

Report to	<b>Cabinet</b>
Date	<b>26 January 2010</b>
Report By	<b>Director of Policy and Communications</b>
Title of Report	<b>Draft East Sussex Traveller Strategy 2010-2013</b>
Purpose of Report	<b>To allow Cabinet to comment on the new Traveller Strategy as part of the consultation process</b>

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Cabinet is recommended to:**

- 1. consider whether it wishes to make any response to the Strategy as part of the consultation process; and**
  - 2. delegate Councillor Tidy as lead member for Community Services, to approve on behalf of the County Council, any changes to the Strategy arising from the consultation, at the Elected Member Traveller group meeting.**
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### **1. Financial Appraisal**

1.1 There are no specific financial issues arising from the development of the strategy. However the provision of additional sites/pitches has costs and ESCC would only be able to consider helping the districts and boroughs with additional provision if the capital costs of development are fully funded by grant from Communities and Local Government (CLG).

### **2. Introduction**

2.1 This is the second East Sussex Traveller Strategy (Appendix 1) to be developed. In common with the existing strategy it has been developed in partnership with the key statutory agencies involved in the provision of services to Gypsies and Travellers namely: the District and Borough councils, Health and the Police. The strategy is currently out for consultation with the key agencies and stakeholders before being implemented from April 2010.

### **3. Progress**

3.1 Since the development of the original strategy a good deal of progress has been made, this includes: the County Council attracting over £3.2 million of grant funding for new and improved site provision; greater integration of Travellers into mainstream provision of health and social care; addition of 'housing' related support through Supporting People; and the Traveller Education Service attracting DCSF funding to develop two films raising awareness locally and nationally of Traveller history and culture.

3.2 Balancing the needs of Travellers against those of the settled community remains a Policy Steer within community services and work continues to ensure that the settled community understand the key contacts, procedures and timescales when experiencing an unauthorised encampment, but also the extreme deprivation faced by some Travellers. The provision of Bridie's Tan as a county transit resource should help minimise unauthorised encampments.

#### **4. Next Steps**

4.1 One of the main, and continuing, issues in the new strategy is the need to address the national shortage of pitch provision for Travellers. The South East Plan has a requirement for local housing authorities (the districts and boroughs) to assess the accommodation need of Travellers and make provision within Local Development Frameworks to meet the assessed need. An Examination in Public (EIP) is being held in February 2010 which will determine the precise numbers of pitches to be provided by each local authority. County Council planners are assisting the districts and boroughs in making appropriate representation to the EIP.

#### **5. Conclusion**

5.1 The Traveller Strategy is currently undergoing a 12 week consultation with the key service providers and stakeholders. The multi-authority elected member group will consider any amendments needing to be made following the consultation. Councillor Tidy as chair of that group and also Lead Member for Travellers will agree any changes that need to be made before implementation in April 2010.

BECKY SHAW

Director of Policy and Communications

Contact Officer: Alison Horan

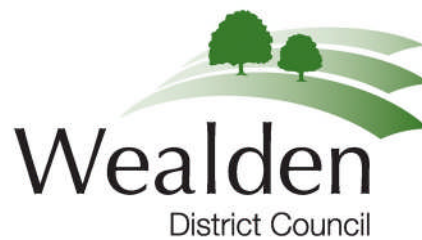
Tel. No. 01273 481381

# East Sussex Traveller Strategy 2010-2013

Draft



Cover Photo: Robertsbridge Traveller Site



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## Executive Summary

Gypsies and Travellers are a long established ethnic group in Britain. Their histories and traditions stretch back many hundreds of years. Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are recognised as ethnic groups and are therefore covered by the provisions in the Race Relations Act 1976.

This is the second multi-agency Traveller Strategy<sup>1</sup> for East Sussex and it builds on the work of the first strategy which ran from 2006 to 2009. The strategy has three key objectives:

- **To work in partnership to strike a balance between the needs of the settled and Gypsy and Traveller communities**

Leadership - as community leaders elected Members have a responsibility to represent the voices of all sections of the community. This includes championing the interests of Gypsies and Travellers as well as those of the settled community.

Liaison - working in partnership is imperative to ensure the complex and multiple needs of this marginalised community are met. This strategy is multi-agency involving the County Council, the District and Borough Councils, Sussex Police and Health Services.

Communications and Engagement - a number of fora exist in, and across, agencies to engage with Travellers and good communication between agencies on Traveller issues is vital. The media have a hugely important role in providing information for the general public; unfortunately all too often their response to Gypsies and Traveller issues is stereotypical, nearly always highlighting the negative aspects. Through this strategy partners encourage responsible and balanced reporting that is factual and evidenced based.

Equalities - Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are legally recognised as ethnic groups, and protected from discrimination by the Race Relations Act (1976, amended 2000) and the Human Rights Act (1998). In 2006 the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) concluded that Gypsies and Irish Travellers are the most excluded groups in Britain today.

- **To address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers**

Site Finding - in the South East 22% of Gypsy and Traveller caravans have no authorised place to stop, and their occupants are therefore legally homeless, this is a situation replicated nationally. Every district and borough authority has to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and then play its part in meeting that need by identifying appropriate sites for inclusion in the Local Development Framework (LDF). Government has urged authorities to begin to make provision in advance of the LDF.

Site Provision – there are currently 26 pitches on four residential sites run by the County Council, this will increase to 32 pitches during 2010; and nine

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<sup>1</sup> Travellers is a generic term used to cover Gypsies, Roma and Irish Travellers

itches on Bridie's Tan transit site, allowing short term stays. There are also a number of small family sites in Traveller ownership. However an additional 42 pitches are required in East Sussex by 2016. This figure is subject to confirmation at the conclusion of the regional Partial Review of Traveller provision during 2010.

Unauthorised Encampments - are where people camp on land that they do not own without the owner's permission. Unauthorised encampments are almost always, by definition, unlawful. However, while there are insufficient authorised sites and emergency stopping places, it is recognised that some unauthorised camping will continue. A multi agency approach is used in addressing unauthorised encampments.

Unauthorised Developments - are where people own the land but do not have planning permission; or where settlers have consent from the owner to occupy the land but the development does not have planning permission. Due to the current lack of provision Travellers are often winning at appeal their right to live on the land, even if only for a temporary period. This situation will not be resolved until enough provision is made available by local authorities through the Local Development Frameworks.

- **To provide support to Gypsies and Travellers.**

Social Welfare and Support - in terms of health and education, Gypsies and Travellers are one of the most deprived groups in the Britain. Because of their exclusion Travellers often have a number of needs for support in a range of areas of their lives. They may need help with how to access services or finding their way around services, particularly when there are literacy problems and the family issues are complex and interrelated. The Traveller Team at the County Council works in conjunction with many agencies including Adult and Children's Services and through Supporting People to meet the needs of Travellers in a culturally sensitive way.

Every Child Matters - Gypsy and Traveller pupils have very low attainment throughout Key Stage assessments and are the lowest achieving group of pupils in schools. Many Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils in schools have experienced racist abuse and other forms of bullying. These experiences go some way to explaining many pupils' poor attendance rate in school and their marked underachievement. The Traveller Education team at the County Council works to support young Travellers access to nursery provision and schooling and help the schools maintain the placements.

Health Provision - the scale of health inequality between Gypsies and Travellers and the UK general population is large, with reported health problems between twice and five times more prevalent. Locally an assessment of needs is being undertaken and the PCTs are working to implement the new service framework for Gypsies and Travellers.

**Conclusion**

Working with Travellers is one of the most contentious and challenging areas of work within local government. It requires professionalism, expertise, tact, diplomacy, an in depth understanding of Gypsy and Traveller culture, as well as an understanding of local issues and the many different ways that discrimination and prejudice can present itself.

The importance of this Traveller Strategy in providing a strategic framework and strong lead for partner agencies to support the local community, Elected Members and the Traveller community cannot be underestimated.

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 This is the second multi-agency Traveller Strategy<sup>2</sup> for East Sussex and it builds on the work of the first strategy which ran from 2006 to 2009. It is evident that much good work has happened over the life of the first strategy including:

- a new accommodation related support service to Travellers funded through Supporting People;
- National Pace Setter status for NHS Hastings and Rother to develop handheld portable medical records for mobile Travellers; a project that has national interest;
- Children's Services' Traveller Education Team funded by DCSF to make two films for national distribution to raise the profile of Traveller history and culture
- £255,000 of Government funding to improve Maresfield Traveller Site supported by an additional £85,000 from ESCC
- £129,600 of Government funding to improve the four Traveller Sites in local authority ownership, supported by an additional £43,200 from ESCC;
- £1.2 million to develop a nine pitch Transit Site for the county, one of only two in the South East region;
- £1.62 million to develop a total of six new pitches on two of the existing permanent residential sites;
- a clear picture developed, and a database maintained, of the unauthorised developments and encampments across the county;
- regular placements of trainee police officers have been made to the County Council's Traveller Team, all participants have been very positive about their experience of working with Travellers;
- continuation of the Traveller Forum giving Travellers an opportunity to talk to public sector providers and now with a Traveller as joint chair; and
- better and more co-ordinated partnership working both for individual Traveller referrals and more strategic issues such as dealing with unauthorised encampments and identifying future pitch provision.

1.1.1 Partners are not complacent and there is still much work to do, particularly in the complex and challenging area of making additional pitch provision.

## **1.2 Key Objectives**

1.2.1 The strategy has three key objectives supported by more detailed focus areas under each objective:

- work in partnership to strike a balance between the needs of the settled and Gypsy and Traveller communities;
- address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers; and
- support to Gypsies and Travellers

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<sup>2</sup> Travellers is a generic term used to cover Gypsies, Roma and Irish Travellers

## **2. Context**

2.1 Gypsies and Travellers are a long established ethnic group in Britain. Their histories and traditions stretch back many hundreds of years. Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are recognised as ethnic groups and are therefore covered by the provisions in the Race Relations Act 1976.

2.1.1 It is difficult to establish accurately the number of Gypsies and Travellers in Britain as they are not currently identifiable as a separate ethnic group in the Census. Estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller population in Britain vary widely - from 82,000 (Kenrick & Clark 1999) to 300,000 including those living in bricks and mortar housing (Liegeois 1987). No reliable figures exist for the number of Gypsies and Travellers who live in conventional housing. The higher population estimate compares with 280,830 Bangladeshi people and 226,948 Chinese people.

2.1.2 *“Gypsies and Travellers have traditionally been subject to racial harassment and violence as well as poor access to services such as accommodation, health, education and employment. Gypsy and Traveller pupils are the group most at risk of failure in the education system”.*

CRE Gypsies and Travellers: The Facts

2.1.3 For further information on each of the Gypsy and Traveller groups see Appendix 1. Issues facing Travellers are outlined in each section of the Strategy.

## **3. Striking a Balance**

### **3.1 Leadership**

3.1.1 As community leaders elected Members have a responsibility to represent the voices of all sections of the community. This includes championing the interests of Gypsies and Travellers who often find it difficult to articulate their issues or concerns given some of the tensions and conflicts that can arise with others in the community. Representing the views of Gypsies and Travellers is often not easy given the experiences and opinions of some of the settled community and the tensions that the introduction of permanent sites and unauthorised encampments can create. Elected members and officers have the delicate balance of working in partnership to meet the needs of both the settled and Gypsy and Traveller communities.

3.1.2 In East Sussex an Elected Member Group, made up of representatives from each of the district and borough councils, (generally the lead member with responsibility for Gypsies and Travellers), meets quarterly to oversee the delivery of this strategy through its action plan.

### **3.2 Liaison**

3.2.1 Working in partnership is imperative to ensure the complex and multiple needs of this marginalised community are met. This strategy is multi-

agency involving the County Council, the District and Borough Councils, Sussex Police and Health Services. Each of the councils and the Police contribute to a post, hosted by the County Council in the Traveller Team to help with liaison between the agencies including the production of this joint strategy.

*3.2.2 Common misunderstandings about the Gypsies and Travellers of Britain can be dispelled if some time, energy and commitment are put into improving community relations between Gypsies and non-Gypsies. In promoting a more tolerant climate in Britain where Gypsies and Travellers can integrate without being assimilated, we are seeking a new kind of multicultural future.* 'Here to Stay' Greenfield 2006

3.2.3 Given the movement of Travellers around the country it is important for liaison to happen beyond the county boundary. There are good links in the Traveller Team between neighbouring authorities and across the Region, including links into the Government Office and CLG.

### **3.3 Communications and Engagement**

#### **3.3.1 Traveller Forum**

The Traveller Forum established some years ago by the County Council allows Travellers the opportunity to discuss issues of concern they may have with statutory sector members and officers. Unfortunately the meetings are not that well attended as Travellers are culturally unused to large meetings. Inevitably their agenda is often focused on the provision of additional sites and in particular the difficulties they perceive in getting planning permission. Further work is planned to encourage the involvement of more Travellers through different meeting formats and themed meetings. The involvement of a Traveller as co-chair will help with this engagement. The Forum also provides a useful information exchange on a range of issues and has proved a successful lobbying mechanism for improved healthcare provision.

#### **3.3.2 Media**

The media have a hugely important role in providing information for the general public; unfortunately all too often their response to Gypsies and Traveller issues is stereotypical, nearly always highlighting the negative aspects. Through this strategy partners will encourage responsible and balanced reporting that is factual and evidenced based.

3.3.3 The Traveller Team takes the role of co-ordinating the media response to high profile unauthorised encampments.

#### **3.3.4 Police Advisory Group**

Under Sussex Police Equality Scheme an advisory group of Travellers meets regularly and an action plan has been developed. The main aims of the action plan are to:

- Establish effective working relationships with key local and national Gypsy and Traveller representative groups which will lead to a network being set to be used as a reference for policy review and service delivery planning.

- Appoint Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officers and provide them with relevant training.
- Periodically review the way hate crimes against Gypsy and Traveller communities are investigated.
- Extend our service delivery monitoring to include Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers to: test how these racial groups are affected by our policies; look at levels of satisfaction, and; understand whether our services are suitable and accessible.
- Establish an effective 3rd party reporting system for crimes and incidents, and review witness protection procedures for Gypsies and Travellers.
- Review formal and informal procedures for policing unauthorised camping.
- Ensure that police use of enforcement powers is carried out in a targeted manner when dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour, rather than targeting whole communities.

### 3.3.5 What Travellers Tell Us

*“I want us to be accepted. I want us to be part of society. I don’t want money. I just want to be able to live a normal life. I had a note on my caravan door to say they ought to put us back in concentration camps. I’ve been a resident in X (an East Sussex District) for 30 years. Surely I’m entitled to some security. I’m not out to cause any problems. I just want to work hard and prove I can be part of the community.”*

Member of the Traveller Community in East Sussex – Developing Communities Project

*“I call myself a Gypsy, or sometimes a Traveller, my family are all Gypsies and proud of it. It is an old thing, we have been here forever, we are happy people and loving, we are not bad people like people say. We don’t steal or things like that, we work hard like everyone else. I have a tee shirt I made at a craft day thing, it says ‘Gypsy and proud of it’. I wear it sometimes”.*

English Gypsy boy, 15

*“If you tell the wrong person (you are a Gypsy) you get a lot of stick. It’s always our fault if something gets nicked”.*

Irish Traveller, 14

### 3.3.6 What the Settled Community Tell Us

Many of the settled community are sympathetic to the exclusion and lack of permanent pitch provision which leads to limited access to settled health and education provision and marginalisation from society. There is also prejudice in the settled community which is exacerbated by this lack of permanent pitch provision. Unauthorised encampments can lead to a costly clear up and there are concerns that Travellers sometimes get planning permission to live on agricultural land that they have bought where this would not be acceptable for housing. Both these issues can lead to tension between the settled and Traveller community. This is often fed by the tabloid press which tends to focus on negative aspects and which at times borders on being racist (see 3.4.3 below).

### 3.4 Equalities

3.4.1 Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are legally recognised as ethnic groups, and protected from discrimination by the Race Relations Act (1976, amended 2000) and the Human Rights Act (1998).

3.4.2 In 2006 the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) concluded that Gypsies and Irish Travellers are the most excluded groups in Britain today. Advances in social mobility and access to power made by other disadvantaged groups in Britain, such as other ethnic minority groups, have simply not been matched by Gypsies and Travellers.

3.4.3 *“To judge by the levels of invective that can regularly be read in the national press, Gypsies would appear to be the last ethnic minority in respect of which openly racist views can still be acceptably expressed. I was truly amazed by some of the headlines, articles and editorials that were shown to me. Such reporting would appear to be symptomatic of a widespread and seemingly growing distrust of Gypsies resulting in their discrimination in a broad range of areas. If it is true that the traditional way of life of Gypsies is increasingly difficult to square with modern society, and that individual Gypsies and Travellers must themselves bear an equal responsibility for the maintenance of good relations with their neighbours, it is clear that much more serious efforts are required to accommodate their needs and promote greater tolerance towards them than are currently in evidence”.*

Alvaro Gill Robles EU Commissioner for Human Rights

3.4.4 The 2001 census did not include a category for Gypsies and Irish Travellers consequently there is no clear picture of the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers nationally. This situation will hopefully be rectified in the 2011 census.

3.4.5 The statutory agencies within East Sussex continue to work to ensure that all ethnic monitoring recording includes the Gypsy/ Roma and Irish Traveller category. Children’s Services have records of over 200 Gypsy and Traveller Children in East Sussex on school rolls.

3.4.6 This policy will undergo an Equality Impact Assessment under the Equalities Framework for Local Government. The principle being adopted for all services is to support Gypsies and Travellers to access mainstream provision through focused outreach support.

## 4. Accommodation Needs

4.1 Circular 01/06 - Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites, issued by the then Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, is the main document detailing the broad aims of the current policy towards the accommodation and planning objectives for Gypsies and Travellers. This specifies that the aims of the legislation and policy are to:

- ensure that Gypsies and Travellers have fair access to suitable

- accommodation, education, health and welfare provision;
- reduce the number of unauthorised encampments;
- increase the number of sites and address under-provision over the next 3-5 years;
- protect the traditional travelling way of life of Gypsies and Travellers;
- underline the importance of assessing accommodation need at regional and sub-regional level;
- identify and make provision for the resulting land and accommodation requirements;
- ensure that Development Plan Documents through the planning system include fair and realistic policies to meet identified need effectively;
- promote more private site provision; and
- avoid Gypsies and Travellers becoming homeless, where eviction from unauthorised sites occurs and where there is no alternative accommodation.

4.1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 revised the plan-making system. The development plan now comprises:

- Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS), prepared by Regional Planning Bodies; and
- Local Development Frameworks (LDF) prepared by borough, district and unitary councils.

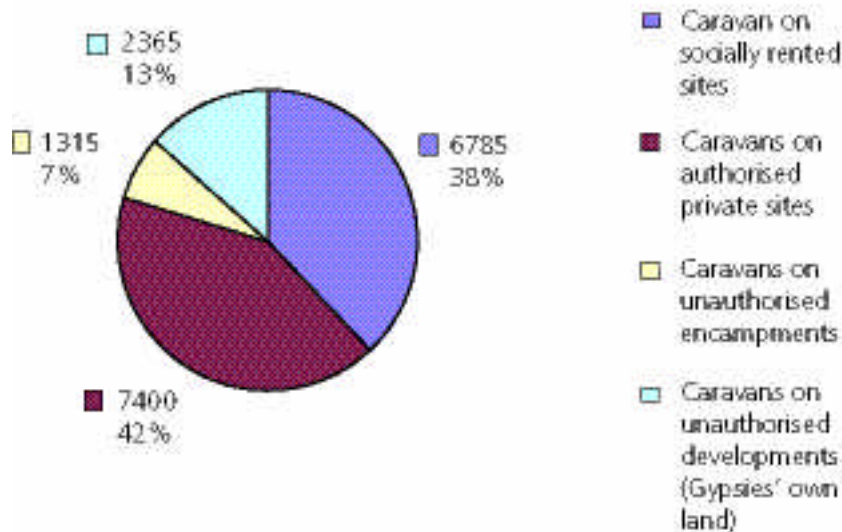
4.1.2 The RSS is the South East Plan, approved in May 2009. There is a Partial Review of the SE Plan in progress covering the provision of accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

4.1.3 Each LDF will ultimately contain a “Core Strategy” and a number of other “Development Plan Documents”. Core Strategies set out the overall planning framework for each local authority district and other Development Plan Documents add detail to the Core Strategy and must comply with it.

4.1.4 Every local authority (district and borough) has to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers, and Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAs) provide the necessary evidence on Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements to feed into the planning process, first at regional level through the RSS and then into the LDF which must conform with the RSS.

4.1.5 The Government publishes a Caravan Count twice a year, reflecting the number of caravans in each local authority area in January and July. The count published in January 2009 sets out the most recent figures and shows that the total number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans in England has increased by 0.1 per cent between January 2008 and 2009 to 17,865. By far the greatest proportion of caravans is based on authorised sites – over 79 per cent are on either authorised private sites or socially rented sites.

## Caravan Count January 2009



### 4.2 Site Finding

#### 4.2.1 The South East regional position

In the South East 22% of Gypsy and Traveller caravans have no authorised place to stop, and their occupants are therefore legally homeless.

4.2.2 The Regional Planning Body (SEERA) [now South East England Partnership Board – SEEPB] has undertaken a single issue review of the South East Plan, and submitted it to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. The review was initiated in response to publication of Government guidance (Circular 01/06) requiring that Regional Spatial Strategies address the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers. The Circular states that at regional level the RSS should identify the number of caravan pitches each local planning authority (i.e. district and borough not county) should provide (but not their location). At a local level it is then for LDFs to identify suitable land on which to accommodate the required number of additional pitches established through the RSS.

4.2.3 To address the accommodation needs of the traveller community for the period 2006-2016 the Review of the South East Plan proposes an additional 1,064 permanent residential pitches to be provided across the region for Gypsies and Travellers and a further 302 pitches for Travelling Showpeople. This represents around 0.5% of the equivalent requirements for standard housing in the same period.

4.2.4 The scale of provision is based on the GTAA's in the region and advice from the local authorities to the SE England Partnership Board.

#### 4.2.5 The East Sussex position

In East Sussex the GTAA and subsequent local authority advice to the region covered the five boroughs and districts in East Sussex together with the city of

Brighton and Hove. The Review to the South East Plan proposes the following requirements are met:

Authority Area	Gypsy and Travellers		Travelling Showpeople	
	2006 baseline	Requirement	2006 baseline	Requirement
Brighton and Hove	0	13	0	2
Eastbourne	1	3	3	1
Hastings	1	2	0	1
Lewes	11	10	0	1
Rother	8	7	1	1
Wealden	22	20	1	3
<b>East Sussex/Brighton &amp; Hove</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>

4.2.6 This scale of provision, while based on needs, is the smallest county provision in the region. For comparison, Oxfordshire which has one unitary and four districts must make provision for 62 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and 37 for Travelling Showpeople and Kent with one unitary and 12 districts must make 290 and 28 pitches respectively.

4.2.7 The South East England Partnership Board is now taking this work forward. The proposals are due to be tested at an Examination in Public (EiP) by an independent Panel in February 2010. The Panel is expected to report in summer 2010 after which the Secretary of State may publish "Proposed Changes" to the submitted review in the light of recommendations by the Panel. There is a public consultation on any Proposed Changes before the final version of the new policy and provisions are approved probably by winter 2010. When the revision to the SE Plan is finally approved the pitch provision figures must be included within Local Development Frameworks (LDF) and land allocated to meet them.

### 4.3 Site Provision

4.3.1 A progress report on Gypsy and Traveller policy produced by CLG in July 2009 (see useful links) states *"The current position on site delivery remains unsatisfactory. It is clear that local authorities need to increase the pace at which suitable locations are identified that can be used as Gypsy and Traveller sites."*

4.3.2 In East Sussex taking data from the last two Gypsy and Traveller Counts (July 2008 and January 2009) reported to CLG, there were 53 caravans on authorised public or private sites. There were between 14 and 43 caravans on unauthorised sites and between 8 and 13 caravans on unauthorised developments (Traveller owned land but without planning permission). The variation in figures is to a large extent seasonal, with more unauthorised encampments happening during the summer months.

#### 4.3.4 Private Provision

In East Sussex there are slightly more sites in private ownership than public provision, most are in rural areas of the county. Ideally private provision is the route for further provision as it does not cost local authorities to run.

#### 4.3.5 Permanent Residential Sites

The four permanent residential sites (3 in Wealden and one in Rother) in East Sussex have all been running for at least twenty years and are largely family sites with few vacancies arising. Originally ESCC owned and managed the 'property asset' of the sites whilst the relevant local council had responsibility for the individual residents. This proved problematic and for some years ESCC contracted with a specialist housing association, this too proved costly and ineffective. Consequently in April 2007 the sites came back into the management of ESCC.

4.3.6 There are 26 pitches across the four sites and grant has been received by ESCC to develop a further two pitches on the site at Maresfield and four new pitches on the site at Hailsham.

#### 4.3.7 Transit Sites

Transit sites are permanent sites that allow Travellers to stay for short term periods (up to 12 weeks) when they are passing through an area. They also offer the Police a place to direct Travellers to, from unsuitable unauthorised encampments. They are a scarce resource and there are only two in the South East region; one in East Sussex – Bridie's Tan, and one in Brighton and Hove. Bridie's Tan was originally a piece of the old A27 outside Lewes and a traditional stopping place for Travellers. A significant grant was received from Government to develop the site. It is now a nine pitch site with a resident manager.

4.3.8 There is no reliable national picture on the requirement for Transit sites although research is currently taking place; however the absolute need for Transit sites will always be masked until sufficient permanent residential provision is made.

#### 4.3.9 Housing

Over the years, many Travellers have ended up in housing, and there are significant concentrations of Travellers in social housing in particular parts of the county. Some are settled and would not want to return to living in a mobile home; however many more Travellers are very unhappy in housing and were only forced into houses through lack of site provision. This can cause significant issues and consequent social breakdown, manifesting itself in a range of problems such as difficulties maintaining tenancies, mental ill health, domestic violence, substance misuse, and antisocial behaviour.

4.3.10 The Traveller Team at the County Council is often involved with some of these very complex situations, liaising between relevant service providers and advising on cultural issues pertaining to the Traveller community and advocating on behalf of individual Travellers.

#### 4.3.11 Emergency Stopping Places

Emergency Stopping Places are small pieces of land identified for short term stays (no longer than 28 days in a year); where Travellers can be tolerated for a short while in order to move them from a more unsuitable location. They do not need to have any specific facilities, although toilet provision, rubbish collection and access to a water supply may be provided. All local authorities are encouraged to identify one or two such locations that can be used in an emergency.

### **4.4 Unauthorised Encampments**

4.4.1 Unauthorised encampments are where people camp on land that they do not own without the owner's permission. Unauthorised encampments are almost always, by definition, unlawful. However, while there are insufficient authorised sites and emergency stopping places, it is recognised that some unauthorised camping will continue. Circular 18/94 and case law make clear that all encampments should be 'tolerated' while welfare enquiries are being carried out or where Gypsy and Traveller needs make immediate eviction unreasonable. However it is often possible and desirable to consider toleration for a period of time.

4.4.2 There are also a number of enforcement powers available to local authorities for tackling unauthorised encampments these include:

- negotiated solutions – these avoid confrontation and are often the best way of managing a situation.
- possession orders – issued by courts to enable landowners (including local authorities) to remove people from the land on which they are trespassing .
- orders issued under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 – these allow the Police to direct unauthorised campers to leave land if there is somewhere identified within the county to send them (Section 62a) or allow for the removal of campers (Section 61) where the Police judge there to be a significant impact to the environment, economy or local community.

### **4.5 Unauthorised Developments**

4.5.1 Unauthorised developments are where people own the land but do not have planning permission; or where settlers have consent from the owner to occupy the land but the development does not have planning permission.

4.5.2 Travellers often purchase agricultural land with the intention of living on it. They may struggle to understand that land values vary according to usage and feel that they are disadvantaged by the planning system because they are Travellers when they fail to get planning permission.

4.5.3 However due to the current lack of provision, Travellers are often winning at appeal their right to live on the land, even if only for a temporary period. The settled community rightly feel aggrieved at Travellers getting

permission to live on land that is not designated for housing often in idyllic rural settings. This situation will not be resolved until enough provision is made available by local authorities through the Local Development Frameworks.

4.5.4 Remedies for tackling unauthorised developments include:

- temporary stop notices – these can be issued by local authorities to stop further development for a period of 28 days;
- enforcement notices – these can be issued by local authorities and require a development to be stopped on a long-term basis as well as requiring the site to be reinstated to its previous condition. As appeals against enforcement notices suspend the effect of the notice, authorities will often issue a stop notice at the same time as an enforcement notice; and
- injunctions – local authorities can apply to a court for these to prevent someone from continuing with or beginning to carry out development. This is usually sought when other remedies have been used.

## **5. Support**

5.1 In terms of health and education, Gypsies and Travellers are one of the most deprived groups in the Britain.

- Life expectancy for Gypsy and Traveller men and women is 10 years lower than the national average.
- Gypsy and Traveller mothers are 20 times more likely than the rest of the population to have experienced the death of a child.
- In 2008, only one third of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils are estimated to be still engaged in education by the age of 14

### **5.2 Social Welfare and Support**

5.2.1 Because of their exclusion Travellers often have a number of needs for support in a range of areas of their lives. There is often a cultural mistrust of 'officialdom' meaning that support and advocacy has to be built up over time. Travellers may need help with how to access services or finding their way around services, particularly when there are literacy problems and the family issues are complex and interrelated.

5.2.2 As well as supporting Travellers, the Support Workers within the Traveller Team together with colleagues in the Traveller Education Team often have a role in advising officers from a wide variety of departments and organisations around the particular cultural issues and approaches needed to work with particular individuals. Support Workers also undertake a liaison and co-ordinating role between agencies.

5.2.3 The traveller team have addressed issues surrounding the more difficult and challenging members of the local gypsy community. There are some families that present with a multiplicity of issues that are complex requiring assistance from a variety of officials. The traveller team has

addressed these issues across the county within the terms of recognised good practice for child and adult protection as well as our duties around community cohesion and race relations.

5.2.4 Through Supporting People funding, a service called Home Works providing short term preventative work, promoting independence, promoting social inclusion and community safety. Support staff visit Travellers where they live. The worker and Traveller assess the support needs and then work together on an action plan to resolve immediate crises. They will then move on to helping the Traveller develop skills and strategies for dealing with any future problems which might arise.

### **5.3 Every Child Matters**

5.3.1 Enabling every child to fulfil his or her potential is at the heart of the Government's agenda and is further reflected in East Sussex' Children and Young People's Plan. The five outcomes for children, core to the Every Child Matters agenda shapes the way Children's Services prioritises its services and is central to the support that can be accessed by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) children and young people. Partnership working aims to secure better educational and health outcomes by focussing on narrowing the attainment gap and wherever possible working with this community to ensure fair access to children's services whether these are to address health, education or social care issues..

5.3.2 Traveller children remain nationally the lowest achieving group in our schools. This has been and remains a long standing issue. In 1967 The Plowden Report noted "*Traveller children's educational needs are extreme and largely unmet*" Successive reports over the next forty years have reinforced this initial finding. In 2008 the Secretary of State for Education reported: *For a range of complex reasons many Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils are amongst the lowest achieving in our schools and the situation is not improving.....For far too long society has shunned people from these communities.* DCSF- National Strategies

5.3.3 To this end a core priority for The Traveller Education Service (TES) is to ensure that all GRT children have access to early education through access to pre-school and play opportunities. Children Centres and other early years' providers in partnership with the TES will support families to access these opportunities. Where circumstances make this difficult TES provides an appropriate outreach service ensuring that all GRT children experience early education and play opportunities before starting school.

5.3.4 TES successfully works with the GRT community to promote the importance of school in supporting better educational outcomes. It is a significant achievement and testament to the inclusive practice of East Sussex schools that no child in East Sussex is electively home educated

- The TES will continue to ensure that all GRT children are in receipt of a school place and attend school regularly. The TES provides additional in school support to address children and young people's learning

needs and their school attendance. In 2009, at age 11, 50% of East Sussex Gypsy Roma attained L4 in reading and writing, which is 20% higher than national average and we expect GRT children of this age to achieve this or better over the life of this strategy.

- Likewise the educational attainment for older GRT children and young people nationally remains extremely low, with only 30% still in attendance at KS 4. Thus access to education within this context remains a high priority and we aim for all local GRT young people to remain on roll at school and continue with mainstream or alternative vocational provision to the end of Yr 11.

### 5.3.5 2008/9 attainment results.

At the age of 5 The Foundation Stage Profile shows that GRT pupils score 40% lower than all other groups of children in (pre literacy) skills and 24% lower in numeracy skills. This is in line with national statistics.

KS2 (Age 11) % Achieving Level 4+

Reading	Writing	Maths	Science
50	40	33	56

Reading scores compare favourably to the national score of 33%. The rest reflects the national statistics.

All our known GRT pupils transfer to secondary school at age 11 and remain on roll until statutory school leaving age (against national trends) many have alternative education plans in place post 14.

KS4 (Age 16) % Achieving

5+ A*-C	5+ A*-Gs	1+A*-Gs	Any qualification
0	25	67	75

NB Only approx 30% of GRT pupils nationally complete Year 11, so comparisons of the data from those are not particularly helpful.

5.3.6 East Sussex has been chosen and funded as a pilot authority with funding for two years to contribute to educational good practice and national guidance materials, with the involvement of local schools. This national programme is part of a DCSF National Strategies - Traveller Achievement Programme. This focused approach is benefiting the GRT children and young people within the target schools and supporting a change of school ethos to better reflect good inclusive practice.

5.3.7 Working closely with parents over time has shifted the perception of how education is valued by families and the following quote is an example of how this has been achieved.

*“All the school teaches them are bad habits. I will teach my boy all he needs to know... If I had my way, I'd keep him at home”* (comments captured on film 1999)

At an award presentation for young people and families and following his youngest son completing a college course and receiving an award

*“What a load of rubbish I talked back then – I'm ashamed to see it...education is the way forward for us”* 2008

5.3.8 The Children's Services Department has a commitment to securing better outcomes for all youngsters identified as vulnerable to good educational outcomes and GRT children and young people have been highlighted as a priority group. To that end through the support of TES, GRT young people will be specifically supported to access post 16 provision as part of the department's aim for all young people to be offered education, employment or training placements and opportunities. Appropriate post 16 destinations including college opportunities as part of the 14-19 agenda will ensure a choice of relevant diplomas tailored to provide learning experiences in line with the wishes and aspirations of the GRT young people and their community.

5.3.9 National evidence also shows that most Gypsy Roma and Traveller pupils experience racist abuse and other forms of bullying, which impacts on school attendance and individual's emotional health and well being. The Anti-Bullying Team together with TES support schools in the implementation of their equalities and anti-bullying policies. This together with the various initiatives such as the Healthy Schools Standards and the monitoring of school practice in relation to community cohesion will help to ensure that GRT children, young people needs are recognised and addressed.

5.3.10 The Children's Services department through TES is keen to promote GRT children and young people's participation in their history and cultural heritage. This community have been regular participants in the shaping of materials promoting Traveller history month, children's story telling national competitions and parent engagement in the production of materials to support parents in helping their young babies and toddlers early language development. The latter was commissioned by the local PCTs as part of the Pacesetter initiative

5.3.11 Partnership working is sought where ever possible to ensure that both within children's services, and across the wider county council and children's trust there is an understanding of different providers' core business and how this contributes to the overall aims of this strategy. The safeguarding agenda is one such example where the responsibility and duties of identified services needs to be clear in order to ensure that the safeguarding needs of children remain paramount.

## **5.4 Health Provision**

5.4.1 Gypsies and Travellers have significantly poorer health status and significantly more self-reported symptoms of ill-health than other UK-resident, English speaking ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged white UK residents. The scale of health inequality between Gypsies and Travellers and

the UK general population is large, with reported health problems between twice and five times more prevalent.

5.4.2 The aspects of Gypsy Traveller health that show the most marked inequality are self-reported anxiety, respiratory problems including asthma and bronchitis, and chest pain. The excess prevalence of miscarriages, stillbirths, neonatal deaths and premature death of older offspring are also conspicuous. The roles played by environmental hardship, social exclusion and cultural attitudes demonstrate that there is a health impact of being a Gypsy Traveller over and above other socio-demographic variables and this applies no less to Gypsies and Travellers who are housed.

5.4.3 In 2009 the NHS developed a Primary Care service framework (PCSF) for Gypsies and Travellers. It stresses the need to ensure the Gypsy and Traveller community can access mainstream primary care services rather than developing different or separate services. It may be used by PCTs to design new services where none exist or to adapt services to make them accessible.

5.4.4 As part of the Joint Service Needs Assessment (JSNA) a piece of work is underway locally to identify the health needs of Travellers however the PCSF recognises that it will take time to achieve a better information base.

5.4.5 The Pacesetters programme is a national initiative led by the Equality and Human Rights Group at the Department of Health. It is a partnership between the NHS, local communities and other organisations promoting diversity and challenging discrimination in how health services are provided across the England. The programme aims to seek out, test and implement best practice in equality and diversity that results in reduced health inequalities for service users, and work environments that are free from discrimination.

5.4.6 NHS Hastings and Rother, received funding through the Pacesetters programme to develop handheld health records for Gypsies and Travellers in conjunction with the West Midlands region. This means that where Travellers are highly mobile that they can keep their own health records and take them when registering as a temporary patient. The hand held record can be accessed in the 'Local links' section of this strategy (Section 8). These are now being rolled out across the region together with appropriate training for health professionals and they have wider national interest.

5.4.7 PHAST has been commissioned to undertake a comprehensive needs assessment of the East Sussex BME community, including Gypsies and Travellers. The recommendations of this assessment will inform future provision.

5.4.8 NHS Hastings and Rother PCT in East Sussex has provided cultural awareness training to staff, in order to facilitate better knowledge about the health care needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community. This will be rolled out in NHS East Sussex Downs and Weald in order to sustain and spread best practice.

## **6. Conclusion**

6.1 Working with Travellers is one of the most contentious and challenging areas of work within local government. It requires professionalism, expertise, tact, diplomacy, an in depth understanding of Gypsy and Traveller culture, as well as an understanding of local issues and the many different ways that discrimination and prejudice can present itself.

6.1.1 This area of work can attract a good deal of publicity, often with the most adverse media attention, it can be incredibly political and has the potential to win and lose local elections as it has done elsewhere within the country; Southampton, Crawley and Brighton & Hove being examples of this.

6.2.2 Travellers in recent years have proved themselves to be one of the most litigious ethnic groups in this country. This is because it has been the only guaranteed route to achieving better outcomes for their lifestyle and in order to meet their needs effectively. They are the one ethnic group that has taken a case to the European Court of Human Rights and won. The United Kingdom was found to be remiss in addressing security of tenure for gypsies and traveller living on sites across the country. Dealing with Travellers in court can prove very costly to a local authority.

6.2.3 The importance of this Traveller Strategy in providing a strategic framework and strong lead for partner agencies to support the local community, Elected Members and the Traveller community cannot be underestimated.

## **7. Appendices**

### **Appendix 1 Background on Gypsies and Travellers**

#### Gypsies

Gypsies have been one of Britain's ethnic groups for 500 years. They are descended from nomadic tribal groups who left Northern India around 1000 years ago and moved westwards across Europe, some groups remaining and settling in each country through which they passed. The Romany language spoken by many Gypsies has its roots in Sanskrit. An anglicised form is still used by Travellers in East Sussex and across England.

Throughout their history Gypsies have followed a distinctive way of life as a nomadic people. They have remained separate from the house dwelling community, whilst maintaining links with it as a resourceful and versatile mobile work force.

Gypsies/Travellers were traditionally welcomed in East Sussex as useful seasonally available rural work force. In East Sussex the rural tradition of stopping places continues with Gypsy encampments in the county occurring in rural locations outside of the urban conurbations.

Gypsies usually marry within their own group, but they have, over the centuries, linked in with other travelling groups such as various traders and craftsmen, entertainers, Irish Travellers and Scottish Travellers. The family is of central importance in Gypsy culture.

Their transport, living accommodation and means of earning a living have changed with the times, as house dwellers have also changed. Some have settled in housing; on private family sites; or on Council owned sites. They may travel a lot less than before, perhaps only seasonally over the spring and summer months. There are as many differences between individuals in families and extended family groupings as there are in any community.

### Irish Travellers

This group are an indigenous nomadic ethnic group in Northern and Southern Ireland and Britain. They have been part of British society for many centuries, pursuing traditional agricultural roles in rural Britain.

Employment patterns have now shifted to casual forms of building work, gardening, and scrap metal collection. The shift in employment patterns has meant that Irish Travellers have migrated to urban areas. In East Sussex, the majority of Irish Traveller unauthorised encampments occur in Brighton and Hove with the occasional appearance in parts of East Sussex

There are similarities with the Gypsy culture, and a shared nomadism, but Irish Travellers are a distinct and separate group. As in Gypsy culture, the extended family is the central organising unit. Their own language, Gammon or Cant, is still spoken. There is a reluctance to divulge this language to outsiders.

The age profile of Irish Travellers is very young, they tend to marry early. They have large families (average of 8 children). Irish Travellers are usually Catholic. Their faith is an important part of their culture and family life.

Room to Roam England's Irish Travellers by Dr Colm Power 2004

### New Travellers

Since the 1960's a number of young people have moved from houses and started to live on the road in an assortment of caravans, buses, vans and trucks. Their reasons for taking up the nomadic life are many and various. Some are very positively choosing to live a less materialistic and 'greener' way of life. Others feel that it is a better way of life than a bed sitter existence in an inner city. Some are forced onto the road through economic circumstances, perhaps exacerbated by a substance misuse or mental health issue. They may be escaping from abuse. Each Traveller has a different story, but they are supportive of, and welcoming to each other and form a distinct Traveller group in East Sussex, with the majority of New Traveller encampments occurring in Brighton and Hove, with a smattering elsewhere.

**Appendix 2** East Sussex Traveller Action Plan

**Action Plan for the East Sussex Traveller Strategy**

**2010-2011**

<b>RAG Performance monitoring key</b>	<b>Key</b>
<p><b>RED = target will not be met by the end of the year (or stated time period)</b></p> <p><b>AMBER = target is not on track to be achieved remedial action required</b></p> <p><b>GREEN = on course to meet the target</b></p> <p><b>GREY = data not available, no rating given</b></p>	<p><b>ESCC=</b> East Sussex County Council</p> <p><b>D&amp;BP =</b> District and Borough Planners</p> <p><b>PCTs =</b> East Sx Downs &amp; Weald and Hastings &amp; Rother PCT</p> <p><b>SOG =</b> Senior Officer Group (multiagency)</p> <p><b>TT =</b> ESCC Traveller Team</p> <p><b>TES=</b> ESCC Traveller Education Service</p> <p><b>TLM =</b> Traveller Liaison Manager</p> <p><b>TSM =</b> Traveller Sites Manager</p>

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
<b>OBJECTIVE A: WORK IN PARTNERSHIP TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN THE NEEDS OF THE SETTLED AND GYPSY AND TRAVELLER COMMUNITIES</b>							
<b>A1</b>	<b>Leadership</b>						
A1.1	Ensure the multi agency Elected Member Group meets quarterly, to develop and oversee the delivery of the action plan, and that the Group is kept up to date with Government Guidance and local issues; and that it is well attended	TLM SOG Elected Members					
<b>Comments:</b>							
A1.2	a) Quarterly scored performance reports of the action plan are produced within one month of the end of each quarter	TLM SOG					
	b) A revised annual action plan is produced by the end of June each year	TLM SOG					

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A1.3	Regular reports are produced for ESCC Community Services Scrutiny (& district and borough scrutiny committees, as required)	TLM SOG					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A1.4	Ensure the action plan is delivered and monitored through a cycle of senior officer meetings, feeding through to the Member Group and Traveller Forum.	TT SOG					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>A2</b>	<b>Liaison</b>						
A2.1	Traveller Forum meets quarterly and is well attended by Gypsies and Travellers, Elected Members, Officers, Health, Police and relevant others.	TLM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A2.2	Relevant information is shared between Sussex Police Traveller Action Group and the Traveller Forum	Sussex Police					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A2.3	Maintain contact with Traveller Liaison Officers across the South East Region through attendance at regional Traveller meetings.	TLM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A2.4	Maintain contact with GOSE over policy and practice issues	TLM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>A3</b>	<b>Communications</b>						
A3.1	Member and Officer attendance at Parish Council and other local meetings to advise and inform local residents on general or specific issues concerning Gypsies and Travellers	TLM SOG					
	<b>Comments:</b>						

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
A3.2	Production of relevant and consistent information for the public concerning Unauthorised Encampments and Developments and how these are managed.	TLM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A3.3	Maintenance of up to date information on ESCC website concerning Gypsies and Travellers including frequently asked questions	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A3.4	Biannual caravan count produced by the districts and boroughs for DCLG on Gypsies and Travellers to correlate with database held by ESCC	TT SOG					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A3.5	Weekly update produced and circulated to Members and relevant Officers on the location of Unauthorised Encampments across East Sussex	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A3.7	Production of a communications strategy including timely press releases (proactively and reactively) concerning site developments, award of Government grants, and unauthorised encampments, as and when needed.	TLM SOG & press officers as appropriate					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A3.8	Ensure non specialist staff and Elected Members who come into contact with Gypsies and Travellers have the relevant knowledge and understanding, especially of the Race Relations Amendment Act (RRAA) implications, through the provision of appropriate training.	TLM TES SOG					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A4	<b>Equalities</b>						
	Ensure Gypsies and Travellers who are classified as an ethnic minority within the RRAA are treated equitably in all service provision.	SOG					

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
A4.1	<b>Comments:</b>						
A4.2	Ensure that all statutory agencies include Gypsies and Travellers as a category on their ethnic monitoring forms	SOG					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A4.3	Ensure the needs of the settled community are considered when responding to Gypsy and Traveller issues	All					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
A4.4	Undertake an equality impact assessment of the Traveller Strategy and ensure it is updated annually	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>OBJECTIVE B: ADDRESS THE ACCOMMODATION NEEDS OF GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS</b>							
<b>B1</b>	<b>Meet the Requirements of the South East Plan Partial Review of Gypsy Traveller site provision by 2016</b>						
B1.1E	<b>Eastbourne</b>	D&BP SOG					
	• Selection of preferred site(s)						
	• Undertake consultation						
	• Gain planning permission						
	• Identify funding (including bids to DCLG)						
	• Build new provision						
	• Update accommodation assessment						
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B1.1H	<b>Hastings</b>	D&BP SOG					
	• Selection of preferred site(s)						

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake consultation</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gain planning permission</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify funding (including bids to DCLG)</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build new provision</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update accommodation assessment</li> </ul>						
<b>Comments:</b>							
B1.1L	<b>Lewes</b>	D&BP SOG					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selection of preferred site(s)</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake consultation</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gain planning permission</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify funding (including bids to DCLG)</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build new provision</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update accommodation assessment</li> </ul>						
<b>Comments:</b>							
B1.1R	<b>Rother</b>	D&BP SOG					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selection of preferred site(s)</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake consultation</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gain planning permission</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify funding (including bids to DCLG)</li> </ul>						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build new provision</li> </ul>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update accommodation assessment</li> </ul>							

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B1.1W	<b>Wealden</b>	D&BP SOG					
	• Selection of preferred site(s)						
	• Undertake consultation						
	• Gain planning permission						
	• Identify funding (including bids to DCLG)						
	• Build new provision						
	• Update accommodation assessment						
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B1.2	Review the option to expand existing ESCC site provision to take additional pitches and make bids to DCLG for expansion in consultation with relevant partners	ESCC TLM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B1.3	Identify emergency stopping place(s) to enable the Police to use their powers and to supplement transit provision	All					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>B2</b>	<b>Unauthorised Encampments</b>						
B2.1	Have clear and consistent joint protocols in place and regularly reviewed for managing unauthorised encampments	SOG					
	<b>Comment:</b>						
B2.2	Undertake health and welfare checks of all unauthorised encampments and make onward referral as appropriate	TT					

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B2.3	Where appropriate, arrange provision of chemical toilets, water supply and waste collection.	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B2.4	Liaison With Parish and Town Councils and other local resident groups concerning unauthorised encampments, as and when needed	TLM Elected Members					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B2.5	Undertake a community impact assessment where community tensions are emerging.	TT Sussex Police					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>B3</b>	<b>Unauthorised Developments</b>						
B3.1	Ensure Members are informed of any unauthorised developments so that they can liaise with the local community and be aware of planning decisions and appeals	D&BP TLM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>B4</b>	<b>Site Management</b>						
B4.1	Ensure the four fixed ESCC sites are well managed and maintained, seeking bids from DCLG for refurbishment where possible.	TSM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B4.2	Maintain a site waiting list for Travellers needing a place on an ESCC owned site; review regularly those on the waiting list	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
B4.3	Ensure each licensee has a valid site licence and that they and their dependents adhere to its conditions	TSM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B4.4	Optimise the rental and utilities income, by liaising with the licensees, housing benefit providers and the Benefits Agency	TSM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B4.5	Manage Bridie's Tan Transit Site as a resource for the county, ensuring that the management , operational policies and usage records are kept under regular review	TSM					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
B4.6	Co-ordinate a multiagency steering group to oversee the operation of Bridie's Tan during 2010, and evaluate the need for the group by December 2010	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>OBJECTIVE C: SUPPORT TO GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS</b>							
<b>C1</b>	<b>Social Welfare and Support</b>						
C1.1	Encourage Gypsies and Travellers to advocate for themselves through affiliation with Gypsy led organisations.	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C1.2	Support Gypsies and Travellers on ESCC sites to access mainstream services, including health, education, housing, benefits etc. By help with paperwork and form filling and accompanying to other agencies where appropriate.	TT					
	<b>Comments</b>						
C1.3	Ensure the provision of accommodation related support to vulnerable Travellers through contract with Supporting People	Homeworks					
	<b>Comments</b>						

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
C1.4	Liaison and joint working with Children's Services on a case by case basis with emphasis on good working practises. <i>This needs amending with a 'smarter' target</i>	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C1.5	Liaison and joint working with Adult Services on a case by case basis with emphasis on good working practises. <i>This needs amending with a 'smarter' target</i>	TT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>C2</b>	<b>Improve outcomes for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) Pupils in line with 'Every Child Matters' and the Children &amp; Young Person's Plan</b>						
C2.1	Ensure pre-school children are ready for school by providing outreach support to all families with 0-5 year olds where access is an issues	Early Years Children's Centres TES					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C2.2	Attainment of GRT children at the end of the foundation stage will improve by 5% as measured by the Foundation Stage profile by 2013	Early Years Children's Centres TES					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C2.3	Raise the attainment of GRT children at the end of Key Stage 2 by 10% in Maths (from 33% baseline) and 5% in Reading (from 50% baseline) and 5% in writing (from 40% baseline) by 2013	TES & Schools					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C2.4	Raise the attainment of GRT young people at the end of Key Stage 4 GCSEs A-G by 5% (from 25% baseline) by 2013	TES & Schools					
	<b>Comments:</b>						

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C2.5	GRT young people to leave school with an offer of education, employment or training. Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) to be accessed by 100% of learners known to the TES	TES Connexions Schools FE Colleges					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C2.6	Secure safeguarding partnership working by ensuring agreed referral pathways for child protection are adhered to	All					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
<b>C3</b>	<b>Health Provision</b>						
C3.1	Evaluate the Pacesetter Project; sustain and spread best practise cross county within existing services and budgets by enabling different ways of working, supported by commissioned cultural awareness training .	Hastings & Rother PCT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C3.2	Increase access to appropriate mainstream health services, by a variety of methods and responsiveness, in order to ensure an increase in GP registrations and a decrease in inappropriate use of Accident and Emergency departments by the Gypsy and Traveller community	PCTs					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C3.3	Review Hastings and Rother Specialist BME service alongside the Eastbourne Homeless service, with the purpose of informing equity to service delivery cross county.	PCTs					
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C3.4	Invest in the development of a dedicated adult Traveller specialist at cross county level for assessment and management of need only, and onward referral to the generic work force.	PCTs					

Target 2010/11		Target Owner(s)	Q1 RAG	Q2 RAG	Q3 RAG	Q4 RAG	10/11 outturn RAG
	<b>Comments:</b>						
C3.5	Develop a consistent response cross county to health care needs to Travellers on unauthorised encampments, i.e. an assessment visit within 2 working days within NHS East Sussex Downs and Weald PCT to match the service already in place in NHS Hastings and Rother PCT.	East Sussex Downs and Weald PCT					
	<b>Comments:</b>						

## 8. Useful Links

### National

<a href="#">Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Sites (Circular 1/06)</a>	ODPM 2006
<a href="#">Local authorities and Gypsies and Travellers: a guide to responsibilities and powers</a>	CLG 2007
<a href="#">Progress Report on Gypsy and Traveller Policy</a>	CLG 2009
<a href="#">Guide to Effective Use of Enforcement Powers</a> Part 1 Unauthorised Encampments	ODPM 2006
<a href="#">Guide to Effective Use of Enforcement Powers</a> Part 2 Unauthorised Developments	CLG 2007
<a href="#">Gypsies and Travellers Grants Guidance</a>	HCA 2009
<a href="#">Gypsies and Travellers – Simple Solutions for Living Together</a>	EHRC 2009
<a href="#">Inequalities Experienced by Gypsy and Traveller Communities</a>	Research Report 12 EHRC 2009
<a href="#">Assessing Local Authorities' Progress in meeting the Accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller Communities in England</a>	Research Report 13 EHRC 2009
<a href="#">Guidance on Unauthorised Encampments (Police)</a>	ACPO 2008
<a href="#">The Health Status of Gypsies and Travellers in England</a>	DoH 2004
<a href="#">Primary Care Service Framework: Gypsy and Traveller Communities</a>	NHS 2009
<a href="#">The Health of Gypsies and Travellers in the UK</a>	Race Equality Foundation Nov 2008

### Local

Protocol on Unauthorised Encampments

'Unauthorised Encampments in East Sussex' leaflet

'Code of Practice for Travellers on Unauthorised Encampments' leaflet

[Hand Held Health Records for Gypsies and Travellers](#)