

Worcestershire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment

Bromsgrove District Council
Malvern Hills District Council
Redditch Borough Council
Worcester City Council
Wychavon District Council
Wyre Forest District Council

Executive Summary – Revised Final Draft
November 2014

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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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1. Introduction

- 1.1 In May 2013 arc⁴ was commissioned by Bromsgrove District Council, Malvern Hills District Council, Redditch Borough Council, Worcester City Council, Wychavon District Council and Wyre Forest District Council (“the Authorities”) to undertake a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment to identify the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople from across Worcestershire. The overall objective of the research was to provide a robust evidence base to assist the Authorities to determine an appropriate level of pitch and plot provision for the six Districts which would be sought through local planning policies.

2. Methodology

2.1 The methodology for this study comprised:

- Interviews with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople;
- Desktop analysis of existing documents, data and pitch information;
- A census of sites reviewing total number of pitches, number of pitches occupied and vacant, and total number of households; and
- A Key Stakeholder on-line questionnaire for professionals who have direct contact with local Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. This was followed up by a Stakeholder Workshop which took place in August 2014.

2.2 The primary fieldwork for this study comprised survey work with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. This fieldwork was managed by Home Space Sustainable Accommodation (HSSA) and undertaken by Gypsy and Traveller fieldworkers. HSSA was involved in the design of the questionnaire and in the recruitment and management of fieldworkers. Fieldwork was conducted between 24th August 2013 and 23rd March 2014.

2.3 A total of 407 interviews were secured (Table ES1), 215 with households living on a pitch/plot on a private site, 132 living on a pitch on a local authority site, 58 living in bricks and mortar accommodation and two living on unauthorised developments.

Table ES1 Summary of achieved interviews by type of dwelling

Type of dwelling	Gypsy/Traveller	Showperson	Total	%
Pitch on LA Site	132 ¹	0	132	32.4
Pitch/Plot on Private Site	178 ²	37	215	52.8
House (Bricks and Mortar)	58	0	58	14.3
Unauthorised Encampment	2	0	2	0.5
Total	370	37	407	100.0
%	90.9	9.1	100.0	

2.4 In conjunction with interviews with members of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople community, a range of complementary research methods have been used to permit the triangulation of results. This includes a site census, review of caravan counts, analysis of unauthorised transit encampments and stakeholder consultation.

¹ This figure included 5 interviews which should be labelled as Pitch on Housing Association site. The code was missing from the agreed questionnaire and as such was coded as Pitch on LA site by 5 respondents.

² This figure included 15 interviews which should be labelled as Pitch on Housing Association site. The code was missing from the agreed questionnaire and as such was coded as Pitch/Plot on Private site by 15 respondents.

3. Legislative and policy context

- 3.1 The report sets out the legislative and policy context within which the Authorities are working to address the needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, which includes guidance and definitions set out within the National Planning Policy Framework and the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites documentation from the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG). The following definition of Gypsies and Travellers is adopted:

*'Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependants' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.'*³

- 3.2 The following definition of Travelling Showpeople is adopted:

*'Members of a group organised for the purpose 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 dependents' more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.'*⁴

- 3.3 It is within this policy context that the Councils have to plan future provision for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the area. The national Planning Policy emphasises the role of evidence and how it should be used within this context.

- 3.4 Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Planning Policy for Traveller Sites state that:

'Local planning authorities should set pitch targets for gypsies and travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.'

- 3.5 Local planning authorities should:

- Identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
- Identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years six to ten and, where possible, for years 11-15;
- Consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints across its area (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);

³ CLG Planning policy for traveller sites March 2012 Annex 1: Glossary bullet 1 page 8

⁴ CLG Planning policy for traveller sites March 2012 Annex 1: Glossary bullet 2 page 8

- 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
- Protect local amenity and environment.

4. The Current Picture

Census 2011⁵

- 4.1 Whilst it is recognised that some families may not identify themselves as Gypsies or Travellers in Censuses, in the 2011 Census, a total of 426 households in Worcestershire were identified as having a ‘White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ (WGoIT) ethnicity. The Census figure includes households living in bricks and mortar accommodation as can be noted in Table ES2 which identifies these households as recorded in the Census by their identified accommodation type.
- 4.2 The 426 households identified in the Census relates particularly well when compared to the 407 household interviews that were conducted with the Traveller community for this research. In comparison, of the 407 interviews secured, 215 were with households living on a pitch/plot on a private site, 132 living on a pitch on a local authority site, 58 living in bricks and mortar accommodation and 2 living on unauthorised developments.
- 4.3 While 58 bricks and mortar interviews is lower than the number of households living in this type of accommodation in the Census and less than the number of households living in bricks and mortar that are known to the County Council, what we can say is that this is the highest number of bricks and mortar interviews we have conducted as part of a GTAA. These households were all self-selecting and were engaged through the hard work of the County Council staff who asked these households if they would like to take part in the research.

Households	Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
Bromsgrove	23	11	5	7
Malvern Hills	48	28	14	6
Redditch	3	1	1	1
Worcester	42	21	9	12
Wychavon	183	96	19	68
Wyre Forest	127	88	16	23
Worcestershire TOTAL	426	245	64	117

- 4.4 The 2011 Census, provides further information on actual residents and Table ES3 provides details of the breakdown of people by authority and for the County as a whole.

⁵ Tables ES2 to ES6 are taken from the Census 2011. Special tables were commissioned by ONS to cover the ethnicity and several data sets were produced and made available on the ONS website on the 21st January 2014. See Tables CT0127 and CT0128. Main article: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census-analysis/what-does-the-2011-census-tell-us-about-the-characteristics-of-gypsy-or-irish-travellers-in-england-and-wales/index.html>

Table ES3 People from households identifying as WGoIT by Accommodation Type				
People	Total: Accommodation type	House or bungalow	A flat, maisonette or apartment	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
Bromsgrove	60	31	13	16
Malvern Hills	130	89	20	21
Redditch	8	3	4	1
Worcester	108	53	16	39
Wychavon	455	252	32	171
Wyre Forest	373	287	30	56
Worcestershire TOTAL	1,134	715	115	304

4.5 Table ES4 identifies the number of households in each district and for the County overall by tenure. Social renting accounts for over half (57%) of all households and just over a quarter (26%) of all households own or part own their home. The remaining households (17%) rent privately or are living rent free.

Table ES4 Households identifying as WGoIT by Tenure				
Households	All Tenures	Owned or shared ownership: Total	Social rented: Total	Private rented or living rent free: Total
Bromsgrove	23	8	10	5
Malvern Hills	48	12	32	4
Redditch	3	0	3	0
Worcester	42	11	18	13
Wychavon	183	54	107	22
Wyre Forest	127	27	72	28
Worcestershire TOTAL	426	112	242	72

4.6 Table ES5 identifies the number of households in each local authority and for the County overall by age group. This is derived from the Household Representative Person (HRP). Households aged under 35 account for over a quarter (28%) of all households with most households (58%) being in the 35 to 64 age bracket (of this age group 34% are aged 35 to 49). 14% are aged 65+.

Council	All Age Groups	Age 24 & under	Age 25 to 34	Age 35 to 49	Age 50 to 64	Age 65 to 74	Age 75 to 84	Age 85+
Bromsgrove	23	2	3	7	5	4	2	0
Malvern Hills	48	4	9	16	12	7	0	0
Redditch	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Worcester	42	3	11	12	11	4	1	0
Wychavon	183	18	34	61	42	18	8	2
Wyre Forest	127	15	20	45	33	9	5	0
Worcestershire TOTAL	426	43	77	143	103	42	16	2

Provision and pitch availability

- 4.7 From Council data, site census data and from related discussions with local authority officers there are, across Worcestershire, 128 pitches on council-owned sites; 23 pitches on housing association sites; 178 pitches on private permanent authorised sites; eight pitches on private temporary (transit) authorised sites; and 13 pitches on unauthorised sites, six of which are tolerated. This is summarised in Table ES6, and vacant permanent pitches are listed in Table ES7.

	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Local Authority Site	0	5	0	20	72	31	128
Housing Association Site	23	0	0	0	0	0	23
Private Site – Authorised	1	14	0	0	110	53	178
Private Site – Temporary Authorised	0	2	0	0	6	0	8
Unauthorised	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
Unauthorised - tolerated	0	1	0	0	5	0	6
TOTAL	24	22	0	20	199	85	350

Source: Worcestershire Authorities

	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Vacant Permanent on Private Sites – Authorised	0	1	0	0	9	0	10
Vacant Permanent on Local Authority Sites – Authorised	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	1	0	0	9	0	10

Source: Worcestershire Authorities

4.8 In terms of yard provision for Travelling Showpeople, there are a total of 29 plots which are located on private authorised yards in Malvern Hills, Redditch and Wyre Forest. This is summarised in Table ES8.

	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Private Site – Authorised	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
TOTAL	0	17	10	0	0	2	29

Source: Worcestershire Authorities

5. Household Survey Data: Key Information

Home Base Characteristics

- 5.1 Overall, 97% of respondents said that their pitch/plot was the place where they usually lived. 2% of respondents said they had another home base. The majority of respondents said that they lived where they did to be close to family and friends (73%) while 36% said that nowhere else was suitable and 22% to be near their place of work.
- 5.2 The household survey identified a high degree of mobility. In terms of length of stay, 41% had stayed on their pitch/plot for five years or over while 11% had moved there within the past year. In terms of accommodation types just over half (52%) lived in a trailer or wagon and one-third (33%) lived in a chalet or mobile home. 15% lived in a house, bungalow or flat.

Tenure

- 5.3 Across all households interviewed, 77% of respondents said they own their own home, 15% rent from a Council/Housing Association, 7% rent privately, 1% stated other tenure and 1% 'not applicable'.
- 5.4 In terms of land ownership, there is considerable variation across Worcestershire. Across all households interviewed (i.e. including those in bricks and mortar), 37% of respondents said they rent their pitch from a Council; a further 19% said they own the land they live on with planning permission; 16% rent the pitch privately with planning permission and 5% rent from a Housing Association. 1% of respondents own the land with no planning permission; 1% rent privately without planning permission and 1% neither own nor rent the land (unauthorised). 3% stated another form of land ownership and a considerable 18% stated 'not applicable'.

Facilities

- 5.5 Sharing toilet facilities was mentioned by 71 Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches (28 on local authority sites, 42 on private sites and one on an unauthorised encampment) and four Travelling Showperson households. No sharing of facilities was noted by Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Repairs and improvements

- 5.6 Overall, over three-quarters of respondents described the state of repair of their home as being good or very good. No Travelling Showpeople said that the state of repair of their home was poor or very poor, compared with 6% of Gypsies and Travellers living on local authority sites, 2% living on private sites and 8% living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Survey respondents were invited to identify repairs or improvements that were needed. Improvements to bathroom

facilities were most frequently mentioned, followed by more space on pitch, improvements to the slab/drive and kitchen facilities.

Space, standards and overcrowding

- 5.7 In terms of space for trailers, wagons and horse boxes, vehicles and loads, around three-quarters (76%) of respondents felt they had enough space. The proportion was highest for Gypsies and Travellers on private sites (91%) and lowest for Travelling Showpeople (35%).
- 5.8 Of respondents living on a pitch, 60% of Gypsies and Travellers on local authority sites considered that they had enough space in their amenity block/shed, compared with 84% of those on private sites. 85% of Gypsies and Travellers on private sites and 69% of those on local authority sites felt there was sufficient space overall on their pitch. However, over half (57%) of Travelling Showpeople stated that they had insufficient space on their plot.
- 5.9 Overall Malvern Hills and Redditch respondents were most likely to say that they did not have enough space. Over half (53%) of respondents to the question in Malvern said that they did not have enough space for vehicles, loads, horses etc compared to only 11% in Wychavon.
- 5.10 Overall, 18% of respondents felt that their home was overcrowded. Over half (54%) of Travelling Showpeople thought that their home was overcrowded. Redditch had the highest level of respondents saying they were overcrowded but there were very few numerically – Malvern Hills had the highest numerically and proportionately (other than Redditch) with 33% of 82 respondents saying they were overcrowded compared to 11% of 179 respondents in Wychavon.

Location and safety

- 5.11 82% of respondents stated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the location of their home. A further 14% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. Only 4% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Cost of accommodation and services

- 5.12 70% of respondents said none of their housing costs were met by Housing Benefit. 13% of respondents had some of their housing costs met by Housing Benefit, and 17% had all of their costs met through Housing Benefit. Receipt of full Housing Benefit was highest amongst Gypsies and Travellers living on pitches on local authority sites.

Planned moves

- 5.13 Respondents were asked whether they planned to move over the next five years. The vast majority of respondents plan to stay where they are (86%). The proportion was highest (91%) among Gypsies and Travellers on local authority

- sites, and lowest (76%) amongst Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 5.14 56 households said they planned to move in the next five years and of these 49 provided details of what they wanted to move to. Just under half of the 49 said they wanted to move onto another site/yard (47%); eight into bricks and mortar (16%); six onto another pitch/plot on the same site/yard in a chalet/mobile home (12%); five onto another pitch/plot on the same site/yard in a trailer/wagon (10%) while two said they wanted to move from bricks and mortar onto a site/yard (five said something else or were not sure or provided multiple choices).
- 5.15 Three quarters of respondents said that they had children or grandchildren who would want to live the Traveller lifestyle and this was broadly similar across the six Council areas. When asked how many members of their family currently living with them would be likely to need to move and set up their own home in the next five years most said one person (55% of respondents or 60 movers) while just under a third said two (30% of respondents or equivalent to 60 movers). 11 respondents said three family members (equivalent to 33 movers) and six respondents said four family members (equivalent to 24 movers). This broadly equates to 177 potential people moving in the next five years (in the follow up question a total of 199 movers are covered).
- 5.16 When this is correlated with what type of households were likely to form it is clear that most were hoping to move to form couples thus likely reducing the number of potential movers in the next five years. The table below details the combined findings for all newly forming households. The household response data shows that of the 199 potential movers, 52% were hoping to form couple-centred households and of these forming households, 35.2% were hoping to form households with no children and 53.3% were hoping to form households with children. Wychavon has the most numeric younger cohort with 79 potential newly forming households aged under 30 with an even split in those forming with or without children. Malvern Hills has more even balance numerically with a relatively high proportion of potential new households being single person or lone parent (nine households out of a total of 32).
- 5.17 It should be noted that the number of potential emerging households does not equate exactly to the emerging households identified in paragraph 6.12 because in some cases there was duplication with the same family member being mentioned in different interviews.

Table ES9 Perceived Household Type for (Moving Emerging Households next five years)

		Council						Total
		Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	
Single person (under 60 years)	No	1	7	0	0	1	1	10
	%	11.1%	21.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	3.6%	5%
Single person (60 years and over)	No	0	1	0	2	0	0	3
	%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%
Lone parent	No	0	1	0	0	8	1	10
	%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	3.6%	5%
Young couple (under 30) with no children	No	1	9	0	5	39	9	63
	%	11.1%	28.1%	0.0%	35.7%	34.5%	32.1%	31.7%
Young couple (under 30) with child(ren)	No	7	8	3	6	40	16	80
	%	77.8%	25.0%	100.0%	42.9%	35.4%	57.1%	40.2%
Couple (aged 30-under 60) with no children	No	0	1	0	0	6	0	7
	%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	5.3%	0.0%	3.5%
Couple (aged 30-under 60) with children.	No	0	5	0	1	19	1	26
	%	0.0%	15.6%	0.0%	7.1%	16.8%	3.6%	13.1%
TOTAL	No	9	32	3	14	113	28	199
	%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

5.18 In a related question, responding households were also asked to consider what type of permanent base these newly forming households may wish to move to. The vast majority thought that they would want to stay on a site/yard (89.3%); under 5% would wish to stay in bricks and mortar; 3.1% would wish to move to bricks and mortar and 3% stated 'other'.

Table ES10 Perceived Accommodation Type (Moving Emerging Households next five years)								
		Council						Total
		Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	
Continue to live on current site / yard	No	6	13	1	11	46	12	89
	%	66.7%	40.6%	33.3%	78.6%	41.8%	42.9%	45.4%
Move to another site / yard	No	3	9	2	3	57	12	86
	%	33.3%	28.1%	66.7%	21.4%	51.8%	42.9%	43.9%
Continue to live in bricks and mortar accommodation	No	0	8	0	0	1	0	9
	%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	4.6%
Move to bricks and mortar accommodation	No	0	0	0	0	4	2	6
	%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%	7.1%	3.1%
Other	No	0	2	0	0	2	2	6
	%	0.0%	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	7.1%	3.1%
TOTAL	No	9	32	3	14	110	28	196
	%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Perceptions of Need for Sites

- 5.19 302 respondents (77%) felt that Worcestershire needed more permanent sites. All five respondents in Redditch (100%) said this compared to only 68% of respondents in Worcester.

Travelling

- 5.20 Respondents were asked whether they had travelled in the previous year – 32% (132 respondents) stated that they had, while the rest (68% or 275 respondents) had not. Of those who had travelled, the most popular duration of travel was between two and four weeks (or a month), cited by 29% (34 respondents) of those who travelled. A further 18% (22 respondents) travelled for less than two weeks. Twenty (17%) travelled for 13 to 26 weeks and thirteen (11%) travelled for between six and ten months. When looking at Travelling Showpeople who said they travelled (27 respondents) most (15 respondents or 56%) said they travelled between 13 to 26 weeks (or six months) while 33% (nine respondents) travelled between six months but less than ten months of the year.
- 5.21 Problems raised by those who had travelled were ‘no places to stop over’ (71%); ‘lack of toilet facilities’ (68%), ‘no water facilities’ (68%) and ‘closing of traditional stopping places’ (46%).

- 5.22 65% of all respondents considered that there was a need for transit site(s) in Worcestershire. There was a high level of support for such a site to be managed either by the Council(s) or privately by Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

Homelessness

- 5.23 Overall two respondents (1%) described themselves as having been homeless prior to moving to their existing home.

Wider service and support needs

- 5.24 Respondents were asked if they felt being near to a range of amenities was important, slightly important or not important to them. 94% felt that being close to a doctor was important, whilst 87% felt being near to shops was important, and 74% felt that being close to main roads was important.
- 5.25 In terms of the use of services, the most used services were Doctor (GP) and Dentist. GP services were accessed by 95% of respondents, and Dentists were accessed by 74% of respondents in the twelve-month period prior to the survey. Additionally, 43% had used the Accident and Emergency service. The proportion of respondents using other services tended to be considerably lower, with 15% using Traveller education, 15% Citizens Advice and 10% health visitors.

Long term illness and disability

- 5.26 Arthritis and asthma are the main long-term illnesses identified. 166 respondents provided responses to the question regarding health problems and of these 35% mentioned arthritis and 31% mentioned asthma. 9% of respondents had experienced problems accessing health services in the previous year; the most common problems had been in relation to getting an appointment.

6. Needs Analysis Modelling for 2014/15 to 2018/19 – Gypsies and Travellers

6.1 In terms of need, the model considers:

- The baseline number of households on authorised and unauthorised sites (as at February 2014 – see Table ES6);
- The number of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation (a minimum baseline based on achieved interviews) and the number wanting to move to a pitch;
- Existing households planning to move to a pitch in the next five years (either currently on sites or in bricks and mortar accommodation);
- Emerging households (currently on sites or in bricks and mortar) and needing a pitch within the study area; to derive a figure for
- Total need.

6.2 In terms of supply, the model considers :

- Total supply of pitches on authorised sites;
- Turnover on existing authorised sites;
- Vacant pitches on authorised sites; to derive
- Total supply of authorised pitches based on turnover and existing pitch provision.

6.3 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply by summarising:

- Total need for pitches; and
- Total supply of authorised pitches.

6.4 The assessment of current need should, in line with the guidance, take account of existing supply and need. In the CLG model, current residential supply refers to local authority residential sites and authorised privately owned sites.

6.5 In this assessment we have reported the existing number of pitches on authorised local authority and private sites (this is the actual number of pitches on sites available for occupancy in February 2014).

6.6 Because of the high level of response from households living on pitches, it has not been necessary to weight the data. The actual number of individuals engaged with the study exceeds the population as reported in the 2011 census.

Description of factors in the model

6.7 Table ES11 provides a summary of the future pitch requirement calculation. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

Need

6.8 Current pitches (1a to 1f)

These figures are derived from Local Authority data and the site census carried out as part of the fieldwork. The Site Census provided no evidence of households ‘doubling up’ on pitches (that is two separate family units living on a pitch). This is one of the first questions asked as part of the fieldwork survey questionnaire.

6.9 Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

This is a minimum figure based on the respondents who were interviewed as part of the fieldwork. There were a total of 58 households interviewed across Worcestershire. The initial sample identified by the Council was 202 households. From this the County Council were asked to contact each household to see if they would like to take part in the research. This was due to data protection issues and arc⁴ recommended that this contact be made by Council staff as the data or address controllers. From the 202 households the Council provided arc⁴ with the contact details of 60 individual households and from this 58 interviews were achieved between October 2013 and February 2014.

6.10 Households planning to move in the next five years (3)

This was derived from information from the household survey for respondents currently on authorised and unauthorised pitches and respondents in bricks and mortar accommodation who plan to move in the next five years. A total of 50 existing households plan to move in the next five years. Of these ten expect to move within their existing site, 19 plan to move to another site within the District they currently live in, four plan to move to bricks and mortar, three plan to move outside the County, eight of the 58 households interviewed living in bricks and mortar want to move to a site and six plan to move from bricks and mortar to another bricks and mortar dwelling.

It is not possible to extrapolate the need for pitches arising from households living in bricks and mortar on a District basis because the interview sample sizes in some Districts were too low and may not be representative⁶.

6.11 Emerging households (4)

This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next five years based on household survey information from respondents living on authorised and unauthorised pitches and also people living in bricks and mortar accommodation. Analysis considers where emerging households are planning to move to. Out of 111 emerging households identified in the survey, 59 hope to

⁶ If the findings of the 58 households living in bricks and mortar were extrapolated to the 202 households known to be living in bricks and mortar across the County, there would be a net additional need for 22 pitches (excluding turnover). Including the County average annual turnover rate the figure would be a net additional need for 13 pitches. This cannot be apportioned to individual Districts because the interview sample sizes were small in some Districts and may not be representative.

live on the current site they are on, 43 plan to live on a site elsewhere in the District, one plans to move outside the County, one is currently in bricks and mortar and wants to move to a site and seven plan to move within bricks and mortar accommodation.

6.12 Total need for pitches (5)

This is a total of current households on pitches (authorised and unauthorised), households planning to move in the next five years (either on pitches or in bricks and mortar accommodation) and need from emerging households.

Table ES11 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – 2014/15 to 2018/19

NEED		Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total	
1	Total households living on pitches	1a. On LA Site	0	5	0	20	72	31	128
		1b. On Housing Association Site	23	0	0	0	0	0	23
		1c. On Private Site – Authorised	1	14	0	0	110	53	178
		1d. On Private Site – Temporary Authorised	0	2	0	0	6	0	8
		1e. Unauthorised	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
		1f. Unauthorised – Tolerated	0	1	0	0	5	0	6
		1g. TOTAL (1a to 1f)	24	22	0	20	199	85	350
2	Households interviewed in bricks and mortar accommodation	2a. TOTAL	5	32	0	2	11	8	58
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	Currently on sites							
		3a. To another pitch/same site	0	1	0	1	6	2	10
		3b. To another site in LA area	0	0	0	0	17	2	19
		3c. From site to Bricks and Mortar	0	2	0	0	2	0	4
		3d. To a site/B&M outside study area	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar							
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA	1	4	0	1	2	0	8
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property	1	2	0	0	1	2	6
		3g. TOTAL net impact (3e-3c-3d)	0	1	0	1	-1	0	1
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	4	7	0	8	33	7	59
		4b. Currently on site and planning to live on another site in LA	1	4	0	1	29	8	43
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live on site outside study area	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0	4	0	0	2	1	7
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4c+4d)	5	11	0	9	64	15	104
5	Total Need	1g+3g+4g	29	34	0	30	262	100	455
SUPPLY		Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total	
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a. Current occupied authorised pitches (1a+1b+1c)	24	19	0	20	182	84	329
		6b. Current vacancies on authorised pitches	0	1	0	0	9	0	10
		6c. TOTAL current authorised supply (6a+6b)	24	20	0	20	191	84	339
7	Summary of need and supply excluding turnover	7a. Need – supply (5-6c)	5	14	0	10	71	16	116
8	Turnover on authorised sites	8a. Turnover on pitches which will provide for residents moving within or having a connection with the LA area	11	17	0	11	62	22	124
9	Total supply of pitches (5 yrs) including turnover	9a. Current authorised pitch provision, vacant pitches and turnover (6c+8a)	35	37	0	31	253	106	462
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY		Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total	
10	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	29	34	0	30	262	100	455
11	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 9a)	35	37	0	31	253	106	462
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL (2014/15 TO 2018/19)			-6	-3	0	-1	9	-6	-7

Please note some column totals may not add up precisely due to rounding

Supply

6.13 Current supply of pitches (6)

This is a summary of the total number of authorised pitches (excluding turnover) and the number of vacant authorised pitches. This suggests a total supply of 339 pitches (329 occupied pitches and ten vacant pitches).

6.14 Need minus supply (excluding turnover) (7)

This is a summary of pitch need minus current supply and presents the underlying mismatch between supply and need before turnover rates on sites is considered. This suggests a shortfall of 116 pitches across Worcestershire.

6.15 Turnover on existing pitches (8)

Turnover rates indicate the number of pitches available annually due to turnover of existing stock and from new supply. Turnover enables existing stock to absorb current and future households considered in need.

Turnover for each District is based on the length of time respondents had lived on their current pitch as reported in the household survey and analysis focuses specifically on those households who have moved to a pitch and were previously living in the district or had a connection with the area they moved to. In the past five years, a total of 185 pitches have become occupied by a household moving to them. Of these, 124 became occupied by family units who were either from, or had a connection with, the district the pitch was located in.

The model therefore assumes a total five year turnover of 124 pitches which are expected to become available for households moving onto pitches in the county. Resultant five year and annual turnover rates, by District, are detailed in Table ES12.

Table ES12 Turnover rates on Gypsy and Traveller authorised pitches

(based on turnover in previous 5 years)

	Bromsgrove	Malvern	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Worcestershire Total
Base (moving households)	14	21	0	11	110	29	185
Household with connections/ moved within study area	11	17	0	11	62	22	124
Household had no connection	3	4	0	0	48	7	61
% Household with connections/ moved within study area	81.8	82.6	0.0	100.0	56.7	75.0	67.0
% Household had no connection	18.2	17.4	0.0	0.0	43.3	25.0	33.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
5 year turnover	11	17	0	11	62	22	124
Baseline authorised pitches	24	19	0	20	182	84	329
5 year turnover rate	48%	91%	0%	55%	34%	26%	38%
Annual turnover rate	9.5%	18.3%	0.0%	11.0%	6.8%	5.2%	7.5%

Source: Household survey 2013/2014

- 6.16 Turnover rates over the previous five years provide the most up-to-date and robust evidence available of likely future turnover rates for the next five years. The District annual turnover rates for authorised sites have therefore been assumed for the next five years (2014/15 – 2018/19).
- 6.17 In the longer-term (beyond the first five years) it is recognised that turnover rates may change. District turnover rates have not, therefore, been applied to periods beyond 2019/20. Pitch requirements beyond 2019/20 are therefore indicative and may be over-estimates. It is recommended that the Authorities regularly monitor turnover rates and that longer-term pitch requirements are reviewed in the light of the latest evidence.
- 6.18 **Total supply including turnover (9)**

This figure is based on the total number of authorised permanent pitches available plus expected turnover and vacant pitch provision. The model assumes a total supply of 463 pitches (329 authorised pitches, ten vacant authorised pitches plus turnover of up to 124 pitches over five years).

Reconciling supply and need

- 6.19 There is a total need over the next five years (2014/15 to 2018/19) for 455 pitches across Worcestershire (Table ES13) compared with a current supply of 339 authorised pitches plus a supply through turnover of 124 pitches over five years. Table ES13 summarises current supply and future need for the Local Authorities over the period 2014/15 to 2018/19. This indicates a sufficient capacity of pitches overall.
- 6.20 Analysis at this stage does not factor in the potential for additional pitches which are subject to planning permission, proposed in emerging Local Plans or site allocations DPDs, nor any expansion of existing sites.
- 6.21 Table ES13 summarises current supply and future need for the local authorities over the period 2014/15 to 2018/19. This should be viewed as a minimum requirement based on the current supply of pitches and the views expressed by Gypsies and Traveller households who have been interviewed. This analysis suggests that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate the needs of Gypsies and Travellers based on the current provision of pitches and turnover assumptions derived from the household survey in Bromsgrove, Malvern Hills, Redditch, Worcester City and Wyre Forest. The analysis suggests a shortfall of nine pitches in Wychavon in the period to 2018/19.

Table ES13 Summary of current pitch supply and shortfalls for Gypsy and Travellers (2014/15 to 2018/19)

	Bromsgrove	Malvern	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Worcestershire Total
Current authorised supply	24	19	0	20	182	84	329
Vacant pitches (Feb 2014)	0	1	0	0	9	0	10
Total pitch supply	24	20	0	20	191	84	339
Total need (5 years)	29	34	0	30	262	100	455
Total need - current authorised supply (excluding turnover)	5	14	0	10	71	16	116
Expected turnover of pitches	11	17	0	11	62	22	124
Overall requirement*	-6	-3	0	-1	9	-6	-7

***Overall requirement note:-**

Negative number indicates there is sufficient capacity to address identified need

Positive number indicates there is a shortfall in pitches relative to identified need

Tenure

6.22 In terms of tenure the key findings show that:

- Around a third of permanent authorised pitches in the County are public / social rented – 339 total pitches in Worcestershire of which 128 are local authority and 23 Housing Association;
- From 393 respondents the majority said they would prefer Council managed sites (63%) while 28% said they preferred Private (Gypsy/Traveller/Showman) managed sites – this was for all respondents to the question;
- Of the 56 households intending to move 59% indicated a preference for a Council managed site and 39% indicated a preference for a Private (Gypsy/Traveller/Showman) managed sites – one household mentioned a preference for a RSL/Housing Association managed sites (2%).
- According to Council data there are ten vacant pitches in Worcestershire – one of these in Malvern Hills and nine in Wychavon – survey data broadly corresponds with this as only ten households said that their site was not fully occupied (five in Malvern, one in Wychavon and four in Redditch – seven households were not sure;
- From 326 responding households 21% felt that their site/yard had capacity for expansion and development of further pitches/plots.

7. Needs Analysis Modelling for 2014/15 to 2018/19 – Travelling Showpeople

7.1 In terms of need, the model considers:

- The baseline number of households on authorised and unauthorised yards (as at February 2014 – see Table ES8);
- The number of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation (a minimum baseline based on achieved interviews) and the number wanting to move to a plot;
- Existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on yards and living in bricks and mortar accommodation);
- Emerging households currently on yards and in bricks and mortar accommodation needing a plot within the County; to derive a figure for
- Total need.

7.2 In terms of supply, the model considers:

- Total supply of plots on authorised yards;
- Turnover on existing authorised yards;
- Plots currently vacant; and
- Total supply of authorised plots based on turnover and existing plot provision.

7.3 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply by summarising:

- Total need for plots; and
- Total supply of authorised plots.

7.4 The assessment of current need should, in line with the guidance, take account of existing supply and need. In the CLG model, current residential supply refers to authorised privately owned yards.

7.5 In this assessment we have reported the existing number of plots on authorised private sites (this is the actual number of plots on yards available for occupancy in February 2014).

7.6 Table ES14 provides a summary of the future plot requirement calculation. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

Need

7.7 **Current households living on plots (1a to 1g)**

These figures are derived from Local Authority data and the site census carried out as part of the fieldwork. The Site Census provided no evidence of

households 'doubling up' on plots (that is two separate family units living on a plot)

7.8 Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

None were identified.

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

This was derived from information from the household survey for respondents currently on authorised plots who plan to move in the next five years. The net impact of households planning to move in the next five years is presented at row 3g.

7.10 Emerging households (4)

This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next five years based on household survey information from respondents living on authorised plots. Analysis considers where emerging households are planning to move to. A total of three emerging households were identified and all plan to live on yards in their current district.

7.11 Total need for plots (5)

This is a total of current households on authorised plots, households planning to move in the next five years (current on plots) and demand from emerging households.

Table ES14 Summary of demand and supply factors: Travelling Showpeople

NEED			Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
1	Total households living on plots	1a. On LA Yard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1b. On Housing Association Yard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1c. On Private Yard – Authorised	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
		1d. On Private Yard – Temporary Authorised	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1e. Unauthorised	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1f. Unauthorised – Tolerated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1g. TOTAL (1a to 1f)	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
2	Current Households in bricks and mortar accommodation	2a. TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	Currently on Yards							
		3a. To another plot/same yard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		3b. To another yard in LA area	0	3	2	0	0	1	6
		3c. From yard to Bricks and Mortar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		3d. To a yard/B&M outside study area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar							
		3e. Planning to move to a yard in LA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3f. Planning to move to another B&M property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
3g. TOTAL net impact (3e-3c-3d)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on yard and planning to live on current yard	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
		4b. Currently on yard and planning to live on another yard in LA	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
		4c. Currently on yard and planning to live on yard outside study area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a yard in LA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		4f. Currently on yard and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4c+4d)	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
5	Total Need	1g+3g+4g	0	17	13	0	0	2	32
SUPPLY			Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
6	Current supply of authorised plots	6a. Current occupied authorised plots (1a+1b+1c)	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
		6b. Current vacancies on authorised plots	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		6c. TOTAL current authorised supply (6a+6b)	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
7	Summary of need and supply excluding turnover	7a. Need – supply (5-6c)	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
8	Turnover on authorised yards	8a. Turnover on plots which will provide for residents moving within or having a connection with the LA area	0	3	5	0	0	0	8
9	Total supply of plots (5 yrs) including turnover	9a. Current authorised plot provision, vacant plots and turnover (6c+8a)	0	20	15	0	0	2	37
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
10	Total need for plots	5 years (from 5)	0	17	13	0	0	2	32
11	Total supply of authorised plots	5 years (from 9a)	0	20	15	0	0	2**	37
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL (2014/15 TO 2018/19)			0	-3	-2	0	0	0	-5
** Supplementary evidence provided by Wyre Forest District Council indicates that replacement plots will be required for the relocation of the existing 2 Showperson's plots in that District, as whilst the site has an established lawful use, the landowner has served notice on the families to find another site within the District									

Supply

7.12 Current supply of pitches (6)

This is a summary of the total number of authorised plots (excluding turnover) and the number of vacant authorised plots. This suggests a total supply of 29 plots (all occupied and none vacant).

7.13 Need minus supply (excluding turnover) (7)

This is a summary of plot need minus current supply and presents the underlying mismatch between supply and need before turnover rates on yards is considered. This suggests a shortfall of three plots across Worcestershire, all in Redditch.

7.14 Turnover on existing plot (8)

Turnover rates indicate the number of pitches available annually due to turnover of existing stock and from new supply. Turnover enables existing stock to absorb current and future households considered in need.

Turnover is based on the length of time respondents had lived on their current plot as reported in the household survey. In the past five years, a total of eight plots have become occupied by a household moving to them. The model therefore assumes a total five year turnover of eight plots.

7.15 Total supply including turnover (9)

This figure is based on the total number of authorised plots available plus expected turnover and vacant plot provision. The model assumes a total supply of 37 plots (29 authorised plots and turnover of up to eight plots)

Reconciling supply and need

7.16 In summary, the model indicates a total need for 32 plots across the County. This is compared with a current supply of 29 authorised plots, resulting in a net shortfall of three plots (Table ES15). This excludes turnover and any displacement of households from existing yards in the event that they close.

7.17 Factoring in an element of turnover based on the number of households who have moved onto a plot in the past five years would suggest sufficient capacity across the County (an oversupply of five).

Table ES15 Summary of current plot supply and shortfalls for Travelling Showpeople (2014/15 to 2018/19)

	Bromsgrove	Malvern	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Worcestershire Total
Current authorised supply	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Vacant plots (Feb 14)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total plot supply	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Total need (5 years)	0	17	13	0	0	2	32
Total need - current authorised supply (excluding turnover)	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Expected turnover of plots	0	3	5	0	0	0	8
Overall requirement (including turnover)	0	-3	-2	0	0	0	-5

7.18 Supplementary evidence provided by Wyre Forest District Council does, however, indicate that replacement plots will be required for the relocation of the existing two Showperson's plots in that District, as whilst the site has an established lawful use, the landowner has served notice on the family to find another site within the District.

7.19 Showpeople often have a wide area of search and must satisfy commercial as well as residential criteria when developing sites. It is therefore recommended that the Authorities work collaboratively to address any individual cases for relocation on a County-wide rather than individual authority basis.

Transit Requirements

7.20 Since 1995 Worcestershire County Council, the Authorities and the West Mercia Police Authority have operated a Joint Protocol for the Management of Unauthorised Encampments of Gypsies and Travellers on local authority land in Worcestershire. Unless particular circumstances apply - such as a level of nuisance which cannot be controlled, a requirement of land for operational use, environmental damage or criminality demonstrably linked to the encampment - the Protocol allows a period of deferred enforcement (toleration) of up to 21 days.

7.21 The Authorities have indicated that the Protocol has been effective in managing most unauthorised encampments and enabled transit need to be accommodated in the shorter term (up to 21 days) without the formal provision of temporary stopping places.

7.22 The two key elements used in validating a need for transit provision were:

- Unauthorised encampment data; and
- Contextual information from the Local Authorities.

- 7.23 Unauthorised encampment data for the previous three years (1st January 2011 to 31st December 2013) was collated and analysed to give an indication as to the level of activity across the area – as unauthorised encampments are generally indicative of a lack of transit accommodation this is a useful starting point.
- 7.24 Contextual information from the Local Authorities across the study area enabled further analysis of the unauthorised encampment data, and allowed us to identify repeated incidences of unauthorised encampment activity by the same group of households, where necessary. It also enabled longer term “one-off” unauthorised encampments to be eliminated from the assessment of transit requirements. The Protocol for the managing of unauthorised encampments, which allows a period of deferred enforcement (toleration) of up to 21 days, has been taken into account. Refining the unauthorised encampment data in this way enabled us to determine the real extent of need based on past activity.
- 7.25 Overall, analysis of unauthorised encampment data and contextual information indicates that new transit provision is needed across Worcestershire. It is recommended that provision for a minimum of eight transit pitches be made across the study area as a whole (Table ES16).

Authority	Five year pitch minimum requirement (single van use)
Bromsgrove	0
Malvern Hills	3
Redditch	3
Worcester	0
Wychavon	2
Wyre Forest	0 ⁷
Total	8

- 7.26 65% of survey respondents felt that more transit pitches were needed across the County as a whole; the preference of most respondents was for these sites to be managed by Councils (71%), although 62% also indicated a preference for transit sites to be managed privately by non-Gypsy Travellers.
- 7.27 The survey data also shows that just under a third of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople (32%) actually said they travelled in the previous year though this is much higher for Showpeople where 76% said they had travelled in the previous year.
- 7.28 It is recommended that the Authorities identify temporary stopping places for not less than eight pitches to accommodate transit need, with at least one facility in the north and south of the County.
- 7.29 It is suggested that Malvern Hills, Wychavon and Worcester City, who have been working jointly on the South Worcestershire Development Plan, could

⁷ Data on unauthorised encampments in Wyre Forest over the previous three years had indicated encampments on three separate sites. The District Council has subsequently granted planning permission for all three sites which has accommodated the need arising from those encampments.

liaise regarding the opportunity for providing the south Worcestershire authorities with a shared facility for dealing with future unauthorised encampments and to provide flexibility in meeting different levels of need at different times. Redditch has a requirement to provide three transit pitches.

8. Longer-term Pitch Requirements

- 8.1 In this section we look firstly at the requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and then at the requirements of Travelling Showpeople.
- 8.2 Assessing the future requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople over the next five years has been based on detailed information obtained from the household survey.
- 8.3 In line with current guidance this exercise should be repeated at least every five years to ensure that the evidence base is up to date.

Future household formation

- 8.4 The approach used to calculate future household formation rates for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople community is to use the detailed demographic information from the household survey making an assumption that 50% of children will form a household within the County when they reach 18 years of age. Survey evidence suggests that most (around 90%) of emerging households living in bricks and mortar accommodation have stated a preference for living in bricks and mortar and therefore analysis focuses on future household formation from households currently living on sites.
- 8.5 Table ES17 summarises the number of Gypsy and Traveller children on sites who are expected to reach the age of 18 over the period 2019/20 to 2033/34 based on current demographic information from the household survey data. The County Council's Education Services have indicated a greater number reaching 18 than those identified in the household survey.

Table ES17 Baseline information from the household survey on the total number of Gypsy and Traveller children on sites likely reach 18 to form households 2019/20 to 2033/34

District	Time Period			Total
	2019-2023	2024-2028	2029-2033*	
Bromsgrove	3	7	5	15
Malvern Hills	11	11	15	37
Redditch	0	0	0	0
Worcester City	9	6	10	25
Wychavon	38	46	65	149
Wyre Forest	12	19	25	56
Total	73	89	120	282

* Note for the period 2029-33, demographic data is available to 2032 and four years' data 2029-32 has been extrapolated

Future household formation based on 50% formation rate

- 8.6 Modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey. 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 18⁸.

- 8.7 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 five year periods 2019/20 to 2023/24 and 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 2029/30 to 2033/34, with the assumption that they remain in the same District and that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 (Table ES18).

Table ES18 Baseline information on the total number of new Gypsy and Traveller households 2019/20 to 2033/34 assuming 50% of children form households when they reach 18

District	Time Period			
	2019-2023	2024-2028	2029-2033*	Total
Bromsgrove	2	4	3	9
Malvern Hills	6	6	8	20
Redditch	0	0	0	0
Worcester City	5	3	5	13
Wychavon	19	23	33	75
Wyre Forest	6	10	13	29
Total	38	46	62	146

Note: Due to some rounding the total base is 146 and not 141 which is half of 282

- 8.8 It is recognised that in the longer-term turnover rates may change and as such turnover rates have not, therefore, been applied to periods beyond 2018/19. Pitch requirements beyond 2019/20 are therefore indicative and may be over-estimates.
- 8.9 There will be a need to monitor occupancy and turnover and adjust assumptions as appropriate in future time periods.

Future Requirements for Gypsies and Travellers (excluding Travelling Showpeople)

- 8.10 If District pitch turnover rates are not applied to the longer-term assessment, the analysis suggests that there could be a shortfall of pitches for Gypsies and Travellers across Worcestershire of 38 pitches between 2019/20 – 2023/24, 46 pitches between 2024/25 to 2028/29 and 62 pitches between 2029/30 to 2033/34 (Table ES19). In the longer-term, there would be a shortfall of pitches in all Districts, except Redditch.

⁸ Travellers are more likely to establish their own household at a relatively early age; it is not uncommon for a Traveller to be living in their own household by the age of 18.

Table ES19 Future pitch requirements of Gypsies and Travellers based on the assumption that 50% of children form households on reaching 18

2019/20 to 2023/24	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Baseline authorised pitches (assumes any shortfall in previous 5 years is addressed)	24	19	0	20	200	84	347
Additional household need	2	6	0	5	19	6	38
Total pitch need	26	25	0	25	219	90	385
Shortfall (excluding turnover)	2	6	0	5	19	6	38
2024/25 to 2028/29	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Baseline authorised pitches (assumes any shortfall in previous 5 years is addressed)	26	25	0	25	219	90	385
Additional household need	4	6	0	3	23	10	46
Total pitch need	30	31	0	28	242	100	431
Shortfall (excluding turnover)	4	6	0	3	23	10	46
Baseline authorised pitches (assumes any shortfall in previous 5 years is addressed)	26	25	0	25	219	90	385
2029/30 to 2033/34	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Baseline authorised pitches (assumes any shortfall in previous 5 years is addressed)	30	31	0	28	242	100	431
Additional household need	3	8	0	5	33	13	62
Total pitch need	33	39	0	33	275	113	493
Pitch supply at 2029	30	31	0	28	242	100	431
Shortfall (excluding turnover)	3	8	0	5	33	13	62

Gypsies and Travellers - Longer-term pitch requirement summary

- 8.11 An analysis of longer-term pitch requirements based on household formation and household growth assumptions would indicate that there is expected to be an increase in need for pitches (Table ES20).
- 8.12 District turnover rates have been included in the current five year requirements (2014/15 to 2018/19) as these are based on the household survey data and as such are firmly linked to the views and perceptions of the community thereby constituting a robust evidence base. Each local authority has its own turnover level and this has been used to determine final pitch requirements.
- 8.13 For subsequent time periods, turnover rates have not been applied because it is recognised that they are likely to change. Longer-term pitch requirements beyond 2018/19 are therefore indicative and liable to change.
- 8.14 As Accommodation Assessments are required every five years we see that as the best time to establish more robust requirements beyond 2018/19. It should therefore be noted that the longer term pitch requirements set out below are indicative only and will need to be updated through future Accommodation Assessments.

Table ES20 Summary Pitch Requirements for Gypsies and Travellers 2019/20 – 2033/34

2019/20 to 2023/24	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Shortfall	2	6	0	5	19	6	38
2024/25 to 2028/29	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Shortfall	4	6	0	3	23	10	46
2029/30 to 2033/34	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Shortfall	3	8	0	5	33	13	62
Total 2019/20 to 2033/34	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Shortfall	9	20	0	13	75	29	146

Longer-term plot requirements – Travelling Showpeople

- 8.15 An analysis of longer-term plot requirements based on evidence from the household survey of potential household formation (with 50% of children assumed to form households at the age of 18) and excluding turnover assumptions would suggest an overall requirement for ten additional plots over the period 2019/20 to 2033/34 (Table ES21).
- 8.16 It is recommended that the Councils monitor occupancy and turnover on existing yards and adjust capacity assumptions as appropriate. It is also recommended that Councils regularly monitor yard applications to assess whether need is changing.

Table ES21 Future plot requirements for Travelling Showpeople based on the assumption that 50% of children form households on reaching 18

2019/20 to 2023/24	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Baseline authorised pitches (assuming 5 year shortfall is addressed)	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Additional household need	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
Total pitch need	0	19	11	0	0	2	32
Pitch supply at 2019	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Shortfall (exc. turnover)	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
2024/25 to 2028/29	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Baseline authorised pitches (assuming any 5 year shortfall is addressed after taking account of turnover)	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Additional household need	0	2	0	0	0	1	3
Total pitch need	0	19	10	0	0	3	32
Pitch supply at 2024	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Shortfall (exc. turnover)	0	2	0	0	0	1	3
2029/30 to 2033/34	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Baseline authorised pitches (assuming any 5 year shortfall is addressed after taking account of turnover)	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Additional household need	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
Total pitch need	0	21	10	0	0	2	33
Pitch supply at 2029	0	17	10	0	0	2	29
Shortfall (exc. turnover)	0	4	0	0	0	0	4

9. Stakeholder consultation

- 9.1 There was a good knowledge amongst stakeholders responding to the online survey about the issues affecting Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the study area. Regarding the provision of permanent sites, there was a general feeling amongst those who commented that there is adequate provision in Wychavon but insufficient sites across the rest of Worcestershire. In terms of new transit sites, it was proposed that provision should be focused on areas that have experienced unauthorised encampments, such as Stourport (where the Riverside car park has regularly been utilised). Stakeholder respondents identified a number of barriers locally to new provision in Worcestershire, including:
- Site availability;
 - Planning constraints, including Green Belt, Flood Zones and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
 - Cost/lack of funding;
 - Local opposition by the public;
 - Lack of political will; and
 - Lack of robust evidence of need.
- 9.2 Stakeholders recognised the importance of the planning system in the delivery of new sites. They felt that a consistent and joined-up approach between Districts is needed in order to address the accommodation requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, especially as Travellers often move across local authority boundaries. Travelling routes and migration patterns across the region should be considered, as stakeholders were aware of a significant number of regular fairs, circuses and travelling groups linked to the study area.
- 9.3 The Stakeholder briefing in August 2014 provided an opportunity to consider the wider issues arising from the Worcestershire GTAA for key stakeholders (including neighbouring planning authorities) as part of the partner authorities' duty to cooperate.
- 9.4 The role of the Protocol for managing unauthorised encampments was acknowledged. However, there was also support for the GTAA recommendation for a transit site in the north and south of the County because one of the difficulties of moving Travellers from unauthorised encampments is that there are no temporary stopping places in Worcestershire to move Travellers to.
- 9.5 No neighbouring planning authorities reported that they would be looking to the Worcestershire authorities to meet their objectively assessed need for Gypsy, Traveller or Travelling Showpeople pitches.
- 9.6 Herefordshire Council had recently commissioned a new GTAA, but the current GTAA (published in 2008) had not raised cross boundary issues for Worcestershire.

- 9.7 The Gloucestershire GTAA (published in October 2013) indicated very little additional pitch provision in the next five years for Cheltenham, Cotswold, Forest of Dean, Gloucester and Stroud but a significant pitch provision was required in Tewkesbury. Tewkesbury Borough Council were carrying out a capacity analysis to help identify sites to meet their need. At the time of the Stakeholder briefing, Tewkesbury could not advise whether they would need assistance to help meet this need.
- 9.8 Stratford-upon-Avon District Council published an update to their 2011 GTAA in 2014. Stratford-upon-Avon District Council indicated that they were intending to meet all of their objectively assessed need within the District and were in the process of preparing a Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan.

10. Conclusions and Recommendations

Gypsies and Travellers

- 10.1 The findings of the research show that there is no overall shortfall of permanent pitches for Gypsies and Travellers across Worcestershire over the next five years up to 2018/19. There is, however, a need for nine pitches within Wychavon.
- 10.2 The remaining Councils have sufficient capacity to cover identified requirements up to 2018/19.
- 10.3 Requirements after 2018/19 increase primarily due to turnover being excluded from the calculations. As turnover for the period after 2018/19 is based on assumptions only it was recommended to remove this from the calculations. It is safe to assume that there will be an element of turnover between 2019/20 and 2033/34 and as such the figures in table ES22 should be regarded as being at the upper end of actual requirements based on current survey evidence and assumed household formation rates.

	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
2014/15-2018/19	-6	-3	0	-1	9	-6	-7 ⁹
2019/20-2023/24	2	6	0	5	19	6	38 ¹⁰
2024/25-2028/29	4	6	0	3	23	10	46 ¹⁰
2029/30-2033/34	3	8	0	5	33	13	62 ¹⁰

Travelling Showpeople

- 10.4 For Travelling Showpeople the analysis indicates no overall additional need for plots across Worcestershire over the five year period 2014/15 to 2018/19 although supplementary evidence indicates that replacement plots will be required for the relocation of the existing two Showperson's plots in Wyre Forest.
- 10.5 Longer-term plot requirements based on expected household formation rates would suggest a need for three plots in each of the next two five year periods following 2018/19 and four in the third five year period, with Malvern Hills exhibiting most of this requirement. As turnover for the period after 2018/19 is based on assumptions only it was recommended to remove this from the calculations. It is safe to assume that there will be an element of turnover between 2019/20 and 2033/34 and as such the figures in table ES23 should be regarded as being at the upper end of actual requirements based on current survey evidence and assumed household formation rates.

⁹ Includes Turnover derived from survey of households – based on years in current home

¹⁰ Does not include turnover due to limitations of projecting turnover forward on such a small number of households/population and recognition that in the longer-term District turnover rates will change.

Table ES23 Summary Table – Travelling Showpeople

	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
2014/15-2018/19	0	-3	-2	0	0	0*	-5 ⁹
2019/20-2023/24	0	2	1	0	0	0	3 ¹⁰
2024/25-2028/29	0	2	0	0	0	1	3 ¹⁰
2029/30-2033/34	0	4	0	0	0	0	4 ¹⁰

*Excludes the potential relocation of 2 plots in Wyre Forest

10.6 Overall, analysis of unauthorised encampment data and contextual information indicates that new transit provision is needed across Worcestershire. It is recommended that provision for a minimum of eight transit pitches be made across the study area as a whole. This number will cover 2014/15 to 2018/19 (Table ES24).

Table ES24 Summary of minimum transit pitch requirements (2014/15 to 2018/19)

	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester City	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
2014/15 - 2018/19	0	3	3	0	2	0	8

10.7 Additional findings of note from the household survey were:

- Identification of some feelings of insufficient space and overcrowding on some sites, particularly among Travelling Showpeople;
- The majority of respondents considered the state of repair of their home to be good or very good;
- In terms of repairs or improvements that are needed, the most commonly mentioned were improvements to bathroom facilities; increased space on pitch; improvements to the slab/drive and improved kitchen facilities;
- On the whole the vast majority of respondents were happy with their living circumstances and perhaps this is part of the reason for there being very little needs being identified across the study area.

10.8 Given that minimal pitch/plot requirements were identified up to 2018/19 it is recommended that the Authorities work with local Travelling communities to monitor activity both in terms of unauthorised encampments and capacity on sites across the County.

10.9 The use of a 21 day toleration policy for transit and passing through Travellers serves the community well and meets almost all of the potential need that has surfaced with very little extra capacity required to assist those who stay for longer than 21 days. The Councils may wish to consider the development of two smaller passing-through or transit sites in the north and the south of the County as a potential solution for families who stay beyond 21 days.

- 10.10 Further research should be undertaken in five years to review the position in respect of accommodation need and requirements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in Worcestershire and to update turnover rates.
- 10.11 We also recommend that the Councils continue to work together as they have done previously and to continue a dialogue amongst all local Councils over the coming years to ensure that the needs of the communities are being monitored and addressed.
- 10.12 Whilst the study has not identified a need to identify and plan for large strategic Traveller sites in the five year period from 2014/15 to 2018/19, the Councils should assess the suitability of proposals and planning applications for smaller sites as they arise against criteria-based planning policies. In the longer term, Planning Policy for Traveller Sites states that local planning authorities, in producing their Local Plans, should identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years six to ten and, where possible, for years 11-15.