelling Showpeople.

Gypsy and Traveller Future Pitch Provision

^{11.2} Based upon the evidence presented in Chapter 8, the estimated extra pitch provision that is required for Gypsies and Travellers to 2031 years in Gloucestershire is 207 pitches. The table below shows the requirement by Local Authority. These figures should be seen as the projected amount of provision which is necessary to meet the statutory obligations towards identifiable needs of the population arising in each area. We would also note that needs arising in an area do not necessarily have to be met within that area and the Local Authorities can seek to provide joint planning for new pitches. We would also note that a number of Gypsies and Travellers acknowledged that they would be happy to consider living in areas outside of their current Local Authority if a suitable site existed.

Figure 42
Extra Pitch Provision in Gloucestershire by Local Authority to 2031 (Source: ORS Housing Market Model)

Authority	Requirement to 2031
Cheltenham Borough	2
Cotswold District	26
Forest of Dean District	19
Gloucester City	2
Stroud District	11
Tewkesbury Borough	147
Total	207

^{11.3} The table below shows the provision required by type of site in 5 year time periods. This is based upon addressing any current backlog of need where it arises in the next 5 years and then projecting forward household growth based upon the size of the existing on-site population.

Figure 43
Extra Pitch Provision in Gloucestershire by Local Authority by Public and Private Sites to 2031

Local Authority	2013-2017		2018-2022		2023-2027		2028-2031	
	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private	Public	Private
Cheltenham Borough	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cotswold District	0	5	0	6	1	7	1	6
Forest of Dean District	0	1	0	6	0	6	0	6
Gloucester City	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stroud District	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	8
Tewkesbury Borough	20	44	12	15	13	16	12	15
Total	20	52	12	27	14	32	13	37

Transit Sites

- 11.4 There are currently two transit sites in the study area plus a further site in Stroud District with planning permission for 6 transit pitches which has yet to be developed. A number of households on these sites reported that they did not see them as their permanent base. However, we would note that local authorities are not able to use transit provision on private sites as part of their enforcement action policies and therefore while it does provide an option for visiting households it is at the discretion of the site owner who is allowed on to the site.
- 11.5 Transit site provision is clearly a complex issue for an area such as Gloucestershire which sees many households travel through the area each year for the Stow Fair. Stakeholders in neighbouring areas indicate that publically provided transit sites are poorly used and in some cases have fallen out of use. This in part is due to the location away from major travelling routes.
- 11.6 One option available, and one which ORS would propose the authorities follow, is to follow the likes of Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils who have a formal temporary toleration policy which generally meets the needs of Travellers moving through the County, without establishing a formal transit site. This is relatively effective, cheap, simple and avoids the need to have a permanently managed public site.
- 11.7 If the authorities wished to have a more powerful mechanism for addressing unauthorised encampments they could seek to provide a suitably located publically provided transit site of around 10 pitches. 10 pitches is generally considered to be the minimum size of site necessary to be effective for addressing unauthorised developments. We would note that transit sites are an area where cross boundary working could prove to be particularly effective and that the needs of Gypsy and Travellers visiting Gloucestershire are an issue which should be considered at a strategic level.

Travelling Showperson Requirements

- 11.8 There are three sources of requirements for the Showperson population in Gloucestershire, namely the loss of a temporary planning permission on one yard, one group of Travelling Showpeople who are seeking

accommodation in the area and the growth in the population over time. In total the area requires 52 extra plots to 2031. If any existing plots are lost through conversion to alternative uses then these plots will also need to be replaced through alternative provision.

^{11.9} In summary, Figure 44 sets out the net requirement for new plot provision by Local Authority until 2031.

Figure 44
Extra Plot Provision in Gloucestershire by Local Authority to 2031

Local Authority	2013-2017	2018-2022	2023-2027	2028-2031
Cheltenham Borough	0	0	0	0
Cotswold District	0	0	0	0
Forest of Dean District	12	1	1	2
Gloucester City	1	3	5	5
Stroud District	0	0	0	0
Tewkesbury Borough	17	1	2	2
Total	30	5	8	9

A Supply of Deliverable and Developable Sites

Safeguarding existing sites

^{11.10} In developing their local plans, 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' requires local planning authorities to identify and keep up-to-date a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against those locally set targets and a supply of specific developable sites or broad locations to meet needs, where possible, for up to 15 years.

^{11.11} We would suggest that an initial starting point would be for the Councils to consider safeguarding existing authorised Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites, to ensure that existing needs continue to be met in perpetuity. If sites are lost from these uses, then new replacement sites may need to be found to maintain an adequate supply to meet needs in accordance with the identified pitch and plot targets.

Broad Geographical Locations

^{11.12} Where specific deliverable or developable sites for further Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople provision cannot be identified, the Councils should consider including broad geographical locations within their Local Plans.

^{11.13} This document recommends that the identification of further Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople residential sites should focus on the broad geographical locations and should first take into account where the need arises and the capacity of local infrastructure to determine the most appropriate broad location to commence the site search. It should secondly look to other locations, including around sustainable settlements where there is no current need, and for Travelling Showpeople sites good access to the highway.

- 11.14 The Councils should investigate public Gypsy and Traveller sites within the most sustainable broad locations, particularly in locations where there is good access to main facilities and services such as GP surgeries.
- 11.15 The Councils should be reasonably flexible about the location of small private Gypsy and Traveller sites and should consider sites outside but close to the broad locations.

Sites with Potential to Meet Future Needs

- 11.16 The Councils should investigate the potential from existing sites to achieve additional pitches/plots either through increasing the capacity within existing boundaries or through site extension onto adjoining land.
- 11.17 The Councils should also undertake site assessment work to identify new sites to meet identified future Gypsy and Traveller needs. These would ideally be located close to where the existing and future need arises.
- 11.18 If there is an immediate need to identify a supply of deliverable sites to provide a five years' worth of sites, then the Councils should consider supporting planning applications on the most appropriate sites.
- 11.19 To provide a medium and long term supply, the Councils should consider allocating sites through their Local Plans or a Site Allocations DPD, depending upon the nature of the development plan within each area.

Delivery

- 11.20 As with other forms of development, the release of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites should be managed to ensure a good fit with identified need.
- 11.21 However, a site where there is need arising may not have capacity to meet this need. For example, a family may need further pitches in the future to meet the future needs from existing children, but their current site may not have capacity, whilst an existing family may not require pitches in the future but they may have a site where there is potential for future provision.
- 11.22 It is important to note that the future availability of existing private sites to accommodate needs is entirely dependent on existing site owners being prepared to accommodate future needs on these sites.
- 11.23 It is also important to note that Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers have separate traditions and patterns of movement and may not be prepared to share sites. Similarly, Travelling Showpeople families operate separate commercial businesses and are unlikely to share sites.
- 11.24 There is therefore a strong likelihood that more than the bare minimum of sites will need to be identified and brought forward to provide a flexible and sufficient pool of sites to meet identified existing and future needs.
- 11.25 We would suggest that it would be prudent for the Councils to identify a potential reserve supply from the identified sites or other sites which could be brought forward in the future if required to ensure a continuous supply of deliverable and developable sites. Within the National Planning Policy Framework a buffer of 20% has been promoted for the supply of land for the delivery of housing and that could be considered to be appropriate in this case as well.

- ^{11.26} The Councils should consider whether there is scope to work together to meet identified needs across district boundaries.

Phasing, Monitoring and Review

- ^{11.27} Any release of land to meet future needs would require active monitoring of supply against need, at least on an annual basis. It would also require the Councils to undertake periodic reviews of the needs evidence base.

Site Criteria

- ^{11.28} To meet any other unidentified need through the plan period and to provide a base for considering planning applications, we would recommend the development of suitable criteria policies based upon the criteria set out in Section 9 above, which could be incorporated within each Council's Core Strategy, Local Plans or other Local Development Document (LDD).
- ^{11.29} In the case of The Forest of Dean, Policy CSP6, together with criteria contained within national policy, provides an adequate policy framework for considering planning applications for sites.
- ^{11.30} In the case of Stroud District Council, Policy CP10, together with criteria contained within the national policy, provides an adequate policy framework for considering planning applications for sites.

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Appendix B: List of Wider Stakeholders Approached

Wider Stakeholders

In addition to Council Officers and Elected Members, the following were approached to take part in the study, though not all chose to take part:

- Heine Planning Consultancy (Agent);
- Gatier Planning (Agent);
- Bruton Knowles (Agent);
- Chris Lutton (Agent);
- Ian Baseley Associates (Agent);
- Green Planning Solutions LLP (Agent);
- Richard Wadley Designs;
- Rooftop (Registered Provider);
- Gloucestershire County Council Traveller Liaison Officer;
- Gloucestershire County Council Lead Commissioner Supporting People;
- Head of Health Improvement;
- South West Alliance of Nomads;
- National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups;
- The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain – Western Section;
- County Education Officer dealing with Gypsy and Traveller Communities.

Appendix C: Topic Guide for Stakeholder Interviews

Introduction

Thank for participation

Stress anonymity and confidentiality and request permission to record interview

Explain

I have been asked by Frances Evans (Housing Enabling Manager, Tewkesbury Borough Council) to invite you to participate in a telephone interview in relation to the GYPSY, TRAVELLER AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE ACCOMMODATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE 2012.

Tewkesbury Borough Council is the lead authority for this research project which has been commissioned jointly by the six Gloucestershire District Councils in partnership with Gloucestershire County Council. The objectives of the research and needs assessment are separated into two distinct parts:

To provide data which will identify Gypsy and Traveller and Traveller Showpeople accommodation need now and in the future in the Gloucestershire area; and

To provide a robust and credible evidence base in order to support the Gloucestershire council's in developing their Core Strategies, other Local Plan documents and any other planning policy documents or strategies relating to the provision of sites, pitches or yards to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

We are undertaking interviews with the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Communities (un/authorised sites and bricks and mortar).

We are undertaking telephone interviews with representatives from the Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Communities and officers and members in all six Gloucestershire District Councils.

Free to express both positives and negatives.

Background/About You:

Name

What is your job title/department?

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

Policy Tools

What are the main policy tools that your section/department use in relation to Gypsies & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople (e.g. legislation, national guidance)?

Current Accommodation

Are you aware of any Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites in the area/your area (authorised and non-authorised)? Please give location details.

What site provision do you provide?

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

- The Residents
- The wider Gypsy and Traveller Community/wider community
- The Local Authority/surrounding Local Authorities

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

What are your perceptions of any trends you may be experiencing with regard to Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in the area **[Interviewer Prompt: increases in privately owned sites; increases/decrease in numbers of un/authorised sites]**?

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

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

Are you aware of any seasonal fluctuations?

[Interviewer Prompt: Increase/decreases at particular time of the year]

Future Accommodation Needs

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

IF YES. What type of accommodation should be provided?

[Interviewer Prompt: Public site/private site; transit provision, temporary stopping site (seasonally provided)]

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

Could you recommend a preferred location for a site? Please explain your reasons

[Interviewer Prompt: constraints]

Do you have any view on the management of sites?

[Interviewer Prompt: Preferred management structure; best practice examples]

Community, health and education Issues

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

Community cohesion? Please explain these issues

What is being done to address these issues? (when, by whom)

What needs to be done in the future? (When, by whom)

Health

What is being done to address these issues? (when, by whom)

What needs to be done in the future? (When, by whom)

Education

What is being done to address these issues? (when, by whom)

What needs to be done in the future? (When, by whom)

Consultation Activities

Are there any mechanisms for regular consultation with Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in your area?

What methods are used?

Are they effective?

Cross-Boundary Issues

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

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

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

Are you aware of any cross-border working? Could this be improved?

[Interviewer Prompt: Examples of joint working, examples of best practice]

The Future

How do you see the situation with regard to Gypsy & Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in your area in fifteen years time?

[Interviewer Prompt: Summary of actions]

Any further issues

Are there any further issues you would like to discuss?

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO PARTICPATE AND SHARE YOUR VIEWS

Appendix D: Interviews with Travelling Showpeople

Introduction

- 1.0 The information below presents a summary of the interviews undertaken with Travelling Showpeople who have been involved with the planning application at the Foscombe Hill Site in the Forest of Dean.

Showman 1

- 1.1 Showman 1 feels his current site to be overcrowded, making the maintenance of equipment difficult. He is looking for a single plot for his family and equipment. The Foscombe Hill site is thought to be an ideal location for his young family and is large enough to accommodate them and their equipment for the foreseeable future. It is felt that other potential sites proposed have not been realized.
- 1.2 Showman 1 would prefer to be accommodated on a site with the other showman families in the group and feels that splitting the group up would be damaging to the showman community and culture in the area. However, Showman 1 describes his situation as *desperate*, and is not averse to looking at smaller sites of 2 or 3 families if necessary.
- 1.3 Showman 1 feels a permanent site would provide security for his family that does not exist at their present site.

Showman 2

- 1.4 Showman 2 is from Gloucestershire, but is currently residing elsewhere. When not working, he stays at other showman sites around Gloucestershire and elsewhere. When these are full Showman 2 has stayed in laybys. He feels he is in *severe need* of a single plot for his family and equipment.
- 1.5 The site at Foscombe Hill is considered an ideal location for travelling to and from fairs to work. Showman 2 feels that a plot at the site would be sufficient for his family's needs for the foreseeable future and considers it likely that his older children will remain on the site, as *showmen are close. The family unit stays together all your life.*
- 1.6 Showman 2 felt that overcrowding in existing sites and his lack of a permanent site was increasing his travel costs and damaging his business. When sites in Gloucester are full, Showman 2 has had to travel to sites outside the County to find accommodation.
- 1.7 Showman 2 is concerned for the education of his children, who are moving schools regularly as the family move between sites. He also discussed difficulties his children had making friends. It is felt that a permanent site would help to improve his children's education and provide security for his family:

I am in dire need of somewhere to live and my kids are, for a bit of security. Somewhere where we can put down roots and integrate.

Showman 3

- ^{1.8} Showman 3 is currently staying on a relative's plot in Gloucester. The plot is felt to be too small to accommodate both households, and consequently Showman 3 stores his fair equipment elsewhere, sometimes for a fee. Showman 3 is looking for a single plot near Gloucester.
- ^{1.9} Showman 3's children move between schools while he works at fairs. He discussed how a permanent plot would allow his children to stay in school in Gloucester with his spouse rather than travelling with him.
- ^{1.10} The site at Foscombe Hill is deemed to be *the best in terms of practicality* for a number of reasons: proximity to Gloucester and family ties at Pool Meadow; central location; nearby school; and good links to surrounding areas. The site would, it was felt, be able to accommodate the family and their future need. Showman 3 also favoured the site because its size would allow his family to live with the other showpeople families in the group, which was felt to be important. It was felt that there were no other feasible sites in the area.

Showman 4

- ^{1.11} Showman 4 has family ties to Gloucester, but is currently staying elsewhere. This site is felt to be too *congested* to allow him to keep his equipment there, so it is stored at other showman's yards. Foscombe Hill is considered to be a preferential site because the other showpeople looking to live on the site are friends and colleagues. Showman 4 argues that a single plot at the site would accommodate his young family and any foreseeable future need arising thereof.

Showman 5

- ^{1.12} Showman 5 grew up in Gloucester, but currently resides elsewhere. He also considers his current site to be overcrowded, and is unable to carry out maintenance work or store equipment on site. Consequently, his equipment is sometimes stored in laybys, where it is not covered by his insurance. He is looking for a single plot for his family.
- ^{1.13} Showman 5 feels the Foscombe Hill site is suitable because it is *out of the way*, has good access and is large enough to store and maintain equipment. While he does not feel that these traits are specific solely to that site, Showman 5 was pessimistic about the possibility of other sites coming forward.
- ^{1.14} Showman 5 believed community opposition to be a problem and referred to what he felt to be a general ignorance regarding the Showpeople lifestyle.
- ^{1.15} While he considers keeping the group together to be desirable, as their children are friends, Showman 5 would consider suggestions for smaller sites.

Showman 6

- 1.16 Showman 6 currently has no permanent base and travels between sites as and when space becomes available. Showman 6 is looking for a single plot for his young family. Gloucester is felt to be preferable due to family ties. The site at Foscombe Hill is thought to be ideal because of its proximity to motorways and affordability. Showman 6 feels that a plot at the site would accommodate for all his family's need for the foreseeable future.
- 1.17 Showman 6 described the difficulties he experienced finding space at sites in Gloucestershire and a general sense of the sites being overcrowded:

They're all full. Everywhere you go is full. It's not just me. There's a lot of people like me who are asking, making phone calls all the time to see if there's any space available in different people's premises.

- 1.18 He also described how this lack of space had cost him financially:

We've got quite a few vehicles and obviously if we can't get somewhere to park them, sometimes we've got to pay rent in other people's premises. And with the diesel costs nowadays, you can do a hundred mile round trip to take it somewhere completely out of the way.

Showman 7

- 1.19 Showman 7 is currently renting a plot in Gloucester, but feels his tenancy may be insecure. Showman 7 feels his site is overcrowded, and is looking for a single plot for his family. A site near Gloucester would be preferred, as he has lived in the area for a number of years, has strong family ties in the area and because it is centrally located within the areas he does business.
- 1.20 Showman 7 considers Foscombe Hill to be an ideal location for a site because it is near to Gloucester, has good access onto a low traffic road and has few houses nearby. He emphasised that the Showpeople were willing to develop and fund their own sites, and wanted to integrate themselves into the wider community.
- 1.21 Showman 7 feels that mixed Gypsy/Traveller/Showpeople sites, are not an option:

We don't integrate with the Gypsies. They keep to themselves, and we keep to ourselves.

Showman 8

- 1.22 Showman 8 grew up in Gloucester City, but currently lives elsewhere, due to a lack of available plots in Gloucestershire. Because of his family ties and the nearby fairs that he works at, Showman 8 considers the Gloucester area to be the best location.
- 1.23 Showman 8 described the difficulties for his family caused by being unable to find a plot in Gloucester. He reported trouble getting his children into school and has had to use a doctor his family don't know. Having previously employed tradesmen in Gloucester, he felt that the move made his business more difficult:

When I want something fixed or I want something, I use local welders, local people to fix my lorry. When we have to move out, like I am now, I don't know anybody, I don't know where to go to get something done, you know... You've got to start from scratch.

- 1.24 While he would consider other sites across Gloucestershire, he noted that; *at this stage, we can't be fussy*. Showman 8 felt that *the best site available is one we already have at Foscombe Hill* and said that all other potential sites of which he was aware had already been proposed and refused.

Showman 9

- 1.25 Showman 9 grew up in Gloucester, and is now based in Tewkesbury Borough, where he stays on a relative's site. He works fairs across Gloucestershire as well as in Wales. Although his current site accommodates his current need, he feels that his plot is insecure, as the site has only temporary planning. Showman 9 also noted; *it's not my site. They could turn round tomorrow and ask me to leave*. Consequently, Showman 9 is looking for a site in the Gloucester area as it has good connections via the M5 and M50, and is close to many of the fairs where he works.
- 1.26 The Foscombe site itself is thought to be an ideal location because it is within walking distance of a shop, and is close to Gloucester's schools and healthcare. It is also within 4 miles of the existing showman site at Pool Meadow, to which Showman 9 has ties.
- 1.27 However, Showman 9 also mentioned the possibility of a land swap with the Forest of Dean, and is willing to consider other locations.

Showman 10

- 1.28 Showman 10 is currently living on a site outside of Gloucestershire but has been looking for a permanent site for 12-14 years. His current site lacks sufficient space to store his equipment when it is not in use, and it is currently scattered across a number of different sites across Wales and the South West, making necessary maintenance work extremely difficult. He is looking for a single plot for his family.
- 1.29 Due to the extent of Showman 10's working area, a location within Gloucestershire is essential to his work:
- To be quite honest with you, Gloucester doesn't materially come into it, because I travel all over the width of England, Scotland and Wales. I have got events in Gloucestershire that I work. But I wouldn't say that it's materially justified me staying in Gloucester for the events and the venues that I go to at the moment.*
- 1.30 Showman 10 would therefore consider a site outside of Gloucestershire if such a site was available, but is sceptical about the prospects of finding unproblematic sites elsewhere:

If I thought that there was a possibility that we could get a site in another area a lot easier than what we've been doing in Gloucestershire, I would accept that and go there. However, like I just said a minute ago, we can't keep chucking money at sites, and trying to overcome hurdles that are put up against us, when as soon as we get over one thing, there's going to be something else put there.

- 1.31 Showman 10 is, however, open to the idea of a Local Authority managed and owned site:

That would be very welcome, to all of the proposed residents of Foscombe Hill, if you could actually rent a site rather than purchase it.

^{1.32} Showman 10 nonetheless considers the Foscombe Hill site to be the most realistic prospect for a site in the future.

Appendix E: Bath and North East Somerset Council Boat Dwellers and Bargee Travellers Task and Finish Group Consultation Invitation

Bath and North East Somerset Council Boat Dwellers and River Travellers Task and Finish Group

A review by the Housing and Major Projects Overview and Scrutiny Panel

B&NES has an obligation to provide appropriate services to the people living, working and visiting Bath and North East Somerset. In order to provide a better understanding of Boat Dwellers (people who live on boats) and River Travellers, we are investigating their common needs and requirements along the River Avon in Bath & North East Somerset (*Hanham Lock to Dundas Wharf on the Kennet & Avon Canal*). This will provide the Housing and Major Projects Panel with enough information to make recommendations to Cabinet for both practical measures and future policy development to support their needs.

The work will also set out to support the work carried out by the former River Corridor Group, now The River Regeneration Trust and their vision for the future River Avon and how a B&NES River Strategy links to the Current Core Strategy. Specifically, the requirement to deliver more riverside and off-line river dwellings, which have so far been increased through large housing developments and not yet that of people living on the waterways in Bath & North East Somerset.

It is also important that our recommendations for the river is integrated with B&NES other policies, such as tourism, education, social care, health, economic wellbeing and 'housing'.

As a Boat Dweller or River Traveller, we would welcome your comments and ideas as to how we can help provide better services and support to make our rivers, canal and riversides an even better place to live, work, play and prosper. If you wish to help, you can:

- (1) Speak with one of our officers today who will record your feedback using some standard questions
- (2) Speak with one of officers today to arrange a one-to-one interview at your convenience
- (3) Contact us with your ideas and concerns before April 19th 2013 to:

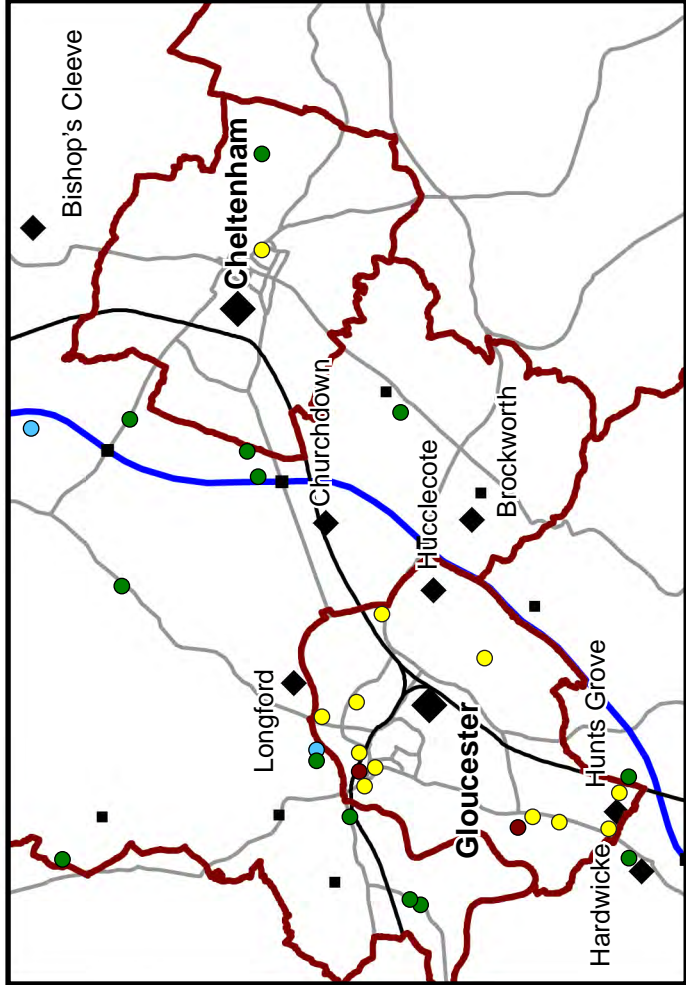
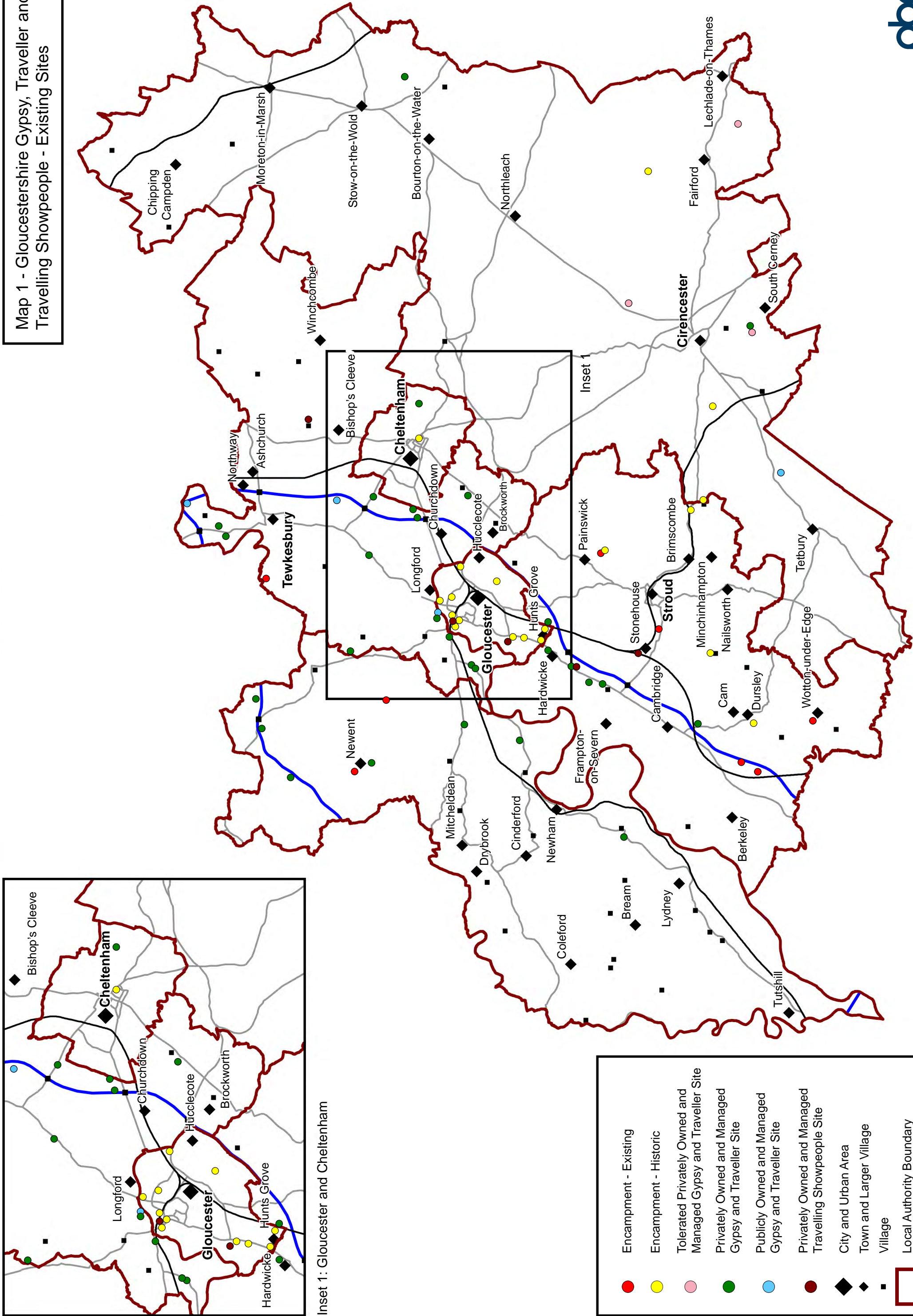
Boat Dwellers & River Travellers Task Group
Policy Development & Scrutiny
Bath and North East Somerset Council
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BA1 5AW

Email : Scrutiny@BATHNES.GOV.UK Tel: 01225396053

Our Thanks for your support.

Appendix F: Existing Sites and Broad Locations Maps

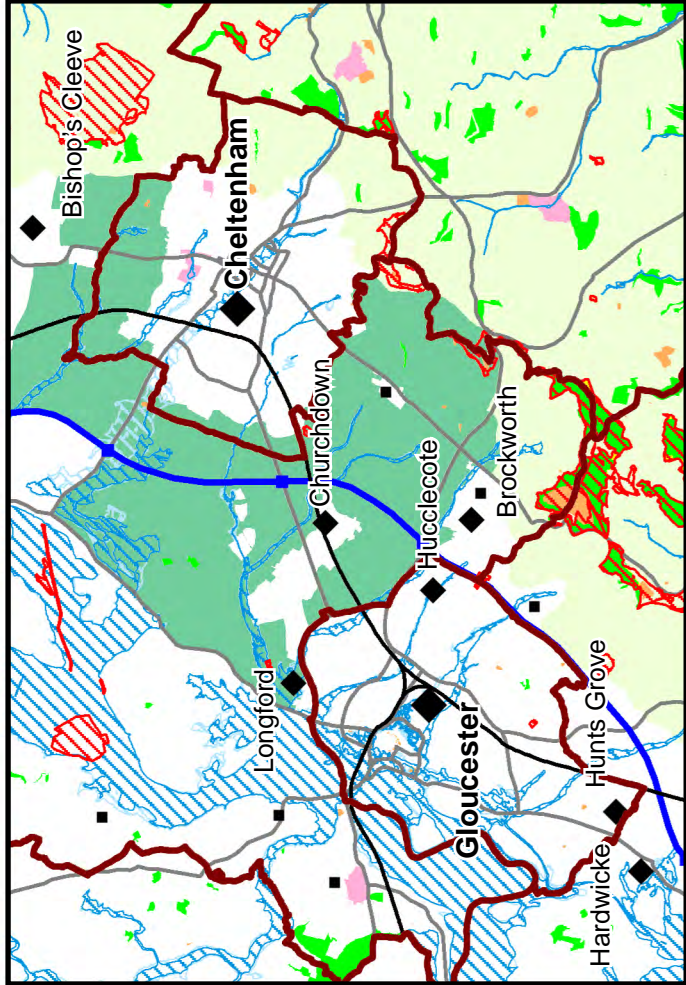
Map 1 - Gloucestershire Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople - Existing Sites



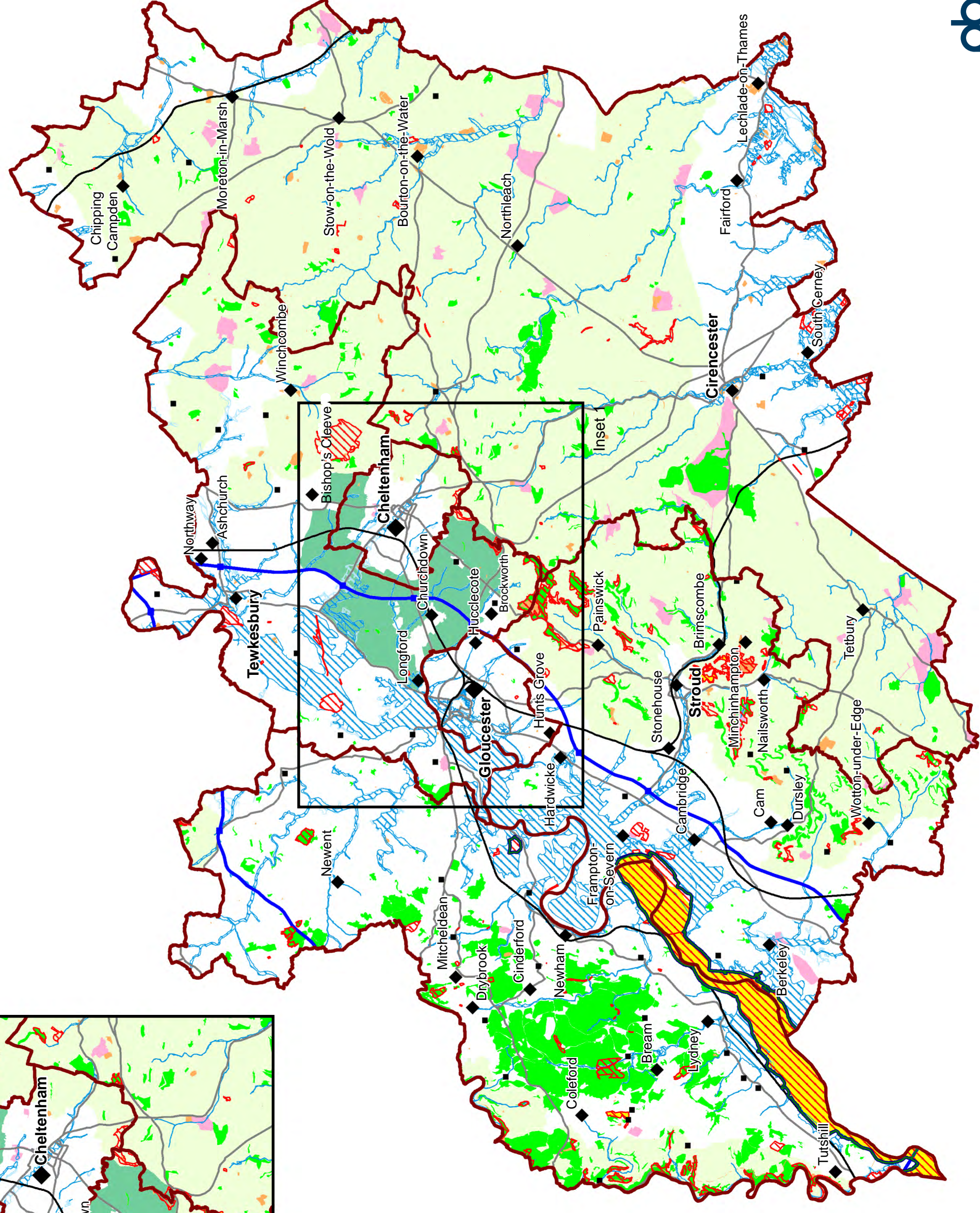
Inset 1: Gloucester and Cheltenham

- Encampment - Existing
- Encampment - Historic
- Tolerated Privately Owned and Managed Gypsy and Traveller Site
- Privately Owned and Managed Gypsy and Traveller Site
- Publicly Owned and Managed Gypsy and Traveller Site
- ◆ Privately Owned and Managed Travelling Showpeople Site
- ◆ City and Urban Area
- ◆ Town and Larger Village
- Village
- Local Authority Boundary

Map 2 - Gloucestershire Constraints for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Sites

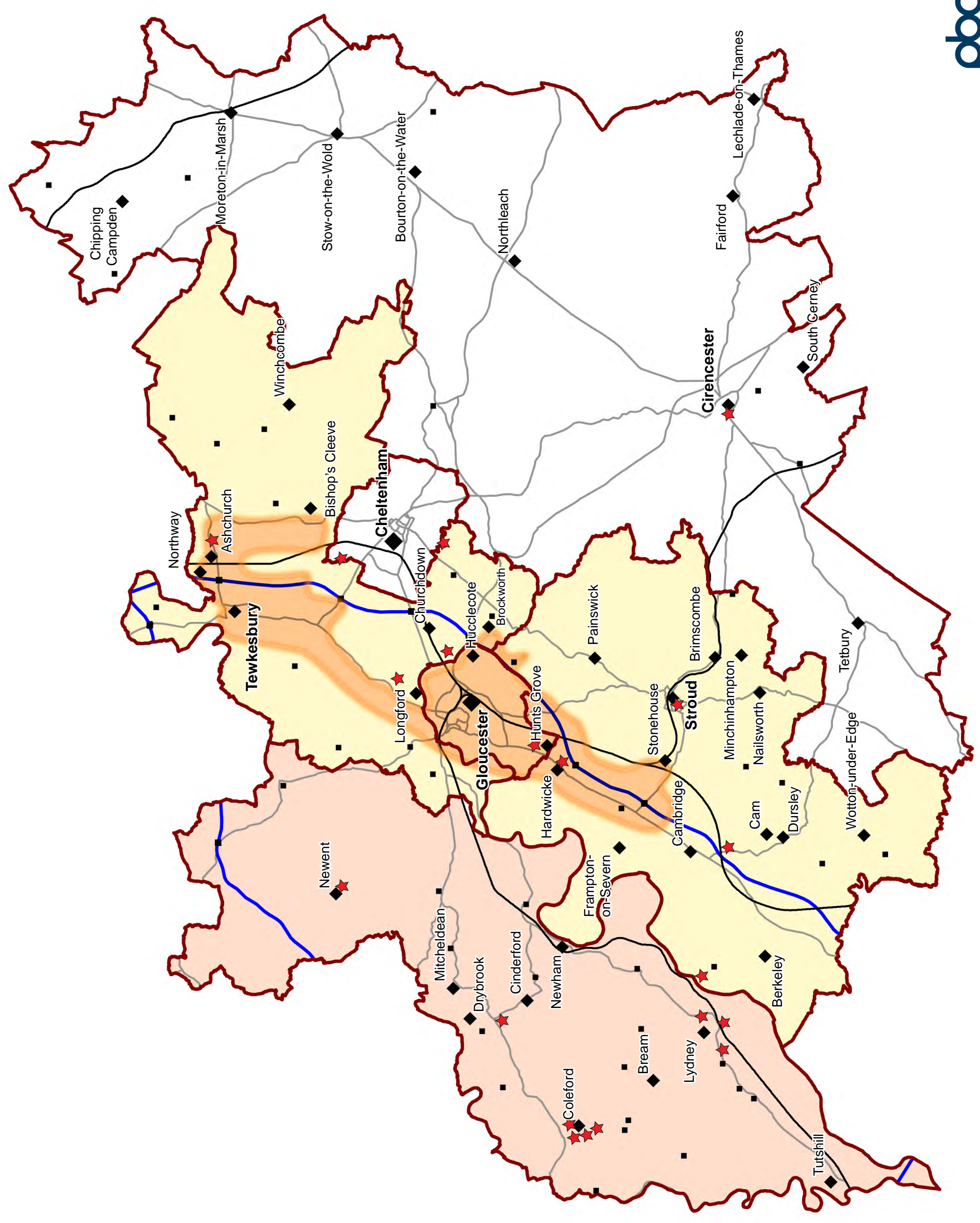


Inset 1: Gloucester and Cheltenham



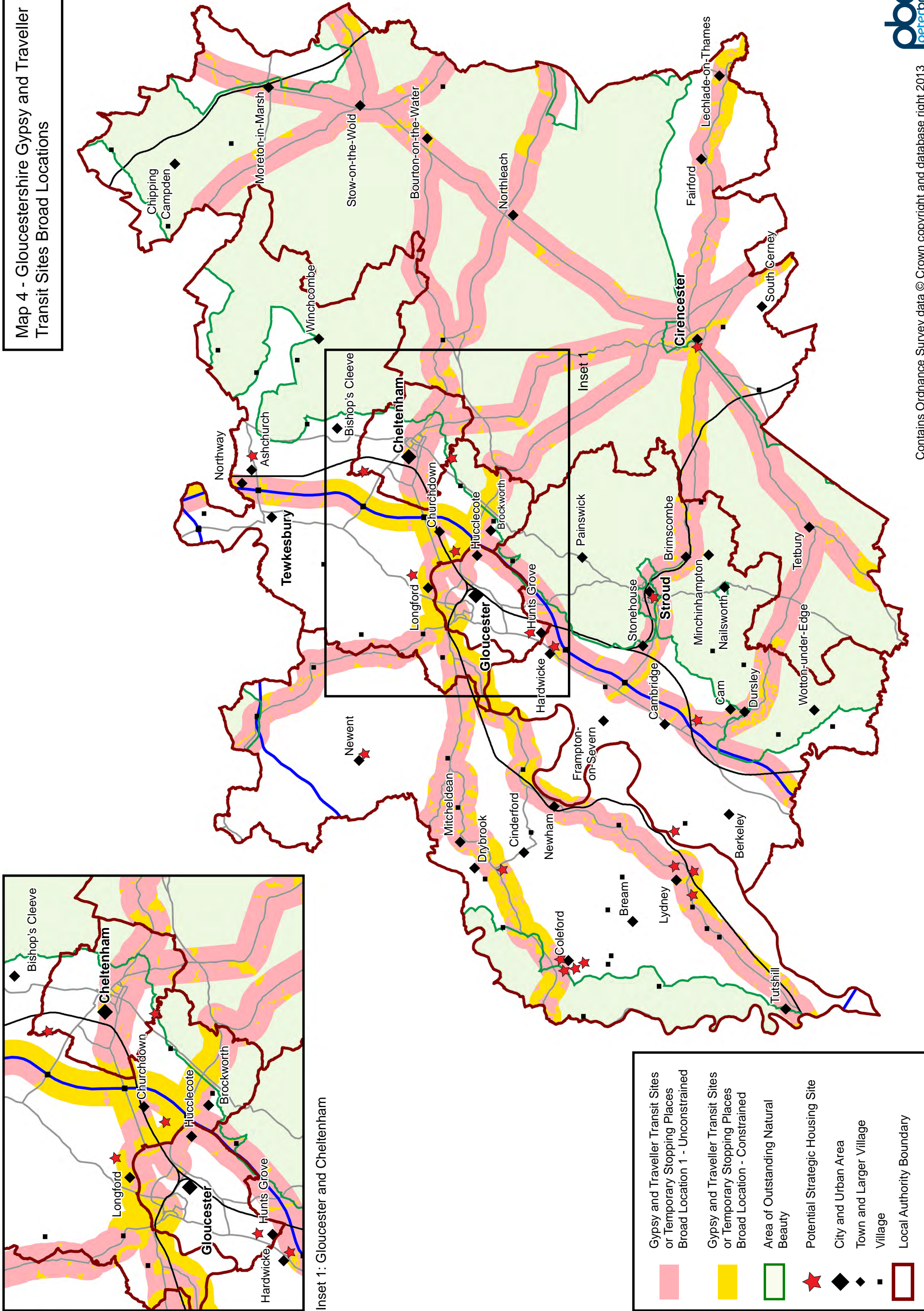
	Ancient Woodland
	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
	Flood Zone 2
	Flood Zone 3
	Green Belt
	Registered Park and Garden
	RAMSAR
	Scheduled Ancient Monument
	Site of Special Scientific Interest
	Special Area of Conservation
	Special Protection Area
	City and Urban Area
	Town and Larger Village
	Village
	Local Authority Boundary

Map 3 - Gloucestershire Travelling Showpeople Sites Broad Locations

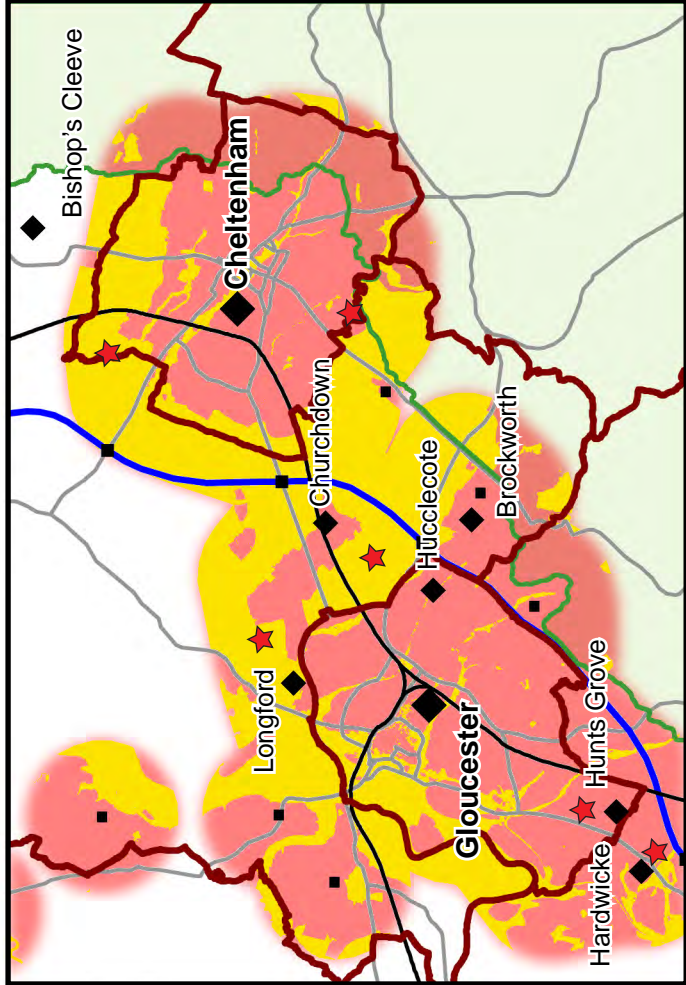
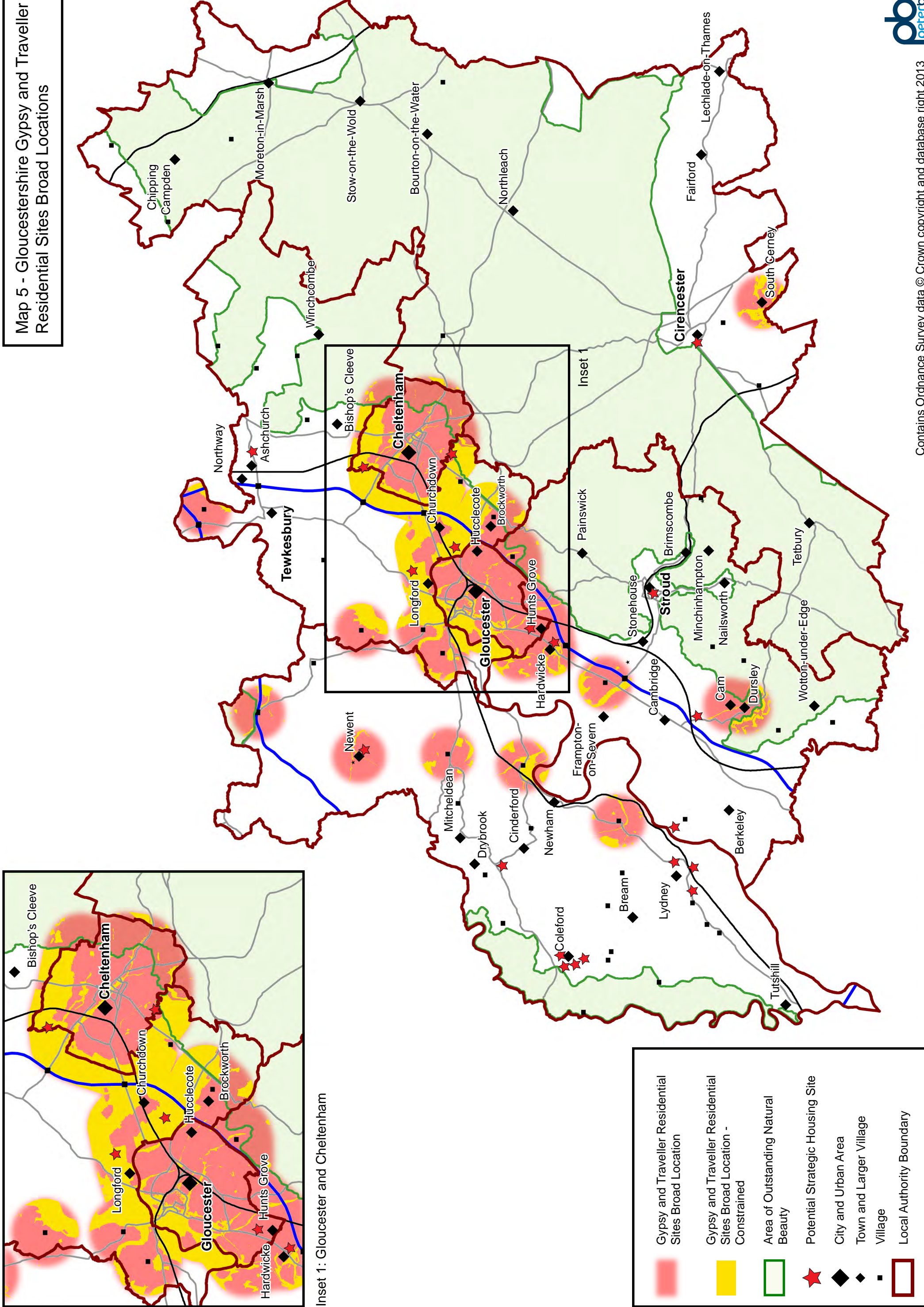


	Travelling Showpeople Sites Broad Location 1a
	Travelling Showpeople Sites Broad Location 1b
	Travelling Showpeople Sites Broad Location 2
	Potential Strategic Housing Site
	City and Urban Area
	Town and Larger Village
	Village
	Local Authority Boundary

Map 4 - Gloucestershire Gypsy and Traveller Transit Sites Broad Locations



Map 5 - Gloucestershire Gypsy and Traveller Residential Sites Broad Locations



Inset 1: Gloucester and Cheltenham

	Gypsy and Traveller Residential Sites Broad Location
	Gypsy and Traveller Residential Sites Broad Location - Constrained
	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
	Potential Strategic Housing Site
	City and Urban Area
	Town and Larger Village
	Village
	Local Authority Boundary

Appendix G: Site Design Templates

EXAMPLE OF 1-2 PITCH PRIVATE SITE (0.14 acres)

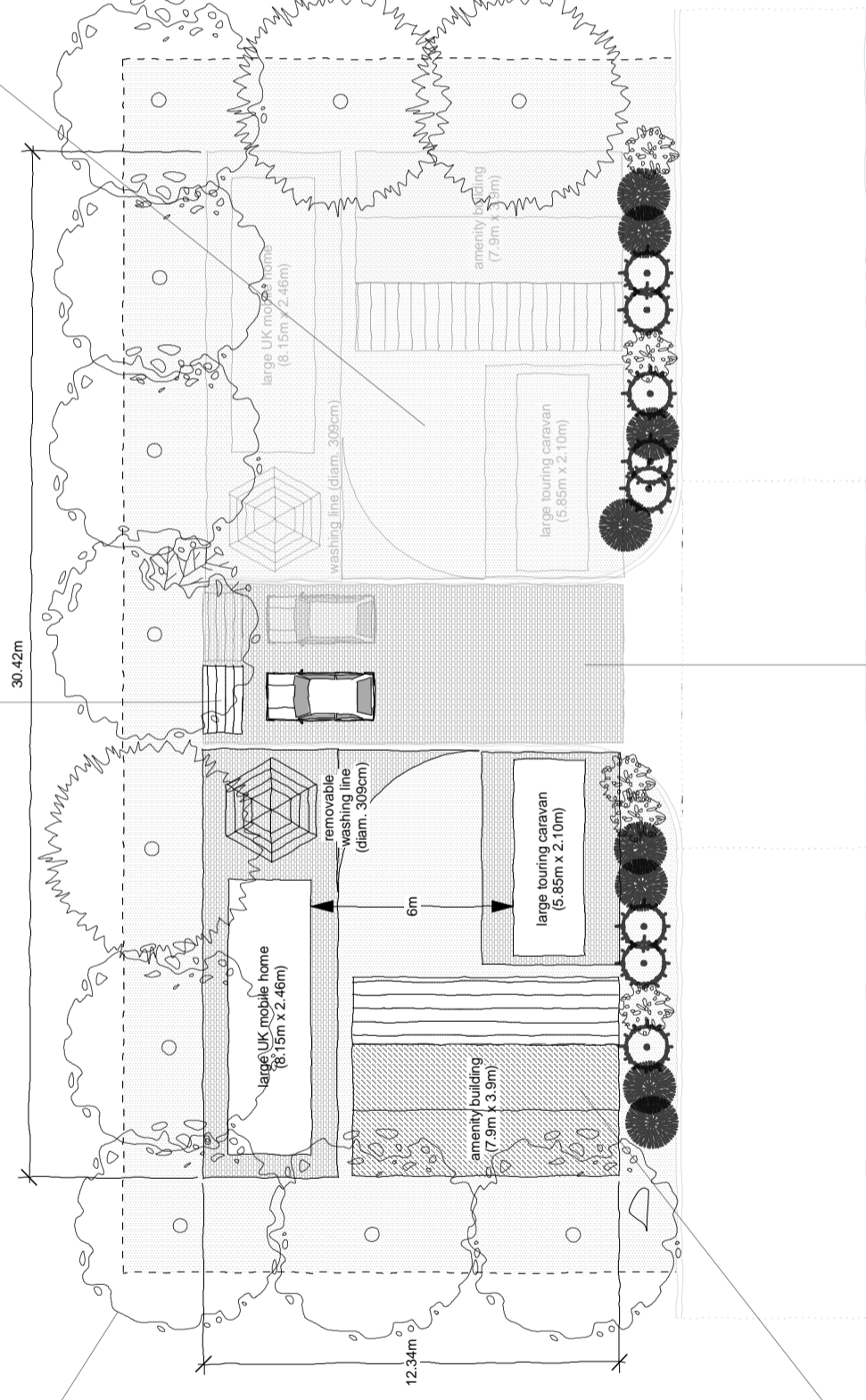
Use of existing landscaping (such as mature hedgerows) is desirable particularly if it encourages biodiversity (generally native species) and is low maintenance. It affords a good level of privacy and security without the defensive/hostile nature of gates, walls and fences. That said, each site will need to be designed with the appropriate security measures in mind as per the Police's 'Secure By Design' Principles. There will be considerable difference in these needs between urban and rural locations, for example.

A secure/lockable shed should be provided for storage of things like bicycles and other large but portable equipment. Size is dependent on needs, but there should be sufficient space for each member of the family to have a bicycle as well as any other gardening equipment.

Ideally sites would provide space play and/or food growing. In this instance this area of land could also accommodate a further pitch if necessary, though that would of course restrict the play and food growing to the small open space on each pitch.

A

A



There should be at least a 3m gap within the inside of all site perimeter boundaries and a 6m gap between combustible units, which includes caravans and mobile homes, though not amenity buildings if made out of non-combustible materials.

Some families will also have need of grazing land for their horse(s). Minimum spaces are for 1 horse to 1 acre (or 0.5 acre for ponies or horses under 14.2 hands)

Living quarters should generally not be overlooked by neighbours so some further hedging may be necessary

Government guidance suggests that amenity buildings should include:

- water closet (basin, toilet, bath/shower)
- (open plan) kitchen/dining/living area
- secure storage space for harmful substances/medicines
- enclosed storage for food, broom, washing/cleaning items
- space for cooker, fridge/freezer & washing machine

We suggest also that a large porch, veranda or other covered outdoor space would be useful given the limited indoor living space and the relatively high levels of cloud cover and precipitation in this country.

Access routes will need to accommodate all vehicles that need access to the site. In this case tracking would need to be carried out to ensure that there is sufficient turning space (on hard standing if regularly moved) for a large mobile home. Standards for refuse and fire truck access will need to be met too. Again, in this case space for safe stopping only is needed as the site is small enough to ensure that distance to refuse collection points and hose length standards are met. These standards and others can be found in Building Regulations and Manual for Streets.

Revision Notes

Appr

Date

No.

-64 Jan 2011 Issue Note

Date

No.

Issue Notes

Design Firm

Consultant

Project Title

Sheet Title

1-2 Pitch Site

Project ID

Project Manager

Mark Russell

Drawn By

Daniel Black

Scale

1:200 @ A3

Reviewed By

N/A

Sheet No.

Sheet No.

of

1 of 1

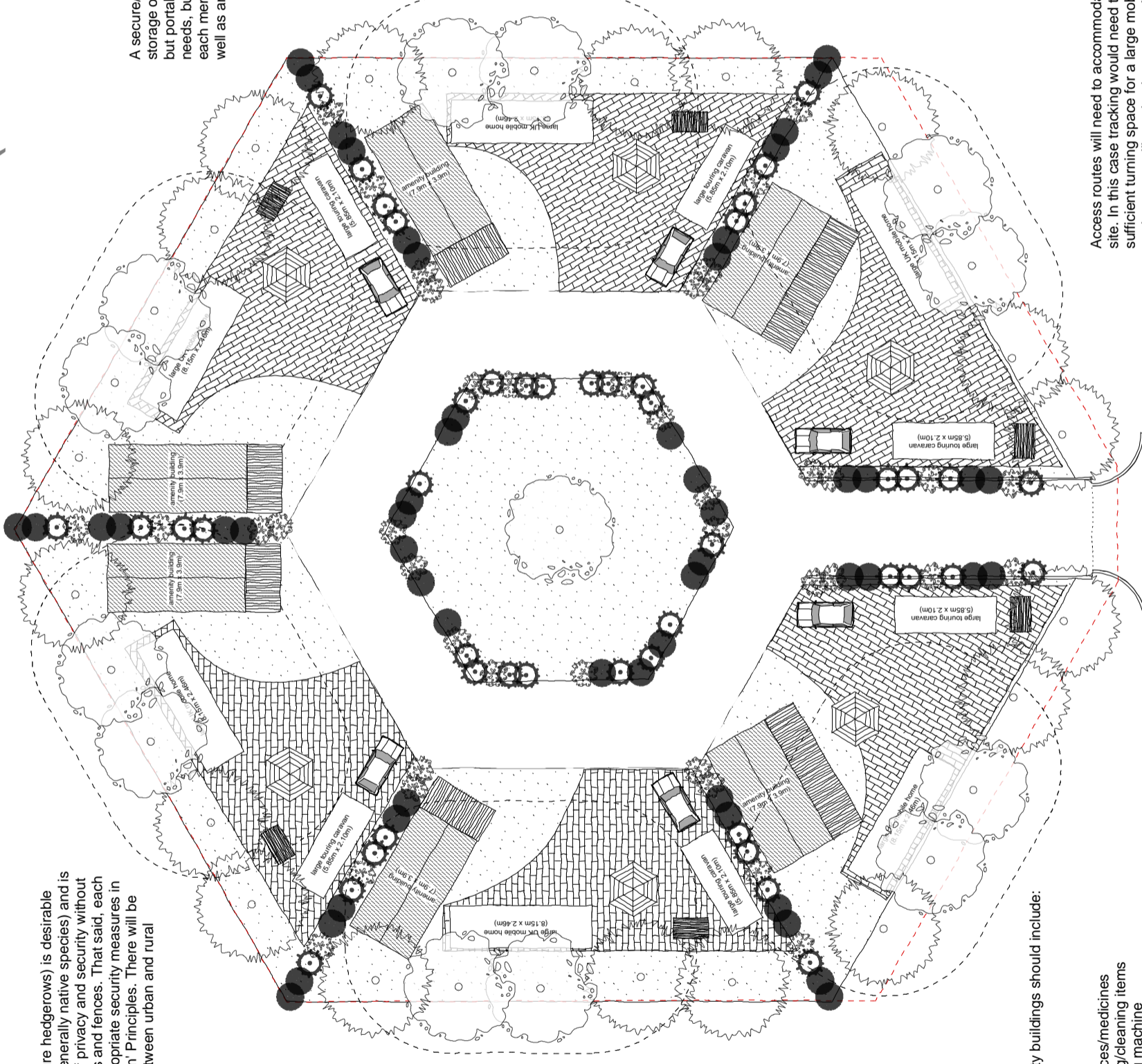
C/D File Name

a483/001/Rev1

EXAMPLE OF 6 PITCH PRIVATE SITE (0.66 acre)

Use of existing landscaping (such as mature hedgerows) is desirable particularly if it encourages biodiversity (generally native species) and is low maintenance. It affords a good level of privacy and security without the defensive/hostile nature of gates, walls and fences. That said, each site will need to be designed with the appropriate security measures in mind as per the Police's 'Secure By Design' Principles. There will be considerable difference in these needs between urban and rural locations, for example.

There should be at least a 3m gap within the inside of all site perimeter boundaries and a 6m gap between combustible units, which includes caravans and mobile homes, though not amenity buildings if made out of non-combustible materials.



A secure/lockable shed should be provided for storage of things like bicycles and other large, but portable equipment. Size is dependent on needs, but there should be sufficient space for each member of the family to have a bicycle as well as any other gardening equipment.

A horseshoe layout is recommended in government guidance as it allows residents to look out for each other while at the same time affording sufficient privacy. It also provides a central play area/open space that is easily visible from each of the pitches.

Some families will also have need of grazing land for their horse(s). Minimum spaces are for 1 horse to 1 acre (or 0.5 acre for ponies or horses under 14.2 hands)

Living quarters should generally not be overlooked by neighbours so some further hedging may be necessary

Access routes will need to accommodate all vehicles that need access to the site. In this case tracking would need to be carried out to ensure that there is sufficient turning space for a large mobile home. Standards for refuse and fire truck access will need to be met too. Again, in this case space for safe stopping only is needed as the site is small enough to ensure that distance to refuse collection points and hose length standards are met. These standards and others can be found in Building Regulations and Manual for Streets.

Government guidance suggests that amenity buildings should include:

- water closet (basin, toilet, bath/shower)
- (open plan) kitchen/dining/living area
- secure storage space for harmful substances/medicines
- enclosed storage for food, broom, washing/cleaning items
- space for cooker, fridge/freezer & washing machine

We suggest also that a large porch, veranda or other covered outdoor space would be useful given the limited indoor living space and the relatively high levels of cloud cover and precipitation in this country.

Revision Notes

Appr

Date

No.

Issue Note

Date

No.

Issue Note

Date

No.

Design Firm

Consultant

Project Title

Sheet Title

6 Pitch Site

Project Manager

Mark Russell

Drawn By

Daniel Black

Reviewed By

N/A

Date

CAD File Name

a483/002/Rev1

Scale

1:300 @ A3

Sheet No.

Sheet No. 2

of

6

Appendix H: Gypsy and Traveller On-site Survey



Gloucestershire
Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople
Accommodation Needs Survey November 2012—On-Site

INTERVIEWER READ OUT: Good Morning/afternoon/evening. My name is < > from Opinion Research Services, working on behalf of The Council's of Gloucestershire. The Councils are undertaking a study of Gypsy & Traveller accommodation needs in this area. We would like you to take part because it is important that we interview a wide cross-section of people. Your family will not be identified and all the information collected will be anonymous and only used to help understand the needs of Gypsy and Traveller households. You do not have to answer all the questions but the more information you can provide the better the survey will be. The survey will take around 20-25 minutes to complete.

Name of Site and address:

S1 Are you a showman?

- Yes → Go to Showman questionnaire
- No → Go to Section A

A General Trends

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

*INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only*

- Yes → Go to A2
- No → Ask (b)

A1b INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS IT'S NOT THEIR PERMANENT BASE.

Where do you consider your permanent base to be?

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

A1c Thinking of your current location, have you travelled to this area before?

*INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only*

- Yes → Ask (d)
- No → Go to A3

A1d When did you start coming to this area?

*INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only*

- Less than 2 years ago 5 years ago but less than 10 years ago
- 2 years ago but less than 5 years ago 10 years ago or longer

Go to A3

A2 What attracts you to live in this area?

INTERVIEWER: Please read out options and code all that apply

The open countryside	<input type="checkbox"/>	Always lived in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality of life	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local schools	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is on/near traditional travelling routes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local health facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have historical roots in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nowhere else to go	<input type="checkbox"/>
To be near family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Please write in below	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is work in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>		

A3a Do you feel that you have strong connections with this area?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to Section B

A3b What are your connections with this area?

INTERVIEWER: Please read out options and code all that apply

Always lived in this area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends are from this area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lived here a long time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family members work here	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grew up in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Children go to school here	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have a tradition of travelling to/through this area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family members receive care/support from Council/other local services here	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family are from this area	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Please write in below	<input type="checkbox"/>

B

Your accommodation

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

B1a How would you describe this accommodation?

INTERVIEWER: Please read out options and code all that apply

Trailer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tourer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile Home	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other type of home Please write in below	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalet	<input type="checkbox"/>		

B1b Including this accommodation, how many of each type of accommodation do you have on this pitch?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box in each row

	None	One	Two	Three or more
Trailer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile Home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other type of home (Please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

- | | |
|---|--|
| Less than a week <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 year but less than 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1 week but less than one month <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 years but less than 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 1 month but less than 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 years or more <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 months but less than 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> | |

B3a Is this site...? *INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please cross one box only*

- | | |
|---|--|
| An authorised private site <input type="checkbox"/> Ask (b) | A transit site <input type="checkbox"/> Go to B4 |
| An authorised public site (Council) <input type="checkbox"/> Go to B4 | Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Go to B4 |
| An unauthorised development <input type="checkbox"/> Go to B4 | Other type of site (Please write in below) <input type="checkbox"/> Go to B4 |
| An unauthorised encampment <input type="checkbox"/> Go to B4 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 100%;"></div> |

B3b Have you tried to gain planning permission for your site?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------|
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (c) |
| No <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B4 |
| Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B4 |

B3c How easy was it to gain planning permission for your site?

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please cross one box only

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| Very easy <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B4 |
| Fairly easy <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B4 |
| Neither easy nor difficult <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B4 |
| Fairly difficult <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (d) |
| Very difficult <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (d) |

B3d INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS DIFFICULT

If planning permission was difficult to obtain, why? *INTERVIEWER: Please write in below*

B4a Does your current accommodation and site meet all of your needs in terms of accommodation quality and space; and site facilities, location and management?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|----------|
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B5 |
| No <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |

B4b Why does this accommodation not meet your needs?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Accommodation in poor state of repair | <input type="checkbox"/> | No play area for children | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Too small | <input type="checkbox"/> | Site management | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Too large | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pitch location on site | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lacking facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | Too far from other family members | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Site too far from services | <input type="checkbox"/> | No space for visiting caravans on site | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Site too noisy | <input type="checkbox"/> | Can't conduct business on site | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Site not safe enough | <input type="checkbox"/> | Too far from where my business activity is | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Site too dirty/polluted | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <i>Please write in below</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B4c Do you feel that your needs can be addressed at this pitch or would you have to move to another pitch/site? INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please cross one box only

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|----------|
| Can be addressed at this pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B5 |
| Will have to move to another pitch at this site | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (d) |
| Would like to move to another site | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (d) |

B4d Are you on any of the following accommodation waiting lists?

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS Please code all that apply.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------|
| Housing (bricks and mortar) | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (e) |
| Council site | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (e) |
| Private site | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (e) |
| None | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B5 |
| Other <i>Please write in below</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (e) |

B4e IF ON A WAITING LIST: INTERVIEWER READ OUT

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

B5a Is there anyone else, who given the choice, would like to live with you, but is not able to at present?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---|----------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B6 |

B5b Who are the people who would like to live here, but are not able to at present?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply

Husband, wife or partner

Grandparent

Son or daughter (inc. adopted, step-, fostered & -in-law)

Grandchild

Brother or sister (inc. half-, step & -in-law)

Not related

Parent (inc. -in-law)

Other related *Please write in below*

Niece or nephew

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

B5d In what type of accommodation do they currently live?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

Have their own pitch on an authorised site

Bricks and mortar

Sharing with another household on an authorised site

Overseas

Unauthorised development

Don't know

Unauthorised encampment

Other *Please write in below*

Transit site

B6a Are additional caravans needed at this pitch? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box

Yes \longrightarrow Ask (b)

No \longrightarrow Go to B7

B6b Which members of your household require additional caravans?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply

Older children

Adult relatives

Other (*Please write in*)

B6c How many additional caravans are needed?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

One

Two

Three

Four

Five or more

B6d Is there space on your existing pitch for these extra caravans?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Yes

No

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

- | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|---|-----------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B10 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to B10 |

B7b INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS YES

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

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

Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| House | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bungalow | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Flat | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Caravan/trailer that is on a:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Council run site | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|------------------|--------------------------|

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Private site owned by others | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Private site owned by you | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Authorised transit site | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unauthorised encampment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other <i>Please write in below</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B7da Where do they want to move to? *INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply.*

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Gloucester | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stow-on-the-Wold and surrounding area | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cheltenham | <input type="checkbox"/> | Stroud District | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tewkesbury Town and surrounding area | <input type="checkbox"/> | Forest of Dean towns | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bishops Cleeve and surrounding area | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (<i>Please write in below</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cirencester and surrounding area | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

B7db INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY WANT TO MOVE TO ANY OF THE AREAS ABOVE IN B7da.

Are there any specific places you want to move to within the areas you mentioned earlier? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below. If respondent gives more than one answer, please rank in order of preference*

B7e Are they on any of the following accommodation waiting lists? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

Housing (bricks and mortar) → Ask (f)

Council site → Ask (f)

Private site → Ask (f)

None → Ask (g)

Don't know → Ask (g)

Other (please write in) → Ask (f)

B7f IF ON A WAITING LIST: INTERVIEWER READ OUT

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

B7g Do you expect them to be able to move to their desired location?

*INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only*

Yes → Go to B8

No → Ask (h)

B7h Why do you expect them not to be able to move to their desired location?

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

B7i Do you expect them to move to any new permanent base in the next two years?

*INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross **one** box only*

Yes → Ask (k)

No → Go to B10

Don't know → Go to B10

B7j What type of accommodation would you expect them to move to? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and probe for most desired.

Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:

House

Bungalow

Flat

Caravan/trailer that is on a:

Council run site

Private site owned by others

Private site owned by you

Authorised transit site

Unauthorised encampment

Don't know

Other Please write in below

B7k Where do you expect them to establish this permanent base?

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

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

Fresh water

Hot water

Toilet

Electricity

Laundry

Shower/bath

Domestic rubbish storage/collection

Letter box

None

Other Please write in below

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

Toilet

Shower/bath facilities

Laundry

Play area

Lorry park

Post box

Telephone

Electricity

Gas

Refuse collection

Parking spaces

Water

Visitors parking spaces

Cooking facilities

Space for eating/sitting

Heating

Firefighting equipment

Emergency phone

Workshops for business

Storage for business needs (e.g. for tools)

None

Other Please write in below

B10 Are any of the following facilities available at your current accommodation for use just by you and your family? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.

- Fresh water
- Hot water
- Toilet
- Electricity
- Laundry

- Shower/bath
- Domestic rubbish storage/collection
- Letter box
- None
- Other Please write in below

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

- Toilet
- Shower/bath facilities
- Laundry
- Play area
- Lorry park
- Post box
- Telephone
- Electricity
- Gas
- Refuse collection
- Parking spaces

- Water
- Visitors parking spaces
- Cooking facilities
- Space for eating/sitting
- Heating
- Firefighting equipment
- Emergency phone
- Workshops for business
- Secure storage for business needs
- None
- Other Please write in below

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

- Better toilet facilities
- Better washing facilities
- Better site management
- Better site layout
- More pitches
- Less pitches
- Larger pitches
- Better access to main road
- CCTV
- Workshops for business
- Secure storage for business needs
- Refuse storage
- Improved utility facilities (water/gas/electricity)

- Space for visitors
- Car parking
- Lorry parking
- Play area
- Improved road surfacing
- Play area
- Pest control
- Better landscaping
- Site safety
- No improvements required
- Not applicable (if unauthorised site)
- Other Please write in below

B13 While living at this site, what services needed by you or your family, if any, do you have difficulty getting to or accessing? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe but do not prompt and code all that apply,*

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Shopping facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | Local schools | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Doctor (GP) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Childcare facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Park or open space | <input type="checkbox"/> | Local hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public transport | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pharmacy/chemist | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sports/leisure centre | <input type="checkbox"/> | Dentist | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Council/neighbourhood office | <input type="checkbox"/> | Care for elderly/sick family members | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Library | <input type="checkbox"/> | None stated | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cultural/recreational facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <i>Please write in below</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither satisfied nor
dissatisfied | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

C

Travelling

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

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|----------|
| None –did not travel | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to C4 |
| One | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |
| Two | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |
| Three | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |
| Four | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |
| Five or more | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |

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

Less than 1 month	1 month but less than 3 months	3 months but less than 6 months	6 months but less than 12 months	Travelled all year round
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

An authorised private site	<input type="checkbox"/>	A transit site	<input type="checkbox"/>
An authorised public site (Council)	<input type="checkbox"/>	A travelling show site	<input type="checkbox"/>
An unauthorised development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other type of site <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An unauthorised encampment / Road site	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 100%; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	

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

Normal	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C3
Travelled less in recent years	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
Travelled more in recent years	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)

C2b Why have your travelling patterns changed in recent years? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below*

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

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (b)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C5

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

Summer	Autumn	Winter	Spring	All year round
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

For work	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C5
Family reasons	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C5
For a holiday	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C5
Fairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C5
Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to C5

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

Yes → Ask (b)

No → Go to D1

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

So children can receive education

Want a more settled lifestyle

Due to ill-health of some family members

Lack of casual employment in other areas

Due to old age of some family members

Other Please write in below

No longer easy to camp on the side of the road when travelling

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

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

Yes → Ask (b)

No → Go to D1

C5b Have you experienced any problems at transit sites? INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

Yes → Ask (c)

No → Go to (d)

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

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

Toilet

Post box

Shower/bath facilities

Telephone

Standpipes or water supply

Electricity

Laundry

Gas

Play area

None

Lorry park

Other Please write in below

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

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

A few days

Up to a week

Up to two weeks

Up to a month

Longer than a month

D

Bricks and Mortar

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

Yes



Go to (e)

No



Ask (b)

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

Yes



Ask (c)

No



Go to Section E

D1c Why did you leave? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below*

D1d When did you last live in this type of accommodation?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

Less than one year ago

5 years but less than 10 years ago

1 year but less than 3 years ago

10 years ago or longer

3 years but less than 5 years ago

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

E**The Future**

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

Yes → Ask (b)

No → Go to E5

Don't know → Go to E5

E1b What are your main reasons for wanting or needing a new permanent base within the next 15 years?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe (especially about timeframe) and write in below

E1ca Ideally where do you want to establish this permanent base?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply.

Gloucester

Cheltenham

Tewkesbury Town and surrounding area

Bishops Cleeve and surrounding area

Cirencester and surrounding area

Stow-on-the-Wold and surrounding area

Stroud District

Forest of Dean towns

Other (*Please write in below*)

E1cb *INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT SAYS THEY WANT TO ESTABLISH BASE AT ANY OF THE AREAS ABOVE IN E1ca.*

Are there any specific places you want to establish a base at within the areas you mentioned earlier? *INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below. If respondent gives more than one answer, please rank in order of preference*

E1d What are your main reasons for wanting to move to this location?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

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

In a city/town/village

Adjacent or close to a town/village

Rural

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

Yes → Go to E2

No → Ask (g)

Don't know → Go to E2

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

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

Yes → Ask (j)

No → Go to E2

Don't know → Go to E2

E1i Where do you expect to establish this permanent base? INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below in as much detail as possible

E2a If you move to a new permanent base, which of the following types of accommodation would you most like to move to? INTERVIEWER: Please READ OUT and probe for most desired. Cross **one** box only.

Bricks and mortar accommodation that is a:

House → Go to E5

Bungalow → Go to E5

Flat → Go to E5

Caravan/trailer that is on a...

Council run site → Go to E3

Private site owned by others → Go to E3

Private site owned by you → Ask (b)

Transit site → Go to E3

Unauthorised encampment → Go to E3

Don't know → Go to F1

Other Please write in below → Go to E3

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

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and cross **one** box only

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|-----------|
| Just your family live on the land | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to (d) |
| Allow other families/anyone to rent/have pitches | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (c) |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to (d) |

E2c Who in general would you let pitches to?

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Close family | <input type="checkbox"/> | Anyone | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Extended family | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Please write in below | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Close friends | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

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

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

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

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box only

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Yes | No | Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

E3 Which of the following facilities would you want to be available at your new base for use just by you and your family? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Fresh water | <input type="checkbox"/> | Domestic rubbish storage/collection | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hot water | <input type="checkbox"/> | Letter box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Toilet | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sewerage connection | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Electricity | <input type="checkbox"/> | None | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Laundry | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Please write in below | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shower/bath | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

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

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

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

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------|
| Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Ask (b) |
| No <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to F1 |
| Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> | → | Go to F1 |

E5b Where is the land/site located?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible on location and write in

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

INTERVIEWER READ OUT: The Council may contact the landowner to clarify the site information and discuss potential development. You will in no way be identified.

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

INTERVIEWER READ OUT: The Council may contact the landowner to clarify the site information and discuss potential development. You will in no way be identified.

F

Family Profiles

F1 To which of these groups do you consider (i) you and (ii) other members of your family belong? Choose as many or as few as apply.

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT and code one for (i) and all that apply for (ii)

(i) You

(ii) Other family members

Romany Gypsy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scots Gypsy or Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Showperson		<input type="checkbox"/>
New Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
English Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

F2 For each person in your household, including yourself, please provide their age, gender and relationship to you. *INTERVIEWER: Please write gender as 'M' or 'F', the age in years. Do not include those who only live the household for some of the time/part of the year. E.g. a 7 year old daughter would be...*

F	7
Daughter	

Person 1-respondent

Person 2

Person 3

Person 4

Gender	Age
YOU	

Gender	Age
Relationship	

Gender	Age
Relationship	

Gender	Age
Relationship	

Person 5

Person 6

Person 7

Person 8

Gender	Age
Relationship	

Gender	Age
Relationship	

Gender	Age
Relationship	

Gender	Age
Relationship	

F3a For each permanent household member aged 16 or over including yourself, please tell me their current working status. Are they?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply for each relevant person

	Person 1 (Respondent)	Person 2	Person 3	Person 4
Working in a permanent job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking casual/temporary work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking seasonal work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student/full-time education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retired	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long term sick/disabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Looking after home/family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full time carer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

F3a Continued.....For each permanent household member aged 16 or over including yourself, please tell me their current working status. Are they?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply for each relevant person

	Person 5	Person 6	Person 7	Person 8
Working in a permanent job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking casual/temporary work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Undertaking seasonal work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student/full-time education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retired	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long term sick/disabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Looking after home/family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full time carer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other <i>Please write in below</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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

F3b INTERVIEWER: Please ask if respondent is currently working.

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

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

F3c Have you undertaken any other type of work during the last two years? INTERVIEWER:

Please probe and cross **one** box only

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Ask (d)
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	→	Go to F4

F3d What other types of work have you undertaken?

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

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

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

	Person 1	Person 2	Person 3	Person 4																						
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">F</td><td style="width: 50%;">19</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Daughter</td></tr> </table>	F	19	Daughter		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">Gender</td><td style="width: 50%;">Age</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">YOU</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Relationship</td></tr> </table>	Gender	Age	YOU		Relationship		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">Gender</td><td style="width: 50%;">Age</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Relationship</td></tr> </table>	Gender	Age	Relationship		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">Gender</td><td style="width: 50%;">Age</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Relationship</td></tr> </table>	Gender	Age	Relationship		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td style="width: 50%;">Gender</td><td style="width: 50%;">Age</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Relationship</td></tr> </table>	Gender	Age	Relationship	
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F4b For each person living in this household some of the time/part of the year, please tell me how much time they spend here each year.

INTERVIEWER: Please cross **one** box for each relevant person

	Person 1	Person 2	Person 3	Person 4	Person 5	Person 6	Person 7	Person 8
Less than 1 month	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 month but less than 3 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 months but less than 6 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 months but less than 9 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Almost all year round	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Varies from year to year	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Yes → Ask (b)

No → Go to F6

F5b Are any adaptations required in your home to meet their needs? *INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only*

Yes → Ask (c)

No → Go to F6

F5c What adaptations are required?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in.

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

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

Yes Please provide contact details below

No Go to end

Name

Address

Telephone

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT

Thank you very much for your time.

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

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

RESPONDENT'S NAME

RESPONDENT'S TEL

RESPONDENT'S ADDRESS

RESPONDENT'S POSTCODE

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

RESPONDENT'S EMAIL ADDRESS

Thank you for your time and help completing this questionnaire.

Interviewer Declaration

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

Interviewer's signature

Interview Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Date of interview
(DD/MM/YYYY)

Time of interview
(24HR CLOCK)

Duration of Interview