

# Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2022

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Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

Final Report  
July 2022

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**Please note that in this report some of the tables include rounded figures. This can result in some column or row totals not adding up to 100 or to the anticipated row or column 'total' due to the use of rounded decimal figures. We include this description here as it covers all tables and associated textual commentary included. If tables or figures are to be used in-house then we recommend the addition of a similarly worded statement being included as a note to each table used.**

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# Executive Summary

## Introduction

The Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2022 (GTAA) provides the latest available evidence to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the borough.

The GTAA has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data; and
- A household survey and site/yard observation. A total of 40 Gypsy and Traveller households were interviewed in 2022 out of a total of 58 households, with a 69% response rate.

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

We are very grateful to the Gypsy and Traveller communities across Tonbridge and Malling Borough for their positive engagement with the work.

## Population and current accommodation provision

The 2011 Census identified a total of 131 households in Tonbridge and Malling Borough where the Household Reference Person had a 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' ethnicity. Of these, 23 lived in a caravan and 108 in bricks and mortar housing.

There are 73 Gypsy and Traveller pitches across 20 sites, there are two Council sites (40 pitches), seven private authorised sites (12 pitches), one private temporary authorised site (2 pitches) and ten unauthorised sites (19 pitches). There are two Travelling Showperson's yards in the borough (4 plots). Private sites tend to be occupied by extended family groups. This means the ability of non-family members to move onto private sites is limited.

The bi-annual DLUHC Traveller caravan count (January 2016 to July 2021) reported an average of 94 caravans on Gypsy and Traveller sites and an average of 8 caravans on Travelling Showperson's yards (January 2016 to January 2020).

## Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

The 2021 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states in Paragraph 62 **'the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policy (including travellers)'**. A footnote in the NPPF then states **'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers' housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document'**.

The 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Site (PPTS) document states that **'local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the**

**purposes of planning’ and ‘ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies’ and ‘to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply’.**

In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc4 reflect the PPTS, build upon those methods established through previous guidance, our practical experience and decisions made at planning inquiries and appeals.

### ‘Cultural’ and ‘PPTS need’

Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers. The PPTS is used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers who continue to lead a nomadic habit of life, even if they are temporarily not travelling. The NPPF is also used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers that no longer lead a nomadic habit of life. In both respects national policy requires need to be assessed and then a five-year supply of sites to meet that need to be identified as part of the Local Plan.

The GTAA establishes an overall ‘cultural’ need for pitches which accords with the overall need for Gypsy and Traveller culturally appropriate accommodation and takes into account the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equalities Act 2010 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016 section 124. Within this overall need, the specific need from households who meet the nomadic habit of life definitions set out in PPTS Annex 1 is identified. Analysis of the travelling behaviour of households or emerging households planning to move residential location indicates that 74.4% meet the nomadic habit of life/travelling behaviour criteria set out in the PPTS.

### Need assessment period

To support the preparation of the Local Plan, need has been assessed over a short-term period: 2022/23 to 2026/27 and longer-term period: 2027/28 to 2039/40.

## Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

### Overall need

There is an overall cultural need for 41 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches across the borough over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40. Of this need, 25 pitches arise from households who meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life definition and 16 are from households who do not meet the PPTS definition as they no longer lead a nomadic habit of life. This takes into account the needs arising from existing households, households on unauthorised sites, newly forming households, in-migrant households and also current vacancies on existing public sites.

The pitch shortfall over the first six-year and period to 2039/40 for permanent residential pitches is set out in detail in Table ES1. Note that the analysis takes into account the start of the plan period as being 2021/22 and data for the five years 2022/23 to 2026/27 has been annualised and an extra year of need has been assigned to 2021/22 based on this 5 year annualised amount.

**Table ES1 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: Plan period 2021/22 to 2039/40**

<b>Tonbridge and Malling Borough</b>	<b>Cultural need</b>	<b>of which: PPTS NEED</b>
<b>6yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2026/27)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Longer-term need</b>		
Over period 2027/28 to 2031/32	7	4
Over period 2032/33 to 2036/37	12	7
Over period 2037/38 to 2039/40	2	1
<b>Longer-term need TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>TOTAL NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2039/40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Annualised need</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

## Meeting the need

The need for pitches has the potential to be met through the regularisation of existing temporary authorised and unauthorised sites and the expansion/intensification of existing sites.

There are currently 19 unauthorised pitches and 2 private temporary authorised.

There is also potential for additional pitches on existing sites. Through discussions with residents on Council sites and private site owners, the GTAA has identified the following potential pitches:

- Council sites 4 to 8 pitches
- Private sites 8 pitches
- Private temporary authorised sites 2 pitches
- Unauthorised sites 9 pitches

Total potential pitches on existing sites is between 23 to 27 based on discussions. It is recommended that that Council investigate the potential for additional pitches on sites as a way of helping to meet need and consider regularising sites that are not permanently authorised, in addition there are 4 vacant pitches on unauthorised sites.

There is also turnover on Council sites of 0.6 pitches each year to help meet need. Over the plan period this equates to 11 pitches.

## Previous GTAA

The previous 2018 GTAA identified a 5 year (2017/18 to 2021/22) cultural need for 29 pitches of which 13 were PPTS need. The overall plan period need 2011 to 2031 was a cultural need for 40 pitches of which 16 was PPTS need (annualised need was 2 of which 0.8 was PPTS need).

## Summary of need

In summary:

- Over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40, there is an overall need for 41 pitches of which 25 is PPTS need and 16 is non-PPTS need
- Over the six-year period 2021/22 to 2026/27, there is an overall need for 20 additional pitches of which 13 PPTS is need and 7 non-PPTS need.

There is potential permanent pitch supply through the regularisation of existing sites (21 pitches) and through the potential expansion/intensification of existing sites (23 to 27 pitches). The overall pitch need has the potential to be met without the need for new sites to be developed. However, the Council would need to review the potential to expand/intensify existing sites and review the extent to which sites could be regularised.

## Temporary stopping places and transit provision

The Council should consider the options for transit provision. A blend of different approaches may be appropriate, with an emphasis on negotiated stopping arrangements rather than a dedicated transit site.

## Travelling Showperson plot requirements

There are currently two Travelling Showperson's yards in Tonbridge and Malling. At the time of interviewing, only one resident was available but did not take part in the survey. The previous GTAA evidenced a need for 3 plots and it is recommended this remains figure for need for new showperson plots over the period to 2040.

## Houseboat dweller mooring requirements

There are some residential moorings in Tonbridge town centre. It is recommended that the Council engages with the Environment Agency to establish the feasibility of increasing the number of residential moorings on the River Medway in Tonbridge and Malling.

## Policy recommendations

Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers through the NPPF for those who no longer travel and the PPTS for those who have a nomadic habit of life.

The overall needs evidenced in this report indicate a total shortfall of 41 pitches (of which 25 is PPTS need and 16 is non-PPTS need) over the plan period 2021/22 to 2039/40).

Identified need has the potential to be met in full through the regularisation of sites that are not permanently authorised, though the expansion/intensification of existing sites and turnover on Council sites.



To support the wider needs of Gypsies and Travellers, the Council should also set out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for small private Gypsy and Traveller sites and Showperson's yards should they arise over the plan period.

The Council should also continue to provide social rented pitches on Council sites and draw upon any available resources to facilitate this.

# 1. Introduction

## Overview

- 1.1 In March 2022 arc<sup>4</sup> was commissioned by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council to prepare the 2022 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) which updates the previous study published in 2018.
- 1.2 The overall scope of the study is to ensure that the Council has a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision over the period to 2040 (financial year 2039/40) and to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers to meet both the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) - defined need and the Council's obligations under section 124 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016.

## Who the study covers?

- 1.3 The GTAA 2022 adopts the definition of 'Gypsies and Travellers' set out within the PPTS, which was published by the government in August 2015. This sets out the following definition of 'Gypsies and Travellers':

**'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, but excluding members of an organised group of Travelling Showpeople or circus people travelling together as such'** (MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 1.)

- 1.4 In addition, PPTS 2015 provides the following 'clarification' for determining whether someone is a Gypsy or Traveller:

**'In determining whether persons are "gypsies and travellers" for the purposes of this planning policy, consideration should be given to the following issues amongst other relevant matters:**

- a) whether they previously led a nomadic habit of life
- b) the reasons for ceasing their nomadic habit of life
- c) whether there is an intention of living a nomadic habit of life in the future, and if so, how soon and in what circumstances.' (MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 2)

- 1.5 The following definition of 'Travelling Showpeople' is set out in PPTS 2015:

**'Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family's or dependants' more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.'** (MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 3)

1.6 In addition:

**‘For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use pitches for “travelling showpeople”, which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.’ (MHCLG Planning policy for traveller sites August 2015 Annex 1, para 5).**

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

## Report structure

1.8 The GTAA 2022 report structure is as follows:

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

1.9 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:

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

## 2. Policy and local context

- 2.1 This study is grounded in an understanding of the national legislative and planning policy context that underpins the assessment and provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.
- 2.2 This chapter sets out the policy context within which this GTAA has been prepared, including a consideration of the previous GTAA for the borough.

### Government policy and guidance

- 2.3 The 2021 National Planning Policy Framework states in Paragraph 62 **‘the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies’**. It then lists a number of groups including Travellers. A footnote to the paragraph states **‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers’ housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document’**.
- 2.4 The 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Site (PPTS) document states that **‘local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning’** and **‘ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies’** and **‘to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply’**.
- 2.5 Policy A of the 2015 PPTS relates to evidence needed to plan positively and manage development. This states **‘in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:**
  - **pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities (including discussing travellers’ accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups);**
  - **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; and**
  - **use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions’**.
- 2.6 In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc4 reflect Policy A of the PPTS; build upon those methods established through previous guidance; our practical experience and findings from planning inquiries and appeals.
- 2.7 The calculation of pitch/plot requirements is based on established DLUHC modelling methodology, as advocated in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Guidance (DCLG, 2007). Although this guidance was

formally withdrawn in December 2016, in the absence of any updated guidance on the subject, it continues to provide a good practice approach for needs modelling.

2.8 Policy B of the 2015 PPTS relates to planning for traveller sites and requires Local Plans:

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

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

- a. identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
- b. identify a supply of specific, developable sites, or broad locations for growth, for years 6 to 10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;
- c. consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);
- d. relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density; and
- e. protect local amenity and environment.

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

- f. promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
- g. promote, in collaboration with commissioners of health services, access to appropriate health services;
- h. ensure that children can attend school on a regular basis;
- i. provide a settled base that reduces both the need for long-distance travelling and possible environmental damage caused by unauthorised encampment;
- j. provide for proper consideration of the effect of local environmental quality (such as noise and air quality) on the health and well-being of any travellers who may locate there or on others as a result of new development;
- k. avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;

- l. do not locate sites in areas at high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains, given the particular vulnerability of caravans; and
- m. reflect the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

### Intentional unauthorised development

- 2.11 The planning policy statement issued with PPTS 2015 ([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/457632/Final\\_Chief\\_Planning\\_Officer\\_letter\\_and\\_written\\_statement.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457632/Final_Chief_Planning_Officer_letter_and_written_statement.pdf)) and confirmed by Ministerial Statement (<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2015-12-17/HCWS423/>) makes clear that if a site is intentionally occupied without planning permission this would be a material consideration in any retrospective planning application for that site. Whilst this does not mean that retrospective applications will be automatically refused, it does mean that failure to seek permission in advance of occupation will count against the application.
- 2.12 In addition, PPTS 2015 (Paragraph 12) makes clear that in exceptional cases where a local authority is burdened by a large-scale unauthorised site that has significantly increased their need, and their area is subject to strict and special planning constraints, then there is no assumption that the local authority will be required to meet their Gypsy and Traveller site needs in full. This is intended to protect local planning authorities with significant land constraints from being required to provide for additional needs arising directly from large sites such as Dale Farm (a large unauthorised site in Essex).

### Considering 'Cultural' and 'PPTS' need

- 2.13 Paragraph 62 of the 2021 NPPF recognises the need to assess a range of community needs including those of Travellers. Government policy encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers. The PPTS is used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers who continue to lead a nomadic habit of life, even if they are temporarily not travelling. The NPPF is used to plan for the accommodation needs of those Gypsies and Travellers that no longer lead a nomadic habit of life. In both respects policy requires need to be assessed and then a five-year supply of sites to meet that need to be identified as part of the Local Plan. This approach also reflects the Council's obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equalities Act 2010 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016 section 124. The GTAA considers the broader need from all Gypsies and Travellers regardless of their nomadic habit of life patterns as 'cultural need'. A subset of this need is the need from households who meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life criteria.
- 2.14 Our assessment methodology is set out in Chapter 3 and the outworking of this approach for Tonbridge and Malling Borough is set out in Chapter 6.

## Responding to challenges

- 2.15 GTAAAs are subject to intense scrutiny, particularly at planning inquiries and hearings. The methodological approaches taken by arc<sup>4</sup> aim to maximise the robustness of evidence and measures include:
- An up-to-date assessment of the number of pitches on sites and the number of households living on pitches and any vacancies.
  - Maximising response rates from households.
  - Carefully considering the relationship between households and the pitches they occupy.
  - Sensitive analysis of the flows of existing households from and to local authority districts.
  - Consideration of overcrowding and concealed households.
  - Careful consideration of turnover on Council / housing association pitches, with clear assumptions over future potential capacity from households moving away from pitches.
  - Longer-term modelling of need using detailed demographic information contained from household survey work.
  - Reasonable assumptions around the number of households in bricks and mortar accommodation who may want to move to a pitch.

### 3. Methodology

#### Introduction

- 3.1 The GTAA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirement of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.
- 3.2 The methodology has comprised:
- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including data on pitches / sites, plots / yards and unauthorised encampments;
  - the collection of primary data, including household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople; and
  - an assessment of accommodation needs taking into account all available data and information.
- 3.3 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:
- Phase 1: Literature / desktop review.
  - Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the borough.
  - Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of the GTAA 2022 report.

#### Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions

- 3.4 We have reviewed relevant literature, including legislative background and best practice information; and analysis of available secondary data relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the borough. The research has progressed with input from local authority officers.

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

- 3.5 Our aim is to obtain interviews from all households living on sites using a standard questionnaire (Appendix A). This questionnaire has been carefully designed in consultation with Councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents. Site visits and interviews took place during March and April 2022 and contacted households were left with a leaflet explaining the work.
- 3.6 Regarding the PPTS definition, the questionnaire asks if households have been travelling in the preceding year or within the past five years and/or intend to travel in the next year or in any year in the next five years. Note that households who cannot travel due to age or health limitations are excluded from analysis. If eligible households answer 'yes' to either question the household meets the travelling criteria set out in PPTS. By contrast, all



households identifying as part of the Gypsy and Traveller or Travelling Showpeople community are contained within a broader 'cultural' definition.

- 3.7 Analysis of the travelling behaviour of households or emerging households planning to move residential location indicates that 53.5% meet the nomadic habit of life / travelling behaviour criteria set out in PPTS. These households meet the criteria by either travelling within the past five years and/or intend to travel in the next year or in any year in the next five years. Given the previous national lockdown restrictions, very few households were able to travel during 2020-2021 therefore travelling in that year has not been considered in the assessment of travelling behaviour. This is discussed further in the analysis in Chapter 7.

### Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of report

- 3.8 A detailed explanation of the pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 6 but briefly comprises analysis of the following:
- current pitch supply, households living in bricks and mortar accommodation; households planning to move in the next five years, and emerging households to give total need for pitches; and
  - supply based on the number of authorised pitches and turnover on sites on public pitches.
- 3.9 The overall need for pitches is then compared with the overall supply.

### Pitches and households

- 3.10 One of the key challenges faced when assessing Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements is the actual nature of pitches and how this relates to the number of households they can support.
- 3.11 PPTS 2015 refers to the need for local planning authorities to **'identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets'** and **'relate the number of pitches/plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density'** (PPTS 2015, paragraph 10).
- 3.12 Planning decision notices usually refer to the number of pitches on a site or the specifics of what can be on a pitch e.g. statics, tourers; or specific individuals and/or households.
- 3.13 As part of the GTAA, it is essential that the characteristics of sites, the number of pitches and how many households these can support is carefully considered. There are a range of issues which need to be considered when reviewing site and pitch characteristics and their potential implications for future pitch and site requirements which are now summarised.

## Site and pitch size

- 3.14 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes. Although now withdrawn, the DCLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites: good practice guide (2008) states in paragraph 4.4 that **‘Gypsy and Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building, together with space for parking. Sites of various sizes, layouts and pitch numbers operate successfully today and work best when they take into account the size of the site and the needs and demographics of the families resident on them’**.
- 3.15 Paragraph 4.47 states that **‘to ensure fire safety it is essential that every trailer, caravan or park home must be not less than 6 metres from any other trailer, caravan or park home that is occupied separately’**.
- 3.16 Paragraph 7.12 states that **‘as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area’**.
- 3.17 Paragraph 4.13 states that **‘smaller pitches must be able to accommodate at least an amenity building, a large trailer, drying space for clothes and parking for at least one vehicle’**.
- 3.18 As a general guide, it is suggested by arc4 that the minimum pitch size is 25m by 25m (625 square meters or 0.0625 hectares). This would support a twin-unit chalet/mobile home (15m x 6.5m), a tourer, an amenity shed/building (5m x 4m), two vehicle spaces (minimum 2.4m x 4.8m for each space) and turning circle for vehicles, amenity space and a small garden area/play space. Residential units need to be 3m from the pitch boundary and at least 6m apart. A slightly larger pitch of 25m by 30m (750 square meters or 0.075 hectares) would be appropriate for larger household units requiring several residential units.
- 3.19 In 2010, the Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain prepared a document (Travelling Showpeople’s sites: a planning focus – model standard package). This document was intended to provide guidelines to Travelling Showpeople and Local Planning Authorities when considering the needs of Travelling Showpeople.
- 3.20 This document confirmed that:
- A plot is a piece of land occupied by a showperson with their family and equipment, used to store fairground rides, vehicles and other items as well as for living accommodation. The family unit can be large or small, for instance an extended family with grandparents, parents and children, or a single-family unit of parents and children.
  - A yard is two or more plots owned by the same family who may use this for their own family purposes or may let part out to other Showpeople.
  - A site is a group of plots where the land is owned by individual plot holders. Quite often a Showperson’s site will have a common shared access onto the main road network.

- Showpeople's sites do not fit neatly into the definition of a one land use category. The sites combine a residential use with a storage use, and maintenance is also likely to be carried out on site. The residential use can take the form of static homes and caravans.
- For a Travelling Showperson yard, the minimum size of a plot is 0.5ha and should include space for residential accommodation and equipment storage.

## Occupancy

- 3.21 A pitch may accommodate more than one family unit, for instance it could include a family, older children who have formed their own household and other family members. This could lead to potential overcrowding, and this is considered as part of the GTAA household survey.
- 3.22 Private sites may restrict occupancy to close family / friends. This limits opportunity for others to move onto the site but this restrictive occupancy may provide for emerging needs within a household, for example as grown-up children (previously living within a parent(s) or grandparent(s) home) form independent households of their own.
- 3.23 Quality, size of pitch and proximity of caravans on pitches vary dramatically.

## Response

- 3.24 For each site, a pragmatic and reasonable judgement should be made as part of the GTAA regarding the number of pitches or sub-divisions on sites. This may relate to the number of families living on sites and could include a consideration of the potential intensification of sites (for instance through further sub-division, extension or use of vacant areas within the site). Capacity and layout of sites should be identified through site observation (directly or indirectly through Google maps or similar), planning history and local knowledge of planning, enforcement and liaison officers.
- 3.25 Pitches can become intensified or sub-divided once planning applications have been approved. These sub-divisions tend to be tolerated by Councils. Often pitches become subdivided to provide space for newly-forming households, particularly from family members. The potential for pitch intensification/sub-division was considered on site visits and respondents were asked whether intensification/sub-division was possible on the site they lived on.

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

- 4.1 This chapter looks at the current picture in terms of the current population and demography of Gypsies and Travellers across Tonbridge and Malling Borough before going on to explore the extent and nature of provision across the borough.

### 2011 Census population and household estimates

- 4.2 The 2011 Census (Tables 4.1 and 4.2) identified a total of 346 people in 131 households in Tonbridge and Malling Borough with a Household Reference Person who identified as having a White Gypsy or Irish Traveller ethnicity. 82.4% of households who identified as Gypsy/Traveller lived in bricks and mortar accommodation and 17.6% lived in caravans.

**Table 4.1 People in households identifying as White Gypsy or Irish Traveller by accommodation type**

Local Authority	Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
Tonbridge and Malling	131	91	17	23

Source: 2011 Census CT127

**Table 4.2 Households identifying as Gypsy Traveller by accommodation type**

Local Authority	Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
Tonbridge and Malling	346	244	33	69

Source: 2011 Census CT0128

## Caravan Count information

- 4.3 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the government in 1979 and have since been undertaken every January and July by local authorities. An annual count of Travelling Showperson caravans takes place every January. The counts provide a source of information on the number of caravans located on authorised and unauthorised sites but do not record the actual number of pitches on sites/yards.
- 4.4 The figures for the last 10 Traveller caravan counts for Tonbridge and Malling are set out in Table 4.3. Data shows an average of 94 caravans across the borough during the period Jan 2016 to July 2021. Of these, 58.7% were on Council sites, 18.6% on private sites and 22.7% on unauthorised sites.

**Table 4.3 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures January 2016 to July 2021: Tonbridge and Malling Borough**

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
Jan-16	66	14	30	110
Jul-16	67	12	25	104
Jan-17	57	13	25	95
Jul-17	52	13	32	97
Jan-18	52	18	23	93
Jul-18	55	15	20	90
Jan-19	52	20	23	95
Jul-19	55	24	13	92
Jan-20	55	22	10	87
Jul-21	40	23	12	75
10-Count Average* (Jan 2016- Jul 21)	55	17	21	94
10-Count % Average* (Jan 2016- Jul 2021)	58.7	18.6	22.7	100.0

Source: DLUHC Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table

Counts not taken in July 2020 or Jan 2021 due to the COVID pandemic

- 4.5 Over the period 2015 to 2020 there were an average of 8 reported Travelling Showperson caravans across Tonbridge and Malling Borough in the DLUHC caravan count statistics (Table 4.4).

**Table 4.4 Annual Travelling Showpeople caravan count figures January 2015 to January 2020**

Count	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
2015	0	11	0	11
2016	0	13	0	13
2017	0	7	0	7
2018	0	5	0	5
2019	0	8	0	8
2020	0	5	0	5
Six-Count Average	0	8	0	8
Six-Count % Average	0	100%	0	100%

Source: MHCLG Travelling Showpeople Caravan Count, Live Table 3

## Local site and yards

- 4.6 Authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either public or privately-owned land. Unauthorised sites are made up of either longer-term (approximately three months or longer ) unauthorised encampments and can be considered to be indicative of a permanent need for accommodation (in some instances local authorities class these as tolerated sites and do not take enforcement action to remove them); and unauthorised developments, where Travellers are residing upon land that they own and that does not have planning permission (see Appendix B for more detailed definitions).
- 4.7 Table 4.5 sets out the range of sites across Tonbridge and Malling Borough. The table also shows the number of household survey responses achieved. The level of pitch provision requires some careful analysis which is now set out.
- 4.8 There are 73 Gypsy and Traveller pitches across 20 sites, there are two Council sites (40 pitches), seven private authorised sites (12 pitches), one private temporary authorised site (2 pitches) and ten unauthorised sites (19 pitches). There are two Travelling Showperson's yards in the borough (4 plots). Private sites tend to be occupied by extended family groups. This means the ability of non-family members to move onto private sites is limited.
- 4.9 Please note that on some private sites the number of pitches does not match the number of households because some households occupy more than one pitch.
- 4.10 Careful analysis and discussions with site owners confirms a total of 15 vacant pitches as set out in Table 4.5 after taking into account the number of households living on more than one pitch. However, it should be acknowledged that the existing private sites are mainly for extended family groups and the ability to live on these sites is therefore restricted.

- 4.11 Table 4.6 sets out the summary position regarding pitches/plots, vacancy and occupancy. This provides a transparent base position from which the modelling of future pitch need in section 6 need can proceed.

**Table 4.5A List of Gypsy & Traveller pitches on sites (as at April 2022)**

Site Code	Site Name and Address	Planning status	Total pitches	Total occupied pitches	Total vacant pitches	Total house-holds	Achieved household interviews	Non-response	Refusal	Not available
LA1	Windmill Lane, Teston Road, West Malling ME19 6PQ	Permanent Authorised (Kent County Council managed)	14	12	2	12	5	7	1	6
LA2	Coldharbour Lane, Aylesford ME20 7NZ	Permanent Authorised (Kent County Council owned and managed)	26	17	9	17	14	3	1	2
Priv1	Springfield Place (Rear of The Harrow Public House), Cemetery Lane, Hadlow TN11 0LT	Private Authorised	4	4	0	4	4	0	0	0
Priv2	Orchard Place/Land to the rear of Swinburn, Teston Rd, Offham, West Malling, ME19 5NN	Private Authorised	2	2	0	2	1	1	1	0
Priv3	Sunny Paddock/Meadow, 14 Birling Rd, Leybourne ME19 5HT	Private Authorised	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
Priv4	76 Church Lane, East Peckham TN12 5JH	Private Authorised	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Priv6	Hoath Wood, Lavenders Road, West Malling ME19 6HP	Private Authorised	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Priv7	Old Orchard, Rochester Road, Aylesford ME20 7ED	Private Authorised	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0



Site Code	Site Name and Address	Planning status	Total pitches	Total occupied pitches	Total vacant pitches	Total house-holds	Achieved household interviews	Non-response	Refusal	Not available
PrivTemp1	Alans Hectare, Cemetery Lane, Hadlow TN11 0LT	Private Temporary Authorised	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
Unauth1	Woodford, Old Lane, Ightham TN15 9AH	Unauthorised	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
Unauth2	Rear of Offham Methodist Church, Hayes Lane, Offham ME19 5PG	Unauthorised	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
Unauth3	East Acres, Branbridges Road, East Peckham TN12 5HD	Unauthorised	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Unauth4	The Horseshoes, Sandy Lane, Ryarsh ME19 6TG	Unauthorised	3	3	0	2	1	1	0	1
Unauth5	The Hollies/Land North of Askew Bridge, Maidstone Rd, Platt TN15 8LB	Unauthorised	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Unauth6	Malling Meadows, Land East of Teston Road, West Malling ME19 6PQ	Unauthorised	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
Unauth7	Laxton Farm, Common Road Hadlow TN11 0JE	Unauthorised	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Unauth8	Land off Maidstone Road Hadlow TN11 0JD	Unauthorised	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Unauth9	Land off Birling Road Birling have asked Council for more info	Unauthorised	2	2	0	2	1	1	0	1

Site Code	Site Name and Address	Planning status	Total pitches	Total occupied pitches	Total vacant pitches	Total house-holds	Achieved household interviews	Non-response	Refusal	Not available
Unauth10	The Spinney, Land West of Wrotham Heath House, London Road No Postcode	Unauthorised	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>Gypsy &amp; Traveller</b>		<b>73</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>

**Table 4.5B List of Travelling Showperson plots on sites (as at April 2022)**

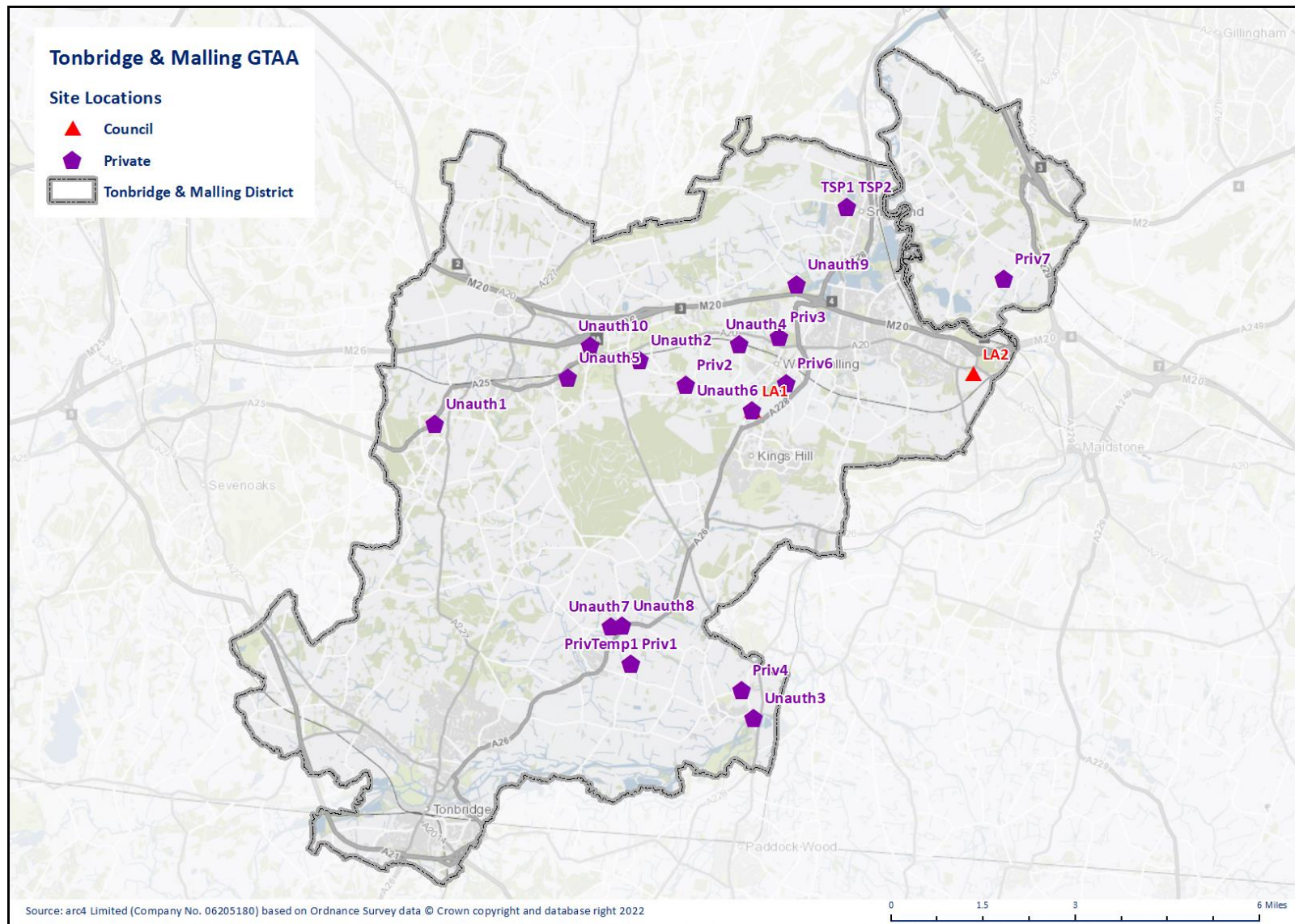
Site Code	Site Name and Address	Planning status	Total plots	Total occupied plots	Total vacant plots	Total house-holds	Achieved household interviews	Non-response	Refusal	Not available
TSP1	Redgates, Constitution Hill, Snodland ME6 5DJ	Private Authorised	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	2
TSP2	Greengates, Constitution Hill, Snodland ME6 5DJ	Private Authorised	2	2	0	2	0	2	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>Travelling Showperson</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

Source: Council data 2022, site survey and fieldwork 2022 GTAA

**Table 4.6** Summary of sites, pitches and occupancy

Type of site	Number of sites/yards	Total pitches/plots	Total occupied pitches/plots	Total vacant pitches/plots	Final households	Achieved household interviews	Non-response
Local authority	2	40	29	11	29	19	10
Private Authorised	7	12	12	0	11	10	1
Private Temporary Authorised	1	2	2	0	2	2	0
Unauthorised	10	19	15	4	12	9	3
<b>G&amp;T TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>14</b>
Travelling Showperson Private	2	4	4	0	4	0	4
<b>Total TSP</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>18</b>

**Map 4.1** Location of sites and yards in Tonbridge and Malling Borough



## 5. Household survey findings

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

### Gypsy and Traveller households living in Tonbridge and Malling Borough

- 5.2 A review of the characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller households living in Tonbridge and Malling Borough has been based on data from a total of 40 households interviewed as part of the 2022 GTAA.
- 5.3 The number of responses achieved is summarised for each question. It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information, for instance by type or location of site, as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household data are presented in a manner which maintains respondent confidentiality. If analysis refers to 'small numbers' this means 4 or fewer households responding.
- 5.4 **Ethnicity** (base=34): Of household representatives interviewed 52.9% described themselves as Gypsy (including Romany, Romany Gypsy and English Gypsy), 2.9% as English Traveller, 41.2% as Irish Traveller and 2.9% as other.
- 5.5 Data from the household survey provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on pitches.
- 5.6 **Household size** (base=36): 38.9% of households were single person; 11.1% two person; 25% three person; 19.4% four person and 5.6% five or more people.
- 5.7 **Household type** (base=36): 38.9% were singles, 25% were couples with child(ren) which can include non-dependent children, 19.4% were single parents, 8.3% were couples, 8.4% multi-adult families or extended families, such as couples with siblings living with them.
- 5.8 **Age profile** The household survey identified a total of 87 Gypsies and Travellers living on sites in Tonbridge and Malling Borough. Household survey data reports the following age profile (base=87) of the Travelling population living on pitches: 32.2% were aged 13 or under, 3.4% aged 14-17, 23% aged 18-34, 21.8% aged 35-49, 14.9% aged 50-64 and 4.6% aged 65 and over.
- 5.9 **Length of residence** (base=34): 14.7% had lived at their current place of residence for less than 5 years, 44.1% between 5 and less than 10 years, 20.6% between 10 and less than 15 years, 8.8% between 15 and less than 20 years and 11.8% for 20 years or more.
- 5.10 **Overcrowding** When asked if their home was overcrowded (base=35), 100% said no. When asked whether their pitch was overcrowded (base=35), 100% said no.

- 5.11 **Regarding the need for more residential pitches** (base=31), respondents were asked if they felt there was a need for more pitches. This was to gauge local views on need and does not influence the needs assessment modelling carried out. 54.8% said there was a need for more and 45.2% said no more were needed. Of those stating a number (base=15), 73.3% said less than 5 pitches, 13.3% between 5 and up to 10 pitches and 13.3% 10 or more pitches.

## Help and support needs

- 5.12 Respondents were asked if they had any broader help and support needs. A small number of respondents stated age-related problems, but no-one required specific assistance

## Stakeholder summary

- 5.13 As part of our research, Arc4 contacted a range of stakeholders to obtain feedback on Gypsy and Traveller matters which is now summarised.

## Residential Pitch Need

- 5.14 Stakeholder views on the need for permanent residential pitches;
- There are a number of permanent sites in the Borough.
  - More pitches are needed to meet the growing needs of the community.
  - Consideration could be given to other areas where there is less existing provision to meet needs across the county.
  - There are a number of people on waiting lists for sites: 13 applications from those who would like to live at Coldharbour Site, 9 applications for Windmill site and 9 applications from those who are happy to live at any site.
  - With specific reference to Travelling Showpeople, there is a need for growth in the number of plots available in the borough
- 5.15 In terms of potential locations for permanent sites, stakeholders identified the following;
- Priority should be to explore the area around existing sites.
  - New sites should be sustainable in size and not individual plots.
  - Sustainable locations are preferable.
  - Sites should be close to transport links and roads.
  - Permanent sites should be within the catchment of local schools to enable integration with the settled community
- 1.10 Key points raised by stakeholders with regards to potential barriers to permanent sites;



- Barriers are likely to include; planning permission, utilities, funding, availability of land for site provision, policy constraints and wider community perspective.
- The perceived problems traveller sites can cause to the settled community leads to negative views and opposition from residents.
- Sites that come forward can be in the wrong location or could be difficult to develop.

### Unauthorised encampments and the need for temporary provision

5.16 Stakeholders make specific reference to unauthorised encampments and the need for temporary provision;

- Travellers normally come into the district during the summer months.
- Tonbridge and Malling Community Safety Unit (CSU) officers and Local Policing Team carry out site visits when notified by a member of public or by partners.
- There have been three recorded encampments in the last 12 months on County Council Land which have all been dealt with using powers under Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, section 77.
- There are no showpeople in unauthorised encampments but they are in overcrowded spaces on their own land.

5.17 Regarding transit sites, stakeholders commented;

- There are currently no transit sites in Kent.
- Potential need for transit / tolerated sites to prevent unauthorised encampments, preferably in central locations.
- Transit sites should have up to seven pitches and a time limit of seven days to stay on the site.
- Showpeople do not require transit sites.

5.18 Stakeholder views on temporary stop-over places in Tonbridge and Malling;

- Temporary stop over places may provide a solution to help to prevent unauthorised occupation of public and private land if transit sites cannot be delivered.
- Temporary stop over places are of no value to showpeople.

5.19 Regarding barriers to transit provision, stakeholders commented;

- Barriers to transit provision include; planning permission, utilities, funding, wider community perspective, geographical area, access to and availability of land.
- In terms of land, the green belt combined with landowner and management issues are key barriers.
- Concerns raised by the settled community are a key factor.

## Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar/residential sites accommodation

- 5.20 Comments received from stakeholders regarding gypsies and travellers in bricks and mortar / residential sites accommodation:
- Limited data and information for this accommodation.
  - Bricks and mortar is of no use to showpeople because they need space for their equipment and therefore live on their own sites
- 5.21 Stakeholders identified challenges, such as access to facilities, services and unmet need impacting on Gypsy and Traveller Communities. Site liaison managers work closely with households to reduce the challenges and close the gap.

## Movement and cross-boundary considerations

- 5.22 Stakeholders made specific reference to movement and cross boundary considerations:
- Good communication about travellers potentially leaving a surrounding area and arriving in the borough is needed by does not tend to occur.
  - The majority of Sevenoaks District Council sites are in the north and not on the border with Tonbridge and Malling.
  - No knowledge of regular movements from Tonbridge and Malling to Gravesham.
  - Some of the Gypsies and Travellers attend the regular and historic horse fairs around the country, but unaware of any regular movement to other areas.
  - Showpeople move from one borough to another for their work.
- 5.23 Key points raised by stakeholders regarding cross boundary issues:
- Unauthorised encampments and how they are addressed in terms of a network of transit site provision / temporary stop over places is a cross boundary issue is affecting all authorities in Kent.
  - Addressing unmet needs from adjacent local authorities is a key issue.
  - Problems could be created if there is not enough communication between local authorities.
  - The approach to waiting lists and allocations by Kent County Council may benefit from revision to ensure it is accessible to everyone who wishes to apply for a pitch; this will also help to manage the supply and demand issues across the county.
  - Tonbridge and Malling should work with neighbouring boroughs under the duty to co-operate.



- Ongoing issues around referral processes for travelling families such as social problems, ill health or child protection concerns.
- Greenbelt and landscape constraints such as Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) will impact on the ability to deliver.

### Key strategic messages coming from the GTAA raised by stakeholders

5.24 These include:

- Addressing need is an issue that has not been solved in the 14 years since the concept of GTAAs was initiated – it is time to meet needs as a matter of urgency.
- The need to address key issues of easing community tensions and improving safeguarding.
- Cultural needs, PPTS needs and transit requirements need to be considered.
- To recommend the provision of both a transit and permanent traveller sites within the Borough

### Duty to co-operate

- 5.25 Stakeholder were asked if the questionnaire contributes to the Council's requirement regarding the Duty to Cooperate with neighbouring authorities as set out in Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (as amended by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011) and described in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as an integral part of the Local Plan-making process.
- The questionnaire has enabled cross boundary issues to be highlighted which may form the basis of future Duty to Co-operate meetings between Gravesham and Tonbridge and Malling.
  - The findings of the GTAA should be included in the ongoing Duty to Cooperate discussion.

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

### Introduction

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Tonbridge and Malling Borough. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data. This chapter also considers transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers. Finally, the chapter presents planning policy recommendations.
- 6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on modelling as advocated in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance (DCLG, 2007). Although now formally withdrawn, the former DCLG guidance still provides the best-practice approach towards the assessment of pitch and plot needs (see Chapter 2 for further discussion).
- 6.3 This approach requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. It advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information.
- 6.4 The GTAA has modelled current and future need and current and future supply separately for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. For both groups, the modelling shows an overall 'cultural' need and within this, the PPTS need which refers to those households who met the PPTS planning definition.

### Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

- 6.5 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2022/23 to 2026/27). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2039/40) arising from children likely to need a pitch.
- 6.6 In terms of **cultural need**, the 5-year model considers:
- the baseline number of households on all types of site (authorised, unauthorised and temporary authorised sites) as at April 2022;
  - existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
  - emerging households currently on sites and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a pitch; to derive a figure for total pitch need.
- 6.7 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
- total supply of current pitches on authorised sites; and
  - vacant pitches on authorised sites.

- 6.8 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:
- total need for pitches; and
  - total supply of authorised pitches.
- 6.9 The longer-term model then considers the cultural need over the period to 2039/40. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches (the longer-term model).
- 6.10 For each model, the likely pitch need from households meeting the PPTS definition is also calculated.

## Tonbridge and Malling Gypsy and Traveller pitch need analysis: Description of factors in the 5-year need model

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

### Need

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

- 6.12 These figures are derived from Council data and site observation data. In summary there are a total of 54 households living on pitches, of which 40 households were living on authorised pitches, 2 on temporary authorised and 12 households on unauthorised pitches
- 6.13 No households were identified as being concealed/doubled up on pitches.

#### Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

- 6.14 The 2011 Census suggested there were 108 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

#### Weighting of data

- 6.15 Survey data have been weighted to take account of non-response households. The weighting is 108 (total households) divided by 70 (total responses) = 1.543.

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

- 6.16 This was derived from information from the 2022 household survey for respondents currently on pitches. Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that 4.4 (weighted) plan to move and in the next 5 years. This is the sum of rows 3a to 3d.
- 6.17 For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc<sup>4</sup> studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate to 5.7 households. As part of household

surveying, we were made aware of at least 3 households wanting to move from bricks and mortar to a pitch which is within this estimate but corroborates there is a need from bricks and mortar households, the figure of 3 households is used in modelling.

- 6.18 Regarding in-migration, analysis of household survey data indicates that 7.3 households (weighted) have moved into the borough and onto a pitch in the past 5 years and shown at row 3g. The needs model assumes the same level of in-migration over the next 5 years.
- 6.19 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of +5.9 pitches (weighted) from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years which includes an allowance for in-migration.

#### Emerging households (4)

- 6.20 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2022 household survey information. The total number is +8.7 (weighted). If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household. However, the model does include an allowance for those aged under 18 who have the potential to form new households. The calculation is therefore 5 new households from those stating they want to form a household plus 1 new households likely to form = 6 which is then weighted by 1.45 to a total of 8.7 households.

#### Total need for pitches (5)

- 6.21 This is a total of current households on authorised pitches, households on pitches planning to move in the next five years and demand from emerging households currently living on pitches. This indicates a total need for 69 pitches (54 existing households on pitches plus a net need for 5.9 (weighted) pitches from existing households planning to move including in-migration and a need for 8.7 (weighted) pitches from emerging households).

### Supply

#### Current supply of authorised pitches (6)

- 6.22 This is a summary of the total number of occupied authorised pitches and the number of vacant authorised pitches. This analysis has been carefully carried out and vacant pitches at April 2022. There is a total supply of 41 occupied authorised pitches (29 Council and 12 private (note that two pitches on a site are occupied by one household which explains why there are 11 households at row 1b) plus a supply of 11 vacant pitches on Council sites.

**Table 6.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – 2022/23 to 2026/27**

<b>CULTURAL NEED</b>			<b>Tonbridge and Malling Total</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Households living on pitches</b>	1a. On Council sites	29
		1b. On private site - Authorised	11
		1c. On private site – Temporary Authorised	2
		1c. On unauthorised site	12
		<b>1e. Total (1a to 1d)</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation</b>	<b>2011 Census</b>	<b>80</b>
		<b>Weighting for non-response</b>	<b>1.45</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Existing households planning to move in next 5 years or on unauthorised site</b>	<b>Currently on sites</b>	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	0.0
		3b. To another site in borough (no net impact)	0.0
		3c. From site to bricks and mortar (-)	1.5
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside borough	2.9
		<b>Currently in Bricks and Mortar</b>	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	3.0
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0.0
		<b>In-migrant households</b>	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	7.3
		<b>3i. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3g)</b>	<b>5.9</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Emerging households (5 years)</b>	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	5.8
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the borough	2.9
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the borough	0.0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0.0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0.0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	1.5
		<b>4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Total Need</b>	<b>1e+3i+4g</b>	<b>68.6</b>
	<b>SUPPLY</b>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Current supply of authorised pitches</b>	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised pitches	41
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are vacant	11
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	52
	<b>RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY</b>		
<b>7</b>	<b>Total need for pitches</b>	<b>5 years (from 5)</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Total supply of authorised pitches</b>	<b>5 years (from 6c)</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2022/23 TO 2026/27</b>			<b>17</b>

## Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.23 There is a total need over the next five years (2022/23 to 2026/27) for 69 pitches in Tonbridge and Malling Borough (Table 6.1) compared with a supply of 52 authorised pitches. The result is an overall cultural need shortfall of 17 pitches.

## Longer-term pitch requirement modelling

- 6.24 Longer-term pitch need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on pitches. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.
- 6.25 The year when a child reaches 18 has been calculated and it is possible to assess how many newly forming households may emerge over the period 2027/28 to 2039/40. A reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage. The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in Tonbridge and Malling Borough. This approach has been tested at inquiry and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees. Analysis would suggest a total cultural need for 21 additional pitches over the period 2026/27-2039/40 (Table 6.2).

**Table 6.2 Future pitch requirements based on the assumption that 50% of children will require a pitch in Tonbridge and Malling Borough**

Time period	No. children	No. pitches (rounded)
2026/27 to 2030/31 (5 years)	13	7
2031/32 to 2035/36 (5 years)	25	12
2036/37 to 2039/40 (4 years)	4	2
<b>Total (2026/27 to 2039/40) (14 years)</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>21</b>

## Planning Policy for Traveller Site definition

- 6.26 Analysis of household survey data has been carried out to assess the extent to which households meet the nomadic habit of life test of the PPTS. Analysis establishes that:
- For all household interviews (base=36), 11 are exempt from the PPTS nomadic habit of life test because they are unable to travel for either health reasons or because children are in education. A further 10 do not have a nomadic habit of life and 15 do have a nomadic habit of live. Excluding exemptions, 60% of households meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life definition.

- Of existing households planning to move, 33.3% meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life definition and 66.7% do not meet the definition.
  - 66.7% of newly forming households meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life test.
- 6.27 Based on this analysis, of existing households moving and newly forming households a total of 3 out of 6 meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life test (50%) but to positively plan for the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller population, the overall population meeting the PPTS nomadic habit of life test (60%) is used in modelling.

## Overall plan period pitch need

- 6.28 Table 6.3 summarises the overall need for pitches across Tonbridge and Malling Borough over the plan period 2022/23 to 2039/40. It presents the overall cultural need based on households identifying as Gypsy and Traveller and a PPTS need which is a subset of the cultural need and represents households who meet the PPTS nomadic habit of life definition. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2022/23 to 2026/27 and longer-term 2027/28 to 2039/40 period. The overall need is 38 pitches of which 23 is PPTS need. The main drivers of need in the first five years are net in-migration and new household formation.

**Table 6.3 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2022/23 to 2039/40**

	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need
<b>5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2022/23 to 2026/27) (A)</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Longer-term need</b>		
Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (B)	7	4
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36(C)	12	7
Over period 2036/37 to 2039/40(D)	2	1
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2037/38 (14 years) E=(B+C+D)	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>NET SHORTFALL 2022/23 to 2039/40 (A+E) (19 years)</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Annual net shortfall</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

- 6.29 As the overall plan period runs from 2021/22 to 2039/40 (20 years), a final adjustment is necessary to the needs analysis. This involves a further adjustment to the 5-year need starting 2022/23 to a 6-year need starting 2021/22 (Table 6.4). To do this, the 5 year need is annualised and the need for the extra year 2021/22 based on this annual need.



**Table 6.4 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2021/22 to 2039/40**

Short-term need	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need
<b>5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2022/23 to 2026/27) (A)</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>One additional year 2021/22 based on annualising the 5 year need 2022/23 to 2026/27 (B)</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>2.2</b>
<b>Total short-term need (6 years 2021/22 to 2026/27) (C = A+B)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>
Longer-term need	Cultural need	Of which: PPTS need
Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (D)	7	4
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36(E)	12	7
Over period 2036/37 to 2039/40(F)	2	1
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2037/38 (14 years) G=(D+E+F)	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2039/40 (B+G) (20 years)</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Annual net shortfall</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>

## Potential capacity for Gypsy and Traveller pitches on existing sites

### Turnover on sites

- 6.30 Turnover relates to the number of pitches that are expected to become available for occupancy. Analysis only includes expected turnover on public sites as this is referenced in (former) MHCLG guidance and more accurate data on changes in pitch occupancy is likely to be available. Although there is likely to be turnover on private sites, the ability of households to move onto private sites may be more restrictive (for instance the site may be restricted to a particular family) and less likely to be recorded.
- 6.31 Two households (unweighted) had moved onto their Council pitch in the past 5 years which is weighted and rounded to 3 pitches or 0.6 pitches each year. These pitches were vacant when moved onto and therefore count as an element of supply. This represents a 10% turnover of occupied pitches or 2% each year.
- 6.32 In each 5 year period, it is expected that 3 pitches will become available through turnover.

### Regularisation of existing sites

- 6.33 There are currently 19 unauthorised pitches and 2 private temporary authorised pitches across the borough. Regularising, that is granting them planning permission, would increase authorised supply by 21 pitches.



### Potential for additional pitches on existing sites

- 6.34 Survey respondents suggested potential for additional pitches on existing sites. Through discussions with residents on Council sites and private site owners, the GTAA has identified the following potential pitches:
- Council sites 4 to 8 pitches
  - Private sites 8 pitches
  - Private temporary authorised sites 2 pitches
  - Unauthorised sites 9 pitches
- 6.35 Total potential pitches on existing sites are between 23 to 27 based on discussions. It is recommended that the Council investigate the potential for additional pitches on sites as a way of helping to meet need and consider regularising sites that are not permanently authorised.

### Vacant pitches on private sites

- 6.36 There are an estimated 4 pitches on unauthorised sites which are currently vacant.

### Impact of turnover, regularisation and additional pitches on overall need

- 6.37 Government policy through the NPPF encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers including those who no longer travel and through the PPTS for those who have a nomadic habit of life. Overall, the Council needs to plan for 41 pitches over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40. There is a need for 20 additional pitches in the first six years of the Local Plan and 21 in the period 2026/27 to 2039/40.
- 6.38 Of the 41 pitch need, 25 pitches are for households who have a nomadic habit of life and 16 are pitches for households who no longer travel.
- 6.39 This is compared to a supply of:
- 0.6 pitches each year through turnover or 11 over the plan period
  - 21 pitches through regularisation
  - Between 23 and 27 pitches through the expansion/intensification of existing sites
  - 4 vacant pitches on unauthorised sites
- 6.40 There is a potential for supply of between 59 and 63 pitches which would address the plan period need in full. Further work is recommended to review the potential for additional pitch development on existing sites.
- 6.41 It is implicit in this study that the needs arising from the private family sites will be met either through the use of vacant pitches on those sites or through new site provision. There may also be turnover on private sites to help address need

but the convention which has been adopted GTAA is to only consider turnover on public sites.

## Tenure preferences

- 6.42 Existing households planning to move and new households expecting to form were asked about tenure preferences. Only a small number responded and either said Council or don't know.

## Transit requirements

- 6.43 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping.
- 6.44 An indicator of transit need is unauthorised encampment activity. Over the past two years 2021 to 2022, there were 4 reported incidences of unauthorised encampment activity (Table 6.5). No specific data on the number of caravans was available but the level of unauthorised encampment activity is relatively low.

**Table 6.5 Unauthorised encampment activity in Tonbridge and Malling Borough**

Year	Location
2021	Addington Village Hall Parish Council (PC) owned land
2022	Larkfield Village Hall (PC owned land)
2022	East Malling Village Hall (PC owned land)
2022	Land off Lime Crescent, East Malling (Council owned land)

- 6.45 Households interviewed were asked their views on transit provision (base=34) and a limited need for transit provision was reflected in their responses:
- 32.4% said there was a need for transit provision and 67.6% said there was no need.
  - Of those who said there was a need (base = 11), all said between 2 and 4 pitches were needed but not specifically within the borough. 72.7% suggested transit provision should be managed by the Council and 27.3% by the Traveller community.
- 6.46 When considering transit need, the Council needs to be mindful of proposed new legislation through the Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act (Part 4). This will make using land for stopping without permission a criminal offence rather than a civil offence. The Act gives police increased powers to act and introduces significant penalties (fines up to £2,500, impounding vehicles and prison sentences).
- 6.47 Although the level unauthorised encampment activity is low and only a minority of household survey respondents indicate there is a need for transit provision, it is recommended that the Council introduces negotiated stopping arrangements

to support any future transit need. This is an important consideration given the potential criminalisation of stopping on land legislated for in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

- 6.48 Negotiated stopping involves Councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tends to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site. Developing a negotiated stopping policy is a recommended policy response for the Council.

### Showperson plot requirements

- 6.49 There are currently two Travelling Showperson's yards in Tonbridge and Malling. At the time of interviewing, only one resident was available but did not take part in the survey. The previous GTAA evidenced a need for 3 plots and it is recommended this figure remains for the need for new Showperson plots over the period to 2040.

## 7. Conclusion and response

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

### Current accommodation

- 7.2 There are well-established Gypsy and Traveller communities living in Tonbridge and Malling Borough. There are 73 Gypsy and Traveller pitches across 20 sites, there are two Council sites (40 pitches), seven private authorised sites (12 pitches), one private temporary authorised site (2 pitches) and ten unauthorised sites (19 pitches). There are two Travelling Showperson's yards in the borough (4 plots).

### Future residential need

- 7.3 Government policy through the NPPF encourages authorities to meet the needs of all Gypsies and Travellers including those who no longer travel and through the PPTS for those who have a nomadic habit of life.
- 7.4 The overall needs evidenced in this report indicate a total shortfall of 41 pitches (of which 25 is PPTS need and 16 is non-PPTS need) over the period 2021/22 to 2039/40). This takes into account current vacancies on Council sites.
- 7.5 This need has the potential to be addressed through regularisation of pitches (21 pitches) and the expansion/intensification of existing sites (23 to 27 pitches). In addition, there is anticipated turnover of 11 pitches over the plan period (0.6 pitches each year) and there are 4 vacant pitches on unauthorised sites. Total potential pitch supply is therefore between 59 and 63 over the plan period.
- 7.6 It is recommended that the Council engage with private site owners to consider new site applications to bring forward additional pitches. Once the overall scale of potential delivery is identified, the Council will need to consider if there remains a shortfall of sites. It is anticipated that a combination of regularising existing sites, expansion/intensification of existing sites and turnover will fully address the identified cultural and PPTS need over the period to 2039/40.
- 7.7 Notwithstanding evidence in this GTAA on need, additional need may arise over the plan period, for instance from higher number of households moving into the borough than anticipated. It is therefore recommended that the Local Plan references the need in the GTAA as a minimum need and sets out policies to inform future planning applications for private sites. The following suggestions, based on a range of policies from other local authorities could be taken into account when drafting the Council's policies on new residential pitch provision:
- The site is in a sustainable location in terms of accessibility to services and facilities, including health and schools.

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

### Transit site/stop over need

- 7.8 The Council should consider the options for transit provision, particularly with the likely passing of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act. Although the level of unauthorised encampment is low, it is recommend the Council develop an negotiated stopping policy to support Travellers passing through the borough.

### Future updating

- 7.9 The GTAA should be updated on a 5-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and plot provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Tonbridge and Malling Borough.

## Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire

	Date and Time			
	Site Reference			
	Address			
	General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection	<p>GDPR came into effect from 25th May 2018. This provides rights of people to control personal data held about them by organisations</p> <p>This study is being done for Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council to identify if there is a need for more residential pitches and transit provision in the area. A report will be prepared based on the findings of these surveys. The information you provide will not be used for any other purpose.</p> <p>The information you provide will not be used to identify you personally, will be kept strictly confidential</p>		
	Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	Yes	No	
1	Pitch/Property Type (and tenure if B&M)			
2	No. Statics/mobiles/chalets or bricks and mortar			
3	No. tourers/caravans			
4	Description of pitch occupancy			
5	No. households			
6	No. concealed households			
7	No. doubled up households			
8	Does anyone else use this pitch as their home? If so, who			
9	<b>Household characteristics</b>			
		<b>Gender</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Relationship to respondent</b>
	Respondent			
	Person 2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			

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

<b>Travelling questions</b>		
	In 2015, the Government changed its definition of Gypsies and Travellers for planning purposes. To be recognised as a Gypsy Traveller you or someone in your household has to travel (nomadic habit of life). I'm now going to ask a few questions about whether you or someone in your household travels	

16	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled?	Y / N
17	Previous to the last year, did you or someone in your household travel?	Y / N
18	Reason(s) for travelling	
19	Please describe when and where do you travel? (if relevant)	
20	Do you or a member of your household plan to travel next year?	Y / N
21	Do you think you or a member of your household will travel in the next two to five years?	Y / N
22	What reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?	

<b>Where you plan to live in the future</b>		
23	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N
24	Why are you planning to move ?	
25	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)	
26	What type of dwelling ? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)	
26a	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)	

<b>If in B&amp;M housing</b>		
27	If you live in bricks and mortar housing, are you happy to live here or would you prefer to live on a pitch?	Happy Here / Prefer pitch
28	If you would prefer to live on a pitch is this because you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar (this means it affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/depressed)?	Y / N

<b>Emerging households</b>					
29	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own pitch in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N			
		<b>HH1</b>	<b>HH2</b>	<b>HH3</b>	<b>HH4</b>
30	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
31	What type of dwelling ? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
31a	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
32	Have they travelled / plan to travel ?	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N
33	If living in bricks and mortar do you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar? (this means if affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N

<b>Additional residential pitches</b>		
34	Scope to expand site (extend the boundary of the site)	Y / N
35	No. additional pitches	
36	Scope to intensify pitches (put more pitches on the existing site)	Y / N
37	No. additional pitches	
38	Are there any vacant pitches on the site which could be used by another family? If so how many pitches	
39	In general, is there a need for more authorised pitches ( for people to live on all the time?) in this district?	Y / N
40	If so, now many are needed?	
41	Who should own them (Council, people from the Traveller Community, non-Travellers)	
42	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a site?	
<b>Transit and temporary stopover need</b>		
43	Is there a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling through the district? This can include transit pitches or stopover places	Y / N
44	Is there a need for transit pitches (for people stopping over temporarily) in the district? A transit pitch is intended for short-term use and usually includes space for two caravans, parking space and access to electricity, a toilet, washing facilities	Y / N
45	If so, how many are needed?	
46	Who should manage them ? (Council, Traveller Community)	
47	Where should they be located?	
48	Is there a need for stopover places? A stopover place is land which can be used on a temporary basis and usually include access to portaloos, waste disposal and water	Y / N
49	If so, how many are needed?	
50	Who should manage them ? (Council, Traveller Community)	
51	Where should they be located?	



<b>Residential history</b>		
52	How many years have you lived here?	
Routing	If more than five years	Go to Q58
	If five years or less	Go to Q53
53	Where did you move from? <b>(District)</b>	
54	Were you living on a Private Site, Council Site, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?	
55	When you moved here, was the pitch vacant, a brand new pitch or had the pitch been created by dividing up an existing pitch?	
56	What were the reasons for moving here?	
57	Did you already have a connection with the area ? (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)	
<b>Support needs</b>		
58	Do you or a member of your household have any health-related needs? Could you please explain what they are?	
<b>Final questions</b>		
59	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your housing or support needs?	
60	Do you know anyone in bricks and mortar housing looking to live on a pitch? If so, can you provide contact details	

## Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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

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

**CRE:** Commission for Racial Equality.

**DCLG:** Department for Communities and Local Government; created in May 2006 and responsible for the remit on Gypsies and Travellers during the period the PPTS was written. Since then it has been renamed in 2018 as MHCLG (Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government) and in 2021 it was renamed again as DLUHC (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities).

**Gypsies and Travellers:** Defined by DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites (August 2015) as “Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such”. The planning policy goes on to state that, “In determining whether persons are “gypsies and travellers” for the purposes of this planning policy, consideration should be given to the following issues amongst other relevant matters: a) whether they previously led a nomadic habit of life b) the reasons for ceasing their nomadic habit of life c) whether there is an intention of living a nomadic habit of life in the future, and if so, how soon and in what circumstances”.

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

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

**Pitch:** Area of land on a Gypsy/Traveller site occupied by one resident family; sometimes referred to as a plot, especially when referring to Travelling Showpeople. DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites (August 2015) states that “For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use plots for “travelling showpeople”, which may / will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment”.

**Plot:** see pitch

**PPTS:** Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (DCLG, 2012 and 2015 editions)

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

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

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

**Showpeople:** Defined by DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites (August 2015) as "Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family's or dependants' more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above".

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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