OXFORD CITY, SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT AND VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCILS

GYPSY, TRAVELLER AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE ACCOMMODATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2013

February 2013
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1. Introduction

The Survey

1.1 Opinion Research Services (ORS) were commissioned by Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District to undertake a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment.

1.2 The main objective of this study was to provide the Councils with robust, defensible and up to date evidence about the accommodation needs of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in the period until 2026 for Oxford City, 2027 for South Oxfordshire and 2029 for Vale of White Horse. It also required recommendations on whether or not any of the local authorities need to plan for the provision of transit sites or emergency stopping places.

1.3 A secondary objective was to assess the needs of people living on existing sites in terms of any extra pitches that may be required. The study also seeks to highlight how Government planning guidance for Traveller sites will impact upon the planning and housing strategies employed by the local authorities.

1.4 The commissioning partners were:

 Oxford City Council;
 South Oxfordshire District Council; and
 Vale of White Horse District Council.

1.5 We would note at the outset that the study also includes the needs of New Travellers, but for short hand ease of use we have referred to the study as a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment. However, in the course of the study, no evidence was found of any New Traveller populations.

1.6 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 partners. A separate executive summary has also been produced.

Legislation and Guidance for Gypsies and Travellers

1.7 Decision making for policy concerning Gypsies, Travellers and 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 Showpeople:

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

1.8 The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (Sections 61, 62) 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.

1.9 The previous Labour Government guidance focused on increasing site provision for Gypsies and Travellers and encouraging local authorities to have a more inclusive approach to Gypsies and Travellers within their housing needs plans. 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 either as a separate study such as this one, or as part of their main Housing Needs Assessment.

1.10 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 DCLG 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.

1.11 The Coalition Government announced that the previous government approach contained in Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (Circular 01/06) was to be repealed, along with the Regional Spatial Strategies which were used to allocate pitch provision to local authorities. This happened in 2012 with the publication of the CLG document ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites’ in March 2012.

Planning Policy for Traveller Sites

1.12 The document ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites’ 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):
that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning;

to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites;

to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale;

that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development;

to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites;

that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective;

for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies;

to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply;

to reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions;

to enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure;

for local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment.

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.

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 eleven to fifteen;

- 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.

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.

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

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).

This report contains 28 commitments to help improve the circumstances and outcomes for Gypsies and Travellers across a range of areas including (Page 6):

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

1.18 The new Coalition Government policies also involve financial incentives for new pitch provision in the form of the New Homes Bonus. Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople sites receive a New Homes Bonus of 6 times the Council Tax plus £1,800 per pitch provided. This is the equivalent of around £10,000-£15,000 per pitch.

1.19 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 providing 88 new or additional pitches and 179 improved pitches.

1.20 HCA have now confirmed allocations for £47m of future funding which will support 71 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. As of January 2012 a further £12.1m of funding was available for scheme outside of London and bidding will remain open until all the money is allocated.

Research Methodology

1.21 The research methodology for identifying the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers adopted in this report was largely based upon face to face interviews with Gypsies and Travellers across the three authorities. We sought to undertake a census of Gypsy and Traveller households in November 2012 (for a map of existing sites, see Appendix A). This is typically a good time of year for reaching Travellers, as it is generally a period of relative inactivity, after any summer work has finished and before winter and Christmas work begins. The response rate to the survey supports this as interviews were attempted with every known Gypsy and Traveller household present during this time period and 58 interviews were achieved in total on-site for Gypsies and Travellers (an 85% coverage rate of identified pitches) with a further 12 interviews with Showpeople. 24 of the on-site Gypsy and Traveller interviews were in Vale of White Horse and 34 in South Oxfordshire. For Travelling Showpeople, one interview each took place in Oxford City and Vale of White Horse and the remaining 10 were in South Oxfordshire. Throughout the report we have typically reported details of Gypsies and Travellers separately from Showpeople because the issues affecting them are very distinct.

1.22 The evidence from the household survey was then tied to existing information from planning records and waiting lists for site for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities.

1.23 This study also included extensive stakeholder engagement with council officers from the three authorities’ neighbouring councils, and other stakeholders (such as planning agents and housing associations). The aim of this engagement was to help understand the current situation in the authorities, particularly households on known existing sites and also to discuss Duty to Cooperate issues with neighbouring councils.
2. Gypsy and Traveller Sites and Population

Sites in the Study Area

2.1 A mainstream Housing Needs Survey typically 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 and Traveller accommodation requirements.

2.2 The main consideration 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 two caravans, but can vary in size. A site is a collection of pitches which form a development exclusively for Gypsies & Travellers. Throughout this study the main focus is upon how many extra pitches are required in the study area.

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 site is the publicly-provided residential site, which is provided by the local authority, or by a registered provider (usually a housing association). Places on public sites can be obtained through a waiting list, and the costs of running the sites are met from the rent paid by the licensees. Therefore, public sites are a direct equivalent of social housing among bricks and mortar tenants. There are currently three public sites in South Oxfordshire and two in Vale of White Horse.

2.4 The alternative to public residential sites is private residential sites for Gypsies and Travellers. 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 and Traveller 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 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 Gypsies and Travellers whilst they travel.

2.6 Further considerations in 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 The best quantitative information available on the Gypsy and Traveller communities derives from a biannual survey of Gypsy and Traveller caravans which is conducted by each local authority in England on a specific date in January and July of each year. This count is of caravans and not households which makes it more difficult to interpret for a study such as this. It must also be remembered that the count is conducted by the local authority (or in Oxfordshire’s case, by Oxfordshire County Council) on a specific day and that any unauthorised encampments which occur on other dates will not be recorded. The count also only features those caravans the local authority is aware of. Therefore, it may not reflect all of the Gypsy and Traveller caravans in the authority. We would also note that the caravan count figures are provided for illustrative purposes to demonstrate the relative size of the populations and are not used in any modelling of future pitch requirements. The results of the most recent published Gypsy and Traveller caravan counts for Oxford City, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Districts are summarised below. Figures have also been included for the recently introduced Travelling Showpeople caravan counts, which have been carried out yearly since January 2011. At the time of writing, the results of the January 2013 caravan counts for both Travelling Showpeople and Gypsies and Travellers have yet to be published.

Oxford City

2.8 Oxford City contains no Gypsy and Traveller sites and has seen only one caravan recorded during the caravan count in the past 5 years. The 2011 Census indicates that the Gypsy and Traveller population is 92, which indicates that there are a number of households in bricks and mortar.

2.9 Travelling Showpeople caravan counts indicate no Showperson caravans within Oxford City.

South Oxfordshire District

2.10 Figure 1 shows that during the caravan count in July 2012 there were 60 caravans in South Oxfordshire. South Oxfordshire District contains three public sites with a combined capacity of 37 pitches and one long-standing unauthorised private site. The 2011 Census indicates that the Gypsy and Traveller population is 135 people.

2.11 The 2012 Travelling Showpeople count indicates 20 caravans in South Oxfordshire, a decrease of 6 from the 2011 count.
Vale of White Horse District

2.12 Figure 2 shows 62 caravans in Vale of White Horse at the time of the most recent caravan count. Vale of White Horse contains 2 authorised public sites with a capacity of 36 pitches and one private site which planning records indicate was designed to have 6 pitches with 12 caravans used for permanent residency and another 6 travelling caravans allowed. This site also has separate provision for up to 8 transit caravans. The 2011 Census indicates that the Gypsy and Traveller population in the district is 109 people.

2.13 Travelling Showperson counts in both 2011 and 2012 recorded three caravans in the district.
3. Stakeholder Consultation

Introduction

3.1 In order to set the context of the research and ensure the study was based on a sound understanding of the relevant issues, a list of 42 contacts was provided to ORS with the aim of carrying out telephone interviews. This list was provided by the lead authority and all those on the list, including 10 additional names that were provided during the course of the interview process, were contacted on at least 4 occasions.

3.2 Out of the 52 contacts, ORS conducted 26 semi-structured, in-depth telephone interviews during October, November and December 2012. The interviews typically lasted between 15 and 40 minutes. Reasons for not being able to conduct interviews were:

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

3.3 The interviews were carried out with officers representing Planning, Health and Housing, Corporate Strategy and Economy, Leisure and Property departments of Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse district councils and officers working in Housing, Planning, Enforcement, Development and Policy in surrounding council areas of Aylesbury Vale District Council, Oxfordshire County Council (Oxon and Bucks Gypsy and Traveller Service), Swindon Borough Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and Wycombe District Council. The aim of interviewing these stakeholders was to provide background information on the framework within which they operate, and on the perceptions of the Gypsy and Traveller and Showpeople communities within their operational areas.

3.4 ORS also interviewed wider stakeholders and this included interviewing 2 planning agents whom, although not locally based, did have experience of working and supporting Gypsies or Travellers with planning applications within the study area and one as recently as within the last 6 months. Wider stakeholders that were interviewed included those who support Gypsies and/or Travellers such as Oxfordshire County Council (Gypsy and Traveller Service, and on the education side, the Equality and Diversity Achievement Service), Thames Valley Police (Neighbourhood Policing) and the Primary Care Trust (Health Advocacy Services).

3.5 With the aim of obtaining bricks and mortar contacts ORS also interviewed 7 representatives from housing management, policy, lettings and development departments of those work for the following housing associations:

- A2 Dominion;
- Bedfordshire Pilgrims Housing Association Limited (BPHA);
- Bromford Housing Group;
- Catalyst Communities;
- Jephson Housing Association;
- South Oxfordshire Housing Association (SOHA).

3.6 Although numerous attempts were made to gather information about those who had moved into bricks and mortar this proved extremely difficult. Unfortunately, housing associations together with other organisations found they were able to provide very little data or secure any contacts within bricks and mortar housing. Some of the reasons that were put forward were because housing applicants did not declare their ethnicity on the Equality and Diversity forms. When information was collected it was often difficult to analyse because IT systems were not able to extract the information. As there is no need to monitor this data at present it is not felt to be cost effective to update IT systems.

3.7 The following section summarises the overall findings from each of the groups interviewed:

- Council officers and officers from surrounding council areas;
- Wider stakeholders (Planning agents, housing association etc).

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

Main Policy Tools

Legislation highlighted by some of those interviewed included the Human Rights Act 1998, Equalities Act 2010, Housing Act 2004, Race Relations Act (Amendment) 2000, Planning Policy for Traveller Sites 2012, Criminal Justice and Public Order Act and Mobile Homes Act 1983. Respondents stated that they had some policies relating specifically to Gypsies and Travellers such as Oxford City Council’s Adopted Core Strategy Policy CS26 Accommodation for Travelling Communities, Unauthorised Encampment Policy and South Oxfordshire District Council’s Core Strategy Policy CSH5 Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and criteria-based saved South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 policy H17. Vale also has a saved Gypsy policy in their Local Plan 2011 Policy H22. This will be replaced by a new policy in their emerging Local Plan 2029 Part One.

There was mention of the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Group and it was acknowledged that there were officers that worked primarily with these communities (including Showpeople). Officers also mentioned a Lead Teacher (Gypsy Roma Traveller Achievement) and a Community Liaison Teacher who works with schools to support the raising of attainment of Gypsy Roma Traveller pupils in Oxfordshire. The main group of officers working with the communities are the Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Gypsy & Traveller Service, based within Oxfordshire County Council.

Management: Unauthorised Encampments

It was generally agreed that there were few instances of unauthorised encampments; there was only one identified in Oxford City Council’s last Gypsy and Traveller caravan count. Some argued that this was because Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople were generally travelling through the districts or that in the past, Thames Valley Police had been “enthusiastic” in moving these communities on and into other districts.

When an unauthorised encampment does occur it is dealt with by the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller Service. They ensure that a Code of Conduct is issued and that if it is not adhered to, then action is taken. Where there is unauthorised development, it is dealt with in house by Development Management Enforcement Teams at the district councils.

Accommodation: Sites and Unauthorised Encampments

Officers mentioned that there had been an unauthorised site at Watchfield located within the Vale of the White Horse District Council area some years ago but this site no longer existed. In addition to this there is another site in the village that has been refused permission, but another planning application had recently been submitted on the same site. Officers in surrounding areas mentioned the long running encampment at Hemley Hill at Princes Risborough (Wycombe District Council) which is currently involved in a High Court Appeal, and where residents have been given an 18 month compliance period.

Officers had little information on those living in bricks and mortar, and therefore included in the study brief a requirement that this should be looked at carefully. Contact needed to be made in order to find out whether there were any members of these communities that wish to live on a site.
Trends, Favoured Locations and Stopping Points

3.15 When asked to consider trends Officers observed there to have been a decrease in the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers coming into the areas.

3.16 There was mention of the Council run Rye Farm commercial vehicle pay and display car park (in South Oxfordshire just outside Abingdon-on-Thames) being a favoured spot for Gypsies and Travellers to stay for a few days. Other than this there were very few places that had been regularly used for unauthorised encampments.

3.17 Officers believed that the main reason for Gypsies and/or Travellers coming to the area was to visit family and friends and when this occurred it was more likely that they would look to stay on the same site as those they were visiting.

3.18 Officers believed that there were no regular travelling patterns for these communities and that those who were in the area had been static for a good few years.

3.19 Some officers believed that a few of the private sites in the area were not being used exclusively for Gypsies and/or Travellers and this again may show a lack of need for further site provision:

_There is a site that is exclusively for Traveller use that isn’t being used exclusively for Travellers, and that leads me to think that there is plenty of capacity in the area._

Accommodation Needs: Permanent Provision

3.20 Although the officers stated that there had been few instances of unauthorised encampments or unauthorised development they still believed there was a lack of permanent site provision. This was based on the officers’ belief that although there are 5 sites that are owned and managed by Oxfordshire County Council, there are rarely any vacant pitches available. The current public provision is listed below:

- Middle Ground, Wheatley (South Oxfordshire) - 16 pitches;
- Ten Acre Park, Sandford-on-Thames (South Oxfordshire) - 16 pitches;
- The Sturt, Oakley Wood, Benson (South Oxfordshire) - 5 pitches;
- Redbridge Hollow, Hinksey Hill (Vale of White Horse) - 24 pitches;
- Woodhill Lane, East Challow (Vale of White Horse) - 12 pitches.

3.21 Most officers did not mention any Showpeople sites and acknowledged that this was a section of the community, if it existed in their areas, with which they had very little contact. Only one officer mentioned sites at Watlington.

3.22 Some officers mentioned a large new housing development at Didcot that should the Section 106 be agreed, could deliver a new Gypsy and Traveller site as there is a genuine wish by officers to provide further site provision that would contribute to sustainable housing provision.

3.23 It was mentioned by an officer for West Oxfordshire that the district has limited space to provide sites for Gypsies and Travellers and reported that the results from their GTAA found that there is a need for sites to
be close to Oxford City, due to the desire amongst the Gypsy and Traveller community to be close to the hospital.

Accommodation Needs: Transit Provision

3.24 Although the Twelve Oaks site has permission for transit provision, the majority of officers perceived no transit provision was available in the districts and they generally believed that because there were few instances of unauthorised encampments on the roadside, it was hard to qualify or quantify what need there would be for such provision:

There is possibly a lack of sufficient or acceptable provision and [a lack of] suitable sites that could be used temporarily, without the risk of being moved on immediately.

Site Management

3.25 Officers did not refer to any issues in relation to the management of permanent sites in their areas. They referred to the fact that these sites are managed by Oxfordshire County Council and they appeared to be well run.

Cross Boundary Issues

3.26 When asked to consider cross boundary issues there was no evidence to suggest that the same Gypsies and/or Travellers were moving between district council areas. However, it was felt by some officers working for some authorities neighbouring the study area that at least one site should be provided in the city of Oxford although there was recognition that this might be a challenge, given the lack of suitable land within the district boundary:

Oxford City has no sites at the moment... they will be needing to look beyond their boundaries to meet their need (like Cheltenham).

3.27 There was no feeling reported by any authority that the study area authorities were failing to address needs or move households across boundaries, and a history of joint working between the authorities was evidenced by the previous Thames valley-wide GTAA study and Oxfordshire-wide Showpeople's study. Officers reported that an Oxfordshire-wide officer working group had been in existence since 2007 to work on Gypsy and Traveller planning.

3.28 It was suggested that the provision of transit sites was an issue that was not limited to a single authority:

When you are talking about cross boundary issues, that’s one of the obvious ones.

Consultation Activities

3.29 There was little evidence to suggest that there was regular consultation with Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople. However it was confirmed that the district councils have Gypsy and Traveller representatives
and organisations on their consultation databases and regularly consult with them on emerging policies and allocations for their development plan documents. It was further acknowledged, however, that although there had been some instances of consultation on specific issues with Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople communities, these were not generally in relation to planning. Some council officers stated that there had been some consultation with Gypsies and Travellers and Showpeople in relation to the elections process for example.

The Future

3.30 It was generally believed by officers that the area would see little change in the numbers of Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople in the area:

I think things are fairly static, I am aware of capacity locally for Travellers that is not being used; I see things as being pretty stable.

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

3.32 It was believed that further site provision either through new sites or the extension of existing sites should be progressed if need was demonstrated, but that this would mean a lot of consultation and it would be a difficult process.
Wider Stakeholders

Accommodation: Sites and Unauthorised Encampments

3.31 In addition to officers from the study authorities and neighbouring areas, a number of wider stakeholders were interviewed, including planning agents, housing associations, Thames Valley Police (Neighbourhood Policing), the Primary Care Trust (Health Advocacy Services) and Oxfordshire County Council’s Equality and Diversity Achievement Service. These stakeholders were able to provide a broader view of any issues with provision, as well as any problems related to education, health and community cohesion.

3.32 The general opinion of the stakeholders interviewed was that they believed there to be a static community of Gypsies or Travellers in the area and that this was likely to increase because of newly forming households:

?’It will increase the problems there are in terms of lack of sites as their communities are getting bigger.’

3.33 Stakeholders confirmed that Oxford city and the surrounding area was an attraction to these communities generally because of existing family ties, good road networks and work opportunities:

’Gypsies and Travellers will generally be attracted to where they can find work, so Oxford is an attraction and also there are good access to motorways such as the A34 ... as it will get them to the M40 and M1;

’Where work is given to them in certain areas they will go back, especially seasonal work and also any transit routes, so we have the M40.’

3.34 There was no evidence to suggest that the same Gypsies or Travellers were being moved backwards and forwards from district to district.

3.35 Some stakeholders had experience of working with Gypsies and Travellers on both authorised and unauthorised sites. There was concern raised by some stakeholders about the condition of the privately owned sites, especially in relation to toilet and showering facilities.

3.36 Other concerns raised by stakeholders included fly tipping, flooding of existing sites and anti-social behaviour on some sites. It was stated that this anti-social behaviour between residents on sites resulted in empty pitches because other Gypsies or Traveller did not wish to live there. This may, therefore, give a reason why some Officers and/or stakeholders believe there is adequate site provision within the area:

’Mainly there is a lack of pitches, but most of the problems are at one of the sites... there is plenty of space there but many Travellers are unwilling to go there.’

Trends, favoured locations and stopping points

3.37 It was argued that there was some evidence to suggest that more Gypsies and Travellers would like to own their sites, but it was recognised that many were unable to do so because of the high land prices in the area, difficulties in gaining planning permission and lack of political will:
I know they are trying to get more privately owned sites and they have bought land, but planning permission is difficult;

Because of the high cost of land local authorities are going to have to move people on because of a lack of land and accommodation. Oxfordshire is quite a pressure point for affordable housing in general.

3.37 When asked about seasonal fluctuations stakeholders stated there appeared to be a marginal difference and an increase in numbers in the summer months as compared to the rest of the year. This was mainly due to Gypsies or Travellers moving in to the area to visit friends/family or attend events such as the Stowe Horse Fair or local Gypsies or Travellers moving out of the area for similar reasons:

From my experience there is a lot of movement during these times through the area for such things as the Stowe Fair and because of these historical reasons this is why we have Gypsy and Traveller communities here;

There are some Born Again Christians who attend the conventions so they still travel, but usually from a more settled base.

3.38 It was acknowledged that local Gypsies or Travellers tended to remain static and did not often travel out of the area, although one stakeholder highlighted an increasing trend to travel abroad for Christmas:

They are not transient because you cannot afford to lose your pitch, because unless you are living there, there is no room at the inn;

Only in the summer when people tend to move around to visit family ... but there is now a trend to go abroad at Christmas;

I think there is an increasing trend for more settled bases with the amount of travelling in pursuit of work being less and less, although they will still travel for other reasons.

3.40 Showpeople were highlighted as either living in the area or travelling through it:

We will see an increase of Showpeople when they will pull up for Abingdon-on-Thames Fair (in October) – they pull on April-October at any fairs.

Accommodation Needs: Permanent Provision

3.41 The lack of legal sites was seen as an issue:

The housing providers are not making adequate provision for Gypsies and Travellers that require social accommodation. It is forcing Gypsies and Travellers into bricks and mortar.

3.42 No stakeholders were able to identify land that they would consider suitable for future site provision.

3.43 Very little information was gathered from the wider stakeholder interviews in relation to Showpeople, other than that there is a piece of land at Abingdon-on-Thames, believed to be called Eric's Field, which is occasionally used by Showpeople either on a temporary basis and/or for storage, but who are not looking to settle in the area.
3.44 Some stakeholders claimed there was a lack of political will both locally and nationally:

The councils will send them into housing or into other areas where there are long waiting lists for sites;

Councils being required to identify a 5 year supply is generally a good thing ... although some make assumptions in their GTAAs that suppress need well below its true level;

Not only a shortage of sites in most cases, but also a lack of will to do anything about it on behalf of the local authorities and a lack of understanding of the problems by planning officers ... it translates into a lack of effective action.

Accommodation Needs: Transit Provision

3.45 It was acknowledged by some stakeholders that although there was little evidence of unauthorised encampments, transit stopping sites should be provided.

Some transient sites would be good when travelling through to Devon/Cornwall and that would be useful as they often find themselves overcrowding family pitches.

Community Relations

3.46 Overall, interviewees were concerned that adverse media coverage preserved the negative perceptions held by some members of the settled community, particularly programmes such as My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding.

3.47 There was also recognition of the stigmatisation, discrimination and general suspicion of Gypsies and Travellers by the settled community especially in relation to planning applications for new sites (either private or publicly funded):

Normal knee jerk reactions that all the objections come in around crime and the value of their housing will drop ... just normal comments on any new application.

Site Location Criteria

3.48 When commenting about where sites should be located there were differences of opinion in that some believed they should be in rural areas and some in more urban areas:

Near public services and close to facilities such as being in catchment areas for primary and secondary schools;

Realistically, Gypsies will not walk or cycle they tend to use cars, so these policies that try to direct them to within or edge of settlements are unrealistic because Gypsies and Travellers cannot afford land in those areas;

Sites should be on a bus route near a town, near facilities, but not in a town centre, but just outside.

3.49 However, the majority of those interviewed believed that land within an urban or urban fringe area was the best location for sites. This was because it was believed that being close to local facilities such as health centres, shops and schools would facilitate Gypsies and Travellers to become more integrated with settled
communities, rather than isolating themselves in rural areas. However, the point should not be lost that the interviews did highlight the high cost and likely low availability of land on the edges of existing larger towns that makes buying land prohibitive to Gypsies and Travellers and that is why they often bought land where it was unlikely to receive planning permission.

Cross Border Working and Consultation Activities

3.51 As already noted, consultation already occurs with regard to specific events and issues. However, there was an acknowledgement by some stakeholders that consultation needed to be improved:

> Professional people come to us and ask us to ask the Gypsy and Traveller communities, so it is about joining up people and it would be of fantastic benefit for the County Council to perhaps invest in a start-up of such a community group that could have input into any consultation that was being undertaken.

The Future

3.52 Wider stakeholders were of the opinion that the local authorities need to provide permanent and transit accommodation. One interviewee suggested that when determining accommodation needs now, thought needs to be given to the future needs of in-migration. This is because some existing sites in neighbouring areas may close because of the living conditions on site; one that was mentioned was in Banbury. This could result in in-migration into the study area and further pressure on existing sites:

> The needs are immediate and they need to be dealt with on an immediate basis. The challenge is that the government is asking authorities to predict where sites should be and have removed targets for site provision, so all it is doing is going back 20/30 years; it is fundamentally flawed.

3.54 However, interviewees expressed some scepticism that accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers or Showpeople would improve over the next five years and felt that little would happen as a result of the forthcoming GTAA:

> I don’t think there will be any increase in sites;

> I don’t think it will get any better unless something is done because of the lack of social provision in particular;

> I just think there is reluctance by local authorities to over provide sites because of the ‘anti’ feelings of the existing communities and that is going to slow down the provision of suitable sites.
4. Gypsy and Traveller Population

Survey of the Gypsy and Traveller Population

One of the major components of this assessment was a detailed survey of the Gypsy and Traveller population in Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District. 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 Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District.

Interviews were attempted with every Gypsy and Traveller household in the area who were present in November and early December 2012. Therefore, the baseline point for the findings of this study is November 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. In total, interviews were achieved on-site with 58 households. 55 of the interviews occurred at the public sites in the study area, giving a 75% response rate. In total the households interviewed contained 162 people with an average of 2.8 persons per households, which is a slightly lower average household size than is typically found in surveys by ORS.

We would note that for the private Twelve Oaks site in Vale of White Horse at the time of the survey the site was locked with a keypad entry system and no intercom. It is believed that the site is being used on a limited basis by non-traveller households, and that the owners are currently residing outside the study area. ORS fieldworkers were unable to gain access, and while a letter was left at the site there was no response, and no interviews took place at this site. Nonetheless, the 6 pitches on the site have been counted within the model as if they were occupied by Gypsies and Travellers, and have thus contributed to future household formation figures on the basis that the site’s owners may return to the site in the near future.

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 Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District. 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

Most Gypsies and Travellers surveyed had a long period of residence. 51 respondents (88%) had lived on their current site for more than 5 years.

Permanent base

97% (56 respondents) identified their current site as being their permanent base.
Attractons of Living in Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District

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

The main factors which attracted respondents to Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District were to be near family, and because the respondent had always lived in the area.

Connections with the Area

Nearly all respondents felt they have strong connections to the area (96%). The main connection that Gypsy and Traveller households felt they had with Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District was that their family are from the area; while many had either lived in the area for a long time or had always lived in the area.
Ethnicity

Half of the respondents identified themselves as Irish Travellers. 37% said they were Romany Gypsies, and the remaining 13% of respondents said that they were English Travellers. We would note that sites were typically split by ethnicity with very little crossover between the two communities.

Age and Household Profile

The households showed a mixed range of ages across their members. 9% of household members were aged 60 years or over, but 44% of all household members were aged 16 years or under. 30% of all household members were of school age and another 14% were children aged 4 years or less. This distribution of ages is typical of those obtained by ORS from Gypsy and Traveller household surveys.
Employment Status

Respondents were asked to give the employment status of all members of their household. Of those household members who had their employment status recorded, 55% were looking after their home/family, 14% were retired and 11% registered unemployed. 4% had a permanent job, while another 6% had casual/temporary work. Employment trends amongst the Gypsy and Traveller community can vary significantly from area to area (as with the settled community), with some areas having a much higher rate of employment. However, these figures are similar to the results of other surveys carried out by ORS in the past in other areas with similar levels of public or social site provision.

Figure 9
Employment Status of Household Members, by All Household Members Aged Over 16 Years (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)

Health Problems

28% of respondents interviewed reported that their household contained at least one member with a long-term health problem. However, none of these respondents reported that adaptations were required in their home to meet the needs of the household members currently suffering with health problems.
5. Existing Sites for Gypsies and Travellers

Additional Caravans

5.1 All respondents were asked if they require extra caravans. The evidence from the survey is that only one household would like more caravans. This household had space at their existing pitch to accommodate the one extra caravan required.

5.2 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

5.3 The vast majority of respondents were satisfied with their sites. 94% of respondents expressed satisfaction with their site, with 79% stating they were very satisfied. Only 4% expressed dissatisfaction.

Figure 10
Satisfaction with Current Site, by all Respondents (Source: Survey of Gypsy and Traveller Population On-site 2012)

5.4 Figure 11 shows the improvements which were identified by respondents as being required at their permanent sites. 40% identified better washing facilities and 38% identified better toilet facilities as being needed. Many respondents suggested other improvements which were not listed on the questionnaire, the most common of which related to sheds on the site (26%) and lighting (14%). A third of respondents said no improvements were required, with respondent from the two public sites in Vale of White Horse being most likely to identify no problems at their site.
5.5 76% of respondents feel that their current accommodation and site meets all of their needs in terms of accommodation quality, space and site facilities (Figure 12). However, 14 respondents stated that their current site did not meet their accommodation needs.

5.6 The main reasons given by those who feel that their current accommodation and site do not meet their needs was the site drainage and quality of the sheds on sites. This particularly applied to the Middle Ground and Ten Acre sites in South Oxfordshire.

5.7 Of the 14 respondents who felt that their current accommodation and site did not meet their needs, 13 said that their needs could be addressed at their current pitch.
Propensity to Travel

95% of respondents reported that they had not travelled at all during the last 12 months, but 35% of those who did not travel in the past 12 months had travelled in the past. The most commonly given reason for not travelling was wanting to lead a more settled lifestyle. Other reasons were so that children could receive an education, the old age of some family members, and that it was no longer easy to camp on the side of the road while travelling.
6. Showpeople

Introduction

6.1 This section focuses on the needs and aspirations of Showpeople in the study area. 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).

Site Provision

6.2 Planning records indicate that there three yards in South Oxfordshire with a capacity of 26 plots and one yard in Vale of White Horse with 3 plots. Further consultation with local Showpeople indicates a further long-standing yard in Oxford City with no clear planning history with equipment stored behind a house.

6.3 Interviews were attempted with all Showpeople households in the area who were present in November and early December 2012. In total 12 interviews were achieved with Showpeople households living across the three authorities. The households interviewed contained 36 people with an average household size of 3 persons per household. This is typical for Travelling Showperson households. Feedback from interviewers indicates that the number of plots in South Oxfordshire has probably been overestimated, with the number of distinct households not being as high as the reported number of plots. Therefore, the 12 interviews do cover all known sites and a significant proportion of the total Showperson population.

6.4 Given the relatively small size of the sample, we have not reported in detail the results of the household survey. The key findings from the household survey and feedback from interviewers are:

- All households are satisfied with their current sites;
- No households has any unmet needs;
- No households expect to move in the foreseeable future.

6.5 A summary of the position for each authority is set out below.

Oxford City

- There is one long-standing Travelling Showperson yard in Oxford. The storage yard is located behind a house and the occupants still operate as an active business. One interview was carried out on this yard, and they have no current needs.
South Oxfordshire

- Planning records indicate that South Oxfordshire has three yards with a total of 26 plots, but interviews indicate that they were not occupied by this number of households, with some caravans at one of the sites being rented out to non-Showpeople. All sites still contain active Travelling Showmen and yielded 10 interviews for this study.

Vale of White Horse

- The Vale of White Horse contains one yard with three plots. The household survey obtained one survey on the yard and it contains no immediate issues which require to be addressed. An additional site near Abingdon-on-Thames (known as Eric’s Field) identified during stakeholder interviews is believed to be used only as a temporary stopping point/storage area for Showpeople working at fairs in the area, who are not looking to settle.

Age and Household Profile

6.6 Therefore, given the lack of unauthorised yards or problems on existing sites, in terms of the future needs of the Showperson population the major considerations is how the population will grow in subsequent years.

6.7 The households showed a mixed range of ages across their members. 28% of household members were aged 60 years or over, but 27% of all household members were aged 16 years or under. This distribution of ages is typical of those obtained by ORS from Travelling Showperson household surveys and indicates that the population can be expected to grow more slowly than that for Gypsies and Travellers.

Figure 13
Age of Household Members, by all Household Members
(Source: Survey of Travelling Showperson Population On-site 2012)
7. Future Site Provision

Site Provision

7.1 This section focuses on the extra site provision which is likely to be required in Oxford City, South Oxfordshire District and Vale of White Horse District in 5 year segments. This section concentrates not only upon the total extra provision which is required in the area, but also whether there is a need for any transit site / emergency stopping place provision.

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

7.3 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 components. 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:

7.4 It should be noted at the outset that Oxford City contains no known pitches and also has no identifiable need, so all of its figures are zero.

Supply of pitches

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

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

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

- Households on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected;
- Concealed households (i.e. where multiple households are sharing a pitch, or where households are living on a site without an official pitch);
- Households in brick and mortar wishing to move to sites; and
- Households on waiting lists for public sites.

Future Need

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.

We will firstly provide the model as set out above for Gypsies and Travellers. The same calculations were used to arrive at the conclusions for Travelling Showpeople, though to avoid repetition, the process has been summarized.

Current Gypsy and Traveller Site Provision

There are currently 73 pitches on public sites and up to 10 on private sites in the study area.

The next stage of the process is to assess how much space is, or will become available from the sources identified in paragraph 7.5 above.

Supply of Pitches

Currently, all authorised public site pitches are occupied, so there is no available space. As noted earlier the Twelve Oaks site in Vale of White Horse is currently inaccessible and we have not assumed that any space is available on this site to meet local needs. However, as noted in paragraph 4.3 it has been acknowledged that the 6 pitches may be occupied in the future, and have thus been included within growth calculations.

There is also a planning application for one pitch in South Oxfordshire which is at the time of writing being considered. The site is not currently occupied and has not been counted as immediate need.

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

As with most face to face surveys undertaken on-site by ORS, a small number of households are seeking to move to bricks and mortar. In this case there were two households on public sites in South Oxfordshire who wished to move to bricks and mortar housing, the pitches they would vacate have thus been counted within the model under ‘net movement from bricks and mortar’. 
7.15 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 to an existing household. Given that households will also form in the future we have treated the net growth in household numbers as being part of the future need.

Additional Site Provision: Current Need

7.16 The next stage of the process is to assess how many households are currently seeking pitches in the area. Groups of people who are likely to be seeking pitches will include those:
- Households on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected;
- Concealed households;
- Households in brick and mortar wishing to move to sites; and
- Households on waiting lists for public sites.

Current Unauthorised Developments

7.17 As noted earlier, South Oxfordshire contains one unauthorised site. However, the site has been tolerated and in existence for more than 10 years. Therefore, we have not counted it as need in this assessment because the households are unlikely to need to move in the foreseeable future.

Concealed Households

7.18 A concealed household occurs when two households occupy one pitch when ideally they should be occupying two pitches (for example, a young couple living on a parent’s pitch). This is not simply overcrowding, but is a sharing of a space by households who should and would wish to be living on their own pitches, but cannot do so due to a lack of space. There is no evidence from the household survey of any concealed households. This survey has identified one household who would like more caravans or trailer, or who said their current accommodation was too small. The household who reported their dwelling space was too small in Vale of White Horse feel that their needs could be met at their current pitch, and therefore they do not need to move.

Bricks and Mortar

7.19 Identifying households in bricks and mortar has been frequently highlighted as an issue with Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments. It is understood that discussions held during the Examination in Public relating to a since-abandoned partial review of the South East Plan identified this as an issue in the area, but did not provide its own estimates.

7.20 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. Those in bricks and mortar housing seeking to live on a private site are more difficult to quantify. Those looking to establish their own private site could do so through the planning process or seek to rent a pitch on an existing private site and therefore make themselves visible as a need.
However, despite considerable efforts (outlined below), this study found no evidence that there is any significant hidden need for private sites arising from households currently living in bricks and mortar.

7.21 It was felt that members of the Traveller communities themselves would be best placed to provide evidence of households residing in bricks and mortar. Therefore, every household interviewed as part of the on-site survey was asked if they were aware of any Gypsies and Travellers residing in bricks and mortar who they felt would like to take part in the survey (see questionnaire in Appendix C). Contacts for two households in bricks and mortar were obtained, but when approached neither household wished to take part.

7.22 For this study all stakeholders contacted in the study area were asked if they knew of any households in bricks and mortar who would wish to take part in the survey (see questionnaire in Appendix B). Stakeholders from Oxfordshire PCT and from Oxfordshire Traveller Education both felt that there were a small number of households in bricks and mortar who might wish to take part in the survey. However, neither source was able to provide us with any contact details, and therefore we were not able to include any bricks and mortar interviews within this survey.

7.23 Similarly, Gypsy and Traveller Services and Liaison Officers interviewed as part of the stakeholder consultation were unable to provide any reachable contacts for Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation. Furthermore, these officers were not able to point to any evidence of need arising from bricks and mortar.

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

7.25 Several potential sources of information on need arising from bricks and mortar have been interrogated in the study area as set out above. However there is no primary evidence of need arising from bricks and mortar. In the experience of ORS, deriving a need from this source based on assumptions derived from data elsewhere would be neither reliable nor appropriate, given the very low need found from this source in other studies by ORS. Therefore, the need arising from movement from bricks and mortar to sites is assessed as zero.

**Waiting Lists for Public Sites**

7.26 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 Oxfordshire County Council. They have provided details for use in this study while maintaining the anonymity of the applicants. There are currently only five households on the waiting list in South Oxfordshire. For reasons of data protection, this study did not have access to the detail in the waiting list held by the County Council, so it was not possible to check whether those on the waiting list are currently living in the study area, nor whether there was any double-counting resulting from being on more
than one waiting list. However, in the on-site survey, one household currently living on a Council site in South Oxfordshire stated that they were on the waiting list for a different public pitch within South Oxfordshire, so a net of four households has been included in the need calculation for South Oxfordshire. There are no households on the waiting list for public sites in Vale of the White Horse. In ORS’ experience, this is very unusual, being the first zero waiting list encountered in a study of this kind.

Additional Site Provision: Future Need

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

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

Temporary Planning Permissions

Unlike many areas of the country, there is a very low number of pitches in the study area with temporary planning permission: just one pitch at Kiln Lane, Garsington in South Oxfordshire. This represents a need for one permanent pitch in the need calculation for South Oxfordshire.

New Household Formation

It is recognised that an important group for future pitch provision will be older children who form their own households. Many studies of Gypsy and Traveller populations assume a net growth in the population of around 3% per annum, and this figure was used by the South East of England Regional Assembly. 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. On the basis that the age profile for the Gypsy and Traveller population in the study area is not exceptional, it is this figure of 2.5% that is used in this study for the calculation of future household formation.

When including the impact of compound growth, a 2.5% growth per annum provides for 45% growth over 15 years and 52% over 17 years.

On the basis that there are approximately 37 families on public sites in South Oxfordshire and 36 in Vale of White Horse, plus potentially 6 households at Twelve Oaks on the assumption that the site is occupied in the near future, this is likely to equate to around a net 17 new households in the next 15 years in South Oxfordshire and 22 new households in the next 17 years in Vale of White Horse, assuming the Twelve Oaks site comes into use. If the site does not come into use, then no household formation will arise from the site, and the gross figure for household formation in Vale of White Horse will be reduced to 19 new households in the next 17 years.

New household formation from the existing Gypsy and Traveller population is the largest contributor to need for new pitches in the study area.
Migration to Sites from Outside the Study Area

7.33 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 study area from anywhere in the country, or from elsewhere in the EU. The number of household seeking to move to the study area 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.

7.34 Overall the level of in-migration to the study area is a very difficult issue to predict. The immediate requirement for public sites is covered by the waiting list and therefore does not need to be included within the model again. We would also note that although the Twelve Oaks site is currently unoccupied, it has been assumed in the new household formation calculations that it will be occupied and will generate new household growth. As a result, it contributes 3 out of the total 13 pitches required for the Vale. If the site comes back into use in the future it could provide accommodation for in-migrants. However, if it does not then the need for the Vale of White Horse would be reduced by three pitches overall, as no new households would be generated from this site.

7.35 However, it is also likely that households will seek to move away from the area in the future. For households on public sites, six currently wish to move to alternative accommodation, however only four expect to do so. Two of these wish to move to bricks and mortar in the next two years, leaving one expecting to move to their own private site outside of the study area and one expecting to move to a different public site outside of the study area.

7.36 Overall, this would equate to around one pitch per annum being freed between South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse each year. These have been included as out-migration within the model.

7.37 Therefore, we have allowed for one household per annum to leave the study area, but as noted above, in South Oxfordshire this migration will be balanced by movements in to public sites from the waiting list.

7.38 Beyond this number, rather than assess in-migrant households seeking to develop new sites in the area, we would propose that each case is assessed as a desire to live in the area and that criteria-based policies are followed for each new proposal. 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

7.39 The estimated extra site provision that is required now until 2026 for Oxford City is no pitches with 13 pitches required in South Oxfordshire until 2027 and 13 pitches in Vale of White Horse until 2029. This is almost entirely driven by growth in household numbers due to household formation. However, we would note that the figure of 13 pitches for Vale of White Horse is based on the assumption that the Twelve Oaks comes back into use as Gypsy and Traveller site and is occupied by 6 households. These 6 households account for 3 out of the 13 pitches projected to be required from future family formation. Therefore, if the Twelve Oaks site is not occupied, the need for future pitch provision in Vale of White Horse will be reduced to 10 pitches.
Figure 14
Extra Gypsy and Traveller Pitches which are Required in Oxford from 2012-2026

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

Total

13 0 13

Figure 15
Extra Gypsy and Traveller Pitches which are Required in South Oxfordshire from 2012-2027

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Pitches</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration to the area</td>
<td>-7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total

13 0 13
Figure 16
Extra Gypsy and Traveller Pitches which are Required in Vale of White Horse from 2012-2029

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supply of Pitches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty pitches</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from new sites already planned</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Need</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Needs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration to the area</td>
<td>-9</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Split to 2026/27/29

To split the need by time period, we have taken any backlog of need and net movement to bricks and mortar as occurring in the first five years. Meanwhile, net migration and household formation have been assumed to occur evenly over the time period so beyond the next 5 years the level of growth in the population is even. In summary, Figure 17 sets out the net requirement for new pitch provision by local authority until 2026 (Oxford City), 2027 (South Oxfordshire) and 2029 (Vale of White Horse), to match the plan periods in each authority's Core Strategy or Local Plan.

Figure 17
Extra Pitch Provision by Local Authority for the period 2012-2026/27/29 (Source: ORS Housing Market Model)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>2012-2017</th>
<th>2018-2022</th>
<th>2023-2026/27/29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxford City</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Oxfordshire</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vale of White Horse</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transit/Emergency Stopping Site Provision

There is currently transit site provision on the Twelve Oaks site in Vale of White Horse, but it is not in use. 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. They do not have a function in meeting local need which must be addressed on permanent sites.

7.42 Therefore, the 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. There is very little evidence of many households travelling through the area.

7.43 Therefore this study concludes that there is no identified need for a transit site in any authority. However, we would also note that transit sites are an area where cross boundary working could prove to be particularly effective and that the transit needs of Gypsy and Travellers visiting Oxfordshire are an issue which should be considered at a more strategic level.

**Showpeople**

7.44 As noted in Chapter 6, Oxford City, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse contain a number of Travelling Showperson yards for resident households. A number of fairs also visit the area during the course of a year, but the Travelling Showpeople operating these do not require permanent accommodation in the area.

7.45 There is no evidence that any Showpeople wish to move or form new households in the foreseeable future. The majority of sites are occupied by single extended families and interviews showed that any growth in household number is likely to be accommodated within the existing sites. However, it is also possible that natural growth in the population will require further plot provision in the future.

7.46 The existing population on site contains many more older persons than the Gypsy and Traveller population and this is likely to see more plots being vacated through dissolution. While the household growth rate nationally for Gypsies and Travellers is typically around 2.5 - 3% per annum, the equivalent rate for Travelling Showpeople is around 1%.

7.47 The household survey suggests that no further provision is required in Oxford or Vale of White Horse to accommodate growth in the existing population. For South Oxfordshire to 2027, compound growth calculations indicate that 4 plots will be required to accommodate the growth in population. This is based on there being 26 existing plots, which may be an overestimate of the existing number of households given feedback from the on-site interviewers, the presence of existing pitches rented out to non-Showpeople (see paragraphs 6.3 and 6.5) and the absence of any unmet need expressed in the on-site interviews. It is possible that this growth could be accommodated within the existing sites by or bringing back into Showpeople's use plots which are currently being rented out to non-Showpeople.

7.48 Again it is still important for the authorities to have criteria-based planning policies in place in the event of someone seeking to develop a new Showperson’s yard or expand an existing one in the area.
### Figure 18
Extra Travelling Showpeople Plots which are Required in Oxford from 2012-2026

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

### Figure 19
Extra Travelling Showpeople Plots which are Required in South Oxfordshire from 2012-2027

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Requirement/Vacancy</th>
<th>Gross Requirement</th>
<th>Supply</th>
<th>Net Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supply of Plots</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply from empty plots</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional supply new sites</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supply</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current unauthorised developments or encampments and seeking to stay in the area</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concealed households</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net movement from bricks and mortar</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waiting list for public sites</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Need</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently on sites with temporary planning permission</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net migration to the area</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net new household formation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Future Needs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Figure 20**  
Extra Travelling Showpeople Plots which are Required in Vale of White Horse from 2012-2029

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

**Total** 0 0 0

**Split to 2026/27/29**

In summary, Figure 21 sets out the net requirement for new pitch provision by local authority until 2026 (Oxford City), 2027 (South Oxfordshire) and 2029 (Vale of White Horse), to match the plan periods in each authority's Core Strategy or Local Plan. The split is determined by household growth rates across time.

**Figure 21**  
Extra Travelling Showpeople Plot Provision by Local Authority for the period 2012-2026/27/29 (Source: ORS Housing Market Model)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>2012-2017</th>
<th>2018-2022</th>
<th>2023-2026/27/29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxford City</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Oxfordshire</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vale of White Horse</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. Conclusions

Introduction

8.1 This chapter brings together the evidence presented earlier in the report to provide some key policy conclusions for Oxford City, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Districts. It focuses upon the key issues of future site provision for Gypsies and Travellers and also Travelling Showpeople.

Gypsy and Traveller Future Pitch Provision

8.2 Based upon the evidence presented in Chapter 7, the estimated extra site provision that is required now and up until 2026 for Oxford City is no pitches, with 13 pitches required in South Oxfordshire until 2027 and 13 pitches in Vale of White Horse until 2029. This in almost entirely driven by growth in household numbers due to household formation.

8.3 The table below shows the requirement by local authority by type of pitch in 5 year intervals. These figures should be seen as the minimum amount of provision which is necessary to meet the statutory obligations towards identifiable needs of the population.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>2012-2017</th>
<th>2018-2022</th>
<th>2023-2026/27/29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxford City</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Oxfordshire</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vale of White Horse</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transit Sites

8.4 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. There is very little evidence of many households travelling through the area. Therefore this study concludes that there is no identified need for a transit site in any of the study authorities, though Vale of White Horse has a number of transit pitches that are currently unused, which could be utilized if necessary. However, we would also note that transit sites are an area where cross boundary working could prove to be particularly effective and that the transit needs of Gypsy and Travellers visiting Oxfordshire are an issue which should be considered at a more strategic level.
Travelling Showperson Requirements

8.5 The household survey suggests that no further provision is required in Oxford City or Vale of White Horse to accommodate growth in the existing population. For South Oxfordshire to 2027, it is likely that 4 plots will be required to accommodate the growth in population.

8.6 The table below shows the requirement by local authority by type of pitch in 5 year intervals. These figures should be seen as the minimum amount of provision which is necessary to meet the statutory obligations towards identifiable needs of the population.

Figure 23
Extra Travelling Showpeople Plot Provision by Local Authority for the period 2012-2026/27/29 (Source: ORS Housing Market Model)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>2012-2017</th>
<th>2018-2022</th>
<th>2023-2026/27/29</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxford City</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Oxfordshire</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vale of White Horse</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix A: Site Map
Appendix B: Topic Guide for Stakeholder Interviews (Council Officers)

Introduction

Thank you for your participation.

Stress anonymity and confidentiality and request permission to record interview.

We’ve recently been asked by Oxford City and South and Vale Councils to undertake a comprehensive Gypsy & Traveller and Showpeople Needs Assessment.

We are undertaking interviews with Gypsy & Traveller and Showpeople communities in the City of Oxford and the South and Vale council areas.

In addition to this we are undertaking interviews with council officers and wider stakeholders including representatives from the Gypsy & Traveller and Showpeople Communities in the city of Oxford and South and Vale council areas and also the surrounding area.

Free to express both positives and negatives.

About you

Name:

What is your job title/department?

What dealings/relationships do you have with Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople in the course of your job?

Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

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

Are you aware of any existing unauthorised encampments in your Authority or do they regularly arise in your area?

What in your opinion attracts unauthorised encampments to your area?
What policies/procedures does the Council have for managing unauthorised encampments?

Do you have any information about Gypsy or Traveller or Showpeople living in settled accommodation in this area?

Numbers? Locations?

In your experience are you aware of any particular issues in relation to Gypsy or Traveller and Showpeople in your area e.g. Community Relations?

**Site provision**

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

**Trends**

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

What are your perceptions of any trends you may be experiencing with regard to Gypsy or Traveller and Showpeople in the area (e.g. increases in privately owned sites)?

What in your experience attracts Gypsy or Traveller and Showpeople to the area or keeps them here such as traditional travelling routes or work and if so, what kinds of work?

What kinds of seasonal fluctuations in Gypsy & Traveller and Showpeople numbers occur in your area?

**Needs and Wants**

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?

**Cross-Boundary Issues**

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

**LEGAL AND ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ONLY.** Do you regularly displace Gypsies or Travellers or Showpeople from your district?
If yes, are you aware of any trend for Gypsy & Traveller and Showpeople to move to neighbouring Districts?

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

The Future

What are likely to be the constraints locally on further provision of sites for Gypsy & Traveller and Showpeople, if any?

Are you aware of any sites that you think would be suitable for future accommodation of these communities; this could be land that is owned by Gypsies or Traveller or Showpeople or land where you think the owner would be prepared to allow this type of use, including public bodies?

Please provide location, site size and ownership details. If they could provide a map this would be most useful.

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

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

   Are they effective?

   What methods are used?

Are there any other issues you would like to discuss?
Appendix C: On-Site Survey Questionnaire
South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and Oxford City Council Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Survey October 2012—On-Site

INTERVIEWER READ OUT: Good Morning/afternoon/evening. My name is < > from Opinion Research Services, working on behalf of South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and Oxford City Council. 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  ❑
A2  What attracts you to live in this area?
INTERVIEWER: Please read out options and code all that apply

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

A3a  Do you feel that you have strong connections with this area?
INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

- Yes Ask (b)
- No 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
- Lived here a long time
- Grew up in the area
- Have a tradition of travelling to/through this area
- Family are from this area
- Friends are from this area
- Family members work here
- Children go to school here
- Family members receive care/support from Council/other local services here
- Other Please write in below

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
- Mobile Home
- Chalet
- Tourer
- Other type of home Please write in below

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>None</th>
<th>One</th>
<th>Two</th>
<th>Three or more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trailer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chalet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other type of home Please write in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B2 How long have you and your family lived on this site?  

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

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

B3a Is this site...?  

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS  Please cross one box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Box Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An authorised private site</td>
<td>Ask (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An authorised public site (Council)</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An unauthorised development</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An unauthorised encampment</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A transit site</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other type of site (Please write in below)</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Box Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ask (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

INTERVIEWER: READ OUT OPTIONS  Please cross one box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Box Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very easy</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairly easy</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither easy nor difficult</td>
<td>Go to B4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairly difficult</td>
<td>Ask (d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very difficult</td>
<td>Ask (d)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Box Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Go to B5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ask (b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B4b Why does this accommodation not meet your needs?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

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

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
- Will have to move to another pitch at this site
- Would like to move to another site

Go to B5
Ask (d)
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)
- Council site
- Private site
- None
- Other Please write in below

Ask (e)
Ask (e)
Ask (e)
Go to B5
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
- No

Ask (b)
Go to B6
B5b  Who are the people you would like to live here, but are not able to at present?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply

- Husband, wife or partner
- Son or daughter (inc. adopted, step-, fostered & -in-law)
- Brother or sister (inc. half-, step & -in-law)
- Parent (inc. –in-law)
- Niece or nephew
- Grandparent
- Grandchild
- Not related
- Other related Please write in below

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


B5d  In what type of accommodation do they currently live?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and code all that apply

- Have their own pitch on an authorised site
- Sharing with another household on an authorised site
- Unauthorised development
- Unauthorised encampment
- Transit site
- Bricks and mortar
- Overseas
- Don’t know
- Other Please write in below

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

- Yes  Ask (b)
- No  Go to B7

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  [ ]  Ask (b)
- No  [ ]  Go to B10
- Don’t know  [ ]  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  [ ]
  - Bungalow  [ ]
  - Flat  [ ]

- Caravan/trailer that is on a:
  - Council run site  [ ]
  - Don’t know  [ ]
  - Other  Please write in below  [ ]

B7d  Where do they want to move to?  
INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply.

- Botley  [ ]
- Abingdon  [ ]
- Wantage/Grove  [ ]
- Didcot  [ ]
- Wallingford  [ ]
- Oxford City (please specify where below)  [ ]
- Thame  [ ]
- Henley  [ ]
- Rest of Oxfordshire  [ ]
- Swindon  [ ]
- A village in South Oxfordshire or Vale of White Horse district councils (please specify below)  [ ]
- Other (Please write in below)  [ ]
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.*

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toilet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitors parking spaces</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower/bath facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space for eating/sitting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorry park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firefighting equipment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency phone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops for business</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooking facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secure storage for business needs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Please write in below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shopping facilities</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor (GP)</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park or open space</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports/leisure centre</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council/neighbourhood office</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural/recreational facilities</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local schools</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childcare facilities</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local hospital</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy/chemist</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care for elderly/sick family members</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None stated</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

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

C Travelling

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

- None –did not travel
- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five or more

Go to C4

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

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

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

- An authorised private site
- An authorised public site (Council)
- An unauthorised development
- An unauthorised encampment / Road site
- A transit site
- A travelling show site
- Other type of site Please write in below

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

- Normal
- Travelled less in recent years
- Travelled more in recent years

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
- No

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

- Summer
- Autumn
- Winter
- Spring
- All year round

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

- For work
- Family reasons
- For a holiday
- Fairs
- Other (please write in)
**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>So children can receive education</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to ill-health of some family members</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to old age of some family members</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No longer easy to camp on the side of the road when travelling</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Want a more settled lifestyle</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of casual employment in other areas</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Yes [ ] Ask (b)
No [ ] Go to D1

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toilet</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower/bath facilities</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standpipes or water supply</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play area</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorry park</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post box</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 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
- [ ] No

  - 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
- [ ] No

  - Yes: Ask (c)
  - No: Go to Section E

#### D1c  Why did you leave?

.INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

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

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

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

#### D1e  Why do you/did you live in ‘bricks and mortar’ accommodation?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

- [ ]

---
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

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ask (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Go to E5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
<td></td>
<td>Go to E5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E1b What are your main reasons for wanting or needing a new permanent base?

INTERVIEWER: Please probe and write in below

E1c Ideally where do you want to establish this permanent base?

INTERVIEWER: Please code all that apply.

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Botley</td>
<td>Thame</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abingdon</td>
<td>Henley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wantage/Grove</td>
<td>Rest of Oxfordshire</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faringdon</td>
<td>Swindon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didcot</td>
<td>A village in South Oxfordshire or Vale of White Horse district councils (please specify below)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallingford</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford City (please specify where below)</td>
<td>Other (Please write in below)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In a city/town/village</td>
<td>Adjacent or close to a town/village</td>
<td>Rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 [ ] Go to (d)
- Allow other families/anyone to rent/have pitches [ ] Ask (c)
- Don’t know [ ] Go to (d)

E2c Who in general would you let pitches to?

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.

- Close family [ ] Anyone [ ]
- Extended family [ ] Other Please write in below [ ]
- Close friends [ ]

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

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


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

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

- Yes [ ]
- No [ ]
- Don’t know [ ]

E3 Which of the following facilities would you 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 [ ]
- Hot water [ ]
- Toilet [ ]
- Electricity [ ]
- Laundry [ ]
- Shower/bath [ ]
- Domestic rubbish storage/collection [ ]
- Letter box [ ]
- Sewerage connection [ ]
- None [ ]
- Other Please write in below [ ]
E4 Which of the following shared (communal) facilities would you want to be available at your new base? INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ OUT and code all that apply.

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

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

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know

E5b Where is the land/site located?

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

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

E5d Can you provide contact details for the landowner? INTERVIEWER: Please probe for as much detail as possible and write in
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
Irish Traveller
Scots Gypsy or Traveller
Showperson
New Traveller
English Traveller
Other Please write in below

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 in the household for some of the time/part of the year.

E.g. a 7 year old daughter would be...

Person 1-respondent Person 2 Person 3 Person 4

Person 5 Person 6 Person 7 Person 8
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person 1 (Respondent)</th>
<th>Person 2</th>
<th>Person 3</th>
<th>Person 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working in a permanent job</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking casual/temporary work</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking seasonal work</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered unemployed</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/full-time education</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long term sick/disabled</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looking after home/family</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time carer</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INTERVIEWER:** 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person 5</th>
<th>Person 6</th>
<th>Person 7</th>
<th>Person 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working in a permanent job</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking casual/temporary work</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undertaking seasonal work</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered unemployed</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/full-time education</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long term sick/disabled</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looking after home/family</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time carer</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Please write in below</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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** 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.

*Blank box for entry*

**F3c** Have you undertaken any other type of work during the last two years?  
INTERVIEWER: Please probe and cross one box only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Ask (d)</th>
<th>Go to F4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**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.

*Blank box for entry*

**F4a** Is there anyone apart from the people you have already told me about who lives in this household some of the time/part of the year? If so please provide their age, gender and relationship to you.  
INTERVIEWER: Please write gender as ‘M’ or ‘F’, the age in years.  
E.g. a 19 year old daughter would be...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person 1</th>
<th>Person 2</th>
<th>Person 3</th>
<th>Person 4</th>
<th>Person 5</th>
<th>Person 6</th>
<th>Person 7</th>
<th>Person 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughter</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**F4b** For each person living in this household some of the time/part of the year, please tell me how much time they spend here each year.  
INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box for each relevant person

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Less than 1 month</th>
<th>1 month but less than 3 months</th>
<th>3 months but less than 6 months</th>
<th>6 months but less than 9 months</th>
<th>Almost all year round</th>
<th>Varies from year to year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F5a Do you or any of the people currently living as part of your household suffer from any health problem? INTERVIEWER: Please probe such as asthma, back problem, nerves or depression and cross one box only

|       |       |   
|-------|-------|---
| Yes   | No    | Ask (b)  
|       |       | Go to F6 |

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

|       |       |   
|-------|-------|---
| Yes   | No    | Ask (c)  
|       |       | 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 South Oxfordshire or Vale of White Horse district who may wish to take part in this survey?

INTERVIEWER: Please cross one box only

|       |       |   
|-------|-------|---
| Yes   | No    | Please provide contact details below 
|       |       | 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