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Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation needs assessment : Warwick : Final report

Scullion, LC and Brown, P

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Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Needs Assessment: Warwick

Final report

Lisa Scullion and Philip Brown
Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit
University of Salford

November 2012



About the Authors

Lisa Scullion and Philip Brown are Research Fellows and in the Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) at the University of Salford.

The Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit is a dedicated multi-disciplinary research and consultancy unit providing a range of services relating to housing and urban management to public and private sector clients. The Unit brings together researchers drawn from a range of disciplines including: social policy, housing management, urban geography, environmental management, psychology, social care and social work.

Study Team

Core team members: Dr Lisa Scullion Dr Philip Brown Victoria Morris	Community Interviewers: Sharon Finney Tracey Finney
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Particular thanks must, of course, go to the people who found the time to talk to us and answer our questions in a full, honest and patient manner. It is hoped that this report is able to accurately reflect their experiences and needs.

This report is based on research undertaken by the study team and the analysis and comment thereafter do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the research commissioners, or any participating stakeholders and agencies. The authors take responsibility for any inaccuracies or omissions in the report.

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Glossary

The following terms are used in this report and or are used in conjunction with planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople accommodation. As such these terms may need some clarification. In the case of those terms which are related to Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and culture, it is noted that a number of these terms are often contested and debated. It is not the intention of the authors to present these terms as absolute definitions; rather, the explanations provided are those the authors used in this assessment as their frames of reference.

Term	Explanation
Amenity block/shed	On most residential Gypsy/Travellers sites these are buildings where basic plumbing amenities (bath/shower, WC and sink) are provided at the rate of one building per pitch.
Authorised social site	An authorised site owned by either the local authority or a Registered Housing Provider.
Authorised Private site	An authorised site owned by a private individual (who may or may not be a Gypsy or a Traveller). These sites can be owner-occupied, rented or a mixture of owner-occupied and rented pitches.
Bricks and mortar	Permanent mainstream housing.
Caravan	Mobile living vehicle used by Gypsies and Travellers. Also referred to as trailers.
Caravan Count	Bi-annual count of Gypsy and Traveller caravans conducted every January and July by local authorities published by the CLG
Chalet	In the absence of a specific definition the term 'chalet' is used here to refer to single storey residential units which resemble mobile homes but can be dismantled.
Core Strategy	Key compulsory Development Plan Document in the Local Development Framework which sets out principles on which other Development Plan Documents are built.
Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG)	The main government department responsible for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation issues
Development Plan Documents (DPDs)	Documents which outline the key development goals of the Local Development Framework.
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA)	The main document that identifies the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers.
Green Belt	A policy or land use designation used to retain areas of largely undeveloped, wild, or agricultural land surrounding or neighbouring urban areas.
Gypsy	Members of Gypsy or Traveller communities. Usually used to describe Romany (English) Gypsies originating from India. This term is not acceptable to all Travellers.

Gypsies and Travellers (as used in this report)	Consistent with the Housing Act 2004, inclusive of: all Gypsies, Irish Travellers, New Travellers, Show People, Circus People and Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation.
Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)	National housing and regeneration agency. Has been responsible for administering the Gypsy and Traveller Site Grant since 2009/10.
Local Plan/Local Development Framework (LDF)	A set of documents which a Local Planning Authority creates to describe their strategy for development and use of land in their area of authority.
Pitch/plot	Area of land on a site/development generally home to one licensee household. Can be varying sizes and have varying caravan occupancy levels. Often also referred to as a plot, particularly in relation to Travelling Showpeople. There is no agreed definition as to the size of a pitch.
Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)	Previous planning approach across England. In July 2010 the government announced its decision to revoke RSSs.
Settled community/people	Reference to non-Travellers (those who live in houses).
Site	An authorised area of land on which Gypsies and Travellers are accommodated in trailers/chalets/vehicles. Can contain one or multiple pitches.
Static caravan	Larger caravan than the 'tourer' type. Can be moved but only with the use of a large vehicle. Often referred to simply as a trailer.
Stopping place	Locations frequented by Gypsies and Travellers, usually for short periods of time.
Suppressed/concealed household	Households, living within other households, who are unable to set up separate family units and who are unable to access a place on an authorised site, or obtain or afford land to develop one.
Trailer	Term commonly used by Gypsies and Travellers to refer to a moveable caravan.
Transit site	Site intended for short stays. Such sites are usually permanent, but there is a limit on the length of time residents can stay.
Travelling Showpeople	Commonly referred to as Showmen, these are a group of occupational Travellers who work on travelling shows and fairs across the UK and abroad.
Unauthorised Development	This refers to a caravan/trailer or group of caravans/trailers on land owned (possibly developed) by Gypsies and Travellers without planning permission.
Unauthorised Encampment	Residing in caravans/trailers on private/public land without the landowner's permission (for example, at the side of the road, on a car park or on a piece of undeveloped land).
Yard	Term used by Travelling Showpeople to refer to a site.

Executive summary

The study

1. The Housing Act 2004 placed a duty upon local authorities to produce assessments of accommodation need for Gypsies and Travellers. In 2008, Warwick district was included in the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment for the South Housing Market Area of the West Midlands Region. This assessment identified the accommodation need – in the form of residential pitch shortfall – of the population on an individual local authority level.
2. In April 2012 Warwick District Council commissioned the Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) at the University of Salford to produce a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment. The primary purpose of this assessment was to provide up to date information and data regarding the needs and requirements of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. This report presents the projection of the requirements for the period 2012 – 2026.
3. The assessment was undertaken by conducting a review of the following data sources:
 - The previous assessment of need and information submitted through the previous regional planning process;
 - The policy and guidance context;
 - The bi-annual Caravan Count;
 - Information from the local authorities with regards to pitch provision and supply;
 - Information from key stakeholders; and
 - A survey of forty-three Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households living in trailer-based and bricks and mortar accommodation across Warwick district.
4. From the estimation of a base population of thirty-three resident households in Warwick, we consulted with twenty-eight households; 85% of the estimated Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople community.
5. We believe that the sample is as representative as can be reasonably expected given the relatively hidden nature of the population. The fieldwork took place over an eight week period starting on 29th May 2012. The base date used in this assessment is the 29th May 2012.

Local accommodation provision

6. There is no one source of information about the size of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Warwick district. Using the best information available we estimate that there are at least 124 individuals or thirty-three households resident in the study area.

7. There are no socially rented sites or authorised private sites in Warwick district. The population was found on one unauthorised development, one Travelling Showpeople site and in bricks and mortar accommodation. The study team were also aware of the occurrence of unauthorised encampments during the fieldwork period (and interviewed a number of households on encampments).

Accommodation need and supply

8. There are no signs that the growth in the Gypsy and Traveller population will slow significantly. Research from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has indicated that around 6,000 additional pitches for Gypsies and Travellers are immediately required to meet the current shortage of accommodation within England.
9. This study has taken a thorough assessment of the need arising from all accommodation types present at the time of the survey. As such this assessment of need should be regarded as a reasonable and robust assessment of need upon which to base planning decisions going forward. Sites developed after 29th May 2012 contribute to the need requirements detailed in the table below.

Table i: Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople residential pitch need (2012 - 2026)

	Gypsy and Traveller Pitch Need Total (No. of pitches)	Travelling Showpeople Pitch Need Total (No. of pitches)
Current authorised residential provision (pitches)	0	5
Residential need 2012 - 2016 (pitches)	25	0
Residential need 2017 – 2021 (pitches)	3	0
Residential need 2022 – 2026 (pitches)	3	0
Residential need 2012 – 2026 (pitches)	31	0

10. It is recommended that this assessment of accommodation need is repeated in due course (circa 5 years) to ensure it remains as accurate as possible.
11. Numerical transit requirements are difficult to provide from this assessment. A need to provide twelve transit pitches has been suggested, based on recent work around transit need undertaken by Warwick District Council. An indication of how provision for short-stay households could be made is detailed in the main report.

1. Introduction

Background and scope

- 1.1 The Housing Act 2004 placed a duty upon local authorities to produce assessments of accommodation need for Gypsies and Travellers. In 2008, Warwick district was included in the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment for the South Housing Market Area of the West Midlands Region¹, which provided an overview of the accommodation and related needs and experiences of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across this region. Crucially, it identified the accommodation need – in the form of residential and transit pitch shortfall – of the population on an individual district level. For Warwick district, the assessment identified a need for a total of 26 pitches: 11 permanent pitches and 15 transit pitches over the period 2008-2013. This assessment included Travelling Showpeople, but did not identify any need arising from Travelling Showpeople in the district.
- 1.2 Planning guidance contained within Circular 01/2006 indicated that the district level requirements identified in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAA's) were to be submitted to the Regional Planning Body (RPB) – in this case the West Midlands Regional Assembly – and a 'strategic view' of need taken. The intention was that these figures, once agreed, would be incorporated into the Regional Spatial Strategy which in turn would be adopted by each local authority's Local Development Framework (LDF). The adopted West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy required that 'development plans should ensure adequate provision is made for suitable sites to accommodate gypsies and other travellers'. This provision had to reflect demand shown by Caravan Count data and 'any additional local information'. The West Midlands RSS Interim Statement looked at the distribution of existing pitches and pitch requirements across the region and diverted some of the requirement from areas which already had large levels of provision to those with none or low levels. Consequently, the allocation for Warwick district was 23 permanent pitches over the period 2007 – 2017.²
- 1.3 In 2010, the new coalition government revoked the RSS indicating that local authorities would be responsible for determining provision, reflecting local need and historic demand. Consequently, in 2011, the Planning Policy and Housing Strategy teams at Warwick District Council produced a report on the local and historic demand for Gypsy and Traveller sites within the District.³ The purpose of this report was to provide an update on the 2008 GTAA, which the report suggested was based on limited evidence and therefore not robust or reliable. The report produced by Warwick District Council suggested that demand for permanent site-based accommodation in the area was 'low and transitory in nature'. The report recommended provision of a transit site that could accommodate 15 caravans.

¹ Scott, R. (2008) A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment for the South Housing Market Area of the West Midlands Region, report prepared on behalf of the South Housing Market Partnership.

² West Midlands Regional Assembly (2010) West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy, Phase Three Revision, Interim Policy Statements and Policy Recommendations, March 2010.

³ Planning Policy and Housing Strategy teams (2011) Evidence of Local Needs and Historic Demand for Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Warwick District, April 2011, Warwick District Council.

- 1.4 In early 2012 a revised policy for the planning of Gypsy and Traveller sites was released by CLG replacing previous guidance in this area⁴.
- 1.5 In April 2012 Warwick District Council commissioned the Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) at the University of Salford to produce a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment. The primary purpose of this report is to provide up to date information and data regarding the needs and requirements of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. This report presents the findings of this assessment; in particular the projection of permanent and transit requirements for the following periods:
- 2012 – 2016 (0-5 years)
 - 2017 – 2021 (6-10 years)
 - 2022 – 2026 (11-15 years)

Research approach

- 1.6 The approach to this study involved bringing together various existing data sources with empirical research with the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities across Warwick district. Details about the methodology for the assessment can be found in Appendix 1. The methodology entailed a review of the following data sources:
- Previous assessments of need and information submitted through the previous regional planning process
 - The policy and guidance context
 - The bi-annual Caravan Count
 - Information from the local authority with regards to pitch provision and supply
 - Information from key stakeholders. These included representatives from Warwick District Council; Warwickshire County Council; Warwickshire Police; Warwickshire Supporting People; and officers from other local authorities across England (focusing specifically on the issues of transit provision). Consultations (written and verbal) were undertaken in order to develop a clearer understanding about the context of provision and need and to help inform the assessment of need. This information has been incorporated into this report in the appropriate places.
 - A survey of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople currently residing in Warwick district. This entailed the completion of interviews with 43 households living in trailer-based and bricks and mortar accommodation across Warwick district. See Appendix 1 of this report for specific details of this process.
- 1.7 Table 1.1 summarises the response to the survey by number of sites and estimated/ known number of households across Warwick.

⁴ CLG (2012) Planning for traveller sites
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2113371.pdf>.

Table 1.1: Sample in relation to local Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population

Type of accommodation	No. of sites			No. of known occupied pitches/households		
	Total	Sample	%	Total	Interview Sample	%
Unauthorised developments	1	1	100	7	7	100
Travelling Showpeople sites	1	1	100	3	3	100
Unauthorised encampments	NA	NA	NA	NA	15	NA
Bricks and mortar	NA	NA	NA	NA	18	NA

1.8 The key points to note from the methodological approach adopted is that:

- A sample of around 85% has been achieved across the study area. We believe that the sample is as representative as can be reasonably expected.
- Due to the size of the sample it is reasonable to gross up findings from the survey to the total population of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the district. See Chapters 8 and 9 for a description of how the survey findings have been translated into accommodation need.

Structure of the report

1.9 This report is intended to assist Warwick District Council in their formulation of planning policies for the provision of accommodation for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. It sets out the background and current policy context, identifies the estimated Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population and presents evidence of need arising within Warwick.

- Chapter 2 looks at the past, present and emerging policy context in the area of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation.
- Chapter 3 looks at the trends in caravan numbers evident from the bi-annual count of caravans and estimates the size of the local Gypsy and Traveller community.
- Chapter 4 discusses current authorised provision across the study area.
- Chapter 5 looks at the level of planning applications made in Warwick district, the presence of unauthorised sites and the views of households on unauthorised sites obtained through the household survey.
- Chapter 6 looks at the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation as well as drawing upon the views of people obtained through the household survey.
- Chapter 7 looks at a range of issues including the movement intentions of the sample, the formation of new households and concealment of existing ones and the accommodation preferences of the Gypsy and Traveller population.

- Chapter 8 provides the numerical assessment of accommodation need for Gypsies and Travellers in Warwick district.
- Chapter 9 looks at the issue of Travelling Showpeople, drawing upon the views of people obtained through the household survey and providing a numerical assessment of accommodation need.
- Chapter 10 provides an analysis of the need for transit provision, including case studies of different forms of transit provision.
- Chapter 11 provides concluding comments on the assessment.

1.10 The base date for this assessment is the 29th May 2012.

2. Policy context

2.1 This chapter looks at the current and past policy context impacting on the assessment of need and the provision of accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

Planning policy 2006-2011

2.2 The main document for detailing planning policy in England over the 2006-2011 period was ODPM Circular 01/2006 Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites. This specifies that the aims of legislation and policy were to:

- ensure that Gypsies and Travellers have fair access to suitable accommodation, education, health and welfare provision;
- reduce the number of unauthorised encampments and developments;
- increase significantly the number of Gypsy and Traveller sites in appropriate locations and with planning permission in order to address under-provision by 2011;
- protect the traditional travelling way of life of Gypsies and Travellers;
- underline the importance of assessing accommodation need;
- promote private site provision; and,
- avoid Gypsies and Travellers becoming homeless, where eviction from unauthorised sites occurs and where there is no alternative accommodation.

2.3 The circular directed local authorities to assess needs through Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments which should then form part of the evidence base for subsequent Development Plan Documents.

2.4 Travelling Showpeople were the subject of separate planning guidance, CLG Circular 04/07, which aimed to ensure that the system for pitch assessment, identification and allocation as introduced for Gypsies and Travellers was also applied to Travelling Showpeople.

Regional planning policy

2.5 ODPM Circular 01/2006 made it clear that district level requirements identified in GTAAs were to be submitted to the relevant Regional Planning Body (RPB) – in this case the West Midlands Regional Assembly. The RPB would then, in turn, provide pitch requirements on a district by district basis once a strategic view of needs had been taken through the process of producing the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). The broad purpose of the strategic view was to ensure requirements were identified fairly and not compound existing inequalities of accommodation provision. The intention was that these figures, once agreed, would be incorporated into the RSS which in turn would be adopted by each local authority's Local Development Framework (LDF).

- 2.6 The adopted West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy required that 'development plans should ensure adequate provision is made for suitable sites to accommodate gypsies and other travellers'. The West Midlands RSS Interim Statement looked at the distribution of existing pitches and pitch requirements across the region. The pitch requirements suggested for Warwick district were increased based on the view that provision should be redistributed to authorities who currently make little or no pitch provision. Consequently, the allocation for Warwick district was 23 permanent pitches over the period 2007 – 2017.⁵
- 2.7 In July 2010 the Secretary of State announced the revocation of Regional Strategies. Local authorities were advised to continue to develop LDF core strategies and, where these had already been adopted, use the adopted Development Plan Documents as the local planning framework. Specific guidance was provided in July 2010 in the form of a letter from the Chief Planner in order to assist in the determination of provision for Gypsy and Traveller sites.⁶ With respect to the needs of Gypsies and Travellers this guidance stated that:

"Local councils are best placed to assess the needs of travellers. The abolition of Regional Strategies means that local authorities will be responsible for determining the right level of site provision, reflecting local need and historic demand, and for bringing forward land in DPDs. They should continue to do this in line with current policy. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAAs) have been undertaken by all local authorities and if local authorities decide to review the levels of provision these assessments will form a good starting point. However, local authorities are not bound by them. We will review relevant regulations and guidance on this matter in due course."

Current planning policy

- 2.8 The government has formulated a new planning framework for England and Wales in the form of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Among the many significant changes to the planning system the NPPF places greater emphasis of the role communities can play in the planning process. The NPPF also contains a presumption in favour of sustainable development and makes provisions for the protection of the Green Belt.
- 2.9 The specific planning framework that will be implemented for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation provision was also released in early 2012. This replaces Circulars 01/06 and 04/2007.⁷ This states that:

Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. This policy must be taken into account in the preparation of development plans, and is a

⁵ West Midlands Regional Assembly (2010) West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy, Phase Three Revision, Interim Policy Statements and Policy Recommendations, March 2010.

⁶ <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1631904.pdf>

⁷ CLG (2012) Planning for traveller sites

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2113371.pdf>

material consideration in planning decisions. Local planning authorities preparing plans for and taking decisions on traveller sites should also have regard to the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework so far as relevant.

2.10 The Policy states that the Government's overarching aim is:

to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.

2.11 The Policy outlines the Government's aims in respect of Traveller sites:

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

2.12 Policy A of 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' states that in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:

- a) pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities (including discussing travellers' accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups)

- b) co-operate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups, other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas over the lifespan of their development plan working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities
- c) use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions.

2.13 This accommodation assessment is one of the main components in the evidence base required in the preparation of the planning approach for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople sites for Warwick District Council. It has been developed through engagement with Gypsies, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in Warwick district and through discussion with key stakeholders, in accordance with national policy.

Defining Gypsies and Travellers

2.14 Defining Gypsies and Travellers is not straightforward. Different definitions are used for a variety of purposes. At a very broad level the term 'Gypsies and Travellers' is used by non-Gypsies and Travellers to encompass a variety of groups and individuals who have in common a tradition or practice of nomadism. More narrowly both Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are recognised minority ethnic groupings.

2.15 At the same time Gypsies and Travellers have been defined for accommodation and planning purposes. The statutory definition of Gypsies and Travellers for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment required by the Housing Act 2004 is:

- (a) persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan; and
- (b) all other persons of a nomadic habit of life, whatever their race or origin, including:
 - (i) such persons who, on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependant's educational or health needs or old age, have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently; and
 - (ii) members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people (whether or not travelling together as such).

2.16 The new planning policy contains a separate definition for planning purposes which offers a narrower definition and excludes Travelling Showpeople:

Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependants' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling show people or circus people travelling together as such.

2.17 This definition focuses more narrowly upon people who either still travel or have ceased to do so as a result of specific issues and can as a consequence demonstrate specific land use requirements.

2.18 A separate definition of Travelling Showpeople is provided within the planning policy:

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

2.19 The new planning policy document uses the term 'traveller' to refer to both Gypsy and Traveller communities and populations of Travelling Showpeople. This has been used as it is recognised that this definition is '...more pragmatic and wider and enables local planning authorities to understand the possible future accommodation needs of this group and plan strategically to meet those needs'.⁸ However, the study has also had regard to the planning definition where it is considered appropriate to do so.

Housing/accommodation need

2.20 Crucially, for Gypsies and Travellers, the definition of housing need is varied slightly to acknowledge the different contexts in which members of these communities live. The general definition of housing need is "households who are unable to access suitable housing without some financial assistance", with housing demand defined as "the quantity of housing that households are willing and able to buy or rent."⁹

2.21 In recognising that in many cases these definitions are inappropriate for Gypsies and Travellers, the guidance on producing Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments¹⁰ refers to distinctive requirements that necessitate moving beyond the limitations of the definition for both caravan dwellers and those in bricks and mortar housing. For caravan dwelling households, need may take the form of those:¹¹

- who have no authorised site on which to reside;
- whose existing site accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable, but who are unable to obtain larger or more suitable accommodation; and
- who contain suppressed households who are unable to set up separate family units and are unable to access a place on an authorised site, or obtain or afford land to develop one.

⁸ CLG (2011) Planning for traveller sites. Consultation Paper, April, London: HMSO
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1886164.pdf>

⁹ ODPM (2006) Definition of the term 'Gypsies and Travellers' for the purposes of the Housing Act 2004. Consultation Paper, February, London: HMSO.

¹⁰ GTAA guidance has been used in developing the methodology but variations to the approach have been made to take account of local circumstances, where considered appropriate

¹¹ CLG (2007) Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments – Guidance. London: HMSO.

- 2.22 In the context of bricks and mortar dwelling households, need may take the form of:
- those whose existing accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable (including unsuitability by virtue of psychological aversion to bricks and mortar accommodation).
- 2.23 The needs presented in this report reflect both the definition of Gypsies and Travellers as used in the Housing Act 2004, which gives an overall strategic level of accommodation need, and the new planning policy which indicates the proportion of site-based need for operational purposes. It should also be noted that steps have been taken within this report to analyse need in the context of local and historic demand.
- 2.24 Housing need is assessed at the level of a single family unit or household (broadly a group of people who regularly live and eat together). On Gypsy and Traveller sites, this is assumed to equate to a 'pitch'; in housing, to a separate dwelling.

Defining a pitch

- 2.25 There is no set definition for what constitutes a Gypsy and Traveller residential pitch. In the same way as in the settled community, Gypsies and Travellers require various accommodation sizes, depending on the number of family members.
- 2.26 The convention used in this report is that a pitch is the place on a Gypsy and Traveller site accommodating a single family/household. In some cases a single pitch may account for the entire site. The number of caravans that a household uses can be a single unit (trailer, touring caravan, static, chalet etc.) or more. In order to ensure comparability across accommodation types it is important to determine a convention when translating caravan numbers into pitches/households.
- 2.27 The convention in the last round of GTAA's, and an approach advocated by CLG guidance, was the use of a 1.7 caravan to pitch ratio. Taking a more locally informed approach, this assessment has indicated that from a base of ten resident trailer-based interviewees, a total sixteen caravans are owned/used. This provides a 1.6 caravan to pitch ratio across the sample. Therefore throughout this assessment a 1.6 caravan to pitch ratio is used to determine need.

Conventions

- 2.28 Two conventions are followed in this report:
- Percentages in text and tables are rounded to the nearest whole number; this means that they do not always sum to exactly 100.
 - 'Quotes' included from Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople are sometimes in first and sometimes in third person form because interviews were not audio recorded but noted in written form. They are distinguished by being in italic type and usually inset.

3. The bi-annual Caravan Count and size of the population

3.1 This chapter looks at the Count of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans in order to present what is known about Gypsies and Travellers within Warwick district. This chapter presents information on the estimated size of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population.

Caravan numbers and trends from the Caravan Count

3.2 The bi-annual caravan count provides a snapshot of the local context in terms of the scale and distribution of caravan numbers across the District. The Count provides a starting point in assessing the current picture and recent trends. Indeed, in the absence of other datasets it is virtually the only source of information on Gypsy and Traveller caravan data. However, there are a number of well documented issues with the robustness of the count.¹² These issues include: the 'snapshot' nature of the data, the inclusion of caravans and not households, the historic exclusion of Travelling Showpeople,¹³ and the exclusion of Gypsies and Travellers in housing. It should be noted that the analysis contained in this report should be considered a more robust assessment of the current situation with regards to the local population than the Caravan Count.

3.3 Table 3.1 provides the distribution of caravan numbers for Warwick district since January 2006. Table 3.1 shows the following:

- There have been no caravans recorded on socially rented sites over the period.
- There were no caravans recorded on private sites, until in the inclusion of Travelling Showpeople in the January 2011 and January 2012 counts. Five Travelling Showpeople caravans were recorded in each of these counts.
- Since July 2010 a consistent number of caravans (sixteen) has been recorded on a 'not tolerated' unauthorised development.
- There have been very few caravans recorded on unauthorised encampments over the period. This is in contrast with the information provided by Warwick District Council on the number of encampments that have occurred, which suggests a relatively large number of encampments occur each year (see section on unauthorised encampments in Chapter 5).

¹² Niner, P. (2002) Review of the ODPM Caravan Count, London: ODPM.

¹³ The January 2011 and January 2012 count included Travelling Showpeople caravans for the first time. These are shown in the authorised private sites count.

Table 3.1: Caravan numbers across accommodation types within Warwick district

Count	Authorised sites (with planning permission)				Unauthorised sites (without planning permission)				Total
	Socially rented	Private			Unauthorised developments		Unauthorised encampments		
		Temporary permission	Permanent permission	All private	'Tolerated'	'Not tolerated'	'Tolerated'	'Not Tolerated'	
Jan 12	0	0	5	0	0	16	0	0	21
Jul 11	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	16
Jan 11	0	0	5	0	0	16	0	0	21
Jul 10	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	8	24
Jan 10 ¹⁴	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 09	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 09	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 08	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 08	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 07	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 07	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 06	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 06	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	4	4

The size of the local Gypsy and Traveller community

- 3.4 For most minority ethnic communities, presenting data about the size of the community in question is usually relatively straightforward (with the exception of communities which have large numbers of irregular migrants and migrant workers, etc. amongst them). However, for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, one of the most difficult issues is providing accurate information on the size of the population. As a result, we have used information provided by the local authorities and key stakeholders, together with our survey findings, in order to provide a best estimate as to the size of the local Gypsy and Traveller population at the time of the assessment.
- 3.5 Table 3.2 presents the estimation of the size of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Warwick district. Using the best information available we estimate that there are at least 124 individuals or thirty-three households in the study area.

¹⁴ Please note that data which breaks down private sites into permanent/temporary permission was not available or not required to be collected until this time.

Table 3.3: Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population based in Warwick district

Type of accommodation	Families/ Households (based on 1 pitch/house = 1 household)	Individuals	Derivation
Unauthorised developments	7	25	Based on household information provided by the seven households currently on the development
Travelling Showpeople site	3	9	Based on household information provided by the three households currently on the site
Bricks and mortar	23 ¹⁵	90	Number of families estimated to live in the area multiplied by average household size from the survey (3.9)
Total	33	124	

¹⁵ We did not receive any information regarding the accurate size of the Gypsy and Traveller bricks and mortar-based population. It is generally agreed that there are now more Gypsies and Travellers living in conventional housing in the UK than living on sites or unauthorised encampments. The Commission for Racial Equality's 2006 report *Common Ground: Equality, good race relations and sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers* suggested that the housed population could be around 3 times the trailer-based population. Using a multiplier of 3 times the site population may be excessive in the absence of definitive evidence of the size of the population. In the absence of accurate evidence, the estimate of the base population of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living in houses is based on the assumption that the number of interviews with bricks and mortar households that were secured was a minimum of 75% of the housed population. In a number of GTAAs we have carried out in other areas, an assumption has been made that survey samples have included around 50% of the housed population. This has been based on a range of information, including that provided by stakeholders, as well as taking into account the fieldwork period and how many additional interviews the Community Interviewers could have achieved with more time. In relation to the fieldwork in Warwick, the Community Interviewers indicated that they had exhausted achievable bricks and mortar interviews within the study area through site-based contacts and snowball sampling. However, it is recognised that the survey is unlikely to have captured all bricks and mortar residents. It is therefore reasonable to assume that the sample constitutes three quarters of the housed population.

4. Authorised social and private sites

- 4.1 A certain degree of caution needs to be taken when extrapolating the characteristics, trends and needs of the Gypsy and Traveller population from the Caravan Counts and other such data alone. In order to provide more specific information on the local Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population, this section draws upon the information provided by Warwick District Council on site provision within the district.

Socially rented sites

- 4.2 There are currently no socially rented sites within the district of Warwick. Warwick District Council indicated that they did have plans to provide a Gypsy and Traveller site within the area over the next five years. The location, number of pitches and whether it would be permanent or transit were unknown; however, the Council indicated that they had been proactively seeking land for a transit site.

Authorised private sites

- 4.3 There are currently no authorised private sites within the district of Warwick. Warwick District Council indicated that they did not know if the number of private sites was likely to increase over the next five years.

5. Planning and unauthorised sites

- 5.1 The development of unauthorised sites for Gypsies and Travellers can be a major source of tension between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled population. The current planning system is intended to create conditions where there is no need for unauthorised developments because land will be allocated for authorised site development within the Local Development Framework. This chapter focuses upon the development of Gypsy and Traveller sites without planning permission. This chapter also looks at the presence of unauthorised encampments in the area.
- 5.2 The current development plan against which applications for a Gypsy and Traveller site are assessed is the Warwick District Local Plan 1996 – 2011; however, the Council indicated that this plan does not include a policy towards Gypsy and Traveller sites. The Council indicated that there will be relevant policies for Gypsy and Traveller sites in their emerging Development Plan Documents under the new planning system.

Planning applications

- 5.3 Warwick District Council had received two planning applications for the development of Gypsy and Traveller sites since 2006. Table 5.1 below provides details of these.

Table 5.1: Planning applications since 2006

Year	Location	Number of pitches	Outcome	Reason
2010	Kites Nest Lane/Brownley Green Lane, Beausale	13	Refused and appeal dismissed	Primarily Green Belt and Special Landscape Designation
2009	Hampton Road/Henley Road, Hampton on the Hill	1	Refused and appeal dismissed	Primarily Green Belt

Unauthorised development of Gypsy and Traveller sites

- 5.4 Warwick District Council indicated that there was currently one unauthorised development within the district. This development is the Kites Nest Lane/Brownley Green Lane site, referred to in Table 5.1 above. While the application was for thirteen pitches, Warwick District Council indicated that only seven pitches had been occupied on this site, with the remaining six pitches undeveloped at present. Warwick District Council indicated that enforcement action had been taken against this site. Following an unsuccessful appeal, the residents had been given until September 2012 to vacate the site. The Council indicated that this has not been complied with and a High Court hearing date has been arranged for February 2013 where the Council will apply for a further injunction order requiring compliance with the Enforcement Notice previously issued by a date which will be determined by the judge.

Unauthorised developments: survey findings

5.5 As highlighted above, at the time of the assessment, there was one unauthorised development. The Community Interviewers indicated that – during the fieldwork period – there were seven households living on the site and seven interviews were carried out (as highlighted above, there are currently only seven pitches occupied on the site). All of the respondents on the unauthorised development indicated that they were Romany Gypsies.

Views on size and facilities

5.6 All the respondents on the unauthorised development owned their trailers; four respondents had two trailers, two had one trailer and one respondent had three trailers. The average number of caravans to households was 1.9. All of the respondents reported that they had enough space.

5.7 The respondents stated that they did not have visitors to stay on their site/pitch with them¹⁶. When asked if hosting visitors would be an issue, three respondents said no, while four respondents said yes. These four respondents all made reference to the fact that the site did not have planning permission and therefore they felt that they could not have visitors. The following are some of the comments that were made:

“We can’t have anyone stay for a week or two as they don’t even want us on here”

“[The site is] not passed yet, but when or if it does get passed then there will be no problem”

5.8 All of the households were self employed. Three worked within the same local area as the site, three worked within the district of Warwick, and one worked within the West Midlands. None of the respondents indicated that they had any site needs relating to their work.

Previous accommodation experiences

5.9 When asked why they had come to live on their current site, five respondents (71%) indicated that that they had moved there to be near family/friends; one respondent said that it was because the land was available to buy, while the remaining respondent indicated it was because they were born/raised in the area.

5.10 When asked what type of accommodation they had immediately before their current site, all respondents indicated that they had moved to the site from the roadside (i.e. unauthorised encampments). Six of these respondents stated that they had been stopping at the roadside within the district of Warwick¹⁷, while one respondent indicated “anywhere around Warwickshire we could get a few days stopping”. One of the respondents

¹⁶ Information provided by Warwick Council, however, suggested that immediate family members may sometimes visit/stay with site residents on a transit basis.

¹⁷ Although no records are held by Warwick District Council as to their presence in the area prior to moving on to the development.

who had been on unauthorised encampments within Warwick district made the following comment:

“[We] were always made to move every few days, sometimes every day. [We] have even been moved on twice in one day”

- 5.11 When asked the main reason for leaving this previous form of accommodation, three respondents stated that it was because this land was available to buy. With regards to the remaining respondents, two indicated that they “got sick of being moved on all the time”, one said it was due to eviction from previous encampments and one due to children’s education.
- 5.12 None of the respondents had ever lived in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Length of time in the area and on the site

- 5.13 All of the respondents indicated that they had lived in the general area for ten years or more¹⁸. The main reasons for staying in the area, in order of frequency, were: having family in the area (all respondents); being born/raised in the area (six respondents); work available in the area (six respondents); children’s education (four respondents); lack of sites (three respondents); own/family members health (two respondents); to look after a family member in older age (one respondent); and only place I could find (one respondent). When asked to select the main reason from this list, four respondents said that it was due to having family living in the area, one due to children’s education and one due to their own or a family member’s health.
- 5.14 With regards to length of time on their current site, all respondents indicated that they had lived there for between one and three years.
- 5.15 None of the respondents reported having a base elsewhere.

Travelling experiences

- 5.16 None of the respondents travelled at present and none had travelled in the last twelve months. When asked why they did not travel, respondents made reference to children’s education, older age and health reasons. However, as above, a key issue also related to the fact that they were trying to get planning permission on the site. One respondent made the following comment:

“Have not moved off here since we came about two years [ago]. Trying really hard to get it passed and kids are settled in school”

¹⁸ It should be noted that a Planning Inspector’s report from September 2011 provides further exploration into residential history of some existing or intended occupants from this site, suggesting previous residency outside the study area. However, it is unclear whether the report encompasses the same people as were included in this assessment.

Access to health services

- 5.17 The respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and dentist. All respondents indicated that they had sufficient access to these services and none of the respondents reported any issues or problems with access to health care services.

Unauthorised encampments

- 5.18 The presence and incidence of unauthorised encampments is often a significant issue that impacts upon local authorities, landowners, Gypsies and Travellers and the settled population. Due to the nature of unauthorised encampments (i.e. unpredictability, seasonal fluctuations, etc.), it is often very difficult to grasp a comprehensive picture of need for residential and/or transit accommodation without considering a range of interconnected issues. According to the Caravan Count – and highlighted in Chapter 3 – the level of encampments has been very low over the last five years. However, as highlighted previously, the Caravan Count provides only a ‘snap shot’ twice a year and information provided by Warwick District Council (see Table 5.2 below) suggested a significant number of encampments occurred each year. Furthermore, during the fieldwork for this assessment we received notification of eleven unauthorised encampments. A total of fifteen interviews were carried out with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments.
- 5.19 Warwick District Council indicated that it is party to a joint agreement/protocol with the other Warwickshire local authorities in relation to managing unauthorised encampments.¹⁹ It was indicated that any of the following services would normally first make contact with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments: an officer within Warwick District Council; an officer within Warwickshire County Council; the Police; Traveller Education Service; bailiff; or health services.
- 5.20 Warwick District Council indicated that it keeps a log of all known unauthorised encampments in the district. The records indicated that there had been seventy-two separate encampments during 2009 – 2012: twenty in 2009; twenty-six in 2010; and twenty-six in 2011. Table 5.2 below shows the encampments recorded during 2011. The average size of encampment consisted of around nine to eleven caravans/trailers (ten caravans/trailers). However, it is recognised that this may be skewed by the occurrence of a small number of large encampments/gatherings. It is also apparent from the information provided by the Council that a number of these encampments were the same group moving around different locations. Excluding the large gatherings but also those instances where the same group feature in a number of areas shows that there were eighteen encampments during 2011 (the excluded encampments are the ones that are shaded in the table below). The average number of caravans

¹⁹ Warwickshire Gypsy and Traveller Special Interest Panel (2007) The Warwickshire Protocol: Firm but fair: Managing Unauthorised Encampments – the Warwickshire Way, http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/3B1D672A-D05C-461D-B02C-0140301CEC51/0/Unauthorisedencampmentspolicy_151107.pdf

across these eighteen encampments was seven to eight caravans (based on the fifteen cases where the number of caravans is recorded). The average duration was six days.

Table 5.2: Unauthorised encampments 1st January 2011 – 31st December 2011

Camp	Location	No. of caravans involved	Duration (days)	Type of departure	Comments
1	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	Not recorded	5	Voluntary	
2	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	Not recorded	2	WCC/WDC visit	Family on the way back to Ireland
3	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	4 – 12	14	WCC Court Action	Number of caravans increased from 4 to 7 to 12 over the period
4	Macbeth Approach, Leamington Spa	10	3	Private action	Indicated that they were just travelling through
5	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	8	4	Voluntary	
6	Olympus Avenue, Leamington Spa	3	1	Private action	
7	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	5	7	Voluntary	Having a baby at Warwick Hospital
8	Harbury Lane Sports Fields, Leamington Spa	6 – 20	16	WDC Court Action	Increased from 6 to 20 caravans during day 3
9	Longfield Road, Leamington Spa	3	2	Private action	Same family – indicated that they have a permanent base elsewhere
10	St Marys Road, Leamington Spa	3	2	Private action	
11	Leicester Lane, Leamington Spa	3	1	WCC visit	
12	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	6	7	Voluntary	Moved onto the Gallagher Property (Macbeth Approach)
13	Macbeth Approach, Leamington Spa	5 – 27	10	Private action	Increase to 27 with groups from St Mary's Rd (number 10) and Harbury Lane (number 8)
14	Harbury Lane Sports Fields, Leamington Spa	56	1	Police assistance	Moved onto the Gallagher Property (Macbeth Approach)
15	St Marys Road, Leamington Spa	Not recorded	3	Private action	Moved onto the Gallagher Property (Macbeth Approach)

16	B4462 Bishops Tachbrook, Leamington Spa	15	4	Private action	Part of group from Gallagher's
17	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	4 – 8	10	Voluntary	Increased from 4 – 8 on day 4
18	Tachbrook Road, Leamington Spa	6	5	Private action	3 of this group moved from Tachbrook Road to Station Approach (number 19)
19	Station Approach, Leamington Spa	3	2	Private action	
20	Heathcote Way, Leamington Spa	4	4	Voluntary	
21	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	2	7	WCC action	Left before court action
22	Stratford Road, Leamington Spa	10	4	Private action	22 and 23 same group
23	Rock Farm Lane, Baginton	10	2	Voluntary	
24	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	11	12	WCC action	Some of the group indicated have permanent base in Ireland. Left before court action
25	Siskin Parkway East, Coventry/Warwick border	12	10	Private action	Indicated that they were in the area to attend a wedding
26	Spartan/Delphi Close, Leamington Spa	12 – 26	15	WCC Court action	Increased from 12 – 26 – date of increase not recorded

- 5.21 As can be seen, the same location (Spartan/Delphi Close) features in a number of encampments. Consultation with Warwick District Council suggested that this location was popular due to it being a cul-de-sac (i.e. perceived as relatively safe); having access to water through a nearby fire hydrant; and it being known as Warwickshire County Council land, which meant that households would usually be able to stay longer than on private land due to the length of time required for enforcement action.
- 5.22 There were reportedly more encampments during the summer, although information provided by Warwick Council and Warwickshire Police did show that encampments occurred during the winter as well. It was suggested that households on unauthorised encampments were mostly those 'in transit'; however, Warwickshire Police were aware of a group who have visited the area recently (i.e. at the time of the assessment) who wanted permanent site-based accommodation in the district so they would be able to send their children to school. It was reported by Warwick District Council and Warwickshire Police that the households on unauthorised encampments were predominantly Irish Travellers. The Council indicated that they were unsure whether the number of encampments would increase, decrease or stay the same over the next five years. However, it

was reported that the number and size of encampments had remained broadly the same over the last five years. Stakeholder consultation suggested that the issue of unauthorised encampments often raised concerns from the settled community and was perceived as an area of potential community tension. It was felt by a number of stakeholders that transit provision would reduce these tensions (Chapter 10 refers specifically to the issue of transit provision).

Unauthorised encampments: survey findings

- 5.23 A total of fifteen people were interviewed on two separate unauthorised encampments; all described themselves as Irish Travellers. Nearly all households were self employed. The majority of respondents indicated that they worked “anywhere they can find work”; however, six respondents said that they mostly worked within Warwick.
- 5.24 Eleven respondents had a single caravan (73%), while four respondents had two (27%). The average number of caravans to household was 1.3. One respondent currently travelled with some form of equipment. Thirteen respondents (87%) reported that they had enough space; the remaining two households did not provide a response.

Previous accommodation experiences

- 5.25 When asked what type of accommodation they had immediately before moving to their current encampment, twelve respondents (80%) indicated that they had moved from another unauthorised encampment. Eight respondents (67%) had been on an encampment in Carlisle, two in Rugby, one in Coventry and one could not remember the location of the previous encampment. With regards to the remaining respondents, one had come from a private site in Telford, one a transit site in Lutterworth and one a house, which their parents owned in Warrington (one of the reasons they had given for leaving this house was because they had got married). Table 5.3 below shows the reasons given for moving on to their current encampment. As can be seen, the only place they could find and eviction/being moved on from previous place were the most common responses.

Table 5.3: Main reason for moving to current encampment

Reason	No	%
Only place I could find	5	33
Eviction/moved on from previous place	3	20
It was available	2	13
To be near family	2	13
Moved here with family	1	7
Work available in the area	1	7
Holiday	1	7
Total	15	100

- 5.26 Three respondents (20%) reported having a base elsewhere in the UK, while the remainder indicated that they did not. With regards to the respondents who had a base elsewhere, one was in Derby, one in Hertfordshire and one in Leeds. With regards to the type of base, two

respondents lived in bricks and mortar accommodation (one owner occupation and one socially rented) and one lived on a private site with planning permission. It was apparent through responses to other questions in relation to travelling that the majority of respondents travelled frequently during the summer months (see paragraphs 5.31 – 5.34 below).

- 5.27 Three respondents had experience of living in bricks and mortar accommodation. As highlighted above, two were currently living in houses. One rated this experience as good and one as neither good nor poor. The respondent who rated their experience as good made the following comment: “we are pretty settled, we are different to some of the other Travellers” (referring to the others on the encampment). The respondent who was ambivalent about living in a house had moved into bricks and mortar to look after a family member in older age.

Length of time in the general area and on the encampment

- 5.28 The majority of respondents (thirteen – 87%) had been in the general area for less than a month. One respondent indicated that they had been in the area between one and six months and one had been in the area between six and twelve months. The main reasons for staying in the area, in order of frequency, were: only place I could find (ten respondents); work available in the area (nine respondents); having family in the area (seven respondents); lack of sites (four respondents); to look after a family member in older age (one respondent); availability of site/accommodation (one respondent); “we follow the other Travellers” (one respondent); no particular reason (one respondent); and “we travel everywhere, this is just one area we have stopped” (one respondent). When asked to select the main reason from this list, six respondents (40%) said it was the only place they could find. The remaining respondents made reference to individual reasons from the list above. With regards to length of time on that particular encampment, all respondents indicated that they had been there one week or less.
- 5.29 The respondents were asked how many weeks of the year they usually stayed in the Warwick area. Nine people (60%) indicated that they did not know; two respondents (13%) indicated that it was their first time in the area; and one respondent said they were “never home”. The remaining three households did not provide a response. When asked where they spent the remainder of the year, the majority of respondents indicated that they travelled around – often during the summer months – staying on any sites that were available. Three respondents made reference to travelling around specific locations: one indicated that they moved around this area, one moved around Coventry and Loughborough, and one made reference to Nuneaton, Derby and Carlisle.

Travelling experiences

- 5.30 With regards to how often the respondents currently travelled; nine respondents (60%) indicated that they travelled or moved every day, five respondents (33%) moved every week, and one respondent (7%)

travelled or moved a few times a year. When asked the main places they tended to travel people made reference to a range of individual places; however, the following were mentioned most frequently: Carlisle (six respondents) and Nuneaton (five respondents). There were a mix of respondents who travelled in the North of England (for example, Carlisle, Blackpool, Chester and Morecambe), those who travelled further afield (for example Ireland), and those who appeared to travel within the West Midlands and Warwickshire more specifically (for example, Nuneaton, Rugby and Warwick).

- 5.31 All of the respondents had travelled in the last twelve months (not including their current travelling). Table 5.4 below shows the main reason given for travelling in the last twelve months. As can be seen, being moved on or work opportunities were mentioned most frequently.

Table 5.4: Main reason for travelling in the last twelve months

Reason	No	%
Keep getting moved on	5	33
Work opportunities	4	27
To visit relatives	3	20
Family event	1	7
Holiday	1	7
Way of life	1	7
Total	15	100

- 5.32 With regards to where people had stayed while travelling in the last twelve months, all respondents indicated that they had stayed at the roadside in rural areas and twelve had also stayed at the roadside in urban areas. Following this, smaller numbers of respondents also made reference to stopping on private sites, transit sites, socially rented sites, farmers' fields and sites designated for fairs.
- 5.33 One respondent made the following comments in relation to stopping at the roadside specifically: "[The Council] should provide skips, toilets, etc - would be better for the Council if they did".

Access to health services

- 5.34 As before, the respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and dentist. From this list, the service that people most commonly indicated that they had access to was A & E (seven respondents – 47%). Following A & E, just one respondent indicated that they had access to the other listed health services. Four respondents indicated that they had issues accessing health services. These respondents all made reference to issues relating to having no fixed address or not being in one place for long enough. The following are some of the comments that were made:

"No address, so we just go to hospital if the kids get sick"

"We are never in a place long enough to get a permanent doctor"

"We haven't got a doctor here because we move all the time"

6. Gypsies and Travellers in affordable and private bricks and mortar accommodation

- 6.1 Nationally, it is recognised that the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers currently accommodated within bricks and mortar accommodation are unknown, but potentially large. Indeed, the Commission for Racial Equality's 2006 report, *Common Ground: Equality, good race relations and sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers*, suggested that the housed population was around three times the number of trailer-based populations, while the CLG guidance on producing GTAAs suggested the housed population to be more than half of the total population²⁰. However, it is widely acknowledged that there is very little secondary data available on the number of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation. Numbers can only be estimated, as Gypsies and Travellers are not counted as a separate group by most data sources²¹. Where they are included separately, Gypsies and Travellers may sometimes be reluctant to identify themselves for fear of reprisals²². Movement to and from housing is a major concern for the strategic approach, policies and working practices of local authorities in relation to the provision of new accommodation for Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Estimating the size of Gypsy and Traveller population in bricks and mortar housing

- 6.2 Warwick District Council indicated the following:

- Gypsies and Travellers are specifically referred to in its current housing and homelessness strategy.
- Gypsies and Travellers are identified in ethnic monitoring records in relation to housing applications/allocations.
- There was currently one household which ascribed as being a 'Gypsy or Traveller' registered for affordable housing.
- There were no households re-housed who ascribed as being a 'Gypsy or Traveller' during 2011.
- There were no homelessness applications ascribed as being a 'Gypsy or Traveller' over the last 12 months.

It was suggested that the number of Gypsies and Travellers moving into affordable housing had remained broadly the same over the last five years, and was anticipated to remain the same over the next five years.

- 6.3 In order to engage with households in bricks and mortar housing the Community Interviewers who worked as fieldworkers on the study deployed three main strategies. They utilised their own extensive social networks in order to find people who lived in houses in the study area; they asked people who they had interviewed in trailer-based

²⁰ CLG (2007) *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments – Guidance*, London: HMSO.

²¹ Shelter (2008) *Good practice guide: Working with housed Gypsies and Travellers*, London: Shelter.

²² CLG (2007) *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments – Guidance*, London: HMSO.

accommodation if they knew of people in houses and if they would be happy to pass on their details; and they utilised snowball sampling where one respondent in housing recommended engaging with similar households.

- 6.4 None of the stakeholders that were consulted nor members of the local Gypsy and Traveller communities in the study area were able to accurately estimate the size of the Gypsy and Traveller population in bricks and mortar accommodation. As highlighted above, the Commission for Racial Equality's report suggested that the housed populations is around three times the trailer-based population. Using this multiplier may be excessive in the absence of definitive evidence of the size of the population. In the absence of accurate evidence, the estimate of the base population of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living in houses is based on the assumption that the number of interviews with bricks and mortar households that were secured was a minimum of 75% of the housed population. In a number of GTAA's we have carried out in other areas, an assumption has been made that survey samples have included around 50% of the housed population. This has been based on a range of information, including that provided by stakeholders, as well as taking into account the fieldwork period and how many additional interviews the Community Interviewers could have achieved with more time. In relation to the fieldwork in Warwick district, the Community Interviewers indicated that they had exhausted achievable bricks and mortar interviews within the study area through site-based contacts and snowball sampling. However, it is recognised that the survey is unlikely to have captured all bricks and mortar residents. It is therefore reasonable to assume that the sample constitutes three quarters of the housed population.
- 6.5 It should be noted that we believe that this may be an understatement of the actual housed population, but it is based on the best information available at the time of the assessment. A more accurate estimation of the numbers of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in houses will only be possible when a number of issues are resolved:
- Monitoring forms allow for the ethnic groups as options.
 - The data from the Census 2011 is released.
 - Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople feel able to disclose their ethnic group in monitoring forms.
 - Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople feel able to disclose their ethnic group to the wider community.
- 6.6 Until some of the above issues are resolved, estimates based on the informal knowledge of stakeholders and the experiences of fieldworkers, such as those in this study, will be the only and best source of evidence. It is recommended that the issue of housed Gypsies and Travellers is revisited in more detail in future studies of this type.

Living in bricks and mortar accommodation: survey findings

6.7 As highlighted previously, a total of eighteen people were interviewed in bricks and mortar accommodation; twelve (67%) were living in affordable housing, four (22%) owned their house and two (11%) were in private rented accommodation. Ten respondents indicated that they owned one caravan. All of the respondents indicated that they were Romany Gypsies.

Views on size of property

6.8 Sixteen respondents were living in three bedroom properties, and two were living in two bedroom properties. Two respondents (11%) reported that they did not have enough space in their current home; both were currently renting their properties (one living in affordable housing, one private rented). One respondent indicated that they would like a larger house, while the other respondent stated that they “would like room for a small trailer”. Just one respondent reported that visitors come to stay with them. They indicated that family members usually came at Christmas for a couple of weeks and brought a touring caravan with them. Four respondents indicated that hosting visitors was a problem for them; however, they did not elaborate on why it was a problem.

Previous accommodation experiences

6.9 When asked why they came to live in a house, people gave a variety of reasons (see Table 6.1 below). The most common reason was to be near family (56%).

Table 6.1: Main reason for moving to the house

Reason	No	%
To be near family	10	56
Lack of sites	2	11
There was a vacancy	2	11
Children’s education	2	11
Own/family members health	1	6
Evicted from last accommodation	1	6
Total	18	100

6.10 Table 6.2 below shows the type of accommodation they had immediately before their current house. As can be seen, a third of respondents had been in their current house all their adult life. The remaining respondents had moved from a range of accommodation types, with transit sites and unauthorised encampments being most common. With regards to where people had moved from, the respondents from the transit sites indicated that these sites had been in the following locations: Leicester, Nuneaton, Oxford, Stoke and Warwick (this respondent indicated that this had been a privately owned site in the study area; however, Warwick District Council is not aware of the existence of this site). With regards to the four respondents who had moved from unauthorised encampments, three had been on encampments within Warwick district, while one indicated within Warwickshire. The respondents who had moved from a socially rented site and a private site had both moved from outside the county. The respondent who had moved from another house had moved within Warwick district.

Table 6.2: Previous accommodation

Reason	No	%
Been here all my life	6	33
Transit site	5	28
Unauthorised encampment	4	22
Council site	1	6
Private site	1	6
Another house	1	6
Total	18	100

- 6.11 Three respondents had also lived in another house at some point during their life; two outside Warwick district and one within the study area (as highlighted above). Two respondents had moved into this other house with their family, including to look after a family member, while one indicated they had moved as the house had been available.

Length of time in the general area and in the house

- 6.12 Sixteen respondents (89%) indicated that they had lived in the area for ten years or more; the remaining two respondents had lived in the area between five and ten years. Table 6.3 below shows the main reasons given for staying in the study area. Family connections and being born/raised in the area were mentioned most frequently; these reasons were also highlighted as the most important reasons when asked to select one from the list. As can be seen, however, lack of sites was also mentioned by a number of respondents.

Table 6.3: Reasons for staying in study area

Reason	No	%
Have family living in area	18	100
Born/raised here	12	67
Children's education	12	67
Work available in the area	10	56
Lack of sites	7	39
Only place I could find	6	33
Availability of accommodation	3	17
Look after family member in older age	3	17
Own/family member health	1	6

- 6.13 With regards to length of time in their current house, ten respondents (56%) indicated that they had lived there for ten years or more; four respondents (22%) had lived there for between five and ten years; two respondents had lived there between three and five years (11%); and two respondents between one and three years (11%).
- 6.14 One respondent reported having a base elsewhere. They were currently living in private rented accommodation. They indicated that they had a private site with planning permission near Leicester. The site was currently occupied by one of their children and they sometimes visited them on the site.

Travelling experiences

- 6.15 Ten respondents (56%) indicated that they never travelled. The most common reason was children's education (six respondents - 60%); however, respondents also made reference to older age (two respondents – 20%) as well as individual reasons relating to a need to settle down, lack of transport and more personal reasons. The last time people had travelled ranged from two to twelve years ago.
- 6.16 With regards to the eight respondents (44%) who did travel, four travelled a few times a year; three travelled once a year; and one indicated that they "move when we need to". When asked where they tended to go to, four respondents made reference to travelling to the fairs (for example, Appleby and Stow). Following this, respondents gave individual responses with no specific geographic location featuring as most common. The responses included: Bournemouth; Devon; Kent; Leicester; Peterborough; Skegness; and Torquay. Five respondents travelled with one caravan; the remainder did not provide information on how many caravans they travelled with. One respondent indicated that they travelled with equipment (a horse box).
- 6.17 Five of the eight respondents (63%) had travelled in the last twelve months. People had travelled for a number of reasons, including work and holiday; however, the reason that was mentioned most frequently was to visit relatives/for family events seven respondents). With regards to where people stayed while travelling, one respondent made reference to staying at the roadside; however, the most common responses were staying at caravan parks or staying with family on their sites.

Health services and issues

- 6.18 The respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and dentist. All respondents indicated that they had sufficient access to these services. No one indicated that they had any issues or problems with access to health services.

7. Future accommodation, household formation and accommodation affordability

7.1 This chapter looks at a range of issues including the movement intentions of the sample, the formation of new households and concealment of existing ones and the accommodation intentions of the Gypsy and Traveller population. These factors are key drivers in the assessment of accommodation need within Warwick district. The findings from the survey are presented here and how this then translates into 'need' is discussed in Chapter 9.

Future accommodation intentions

7.2 Table 7.1 shows the movement intentions of the households interviewed in Warwick district. As can be seen, the majority of respondents (63% of the sample as a whole) indicated that they were going to stay in their current accommodation indefinitely. All of the respondents on the unauthorised development and the Travelling Showpeople site indicated definite intentions to stay.

Table 7.1: Movement intentions

Intention	All		Unauthorised development		Bricks and mortar		Unauthorised encampments		Travelling Showpeople	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Immediate move	3	7	-	-	1	6	2	13	-	-
Stay indefinitely	27	63	7	100	17	94	-	-	3	100
Stay as long as can/until moved	8	19	-	-	-	-	8	53	-	-
Don't know	3	7	-	-	-	-	3	20	-	-
Other	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-
No response	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-
Total	43	100	7	100	18	100	15	100	3	100

7.3 Table 7.1 shows that three respondents needed to move immediately. The following provides further information about these three households:

HH1: Lived in Warwick district for more than ten years. Living in bricks and mortar accommodation for between three and five years. They indicated that before moving to the house they had stayed on a private transit site within Warwick, which they had left due to overcrowding. However, there may be some confusion over the location of this previous accommodation as Warwick District Council indicates that to their knowledge there has never been a private transit site within the district. The main reason for being in the area was having family in the area. They needed to move to be on site-based accommodation. They intended to stay in the area, and indicated that they were looking for their own site to develop with planning permission. They indicated that they were currently looking at land to buy. They made the following comments: "I rent this

house off a friend and I am looking for land to make a home for my family. We need more sites round here. I want my kids to have a good education, but I want them to live the traditional Gypsy way".

HH2: Interviewed on an unauthorised encampment. Had been in the area less than a month. The main reason for being in Warwick district was availability of work. The main reason they needed to move was to travel (although they also made reference to work and to being moved on). They indicated that they did not know if they intended to stay in the area, but said that they were looking for a roadside/informal stopping place. They had a base elsewhere (a house in Leeds).

HH3: Interviewed on an unauthorised encampment. Had been in the area less than a month. The main reason for being in Warwick district was availability of work. The main reason they needed to move was for children's education (although they also made reference to eviction/being moved on and the need to move to a pitch on a preferred site). They indicated that they did not know if they intended to stay in the area but said that they were looking for a socially rented site. They did not specify where they wanted this site – when asked, they made the following comments: "I'm not really sure. I do like this area, but it has no sites and I would like a nice site to stay on so I can get my kids in school". They had a base elsewhere (their parent's private site in Derby, where they always return to in winter).

- 7.4 Eight respondents indicated that they would stay until they were moved on – these were all staying on unauthorised encampments in the study area. Two of these respondents were looking for permanent site-based accommodation in the study area. The following provides further information about these households:

HH4: Interviewed on an unauthorised encampment. Had been in the area less than a month. The main reason for being in Warwick district was it was the only place they could find. The main reason they needed to move was because they would be moved on shortly. They indicated that they intended to stay in the area and said that they were looking for their own site with planning permission. They were not aware of any accommodation available for them to move to. They made the following comments: "Anywhere we can settle down and call home would be better than moving all the time".

HH5: Interviewed on an unauthorised encampment. Had been in the area less than a month. The main reason for being in Warwick district was lack of sites. The main reason they needed to move was because they would be moved on shortly. They indicated that they intended to stay in the area and said that they were looking for a permanent socially rented site. They were not aware of any accommodation available for them to move to. They made the following comments: "We don't want to keep being moved on, we want a site to pull on...we like Warwick area the best".

The remaining six respondents did not know if they intended staying in the study area. Three of these were looking for permanent site-based accommodation in other parts of the UK; two of which stated that would go anywhere they would be allowed to stop, while the third respondent made reference to a specific place outside the study area. One respondent was looking for roadside/informal stopping places; again in any areas that would allow them to pull on. The remaining two respondents were both looking for their own site with planning permission. When asked where they needed to move to, one said "Warwick, Nuneaton, Coventry - any of these places would suit us", while the other said: "Nuneaton, Derby, anywhere at all". Neither of these respondents were aware of any accommodation available for them to move to.

- 7.5 A further three respondents on the unauthorised encampments indicated that they were not sure how long they would be there; one of whom stated that it would depend on work opportunities in the area. Two of these did not provide any further information on whether or not they intended to stay in the area. The remaining respondent did not intend staying in the area; they were looking for their own site with planning permission in the North West of England.
- 7.6 With regards to the respondent who indicated 'other', they were passing through on their way home (which was bricks and mortar accommodation outside the study area). They did not intend staying in the study area, nor were they looking for accommodation within the area.
- 7.7 As can be seen, one respondent on the unauthorised encampments did not provide any information about their intended length of stay. They did not know if they intended to stay in the study area; however, in a later question this respondent indicated that they were looking for their own site with planning permission within the district of Warwick.
- 7.8 None of the respondents across any of the accommodation types were currently on the waiting list for a site or a house.

Household concealment

- 7.9 None of the respondents across any of the accommodation types reported concealed households (i.e. separate households currently in need of accommodation and living with them).

Household formation

- 7.10 Respondents were also asked whether there were people living with them who were likely to need their own separate accommodation in the next five years (i.e. by 2017). Two respondents said yes. One was the households referred to in paragraph 7.5 above, who was stopping on an unauthorised encampment but looking for their own site in the North West of England. They indicated that they had one son who was likely to get married in the next five years. They did not know where he would need to be accommodated or the type of accommodation he would want. The second respondent was living in bricks and mortar accommodation in the study

area. They indicated that they had a daughter who would be getting married in the next two to three years. They did not know where their daughter would move to (indicating that it would be “up to her husband”); however, they indicated that they would likely want to live on a private site. This household had been living in the area for ten years or more, had family in the area and still travelled. This respondent made the following comments about the lack of site-based provision for Gypsies and Travellers:

“We need more sites for the young ones. There [are] more Travellers moving into houses in our village, but they would sooner have land for their family to all live together.”

Accommodation affordability

- 7.11 In order to explore issues of accommodation affordability we asked respondents if they could afford to purchase any of the following: a pitch on a private site with planning permission; pitch on a private site without planning permission; land to be developed into a site.
- 7.12 Eleven respondents (26%) indicated that they could currently afford to purchase land to be developed into a site; eight of these were currently stopping on unauthorised encampments, while three were living in bricks and mortar accommodation (all of which were renting their houses). Within these eleven households, three people could also afford to buy a pitch on a private site.
- 7.13 Respondents were also asked how much they paid per month in rent or mortgage for their current accommodation. In the study area, this question was only of relevance to those living in bricks and mortar accommodation as the respondents on the unauthorised encampments, unauthorised development and Travelling Showpeople site did not pay rent. The majority of respondents in bricks and mortar accommodation (72%) were paying between £60 and £89 per week. One respondent indicated that they were paying between £90 and £119 per week. The remaining respondents did not know, did not want to say or did not pay rent/mortgage.

Note about affordability

- 7.14 It is worth noting that a diversity of socio-economic situations is present amongst the Gypsy and Traveller communities, from the moderately wealthy to very poor families. Although obtaining empirical evidence on the economic circumstances of Gypsies and Travellers is very difficult it is well established that Gypsies and Travellers are amongst the most culturally, socially, physically and financially excluded in society. A number of families will always be able to afford to purchase or rent pitches at market rates. However, in line with the rest of society, other sections of the communities will be excluded from accommodation provided at market rates and will require additional support to access safe and secure accommodation in line with their cultural needs. The absence of a range of tenure to address this diversity of socio-economic circumstances may lead

to a perpetuation and possible increase in hidden homelessness. One respondent in the survey commented on the general issue of affordability, but also the lack of sites in the area: "I have two sons and when they get married there are no sites round here. Some of the travelling men who own sites want to charge too much rent, that's why we're in a house. We need more council sites".

8. An assessment of accommodation need

8.1 Irrespective of the proposed change in policy targeted at resolving Gypsy and Traveller accommodation issues there are no signs that the growth in the Gypsy and Traveller population will slow significantly. Research from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has indicated that around 6,000 additional pitches for Gypsies and Travellers are immediately required nationally to meet the current shortage of accommodation within England.²³

A note on the assessment of accommodation need

8.2 Because of the historical inequalities in pitch provision, Gypsies and Travellers have constrained choices as to where and how they would choose to live if they had real choice. So while choices for the non-Travelling community are generally much wider - as there is affordable housing available in every authority in the country - there are no local authority sites in around a third of the local authorities in England. Few local authorities have more than one socially rented site and a significant number of authorities have no authorised private sites.

8.3 Despite all local authorities across England completing a first round of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments (GTAAs) over the 2006-2009 period, the methods of assessing and calculating the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers are still developing. The model drawn upon here derives from a number of sources including:

- The Guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments.²⁴
- Guidance for Regional Planning.²⁵
- Knowledge and experience of assumptions featuring in other GTAAs and results of EiP tests of GTAAs
- The emerging messages arising from the recent CLG consultation document 'Planning for Travellers'; for example, establishing need from a robust evidence base, ensuring involvement of a range of key local stakeholders (see paragraph 2.12 for further details).

8.4 In a move from the first round of GTAAs this assessment has focussed more closely on two issues, the constitution of local and historic need and the need for site based accommodation in line with the planning definition (see Chapter 2). In terms of addressing local and historic need this assessment has measured this by:

- Surveying households' resident within the study area, as opposed to extrapolating trends and findings from households' resident outside the district.

²³ See Brown, P., Henning, S. and Niner, P (2010) Assessing local housing authorities' progress in meeting the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller communities in England and Wales : Update 2010. Equality and Human Rights Commission.

²⁴ CLG (2007) Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments – Guidance, London: HMSO.

²⁵ http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/209/PreparingRegionalSpatialStrategyreviewsonGypsiesandTravellersbyregionalplannings_id1508209.pdf

- Drawing upon empirical primary research within the study area as opposed to developing projections based upon trends within the Caravan Count. Via a process of triangulation, records are brought together with survey responses on issues such as unauthorised sites, temporary consents and concealed households to develop a robust assessment of need. Similarly, an empirical assessment of local likely future needs is made possible via the comprehensive survey of households. Together these factors represent the latest position on historic demand.

8.5 In turn, the planning definition of Gypsies and Travellers as detailed in the new planning policy is operationalised by a refinement of accommodation need informed by the current mobility/nomadism of resident Gypsies and Travellers. In line with the sentiment of the definition of Gypsies and Travellers within the planning policy refinement of need is made possible by assessing the extent of travelling undertaken by households and whether travelling was no longer undertaken due to the specific reasons of needs associated with their, or a dependents, education, health or age.

8.6 This study has taken a thorough assessment of the need arising from all accommodation types present at the time of the survey. As such this assessment of need should be regarded as a reasonable and robust assessment of need upon which to base planning decisions going forward.

8.7 Table 8.1 below contains the requirements for net additional pitches that need to be developed to meet the measured need (please note that the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople are shown separately in Chapter 9). Accommodation need has been considered in this assessment by carefully exploring the following factors:

Current residential supply

- Socially rented pitches
- Private authorised pitch

Residential need 2012–2016

- Temporary planning permissions, which will end over the assessment period.
- Concealment of households.
- Allowance for family growth over the assessment period.
- Need for authorised pitches from families on unauthorised developments.
- Movement over the assessment period between sites and housing.
- Whether the closure of any existing sites is planned.
- Potential need for residential pitches in the area from families on unauthorised encampments.
- Movement between areas.

Additional supply, 2012–2016

As there are no authorised pitches in the district; the supply of pitches between 2012 and 2016 is nil. The only other source of potential pitch supply would be any new sites that are planned.

8.8 The requirements are presented in summary form in Table 8.1 below. All figures relate to pitches not sites.

Table 8.1: Summary of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and pitch need (2012-2026)

	Element of supply and need	Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)
Current residential supply		
1	Socially rented pitches	0
2	Private authorised pitches	0
3	Total authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches	0
Residential pitch need 2012-2016		
4	End of temporary planning permissions	0
5	Concealed households	0
6	New household formation	1
7	Unauthorised developments	7
8	Net Movement from housing to sites	1
9	Closure of sites	0
10	Unauthorised encampments	16
11	Movement between areas	0
12	Residential pitch need (2012–2016)	25
13	Supply (2012-2016)	0
14	Residential pitch need (2012-2016)	25
15	Residential pitch need (2017–2021)	3
16	Residential pitch need (2022–2026)	3
17	Total Residential pitch need (2012–2026)	31

Note: For pragmatic reasons these figures have been rounded

Explanation of the need requirement elements

Current residential supply

8.9 Row 1: The number of pitches on socially rented sites provided by local authority information. This was reported to be nil.

8.10 Row 2: The number of pitches on private authorised sites provided by local authority information. This was reported to be nil.

8.11 Row 3: The total number of authorised pitches within the study area. This was reported to be nil.

Residential pitch need 2012–2016

8.12 Row 4: The number of pitches which have temporary planning permission due to expire within the assessment period. This was reported to be nil.

8.13 Row 5: The number of concealed households occupying existing accommodation who require independent accommodation within Warwick district. This was reported to be nil.

8.14 Row 6: The number of pitches required from new household formation.

Pitch requirement from new households forming

Finding: Drawing upon the information contained within paragraph 7.10, the survey showed that there were two households who required their own separate accommodation in the next five years:

- The two households were forming from two separate households.
- One was stopping on an unauthorised encampment. Their accommodation requirement was unknown, but the family was looking for a site in the North of England.
- One household was currently living in bricks and mortar. They had a daughter who would be getting married in the next two to three years. They were not sure of where she would move, but indicated that she was likely to need site-based accommodation.

Assumptions:

- The household from the unauthorised encampment is unlikely to require permanent accommodation in the study area. Although the interview suggested that their future requirements were unknown, the family was currently looking for their own site in the North West of England.
- The household from bricks and mortar accommodation is assumed to require permanent pitch-based accommodation within the study area. As above, a need for sites-based accommodation was suggested. While it was indicated that they did not know where their daughter would live, the family has lived in the study area for ten years or more, and has family connections in the area.

Calculation: One household is the equivalent to 6% of the bricks and mortar sample. Grossed to the estimated population in bricks and mortar accommodation = 1 household.

8.15 Row 7: This is the level of need arising from current unauthorised developments. This was seven for the study area.

8.16 Row 8: This is the estimation of the flow from sites to houses and vice versa.

Movement between housing and sites

Movement from sites to housing: No site-based households expressed an intention to move into bricks and mortar accommodation.

Movement from housing to sites: One respondent in bricks and mortar accommodation had firm intentions to move from their house to site-based accommodation (6% of the sample). They intended to stay in the study area and were looking for their own site to develop with planning permission (see HH1 in paragraph 7.3).

Calculation: 6% of the estimated bricks and mortar population. Grossed to the estimated population in bricks and mortar accommodation = 1 household.

Net movement from housing to sites = 1 household

- 8.17 Row 9: Plans to close existing sites, which have been calculated within the supply of site accommodation, will ultimately displace a number of Gypsies and Travellers resulting in an increase in housing need. It is the understanding of the project team that there was no intention to close any residential site in the district. As highlighted in Chapter 5, the residents on the unauthorised development had been given until September 2012 to vacate the site; however, these residents have been factored into the need arising from unauthorised developments above. At the time of writing, the residents were still on the development.
- 8.18 Row 10: This provides an estimation of the need arising from households on unauthorised encampments that require a residential pitch in the study area.

Families involved in unauthorised encampments

Findings: Caravan Count shows potentially low numbers of unauthorised encampments for the study area as a whole. However, information provided by Warwick District Council indicates that during 2011 a total of eighteen encampments were recorded (see paragraph 5.20).

Assumptions:

- The average encampment size during 2011 was between seven and eight caravans (7.5 caravans). The survey showed an average of 1.3 caravans per household (see paragraph 5.24). This indicates there are approximately six families on each encampment (5.8, rounded up to the nearest whole number).
- Based on officer information, we have already removed known instances of the same families featuring on encampments (see paragraph 5.20). However, officer information suggests that it is reasonable to assume that some families who feature on the other unauthorised encampments are also repeat encampments (i.e. families make return visits to the local authority area throughout the year). We assume this to be the case in 25% of encampments.

Calculation: number of encampments (18) multiplied by average encampment size (in households - 6) = 108 separate households minus 25% = 81 separate households involved in unauthorised encampments.

Need for residential pitches from unauthorised encampments

Finding: Of the fifteen households interviewed on unauthorised encampments, five (33%) were interested in moving to a residential pitch in the study area. It must be noted that this is based on a relatively small sample size and therefore may not be reflective of the entire population who tend to feature as unauthorised encampments.

Assumptions:

- 33% is likely to be high because of the small sample size this is drawn from, possible over-claiming, likelihood of interest in other areas outside of the study area, and from what seems reasonable from experience of GTAAs elsewhere. Furthermore, a report produced by Warwick District Council in 2011^[1] indicated that need from unauthorised encampments was often transitory in nature.
- Assume that need for residential pitches will be the equivalent to 20% of unauthorised encampments (1 in every 5). This figure has been applied in GTAAs carried out in other areas.
- This is treated as a single year element rather than a 'flow' of new families each year. Other households on unauthorised encampments should be incorporated into other GTAAs.

Calculation: 20% of households involved in unauthorised encampments = 20% of 81 = 16 households.

- 8.19 Row 11: This is the level of movement of households between areas. The survey found no evidence to suggest that there is movement between areas. It is assumed that if movement does occur in-migration will balance out migration.
- 8.20 Row 12: This is the total gross residential need for pitches arising in the district between 2012-2016.
- 8.21 Row 13: There are no sites with any vacancies within the study area.
- 8.22 Row 14: The total net requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2012–2016.

^[1] Planning Policy and Housing Strategy teams (2011) Evidence of Local Needs and Historic Demand for Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Warwick District, April 2011, Warwick District Council.

Permanent residential accommodation need over 2017–2021 and 2022-2026

- 8.23 The current shortage of sites and pitches for Gypsies and Travellers means that it is difficult to predict trends in living arrangements until the current lack of pitch based accommodation has been addressed at a national level. There is no means of knowing how Gypsies and Travellers will decide to live in the next decade.
- 8.24 However, it is necessary to plan for the long term and anticipate pitch need from Gypsy and Traveller households. In order to tackle the complexity of needs that may well occur over the next decade it is established practice in assessment of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation need to apply an assumed rate of household growth. It has been common in similar studies to employ a standard 3% per annum compound rate of household growth. This figure is then applied, minus an assumed ratio for pitch sharing of 1:0.75, to the projected number of pitches which should be available by 2016. All household growth is assumed to require a site-based solution. The supply of pitches over the 2017–2026 period has been considered, but has been assumed to be zero. This is consistent with more recent GTAAs and implicitly compensates for not taking into account needs arising from drivers other than family growth. It is recommended that the rate of household growth is kept under review.
- 8.25 Row 15: The total requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2017-2021.
- 8.26 Row 16: The total requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2022-2026.
- 8.27 Row 17: The total overall requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2012-2026.

In summary

- 8.28 Analysis of data has shown that accommodation need will arise from the following factors:
- New households due to form
 - Movement from housing to sites
 - Unauthorised encampments
 - Unauthorised developments

This analysis has shown that there is an accommodation need for 31 households over the 2012-2026 period. These figures incorporate a household growth rate of 3% a year compound as applied to all current site based households in the area and all future households that should be accommodated on pitches by 2016 to estimate need in the period 2017-2026.

9. Travelling Showpeople

- 9.1 Travelling Showpeople occupy an unusual position in planning terms and a separate planning Circular, detailing the particular planning needs of Travelling Showpeople, was produced: Circular 04/07. As well as detailing the requirements for pitch identification and allocation for Travelling Showpeople, Circular 04/07 also required that the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople were included within the assessments of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs. Circular 04/07 has been replaced by the new planning policy²⁶. However, it is clear that the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople should be included within the assessments of accommodation need for 'travellers' within this new framework.
- 9.2 The previous Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment carried out for the South Housing Market Area, identified one Travelling Showpeople site; however, it was vacant at the time of that assessment and no evidence of need for Travelling Showpeople was found. It was therefore suggested in the report that consideration should be given for using this site to meet the requirements for Gypsies and Travellers.
- 9.3 Consultation with Warwick District Council indicated that in previous years, the site only had permission as winter quarters. It is therefore possible that the households were away from the site for work during the previous assessment. However, the permission has since changed to allow permanent use all year round. The site has permission for five pitches and accommodates one family (including extended family).
- 9.4 Warwick District Council indicated that their current development plan did not include a policy towards sites for Travelling Showpeople. They indicated that the number of Travelling Showpeople sites in the district had remained static since 2006. The Council indicated that they did not expect the number of Travelling Showpeople sites to increase over the next five years. They had not experienced any unauthorised development, nor had any enforcement action been taken, in relation to the development of sites for Travelling Showpeople since 2006.
- 9.5 It should be noted that Travelling Showpeople remain distinct from Gypsies and Travellers and further work may need to be produced, across local authority boundaries, to accurately understand their accommodation needs. There may be a need for accommodation in the district from families working in the area but who live in adjacent or other authorities. A cross-boundary assessment in partnership with the Showmen's Guild would, most effectively, identify such shortage.

Travelling Showpeople: survey findings

- 9.6 As highlighted above, at the time of the assessment, there was one Travelling Showpeople site in the study area. The Community Interviewers indicated that – during the fieldwork period – there were three households living on the site and three interviews were carried out. The respondents

²⁶ CLG (2012) Planning for traveller sites
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2113371.pdf>

indicated that the planning permission for the site was personal (i.e. for them and their family only).

Views on size and facilities

- 9.7 Each respondent owned a single caravan and each reported that they had enough space.
- 9.8 All of the households were self employed, working within the same local area as the site or within the district of Warwick. None of the respondents indicated that they had any equipment at present. None of the respondents indicated that they had any storage or site needs relating to work.
- 9.9 None of the respondents indicated that they had visitors who came to stay with them on the site and they all reported that hosting visitors is not a problem for them.

Previous accommodation experiences

- 9.10 When asked the main reason they had come to live on their current site, all three respondents indicated that they had been on the site all their adult life.

Length of time in the general area and on the site

- 9.11 All of the respondents had lived in the area and on the site for ten years or more. When asked to list the reasons for staying in the study area, the respondents made reference to being born/raised in the area; family living in the area; looking after family member in older age; children's education; work availability; and convenience for working pattern. Of these reasons, all three respondents selected being born/raised in the area as the most important reason.
- 9.12 None of the respondents reported having a base elsewhere.

Travelling experiences

- 9.13 Two of the respondents no longer travelled and had not travelled in the last twelve months. When asked why they did not travel, respondents made reference to older age. One respondent indicated that they travelled once a year, and this was to Appleby fair. However, they had not travelled in the last twelve months due to a family member's ill health.

Access to health services

- 9.14 The respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and dentist. All respondents indicated that they had sufficient access to these services, with the exception of two respondents who indicated that health visitors and maternity care were not relevant to them. None of the respondents reported any issues or problems with access to health care services.

Assessment of accommodation need for Travelling Showpeople

9.15 As highlighted in paragraph 8.6, this study has taken a thorough assessment of the need arising from all accommodation types present at the time of the survey. Table 9.1 below contains the requirements for net additional pitches that need to be developed to meet the measured need of Travelling Showpeople in the study area. Accommodation need has been considered in this assessment by carefully exploring the following factors:

Current residential supply

- Socially rented pitches
- Private authorised pitch

Residential need 2012–2016

- Temporary planning permissions, which will end over the assessment period.
- Concealment of households
- Allowance for family growth over the assessment period.
- Need for authorised pitches from families on unauthorised developments.
- Whether the closure of any existing sites is planned
- Movement between areas.

Additional supply, 2012–2016

The supply of pitches between 2012 and 2016 is two. The only other source of potential pitch supply would be any new sites that are planned.

Table 9.1: Summary of Travelling Showpeople accommodation and pitch need (2012-2026)

	Element of supply and need	Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)
	Current residential supply	
1	Socially rented pitches	0
2	Private authorised pitches	5
3	Total authorised pitches	5
	Residential pitch need 2012-2016	
4	End of temporary planning permissions	0
5	Concealed households	0
6	New household formation	0
7	Unauthorised developments	0
8	Closure of sites	0
9	Movement between areas	0
10	Residential pitch need (2012–2016)	0
11	Supply (2012-2016)	2
12	Residential pitch need (2012-2016)	0
13	Residential pitch need (2017–2021)	0
14	Residential pitch need (2022–2026)	0
15	Total Residential pitch need (2012–2026)	0

Explanation of the need requirement elements

Current residential supply

9.16 Row 1: The number of pitches on socially rented sites provided by local authority information. This was reported to be nil.

9.17 Row 2: The number of pitches on private authorised sites provided by local authority information. This was reported to be five.

9.18 Row 3: The total number of authorised pitches within the study area.

Residential pitch need 2012–2016

9.19 Row 4: The number of pitches which have temporary planning permission due to expire within the assessment period. This was reported to be nil.

- 9.20 Row 5: The number of concealed households occupying existing accommodation who require independent accommodation within Warwick district. This was reported to be nil.
- 9.21 Row 6: This is the number of pitches required from new household formation. This was reported to be nil. It is assumed that household formation can be accommodated on the existing site given that it has permission for five pitches but there are currently three separate households on the site.
- 9.22 Row 7: This is the level of need arising from current unauthorised developments. This was reported to be nil.
- 9.23 Row 8: It is the understanding of the project team that there was no intention to close the residential site.
- 9.24 Row 9: This is the level of movement of households between areas. The survey found no evidence to suggest that there is movement between areas.
- 9.25 Row 10: This is the total gross residential need for pitches arising in the district between 2012-2016
- 9.26 Row 11: At the time of the survey the site had permission for five pitches. There were three separate households living on the site; therefore a supply of two pitches has been assumed.
- 9.27 Row 12: The total net requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2012–2016.
- 9.28 Row 13: The total requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2017-2021.
- 9.29 Row 14: The total requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2022-2026.
- 9.30 Row 15: The total overall requirement for pitches in the district over the period 2012-2026.

In summary

- 9.31 Analysis of data has shown a nil accommodation need for Travelling Showpeople over the assessment period.

10. An assessment of need for transit accommodation

- 10.1 Although to a certain extent nomadism and travelling are currently restricted by a lack of sites nationally, this remains an important feature of Gypsy and Traveller identity and way of life, even if only to visit fairs or visit family. Some Gypsies and Travellers are still highly mobile without a permanent base, and others travel for significant parts of the year from a winter base. More Gypsies and Travellers might travel if it were possible to find places to stop without the threat of constant eviction. Nationally the worst living conditions are commonly experienced by Gypsies and Travellers living on unauthorised encampments who do not have easy access to water or toilet facilities and have difficulties in accessing education and health services.

Need for transit sites and stopping places

- 10.2 National policy is clear that there should be provision in order for Gypsies and Travellers who choose to travel to do so without resorting to stopping illegally or inappropriately.
- 10.3 Information provided by Warwick District Council and other stakeholders suggests that the study area does experience a number of encampments each year, and at the time of the survey there were a number of encampments in the study area. The presence of unauthorised encampments does indicate an unmet need for transit provision.

Case studies of transit provision

- 10.4 As part of this assessment, Warwick District Council wanted to explore how transit need was being accommodated in other areas of England. In order to explore this issue, consultation was carried out with representatives from a number of local authorities who were providing some form of transit provision. The following case studies provide a brief overview of two more formal approaches to transit provision.

Case study one - single large transit site

Size

This local authority developed a single 20-pitch transit site, which also had additional space to accommodate an additional 20 households should any large encampments arise. The size of the site was based on the size of the encampments that were occurring in their area.

Location

The location was identified as an area that often experienced unauthorised encampments.

Facilities

Each pitch has an electricity hook up (with two sockets); a toilet; and a standpipe for water. Refuse collection is also provided.

Occupancy levels/duration

On average, there is usually less than one month per year when the site is empty. People are allowed up to three months on the site per year (either three months continuously or multiple visits equating to three months).

Management

The site is managed in-house by a dedicated officer. This officer is highly trained in order to be able respond to a range of issues (ranging from welfare issues to dealing with aggression). There is a fee for staying on the site and ID is also required from those who are stopping on the site for insurance and licensing purposes. Since the development of the site, the authority has taken a no toleration response to unauthorised encampments. Any new encampments in the area are directed to the transit site and will not be tolerated at the roadside. In the first couple of years of opening the site, unauthorised encampments still arose from people who did not want to use the site because of the fee or the need to provide ID; however, once it was known that they would only be tolerated on the site, the issue has stopped.

Characteristics of occupants

There is a mixture of Irish Travellers and Romany Gypsies using the site. The majority have a permanent base somewhere else, with only two or three per year being permanently nomadic.

Lessons learnt/other comments

It was indicated that if transit provision was developed again in the area, they would develop two or three smaller sites rather than one big site, as there are issues round mixing of different families. They would also consider providing showers on the sites. The site has created a more positive relationship between the local authority and the Gypsy and Traveller community, and reduced the costs associated with unauthorised encampments.

Case study two - two smaller transit sites

Size

This local authority developed two 10-pitch temporary stopping places. The size was based on the average size of the encampments that were occurring in their area.

Location

The locations were based on identifying areas which often experienced unauthorised encampments.

Facilities

Both temporary stopping places have hard standings. Each pitch has water and a portable toilet. Refuse collection is also provided.

Occupancy levels/duration

There are usually between two and four families on the sites at any one time. People are allowed up to three months on the sites per year.

Management

The site is managed in-house. There is a fee for staying on the site and license agreements are required. The authority still operates a toleration policy in relation to unauthorised encampments (dependant on location and any associated welfare issues). They recognise that some people do not want to use the sites and will not enforce their use (although the continuation of unauthorised encampments has been raised as an issue by the settled community). The sites are used by those who want to avoid potentially being 'hassled' at the roadside.

Characteristics of occupants

There is a mixture of Irish Travellers and Romany Gypsies using the site. They are predominantly people who are passing through to and from festivals, fairs, etc or on their summer holidays.

Lessons learnt/other comments

The authority advocates the development of a network of transit sites/stopping places with neighbouring authorities.

- 10.5 These examples are by no means exhaustive of the approaches that can be taken and both involved the creation of purpose made pitches/sites. Although transit need could be met by the creation of 'hard' purpose-made pitches/sites, it is also recommended that consideration is given to the need for the development of such 'hard' pitches along with the possibility of 'soft' transit pitches (i.e. designated stopping places). For example, another authority that was consulted made reference to 'accepted encampments' in designated areas, which provided refuse collection and toilets. While there were no formal licensing arrangements, residents were expected to follow a particular code of conduct while stopping on the designated area. Such 'softer' options would provide Gypsies and Travellers with somewhere authorised and more secure to stop whilst creating a minimal environmental impact. Such stopping places are sometimes favoured by Gypsy and Traveller households.

Assessing transit need in Warwick district

- 10.6 The case studies above based the size of their transit provision on the average size of the unauthorised encampments that were occurring. As highlighted in paragraph 5.23, based on information provided for 2011, the average encampment size in the district of Warwick is between nine and eleven caravans (ten caravans). This figure was moderated for the calculation of residential accommodation need to remove large gatherings and multiple visits by the same households. This gave an average of between seven and eight caravans (7.5). The survey showed an average of 1.3 caravans per household (see paragraph 5.24). This indicates there are approximately six to eight families on each encampment (based on the range provided by the un-moderated and moderated average). Using an average encampment size approach would therefore suggest a transit requirement of six to eight pitches. However, this would not allow for large gatherings or multiple encampments (see discussion in paragraph 10.8 below).

- 10.7 In 2011, the Planning Policy and Housing Strategy teams at Warwick District Council produced a report on the local and historic demand for Gypsy and Traveller sites within the District.²⁷ This report recommended provision of a transit site that could accommodate fifteen caravans. This figure was based on looking at the size of encampments occurring in the area but allowing space for slightly larger encampments. Using the average of 1.3 caravans per household indicates that transit provision for fifteen caravans would require twelve pitches. We would therefore recommend that Warwick District Council consider implementation of the transit provision they proposed in their 2011 report.
- 10.8 However, there are a number of issues for Warwick District Council to consider in relation to this transit provision:
- While twelve transit pitches would help to address some transit need, there is a need to consider provision (whether formal or informal) for any larger encampments that occur (as detailed in Table 5.2);
 - The provision of a single twelve pitch transit site does not allow for more than one encampment in the area at the same time (on one of our fieldwork visits, for example, there were two separate encampments in different locations within the district).
 - A single transit site would force the mixing of differing groups (family and ethnic) and could lead to potential tensions.
 - The needs of the travelling groups often combines a mixture of motivations (i.e. work, family and holiday). A single transit site may not meet the differing requirements.
- 10.9 Finally, this assessment would support the approach of creating a network of transit facilities across the wider region to accommodate short term accommodation requirements. Such an approach is discussed in a regional study on transit need produced in 2009²⁸ and would require joint-working with neighbouring authorities and Warwickshire County Council.

²⁷ Planning Policy and Housing Strategy teams (2011) Evidence of Local Needs and Historic Demand for Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Warwick District, April 2011, Warwick District Council.

²⁸ Niner, P. (2009) South East England Regional Gypsy and Traveller Transit Study, Final Report, Birmingham: University of Birmingham, October 2009

11. Concluding comments

- 11.1 This final chapter contains some concluding comments which aim to help Warwick District Council in understanding how the need arising within the study area may best be met.
- 11.2 It was evident that there was suppressed need from people living in bricks and mortar accommodation. While the majority of respondents indicated intentions to remain in their current accommodation indefinitely, for some, the lack of site provision had prompted their move into bricks and mortar in the first place. This lack of choice needs to be taken into consideration as it will only compound current inequalities in provision.
- 11.3 While household formation appeared to be small, this should be monitored as a number of older children will be of an age for household formation in the next period.
- 11.4 It is possible that a proportion of the accommodation need within the study area can met in the first five years (2012-2016) by regularising the existing unauthorised development. However, this would need to be balanced against the appropriateness of the site in relation to the current, or emerging, planning policy active in the area.
- 11.5 Steps should be taken to address the provision of affordable site-based accommodation for those who require it; for example, those who cannot afford to buy land to develop a site or buy a pitch on a private site.
- 11.6 There appears to be a nil need from Travelling Showpeople households and it is assumed that the existing site can accommodate household growth within the existing Travelling Showpeople family over the assessment period. However, it should be noted that Travelling Showpeople remain distinct from Gypsies and Travellers and further work may need to be produced, across local authority boundaries, to accurately understand their accommodation needs.
- 11.7 Although the pitch requirements over the 2012-2016 period should be seen as accurate as a result of utilising the best information available at the time of the study, pitch requirements for the 2017-2026 period should be seen as indicative due to the reliance on household growth figures. It is recommended that this assessment of accommodation need is repeated in due course (circa 5 years) to ensure this assessment remains as accurate as possible.
- 11.8 The long term accommodation needs arising from Gypsy and Traveller households in bricks and mortar accommodation continue to be largely unknown. Although this assessment has been successful in including a large proportion of this group more work needs to take place around estimating the size of the housed population and monitoring their accommodation need. Some of this may be made possible as a result of findings from Census 2011, which included the ethnicities of Romany Gypsy and Irish Traveller.

11.9 Requirements for the provision of transit accommodation are difficult to quantify; however, it is apparent from this assessment and previous work carried out by Warwick District Council that there is a need for some form of transit provision within the district. This assessment suggests implementing the planned provision for fifteen caravans (twelve pitches) that were outlined in a previous report produced by Warwick District Council. As highlighted in paragraph 10.9, this assessment would support a network of transit facilities (either formal or informal) working in collaboration with neighbouring authorities/Warwickshire County Council. In order to 'future-proof' for need from visitors to the area, consideration should be given to ensuring the provision of short-stay pitches is embedded within the permission granted for residential pitch accommodation. Furthermore, continual monitoring is needed to review travelling patterns and the incidence of transient unauthorised encampments, and to assess provision and requirements.

11.10 Finally, it is imperative that progress is made to address the needs identified in this assessment. If no or little progress is made in meeting the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers it is likely that this would result in:

- A continuation, and possible increase, in suppressed need from people living in bricks and mortar accommodation; and
- A continuation, and possible increase, in the number of unauthorised developments. It is likely that these will stimulate long processes of enforcement, appeals and inquiries. This could also lead to development of sites in inappropriate areas, without the necessary planning considerations.

11.11 The implications of the issues raised above are that:

- New households which are forming will not be able to locate in appropriate accommodation;
- The legal and other costs of accommodating or removing unauthorised sites will continue and may increase;
- There may be greater conflict between the settled and Gypsy and Traveller populations as a result of unauthorised development in inappropriate areas; and
- The Councils fail to meet the requirements of both the Housing Act 2004 and national planning policy, which outline the requirement for plans to be developed in order to meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers.

11.12 Engaging with a broad array of partners will be essential in order to move Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation provision forward. Effective partnership working should be developed with:

- Internal staff and departments within the local authority to ensure a joined-up approach;
- Elected Members;
- Neighbouring local authorities/Warwickshire County Council;
- Homes and Communities Agency;
- Key stakeholders including health, education and training, the Police and residential social landlords;
- Gypsies and Travellers (including the Showmen's Guild); and,
- The general public more widely.

Only via effective partnership working can the accommodation needs identified here be addressed and have the best opportunity for long-term success.

11.13 Addressing the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople is the shortest and quickest route to helping to ensure positive outcomes for members of this population. Research has shown that a lack of suitable accommodation and poor conditions is related to poor educational and health as well as being at the root of ill feeling between the non-Traveller community and Gypsies and Travellers. In addition, addressing accommodation need will, in the short and long-term, reduce the costs of maintaining the process that surrounds unauthorised encampments and developments and help achieve additional revenue where socially rented sites are developed. Permanent solutions will offer the best chance for positive outcomes for all concerned and create a platform where greater engagement and cohesion can be fostered and developed.

Appendix 1: The assessment methodology

Draft practice guidance for local authorities undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments was released by the ODPM (now CLG) in February 2006 with final guidance made available in October 2007. Specialised guidance and assessments were felt to be required as many local authority housing needs assessments were previously failing to assess or identify the needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The Guidance explains why assessments are needed, how authorities might go about conducting an assessment and issues to consider. The Guidance is non-prescriptive in terms of methods but suggests that Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments integrate a wide variety of evidence such as existing secondary information, views of selected stakeholders and the views of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

It is noted that the recent draft Planning Policy Statement 'Planning for traveller sites' (CLG, 2011) has proposed removing the need for dedicated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments (GTAAs) from any new guidance. It states,

While the Government is keen that planning policy highlights the importance of ensuring that targets are based on robust evidence, it does not consider it necessary to prescribe to local planning authorities the type and volume of evidence required, especially as their conclusions will be tested through the process of consultation and Examination in Public of local plans. This also accords with the Government's "streamlining" objectives by removing policy that is already adequately covered by legislation. The proposed policy states that local planning authorities set their own evidence-based targets for the provision of pitches/plots. The policy does not dictate what targets local planning authorities should adopt. This is a matter for local planning authorities to decide themselves depending on the circumstances in their particular area.

However, in the absence of alternative methodologies for assessing the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers we have adopted a modified survey of the sort used in the first round of GTAAs.

This assessment was undertaken in three distinct stages. Each of these stages is described in more detail below.

- Stage one: collation and review of existing information
- Stage two: consultation with key stakeholders
- Stage three: survey with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

Stage one: Collation and review of existing secondary information

This first stage comprised a review of the available literature and secondary sources available in relation to Gypsy and Traveller communities. This provided an historical, social and political overview to the situation of Gypsies and Travellers in the study areas. More specifically this included the collection, review and synthesis of:

- The bi-annual Count of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans.
- Records and data maintained and provided by the local authorities
- The previous GTAA produced in 2008
- The report produced by Warwick District Council in 2011

Stage two: Consultation with key stakeholders

The analysis and review of existing information was supported by engagement and consultation with a small number of key stakeholders. This consultation took the form of telephone interviews, which were tailored to the role of the individual. The aim of these interviews was to provide clarification on issues arising from existing data and provide an understanding of the context of current provision. Consultation was carried out with officers representing the following departments/roles/agencies: Warwick District Council; Warwickshire County Council; Warwickshire Police; Warwickshire Supporting People; and officers from other local authorities across England (focusing specifically on the issues of transit provision).

Stage three: Survey with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

One of the most important aspects of the assessment was consulting with local Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople; the fieldwork took place over an eight week period starting on 29th May 2012. These consultations took the form of face-to-face interviews in order to gather information about their characteristics, experiences, accommodation and related needs and aspirations. The survey with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople is discussed below under three sections: sampling strategy and response rates; questionnaire design; and fieldwork and interviewers.

Sampling and response rates

Sampling Gypsy and Traveller households for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments is always problematic given the absence of accurate information concerning the size and location of the Travelling communities. As such the sampling technique for the assessment was purposive rather than purely random. The sampling strategy for the assessment differed depending upon the particular accommodation type currently inhabited by Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area.²⁹

- Information provided by Warwick District Council stated that there were two sites across the study area (one unauthorised development and one Travelling Showpeople site). The Community Interviewers were asked to interview every separate household currently on the sites.
- For households on unauthorised encampments, officers from Warwick District Council were asked to inform the fieldwork team when and where encampments occurred during the fieldwork period. The Community Interviewers and University research team visited these encampments wherever possible.

²⁹ Such a sampling strategy coupled with the lack of knowledge about the overall size of the Gypsy and Traveller population means that discussing statistical issues such as sampling error and confidence intervals would be misleading.

- As the population of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar housing is relatively hidden from official records there was no sample frame from which to identify people. Therefore, in order to engage with housed Gypsies and Travellers the fieldwork team relied on three main methods: contacts of Gypsies and Travellers who had already been interviewed as part of the assessment (i.e. on site-based accommodation); contacts of the Gypsy and Traveller Community Interviewers on the fieldwork team; and snowball sampling where one respondent in housing recommended engaging with similar households.

A total of 43 households were involved in the assessment. From an estimated base population of 33 resident households in Warwick district, we consulted with 28 households; 85% of the estimated resident Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople community across the study area. We believe that the sample is as representative as can be reasonably expected. We have no reason to believe that those households included in the survey are untypical from the total population in the area. Overall, we believe that the findings for the assessment are based on reliable information from accommodation types within the study area.

Questionnaire design

All household interviews have utilised a structured questionnaire upon which questions were routed according to the appropriate accommodation type. Questions were a mixture of tick-box answers and open-ended questions. This mixed approach enabled us to gather quantifiable information, but also allowed for contextualisation and qualification by the more narrative responses. The survey contained the following sections:

- Current accommodation;
- Local and historic connection;
- Travelling;
- Previous housing experiences;
- Household details;
- Health services; and
- Future accommodation.

The questionnaire used in the assessment is available in Appendix 3.

Fieldwork and interviewers

In addition to the University fieldwork staff, and of crucial importance to engaging as effectively as possible with the Gypsy and Traveller population, was the involvement of Gypsy and Traveller Community Interviewers. In total, two members of the Gypsy and Traveller community were involved in the assessment as Community Interviewers. These interviewers had worked previously with the University team, were of Romany Gypsy background and lived outside the study area.

The Community Interviewers were briefed on the assessment and the questionnaire prior to commencing fieldwork, and provided with support from the core study team members during their interviewing activity. Each questionnaire which was returned to us was subject to quality control and appropriate feedback was given to the interviewers. By taking this approach we found we were able to access a range of people that would not otherwise have been included in the assessment, such as 'hidden' members of the community (e.g. people living in bricks and mortar housing), and those people who were uncomfortable talking to non-Travellers.

Appendix 2: Demographics of the local Gypsy and Traveller population

This section aims to provide some information on the demographics of the sample involved in this accommodation assessment within the district.

Demographic and household characteristics

Characteristics of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities are often hidden or not widely known. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments present an ideal opportunity to get to know more about the community at large, particularly in terms of living circumstances, age, Gypsy and Traveller groups and household composition. The following aims to provide some information about the Gypsy and Traveller households in the sample.

Age and gender of interviewees

The age profile of the sample can be seen from Table A2.1. The 25–39 and 40–45 age groups were most consulted during the assessment, forming 47% and 28% of the total sample respectively.

Table A2.1: Age of interviewees

Age group	All		Unauthorised development		Travelling Showpeople site		Bricks and mortar		Unauthorised encampments	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
17–24	5	12	1	14	-	-	-	-	4	27
25–39	20	47	3	43	1	33	8	44	8	53
40–49	12	28	1	14	1	33	8	44	2	13
50–59	4	9	1	14	-	-	2	11	1	7
60–74	2	5	1	14	1	33	-	-	-	-
Total	43	100	7	100	3	100	18	100	15	100

In terms of the gender split between interviewees, ten were male (23%) and thirty-three were female (77%). This reflects a commonly achieved gender distribution in GTAAs.

Household size

In total, the survey sample accounts for 161 members of the Gypsy and Traveller community who were in Warwick district at the time of the assessment (including the respondents on unauthorised encampments). The average household size for the sample as a whole was 3.7; larger than the household size of the non-Traveller population. There appeared to be a difference in household size between the different accommodation types; for example, the average household size for those in bricks and mortar was 3.9, compared to 3.6 on the unauthorised development, 3.8 on the unauthorised encampments and 3 on the Travelling Showpeople site.

Table A2.2 below shows the number of children of different age cohorts across the sample.

Table A2.2: Number of children in households by accommodation type

Age group	All		Unauthorised development		Travelling Showpeople site		Bricks and mortar		Unauthorised encampments	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
0 - 5	17		1		-		6		10	
6 - 10	35		6		2		15		12	
11 - 16	23		4		1		12		6	
Total	75		11		3		33		28	

Gypsy and Traveller groups

The largest single group was Romany Gypsy (English) (twenty-five respondents - 58%). This was followed by Irish Traveller (fifteen respondents - 35%) and Travelling Showpeople (three respondents - 7%). The fifteen Irish Traveller households were all stopping on unauthorised encampments, while the Romany Gypsies were living on the unauthorised development and in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Appendix 3: Questionnaire

Warwick Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Study Questionnaire

Introduction

My name is [] and I work for the University of Salford [show ID badge]. We have been asked by Warwick District Council to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople in this area. We're looking to speak with a number of people staying in the local area, in houses, on council sites, on private sites and on the roadside, to get a range of views. The views that we collect may help plan and improve accommodation, sites, planning and other services in the future.

We are completely independent of any local council or the government. Would you be willing to talk to me? If you agree it will probably take about 25 minutes. I have a number of questions I would like to ask but I would like to hear about anything else you feel is relevant. I will be writing down your answers, but the interview will be confidential. Therefore no one will be identified in any report that we write, and there is no way that anyone will be able to trace any particular answer back to you.

Would you be willing to talk to me? If it's not a good time I could arrange to come back later if that suits you better.

CHECK! Have you already been interviewed for this survey before? Do you have one of these (show pink sheet)?

Address/Site: _____

Date of Interview: _____

Interviewer name: _____

If, during the interview a question comes up that you don't want to answer just say so and I'll move on

SECTION A: CURRENT ACCOMMODATION

QA1. Type of accommodation (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|
| Unauthorised encampment | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA5 |
| Unauthorised development (own land no planning) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA4 |
| Residential Council/site/yard | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA4 |
| Residential Private site/yard with permanent planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA3 |
| Residential Private site/yard with temporary planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA4 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from the local authority or social landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from a private landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (owner occupier) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA2 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA4 |
-

QA2. How many bedrooms do you have here? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| One | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA6 |
| Two | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA6 |
| Three | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA6 |
| Four or more | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA6 |

QA3. Is the permission 'personal' i.e. for you and your family only? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA4 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA4 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA4 |

QA4. Do you? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Own your plot/pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA5 |
| Rent your plot/pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA5 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA5 |
-
- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QA5 |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------|

QA5. Do you? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Own your trailer/chalets/units

Rent your trailer/chalets/units

Other (please specify below)

Don't know

QA6. How many trailers/chalets/units..... (Please write in spaces provided)

a. Do you have in total? _____

b. Are used as sleeping spaces? _____

c. Are used as living spaces (non-sleeping)? _____

d. Are used mainly for storage/occasional use? _____

QA7. Would you say you have enough space for your household at its current size in this home / pitch? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

(Interviewer: this relates not just to bedrooms but all of the dwelling / pitch)

Yes Go to QA9

No Go to QA8

Don't know Go to QA9

QA8. Do you feel that you need? (Please tick ✓ all that apply)

A larger site/yard

A larger pitch/plot

More caravans/trailers/units

Larger caravans/trailers/units

More bedrooms or living space

Other (please specify below)

QA9. What was the main reason for moving to this site/encampment/house/yard?
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

Moved there with parents/family (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving)

Born/raised there (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving)

Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons (please explain below)

To be near family/friends

To look after a family member / dependent in old age

Evicted from last accommodation

Lack of sites

Overcrowded in previous accommodation

For children's schooling/education

Work available in the area

Land/pitch was available to buy

There was a vacancy

Convenient for working pattern (Showpeople only)

Holiday

Family event

Other (please specify below)

**INTERVIEWER: GO TO SECTION B IF INTERVIEWING SOMEONE ON AN
UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENT/ROADSIDE**

QA10. Do other Gypsies/Travellers/Showpeople (e.g. friends/family etc.) come to stay with you on a short-term/transit basis? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Yes Go to QA11

No Go to QA12

Don't know Go to QA12

QA11. Can you briefly describe who comes to stay, how often they come, how long they stay and how many trailers they bring (i.e. daughter, her husband and dependent children, twice a year for around 2 weeks each time, with 2 trailers.)? (Interviewer: this is to explore how much transit need is being taken care of informally)

QA12. Is hosting visitors here? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Not a problem for you

A problem (please specify below)

Other (please specify below)

QA13. Specific question for Showpeople What equipment do you have at present? (Please list main items and number of pieces of equipment as well as issues regarding the storage of them)

SECTION B: LOCAL AND HISTORIC CONNECTION

QB1. Are there particular reasons for staying in this area?

- (Interviewer: a. Tick all the reasons that apply
 b. From the reasons they have given, ask them to choose the most important)

	a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: Tick most important reason <u>(one only)</u>
Born/raised here		
Have family living in area		
Own/family/dependent health		
Look after a family member/dependent in old age		
Children's schooling/education		
Work available in the area		
Convenient for working pattern (Showpeople)		
Availability of site(s)/accommodation		
Lack of sites		
Holiday		
Family or community event		
Only place I could find		
Other (please specify below)		

QB2. How long have you lived in this general area? (Interviewer: ideally we are looking at the local authority area) (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Less than 1 month
- Between 1 and 6 months
- 6 months or more but less than 12
- 1 years or more but less than 3
- 3 years or more but less than 5
- 5 years or more but less than 10
- 10 years or more
- Don't know

QB5. Out of 52 weeks of the year how many weeks do you usually live in this area? (Interviewer: we are looking at the local authority area) (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Between 1 and 10 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB6 |
| Between 11 and 20 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB6 |
| Between 21 and 30 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB6 |
| Between 31 and 40 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB6 |
| Between 41 and 51 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB6 |
| 52/Never leave | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB7 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB6 |

QB6. Where do you usually go for the other part of the year? (i.e. travel for x number of weeks during summer) (Interviewer note: explore the general areas they go and why)

QB7. Do you have a base somewhere else? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QB8 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to SECTION C |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to SECTION C |

QB8. If YES, where is it and what type of base?

a: Where is it? (i.e. town/local authority)

b: What type of accommodation is it?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Unauthorised development (own land no planning) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Residential Council/ site/yard | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Residential Private site/yard with permanent planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Residential Private site/yard with temporary planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from the local authority or social landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from a private landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bricks & Mortar (owner occupier) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

c: Who owns it? (e.g. themselves, a friend, parent, etc.)

SECTION C: TRAVELLING

QC1. How often do you travel or move at present? (Travelling whilst living in a caravan or trailer) (Please tick ✓ the statement that most closely resembles your travelling patterns)

- I/we travel or move every day or so Go to QC4
- I we travel or move every week or so Go to QC4
- I/we travel or move every month or so Go to QC4
- I/ we travel or move a few times a year Go to QC4
- I/we travel or move once a year only Go to QC4
- I/we never travel Go to QC2

QC2. If NEVER, is this because of any of the following reasons? (Please tick ✓ all that apply)

	Yes	No
Your, a family member or a dependents health		
Your, a family member or a dependents educational needs		
Your, a family member or a dependents older age		
Other (please specify below)		

QC3. If NEVER, When did you last travel? (Interviewer: ascertain number of months/years ago)

INTERVIEWER: IF NEVER TRAVEL, GO TO SECTION D

QC4. Which places do you like to go? - List 3 main areas (Note: Travelling Showpeople should indicate the 3 main areas their fairs/events take place)

1. _____
(nearest town: _____)
2. _____
(nearest town: _____)
3. _____
(nearest town: _____)

QC5. How many trailers/caravans do you normally travel with? _____
(Interviewer: insert 0 if none)

QC6. How many pieces of equipment do you normally travel with? _____
(Interviewer: insert 0 if none)

QC7. Have you travelled in the last 12 months?

- Yes Go to QC8
 No Go to SECTION D
 Don't know Go to SECTION D

QC8. In the last 12 months, did you travel for any of the following reasons?

- (Interviewer: a. Tick all the reasons that apply
 b. From the reasons they have given, choose one that was most important)

	a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: The main reason <u>(one only)</u>
Work opportunities		
A holiday		
Attend a fair (not working at fair)		
To visit relatives		
To attend family events		
To attend community events		
Other (please specify below)		

QC9. In the last 12 months have you stayed at any of the following?
 (Please tick ✓ all that apply)

	Yes	No
Roadside (countryside)		
Roadside (town/city)		
Caravan park (i.e. holiday park/campsite)		
With family/relatives on private sites		
With family/relatives on council/public sites		
Public or private transit sites		
Farmer's fields		
Designated fairground land for Showpeople		
Other Showpeople yards		
Other (please specify below)		

SECTION D: PREVIOUS HOUSING EXPERIENCES

QD1. What type of accommodation did you live in/on immediately before you came here? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Unauthorised encampment | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Unauthorised development (own land no planning) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Residential Council/ site/yard | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Residential Private site/yard with permanent planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Residential Private site/yard with temporary planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Transit site | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from the local authority or social landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from a private landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (owner occupier) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |
| Been here all my adult life | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to SECTION E |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QD2 |

QD2. Where was this? (i.e. which town/local authority)

QD3. What was the main reason for leaving there? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- To be near family/friends
 - Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons
 - Evicted
 - For children's schooling/education
 - Harassment
 - Land/pitch was available to buy here
 - There was a vacancy here
 - Overcrowded conditions
 - Fears over personal safety
 - Site closure
 - Planning problems
 - Wanted independence
 - Work reasons
 - To travel
 - Site/accommodation conditions
 - Get married/live with partner
 - No particular reason
 - Other (please specify below)
-

QD4. Have you ever lived in a house? (Interviewer – if currently in a house this question asks about previous housing) (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes Go to QD5
- No Go to SECTION E
- Don't know Go to SECTION E

QD5. What type of house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Council rented
 - Housing Association/RSL rented
 - Private rented
 - Privately owned
 - Other (please specify below)
-

QD6. Where was it? (i.e. which town/local authority)

QD7. What was the main reason for moving to that house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Moved there with parents/family (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving)

Born/raised there (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving)

Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons (please explain below)

To be near family/friends

To look after a family member / dependent in old age

Evicted from last site

Lack of sites

For children's schooling/education

Work available in the area

House was available to buy

House was available to rent

Convenient for working pattern (Showpeople)

Other (please specify below)

QD8. How would you rate your experience of living in a house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Very good

Good

Neither good nor poor

Poor

Very poor

Don't know

QD9. What was the main reason for leaving the house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- To be near family/friends
 - Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons
 - Evicted
 - For children's schooling/education
 - Harassment
 - Land/pitch was available to buy here
 - There was a vacancy here
 - Overcrowded conditions
 - Fears over personal safety
 - Wanted independence
 - Work reasons
 - To travel
 - Site/accommodation conditions
 - Get married/live with partner
 - No particular reason
 - Other (please specify below)
-

SECTION E: HOUSEHOLD DETAILS

QE1. Thinking about the people you live with, can you tell me their ages, whether they are male or female, their marital status and their relationship to you?
 (Interviewer: Please note that the person you interview is always number 1. To avoid confusion, get all information for one household member, then move on to next household member)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD MEMBER										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
0 – 5 years											
6 – 10 years											
11 – 16 years											
17 – 24 years											
25 – 39 years											
40 – 49 years											
50 – 59 years											
60 – 74 years											
75 – 84 years											
85 years +											
GENDER											
Male											
Female											
MARITAL STATUS											
Married											
Single											
Living together											
Widowed											
Separated											
Divorced											
RELATIONSHIP											
Partner											
Son or daughter											
Sister/brother											
Uncle/aunt											
Cousin											
Grandparent											
Grandchild											
Other											

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QE2. How many people are there in the household? _____

QE3. How many adults are there in the household aged 60 or over? _____

QE4. How many children are there in the household aged:

None

0 – 5 _____

6 – 10 _____

11 – 16 _____

QE5. How do you think of yourself? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Romany/Gypsy (English)

Welsh Gypsy/Traveller

Scottish Gypsy/ Traveller

Irish Traveller

New Traveller

Traveller (not specified)

Showmen/Circus person

Roma

Bargee/Boat dweller

Other (please specify below)

Don't know

Refused

QE6. How many members of your family over the age of 16 are: (Please write the number of people in the spaces below and ensure no double counting of individuals. If people fall into multiple categories explain situation in 'other')

Self employed _____

Employed _____

Both employed and self-employed _____

Retired _____

Unemployed but looking for work _____

Not working and not looking for work _____

In further education (e.g. college/6th form) _____

In higher education (e.g. University) _____

Full time homemaker _____

Other (please explain) _____

QE7. Where do you/your family (mostly) work? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Within the same local area

Within Warwick

(note: show map of district and include place below)

Within West Midlands

Other parts of the UK

Abroad

Other (please specify below)

Interviewer prompt for a specific location (i.e. nearest town)

QE8. Do you have any site/space needs relating to your work? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Yes Go to QE9

No Go to QE10

Don't know Go to QE10

QE9. If YES, what needs?

SECTION F: HEALTH SERVICES

I'd like to talk to you a little bit about what you think of the local health services.

QF1. Do you or your family feel that you have sufficient access to the following services?

Service	Have access		Not relevant
	Yes	No	
GP/health centre			
Health visitor			
Maternity care			
A&E			
Dentist			

QF2. Is there anything that stops you from accessing any of the above?
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes Go to QF3
 No Go to SECTION G
 Don't know Go to SECTION G

QF3. If YES, what? (Interviewer: probe for issues such as transport, lack of awareness, etc)

SECTION G: FUTURE ACCOMMODATION

QG1. Thinking about your current accommodation which of the following applies to you?

(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- I would like to move immediately Go to QG2
- I would like to move in the next 12 months Go to QG2
- I would like to move in the next 1 – 2 years Go to QG2
- I would like to move in the next 2 – 5 years Go to QG2
- I would like to move in the next 5 – 10 years Go to QG2
- I am going to stay in this accommodation indefinitely Go to QG8
- Other (please describe below) Go to QG2

QG2. Why do you need to move?

- (Interviewer: a. Tick all the reasons that apply
 b. From the reasons they have given, ask them to choose one that was most important)

	a: Yes (Tick ✓ all that apply)	b: The most important reason (Tick ✓ <u>one</u> <u>only</u>)
Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons		
For children's schooling/education		
To look after a family member / dependent in old age		
To be nearer to family/friends		
Overcrowded living conditions		
Overcrowded on site		
To move to a vacant pitch on a preferred site		
Going to buy own site/pitch		
Being moved on (as encamped)		
Eviction		
Harassment		
Fears over personal safety		
Site closure		
No planning permission		
Want independence		
Work reasons		
To travel		
Site/accommodation conditions		
Get married/live with partner		
No particular reason		
Other (please specify below)		

QG3. Do you intend to stay in this area? (Interviewer: the local authority area)
 (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

QG4. What type of accommodation are you looking for?
 (Interviewer: a. Tick all types that apply
 b. From types they have given, ask them to choose one main preference)

	a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: Main preference (Tick ✓ <u>one only</u>)
Roadside/informal stopping place		
Own site with planning permission		
Council owned site – permanent		
Council owned site – transit		
Private site owned by someone else		
Piece of land to buy (without planning permission)		
I already own a piece of land		
Bricks and mortar/another house		
Other (please specify below)		

QG5. Where do you need to move to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Within Warwick
 (note: show map of district and include place below)
- Within West Midlands
- Other parts of the UK
- Abroad

Interviewer prompt for a specific location (i.e. name of nearest town):

QG6. Why this place?

(Interviewer:

- a. Tick all the reasons that apply
- b. From the reasons they have given, ask them to choose one that was most important)

	a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: The most important reason (Tick ✓ <u>one only</u>)
Born/raised there		
Have family living in area		
Own/family/dependent health		
Look after a family member/dependent in old age		
Children's schooling/education		
Work available in the area		
Convenient for working pattern (Showpeople)		
Availability of site(s)/accommodation		
Lack of sites		
Holiday		
Family or community event		
Only place I could find		
Other (please specify below)		

QG7. Is there any accommodation available for you to move to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

QG8. Is there anyone in your household who is in need of their own separate accommodation immediately? (i.e. grown up children, extended family members etc.)
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes Go to QG9
- No Go to QG15
- Don't know Go to QG15

QG9. How many members of your household? _____

QG10. Who (note: include ages at the time of the interview)?

QG11. Where do you expect them to move to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Within the same local area
- Within Warwick
(note: show map of district and include place below)
- Within West Midlands
- Other parts of the UK
- Abroad
- Don't know

Interviewer prompt for a specific location (i.e. name of nearest town):

QG12. What sort of accommodation are they likely to need? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Bricks & Mortar Go to QG15
- Site based trailer/caravan Go to QG13
- Up to them Go to QG13
- Don't know Go to QG13
- Other (please specify below) Go to QG13

QG13. How would they need to be accommodated? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- A pitch on a council site Go to QG15
- Live on this pitch with us Go to QG14
- Live on this site Go to QG15
- Rent a pitch on a private site Go to QG15
- Purchase a pitch on a private site Go to QG15
- Purchase their own site/land to be developed into a site Go to QG15
- Don't know Go to QG15
- Other (please specify below) Go to QG15

QG14. Is there enough room on your pitch to accommodate them? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes, but likely to need planning permission
 - Yes, without needing planning permission
 - Yes, but uncertain of the need for planning permission
 - Yes, but would need permission from the landlord
 - No
 - Don't know
 - Other (please specify below)
-

QG15. Is there anyone in your household (e.g. son or daughter) who is likely to want their own separate accommodation in the next 5 years (by 2017)? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes Go to QG16
- No Go to QG22
- Don't know Go to QG22

QG16. How many members of your household? _____

QG17. Who (note: include ages at the time of the interview)?

QG18. Where do you expect them to move to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Within the same local area
- Within Warwick
- (note: show map of district and include place below)
- Within West Midlands
- Other parts of the UK
- Abroad
- Don't know

Interviewer prompt for a specific location (i.e. nearest town):

QG19. What sort of accommodation are they likely to need? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Bricks & Mortar | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
| Site based trailer/caravan | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG20 |
| Up to them | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG20 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG20 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG20 |
-

QG20. How would they need to be accommodated? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|------------|
| A pitch on a council site | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
| Live on this pitch with us | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG21 |
| Live on this site | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
| Rent a pitch on a private site | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
| Purchase a pitch on a private site | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
| Purchase their own site/land to be developed into a site | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG22 |
-

QG21. Is there enough room on your pitch to accommodate them? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Yes, but likely to need planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, without planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, uncertain of the need for planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Yes, but would need permission from the landlord | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
-

QG22. Are you – or a member of your household – currently on a waiting list(s) for a site? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG23 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG24 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | Go to QG24 |

QG23. Which site(s)? Where? Is it local authority site/private sites/etc.?

QG24. Are you – or a member of your household – currently on a waiting list for a house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes Go to QG25
No Go to QG26
Don't know Go to QG26

QG25. Which list? Where?

QG26. Could you currently afford to purchase any of the following? (Please tick ✓ all that apply)

- A pitch on a private site with planning permission
A pitch on a private site without planning permission
Land to be developed into a site
Cannot afford to purchase land or a pitch
Not relevant (please specify below)

QG27. What does your rent / mortgage cost in total per week or month for your current accommodation approximately? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Interviewer: please note that you need the TOTAL cost of rent / mortgage for the whole dwelling/pitch

Weekly	Monthly	
Under £30	Under £130	<input type="checkbox"/>
£30 - £59	£130 - £255	<input type="checkbox"/>
£60 - £89	£256 - £385	<input type="checkbox"/>
£90 - £119	£386 - £515	<input type="checkbox"/>
£120 - £149	£516 - £645	<input type="checkbox"/>
£150 - £179	£646 - £775	<input type="checkbox"/>
£180 - £209	£776 - £905	<input type="checkbox"/>
£210 - £239	£906 - £1,035	<input type="checkbox"/>
£240 - £269	£1,036 - £1,165	<input type="checkbox"/>
£270 - £299	£1,166 - £1,295	<input type="checkbox"/>
£300 or more	£1,296 or more	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know		<input type="checkbox"/>
Prefer not to say		<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't pay rent or mortgage		<input type="checkbox"/>

QG29. Finally, are there any other issues/concerns that we haven't talked about that you'd like to mention?

Thank you very much for your time
 For further details on the study please contact:
 Dr Lisa Scullion on 0161 295 5078 or Dr Phil Brown on 0161 295 3647