



COUNCILS AND
COMMUNITIES
IN PARTNERSHIP

**SOUTH EAST PLAN PARTIAL REVIEW:
GYPSIES, TRAVELLERS AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE
PRO-FORMA FOR ADVICE FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

Advice submitted by:
East Sussex County Council
Brighton & Hove City Council
Eastbourne Borough Council
Hastings Borough Council
Lewes District Council
Rother District Council
Wealden District Council

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A. THE ADVICE PROCESS

A1. Has the Advice been agreed by elected members in all constituent authorities?

Yes
No

If No

A2. Which authorities have not agreed the Advice?

A3. How were key stakeholders (including the Gypsy and Traveller communities) involved in the GTAA and subsequent processes leading up to the submission of the advice?

Representatives of the Gypsy and Traveller Community in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove were involved in the Steering Group responsible for commissioning and signing-off our GTAA. They also helped facilitate some of the interviews with Travellers in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove at the time of the survey.

The process, timetable and findings of both the GTAA and this Partial Review have also been regularly discussed at the East Sussex Traveller Forum with local Travellers and representatives of the Gypsy Council, the National Romany Rights Council, Gypsies and Irish Travellers and the Southern Network of Gypsies and Travellers. The East Sussex Traveller Liaison Manager has also arranged a special pre-meeting with Travellers before each of the main Forum meetings to discuss key issues in a more informal setting.

Representatives from the Sussex Association of Local Councils and Sussex Police have been invited to meetings of the Members Steering Group established to guide our partial review work.

We published our draft proposals for permanent site provision for direct, written consultation with a wider 'reference group' of around 60 local stakeholders. Comprehensive information on our draft proposals, supporting technical work and other background details were also published on the County and City Councils' websites for wider public comment.

During this six week consultation period (from 16 July to 26 August) we also met with some stakeholders – including representatives of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, the county and district Associations of Local Councils and, in Brighton & Hove, with individual Traveller families to discuss our emerging proposals in more detail.

All the feedback received from these consultation and engagement activities has been reviewed and discussed by members and officers of all the local authorities, and has been taken into full account in finalising our advice to the Assembly.

A copy of our consultation document on *Meeting the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers – July 2007* (and two other supporting papers) is enclosed, along with the report on our consultation programme that was discussed at the joint authorities' Members Steering Group meeting on 11 September 2007.

B. NEED AND PITCH PROVISION REQUIREMENTS: GENERAL

B1. What is the overall requirement for **permanent** (residential) pitches **2006-2011** on which the advice is based?

Advice on B1
There is an overall requirement to provide an <u>additional 47 permanent pitches</u> in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, 2006-2011.

Checklist
If this is not the total estimated in the GTAA please provide explanatory details:
x The data sources used to reach the pitch requirement
x Methods of calculation
x Any assumptions used
Comprehensive information on how our advice has been determined is summarised in our main consultation document on <i>Meeting the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers – July 2007</i> (attached). More detailed, technical information about the methods we have used is set out in two supporting documents (also attached) on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Towards a baseline distribution of future pitch provision</i> • <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision</i> We have adjusted the original needs estimate in our GTAA in line with the findings of our detailed benchmarking exercise. For further details, please see our comments in relation to B3 below.

B2. What is the overall requirement for **permanent** (residential) pitches **2011-2016** on which the advice is based?

Advice on B2
No additional permanent pitches are likely to be required between 2011 and 2016 (if the provision proposed for the earlier period has all been delivered).

Checklist
If this is not the total estimated in the GTAA please provide explanatory details:
x The data sources used to reach the pitch requirement
x Methods of calculation
x Any assumptions used
The GTAA only included an estimate of needs for the five-year period up to 2011. However, we did examine potential needs for additional permanent pitches after that date but, as reported above, concluded that no further provision was likely to be required in this second five-year period. Full details of this assessment are provided in the supporting paper on <i>Towards a baseline distribution of future pitch provision</i> .

- B3. If benchmarking suggested a significantly different level of need to that identified in the GTAA, please indicate what if any steps have been taken to reconcile the difference (e.g. by assessing the main possible sources of over or under-estimation indicated in the benchmarking report).

If the GTAA conclusions have changed as a consequence please specify how and whether the revised figures have been politically endorsed.

Advice on B3

The technical documents referred to above provide full information on the results of our benchmarking exercise. This was carried out in accordance with CLG guidance and has been subsequently endorsed by Pat Niner’s independent audit for the Assembly. The first paper (relating to the needs-based distribution) gives full details of the specific adjustments that we have made to our original GTAA assessment, and the justification for these, in accordance with the requirements of the Assembly’s brief and related guidance.

Our benchmarking did not suggest a significantly different level of overall need than the GTAA. However, the most significant adjustment that it did prompt was to discount the overall needs assessment (that suggested a total requirement for 80 pitches) so that it excluded potential transit demands and only reflected our best estimate of the need for additional permanent residential pitches.

Some other adjustments were necessary to avoid:

- over-estimating future supply from pitches becoming vacant
- over-estimating future levels of household formation
- some double-counting between other different elements of the needs model.

In aggregate, these other changes virtually cancelled each other out with their overall impact being to increase requirements by just 1 permanent pitch.

C. DISTRIBUTION OF PITCHES

Option A: Please outline a distribution of the number of pitches required for each local planning authority within your advice partnership which seeks to meet identified needs where they arise as identified through the GTAA and existence of unauthorised encampments.

Advice on C (Option A):	
	Option A The needs-based distribution
Eastbourne	1
Hastings	3
Lewes	10
Rother	3
Wealden	16
Brighton & Hove	14
East Sussex	33
Total requirement	47

Checklist	
If this is not the distribution identified in the GTAA please provide explanatory details:	
x	The data sources used to reach the pitch requirement
x	Methods of calculation
x	Any assumptions used
Our GTAA did not provide any distribution of its overall needs estimate.	
Our method for arriving at this needs-based distribution is summarised in our consultation document on <i>Meeting the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers – July 2007</i> . A comprehensive account of our approach is set out in the supporting technical paper, <i>Towards a baseline distribution of future pitch provision</i> .	

D. DISTRIBUTION OF PITCHES

Option B: Please outline a distribution of the number of pitches required for each local planning authority within your advice partnership which seeks to take account of planning, environmental and other identified factors.

Advice on D (Option B):	
	Option B A more sustainable distribution
Eastbourne	1
Hastings	1
Lewes	9
Rother	7
Wealden	18
Brighton & Hove	11
East Sussex	36
Total requirement	47

Checklist	
Please provide explanatory details:	
x	The data sources used to reach the pitch requirement
x	Methods of calculation
x	Any assumptions used
Our method for arriving at this needs-based distribution is summarised in our consultation document on <i>Meeting the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers – July 2007</i> . A comprehensive account of our approach is set out in the supporting technical paper, <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision</i> .	

Supplementary question

DI. Were any of the following criteria taken into account? If so, please outline how was this done?

Protecting and enhancing the natural environment	
x	Yes – please see supporting paper on <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision.</i>
General availability of land for development (site allocations, NLUD PDL, register of public sector land, Council land for disposal etc...)	
x	Yes – please see supporting paper on <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision.</i>
Making best use of existing or planned infrastructure provision	
x	Yes – please see supporting paper on <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision.</i>
Facilitating access to employment opportunities	
x	Yes – please see supporting paper on <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision.</i>
Facilitating access to local services	
x	Yes – please see supporting paper on <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision.</i>
Meeting Gypsy and Traveller wishes/aspirations	
x	Yes – please see supporting paper on <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision.</i>
Widening locational choice for Gypsies and Travellers	
x	Yes – this was considered but was not included as an explicit criterion because there appears to be virtually no demand for permanent pitches in our two main urban areas – Eastbourne and Hastings. Views were also deliberately sought on issues relating to equity and choice in our consultation exercise but few comments were received on the proposed distributions.
Being fair	
x	Yes. While this was not an explicit criteria, our approach has been objective and sensitive to the needs, interests and concerns of all groups within both the travelling and settled communities.
Achieving political buy-in	
x	Yes. Our proposals have the unanimous support of all the local authorities involved. A member from each council has represented their authority on a Members Steering Group for our work. The recommendations of the members Steering Group have subsequently been formally endorsed by every council.
Extent of land protected from development	
x	Yes – please see supporting paper on <i>Developing a more sustainable distribution of future pitch provision.</i>
Other criteria considered (please specify)	

	No other factors were considered.
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E. ANY OTHER DISTRIBUTION OF PITCHES

Please outline any other distribution of the number of pitches required for each local planning authority within your advice partnership.

Advice on E	
Not applicable.	

Checklist	
Please provide explanatory details:	
	The data sources used to reach the pitch requirement
	Methods of calculation
	Any assumptions used
Not applicable.	

F. TRANSIT NEEDS

F1. Please provide a qualitative assessment of the demand for and type of transit provision

Advice on F1	
Please see attached note on <i>Potential transit demands in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .	

Checklist	
Please provide details of the evidence used for the assessment	
As above.	

F2. How may this assessment be impacted by an increase in the provision of permanent caravan pitches?

Advice on F2	
As F1 above.	

Checklist	
Please provide details of the evidence used for the assessment	
As above.	

G TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE

G1. Has pitch need for Travelling Showpeople been assessed within your GTAA?

~~Yes~~
No

If No

If an assessment is underway but not yet complete, please indicate the area of coverage and the date you expect to be able to provide the Assembly with a copy of the final report.

Area of coverage	Not applicable.
Report date	Not applicable.

If your advice area has decided **not** to carry out an assessment of pitch need for Travelling Showpeople, please indicate why.

There are very few family groups of travelling showpeople in our area. Direct discussions with the area representative for the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain confirmed that the groups resident in East Sussex are all "happily housed" (in terms of both living space and storage facilities) and are not seeking any further yards.

G2. What is the total Advice area requirement for Travelling Showpeople pitches **2006-2011** on which the advice is based?

Advice on G2

Not applicable.

Checklist

If this is not covered by your GTAA, or this is **not** the total estimated in the GTAA, please provide explanatory details:

	The data sources used to reach the pitch requirement
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	Methods of calculation
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	Any assumptions used
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Not applicable.

G3. What is the total advice area requirement for Travelling Showpeople pitches **2011-2016** on which the advice is based?

Advice on G3

Not applicable.

Checklist	
If this is not covered by your GTAA, or this is not the total estimated in the GTAA, please provide explanatory details:	
	The data sources used to reach the pitch requirement
	Methods of calculation
	Any assumptions used
Not applicable.	

- G4. Please outline a distribution of the number of pitches required for each local planning authority within your advice partnership which seeks to meet identified needs where they arise as identified through the Travelling Showpeople GTAA and existence of unauthorised encampments.

Advice on G4	
Not applicable.	

Checklist	
If this is not taken directly from the GTAA please provide explanatory details:	
	Nature of evidence used – Not applicable.
	Methods of calculation of any quantitative assessment – Not applicable.

H. IMPLEMENTATION AND DELIVERY

Checklist	
For each element please include details of the evidence drawn on in your Advice	

The cost and type of facilities required on caravan sites	
x	Please see attached note on <i>Implementation and delivery issues in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .
Estimated implementation costs for proposed level of provision and potential sources of funding	
x	Please see attached note on <i>Implementation and delivery issues in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .
Responsibilities for delivery and management of pitches (by type), including the role of social landlords	
x	Please see attached note on <i>Implementation and delivery issues in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .
Anticipated timing of preparation of relevant LDD documents setting out site allocations for Gypsy and Traveller caravan pitches	
x	Please see attached note on <i>Implementation and delivery issues in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .

Strategic site location criteria which the RSS should include to inform the preparation of the relevant LDDs	
x	Please see attached note on <i>Implementation and delivery issues in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .
Anticipated split between public and private provision of pitches	
x	Please see attached note on <i>Implementation and delivery issues in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .
The implications of the diversity of the Gypsy and Traveller population in an area for the appropriate size and number of caravan sites	
x	Please see attached note on <i>Implementation and delivery issues in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i> .

I. ANY OTHER ADVICE

<i>Please provide details of other relevant advice</i>
Not applicable.

Please return the completed pro-formas with any other accompanying / supporting documentation to the Assembly by **15 October 2007**.

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