

Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2024 Update

Central Lancashire (City of Preston, South Ribble
Borough Council and Chorley Borough Council)

Final Report
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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Central Lancashire Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2024 (GTAA) provides the latest available evidence to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the Central Lancashire area which comprises Preston City, Chorley Borough and South Ribble Borough council areas. It updates the findings of the 2022 GTAA.

The GTAA update has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data; and
- A household survey and site/yard observation. A total of 31 Gypsy and Traveller households live on pitches. Interviews were achieved with 16 households living on private sites and site management information was used to update information on households living on the Leighton Street site. Information on 100% of households living on sites was therefore achieved. Two interviews from households living in bricks and mortar households were achieved in the 2022 study and considered in the 2024 update.

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

We are very grateful to the Gypsy and Traveller communities across Central Lancashire for their positive engagement with the work and for the assistance provided by site owners to facilitate interviews.

Please note 'Preston' refers to the City of Preston; 'Chorley' Chorley Borough and 'South Ribble' South Ribble Borough.

Population and current accommodation provision

The 2021 Census reported a population of **196** people who identified as 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' or 'Gypsy/Romany' and no people identifying as 'Roma' living in Central Lancashire (58 Chorley, 113 Preston and 25 South Ribble). The total number of households was estimated to be **65** based on the number of Household Reference People (15 Chorley, 50 Preston and 0 South Ribble).

Culturally appropriate provision across Central Lancashire includes:

Preston – one former council site now leased to the community to manage (15 pitches); and one unauthorised site (8 pitches)

Chorley – one permanently authorised site (3 pitches) and one unauthorised site (7 pitches)

There are no sites in South Ribble and no Travelling Showperson's yards in Central Lancashire. Private sites tend to be occupied by extended family groups. This means the ability of non-family members to move onto private sites is limited.

The bi-annual MHCLG Traveller caravan count (January 2016 to January 2024) reported an average of 31 caravans on Gypsy and Traveller sites across Central Lancashire and none on Travelling Showperson's yards.

Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

The 2024 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states in Paragraph 63 *'the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policy (including travellers)'*. A footnote in the NPPF then states *'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers' housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document'*.

The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Site (PPTS) document states that *'local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning' and 'ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies' and 'to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply'*.

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

Need assessment period

Need has been assessed over a short-term period: 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term period: 2029/30 to 2040/41.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

Overall need

There is an overall need for 49 additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches across Central Lancashire over the period 2024/25 to 2040/41 (Chorley 13, Preston 36, South Ribble 0). This compares with 44 in the 2022 GTAA and the increase is due to the current and future needs associated with a new unauthorised site in Chorley Borough and the changing demographics of households living on the Leighton Street site in Preston.

The pitch shortfall over the first five-year and full plan period by local authority are set out in detail in Table ES1.

Table ES1 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2040/41

	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire Total
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29)	10	17	0	27
Longer-term need				
<i>Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Over period 2039/40 to 2040/41</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>6</i>
Longer-term need TOTAL	3	19	0	22
TOTAL NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2040/41	13	36	0	49

Meeting the need

The GTAA update has considered how identified needs can be met through regularisation (granting permanent planning permission to unauthorised sites), expansion/intensification of existing sites and potential new sites.

Table ES2 summarises potential supply across Central Lancashire and indicates potential supply of at least 20 pitches plus the potential for additional caravans on existing sites to meet family needs.

Discussions with private site owners have identified a potential site in South Ribble to help meet need arising from within Central Lancashire. For confidentiality and commercial sensitivity reasons the specific details are withheld in this report but councils have been made aware of these sites. The capacity is for at least 10 pitches.

Table ES2 Potential pitch supply across Central Lancashire

	Chorley	Preston	South Ribble	Central Lancashire
Regularisation	One site with 7 pitches	One site with 8 pitches	None	15 pitches
Expansion/ intensification	Additional caravans on existing sites could meet identified 5 year need (8 households)	None	None	Additional caravans on existing sites in Chorley and Preston could meet identified 5 year need (8 households)
Total	7 pitches plus additional caravans on existing sites	8 pitches	None	15 pitches plus additional caravans on existing sites to meet needs of 8 households

Therefore, there is potential for up to 15 pitches to help meet need over the plan period plus the potential for two existing sites to meet arising family needs from 12 household members.

Summary of need

In summary:

- Over the short-term five year period 2024/25 to 2028/29, there is a need for 27 additional pitches (Chorley 10, Preston 17, South Ribble 0)
- Over the longer-term 2029/30 to 2040/41, there is a need for 22 additional pitches (Chorley 3, Preston 19 and South Ribble 0)
- Over the plan period 2024/25 to 2040/41, there is an overall need for 49 pitches (Chorley 13, Preston 36 and South Ribble 0).

A potential supply of up to 15 additional pitches has been identified. There is also potential for two existing sites to meet arising family needs from 12 households.

The 2024 GTAA update identifies an annualised need for 3.2 pitches. This compares with 3 pitches (2022 GTAA) and 2.5 pitches (2015 GTAA). The annualised need for pitches has been increasing. This can be attributed to a higher number of children on sites which is increasing levels of household formation and also a new site that has been developed in Chorley.

Travelling Showperson plot requirements

There is currently no Travelling Showperson's provision in Central Lancashire.

Temporary stopping places and transit provision

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

Policy recommendations

The overall needs evidenced in this report indicate a total shortfall of 49 pitches over the period 2024/25 to 2040/41.

The study has identified at least 15 pitches to help meet need over the plan period. In addition, there is potential for two existing sites to meet arising family needs from 8 households expected to form in the next 5 years.

As part of the GTAA process, there has been engagement with local landowners who have the potential to bring forward sites to help meet need.

It is recommended that the councils:

- continue to engage with private site owners to develop new sites;
- consider regularising unauthorised sites; and
- ensure a criteria-based policy is in place against which new applications can be assessed.

1. Introduction

Overview

- 1.1 In June 2024, arc⁴ was commissioned by Central Lancashire local authorities to prepare a 2024 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). This report updates the findings of the previous 2022 study.
- 1.2 The overall scope of the study is to ensure that the councils have a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision over the period to 2041 (financial year 2040/41) and to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers to meet both the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS)-defined need and the council's obligations under section 124 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016.

Who the study covers?

- 1.3 The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites provides the updated definition of Gypsies and Travellers as set out within Annex 1 of the 2014 PPTS:

“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, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.”

- 1.4 Similarly, the following definition from Annex 1 of the Guidance in respect of Travelling Showpeople is used:

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

- 1.5 In addition:

‘For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use pitches for “travelling showpeople”, which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.’ (DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites December 2024 Annex 1, para 5).

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

Geography

- 1.7 The Central Lancashire area covers the three local authorities of the City of Preston, Chorley Borough and South Ribble Borough. Throughout the report, these local authority areas are referred to as Preston, Chorley and South Ribble

Report structure

- 1.8 The GTAA 2024 report structure is as follows:
- **Chapter 1 Introduction:** provides an overview of the study.
 - **Chapter 2 Policy and local context:** presents a review of the national policy context which guides the study.
 - **Chapter 3 Methodology:** provides details of the study's research methodology.
 - **Chapter 4 Review of current Gypsy and Traveller population and provision of pitches/plots:** reviews estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Central Lancashire and existing site/yard provision.
 - **Chapter 5 Household survey:** presents relevant data obtained from the household survey research.
 - **Chapter 6 Pitch/plot/transit requirements:** focuses on current and future pitch/plot requirements. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, supply and current shortfalls across the district.
 - **Chapter 7 Conclusion and strategic response:** concludes the report, providing brief summary of key findings and recommendations.
- 1.9 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:
- **Appendix A** Household questionnaires.
 - **Appendix B** Glossary of terms.

2. Policy and local context

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

Government policy and guidance

- 2.3 The 2024 National Planning Policy Framework states in Paragraph 63 *‘the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups in the community should be assessed and reflected in planning policies’*. It then lists a number of groups including Travellers. A footnote to the paragraph *states ‘Planning Policy for Traveller Sites sets out how travellers’ housing needs should be assessed for those covered by the definition in Annex 1 of that document’*.
- 2.4 The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) document states that *‘local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning’ and ‘ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies’ and ‘to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply’*.
- 2.5 Policy A of the 2024 PPTS relates to evidence needed to plan positively and manage development. This states *‘in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:*
- *pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities (including discussing travellers’ accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups);*
 - *cooperate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups; other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas over the lifespan of their development plan, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities; and*
 - *use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions’*.
- 2.6 In the absence of further guidance on preparing GTAAs, the methods adopted by arc⁴ reflect Policy A of the PPTS; build upon those methods established through previous guidance; our practical experience and findings from planning inquiries and appeals.

- 2.7 The calculation of pitch/plot requirements is based on established DCLG modelling methodology, as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). Although this guidance was formally withdrawn in December 2016, in the absence of any updated guidance on the subject, it continues to provide a good practice approach for needs modelling.
- 2.8 Policy B of the 2024 PPTS relates to planning for Traveller sites and requires Local Plans:
- to be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and consistent with the policies of the NPPF; and
 - to set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople as defined in Annex 1 which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of Travellers in their area, working collaboratively with neighbouring local planning authorities.
- 2.9 Policy B (paragraph 10) sets out that local authorities should, in producing their Local Plan:
- a. identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
 - b. identify a supply of specific, developable sites, or broad locations for growth, for years 6 to 10 and, where possible, for years 11-15;
 - c. consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints (local planning authorities have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries);
 - d. relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density; and
 - e. protect local amenity and environment.
- 2.10 Policy B (paragraph 13) sets out that local authorities should ensure that Traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally and therefore ensure that their policies:
- a. promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
 - b. promote, in collaboration with commissioners of health services, access to appropriate health services;
 - c. ensure that children can attend school on a regular basis;
 - d. provide a settled base that reduces both the need for long-distance travelling and possible environmental damage caused by unauthorised encampment;

- e. provide for proper consideration of the effect of local environmental quality (such as noise and air quality) on the health and well-being of any Travellers who may locate there or on others as a result of new development;
- f. avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;
- g. do not locate sites in areas at high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains, given the particular vulnerability of caravans; and
- h. reflect the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some Travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

Intentional unauthorised development

- 2.11 The planning policy statement issued with PPTS 2015 (https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457632/Final_Chief_Planning_Officer_letter_and_written_statement.pdf) and confirmed by Ministerial Statement (<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2015-12-17/HCWS423/>) makes clear that if a site is intentionally occupied without planning permission this would be a material consideration in any retrospective planning application for that site. Whilst this does not mean that retrospective applications will be automatically refused, it does mean that failure to seek permission in advance of occupation will count against the application.
- 2.12 In addition, PPTS 2024 (Paragraph 12) makes clear that in exceptional cases where a local authority is burdened by a large-scale unauthorised site that has significantly increased their need, and their area is subject to strict and special planning constraints, then there is no assumption that the local authority will be required to meet their Gypsy and Traveller site needs in full. This is intended to protect local planning authorities with significant land constraints from being required to provide for additional needs arising directly from large sites such as Dale Farm (a large unauthorised site in Essex).

Considering ‘Cultural’ and ‘PPTS’ need

- 2.13 The PPTS 2024 now contains a revised definition of Gypsy and Traveller which includes reference to people with a cultural tradition of nomadism or living in a caravan.

Responding to challenges

2.14 GTAAs are subject to intense scrutiny, particularly at planning inquiries and hearings. The methodological approaches taken by arc⁴ aim to maximise the robustness of evidence and measures include:

- An up-to-date assessment of the number of pitches on sites and the number of households living on pitches and any vacancies.
- Maximising response rates from households.
- Carefully considering the relationship between households and the pitches they occupy.
- Sensitive analysis of the flows of existing households from and to districts.
- Consideration of overcrowding and concealed households.
- Careful consideration of turnover on council/housing association pitches, with clear assumptions over future potential capacity from households moving away from pitches.
- Longer-term modelling of need using detailed demographic information contained from household survey work.
- Reasonable assumptions around the number of households in bricks and mortar accommodation who may want to move to a pitch.

3. Methodology

Introduction

- 3.1 The GTAA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirement of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.
- 3.2 The methodology has comprised:
- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including data on pitches/sites, plots/yards and unauthorised encampments;
 - the collection of primary data, including household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople; and
 - an assessment of accommodation needs taking into account all available data and information.
- 3.3 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:
- Phase 1: Literature/desktop review.
 - Phase 2: Survey of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Central Lancashire.
 - Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of the GTAA 2024 report.

Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions

- 3.4 We have reviewed relevant literature, including legislative background and best practice information; and analysis of available secondary data relating to Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the district. The research has been overseen by a steering group comprising local authority officers.

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

- 3.5 Our aim is to obtain interviews from all households living on sites using a standard questionnaire (Appendix A). This questionnaire has been carefully designed in consultation with councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents. Site visits and interviews took place during September 2024.
- 3.6 A total of 31 Gypsy and Traveller households live on pitches. Interviews were achieved with 16 households living on private sites and site management information was used to update information on households living on the Leighton Street site. Information on 100% of households living on sites was

therefore achieved. Two interviews from households living in bricks and mortar households were achieved in the 2022 study and considered in the 2024 update.

Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of report

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

Pitches and households

- 3.9 One of the key challenges faced when assessing Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements is the actual nature of pitches and how this relates to the number of households they can support.
- 3.10 PPTS 2024 refers to the need for local planning authorities to '*identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years' worth of sites against their locally set targets' and '*relate the number of pitches/plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density*' (PPTS 2024, paragraph 10).*
- 3.11 Planning decision notices usually refer to the number of pitches on a site or the specifics of what can be on a pitch e.g. statics, tourers; or specific individuals and/or households.
- 3.12 As part of the GTAA, it is essential that the characteristics of sites, the number of pitches and how many households these can support is carefully considered. There are a range of issues which need to be considered when reviewing site and pitch characteristics and their potential implications for future pitch and site requirements which are now summarised.

Site and pitch size

- 3.13 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes. Although now withdrawn, the DCLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites: good practice guide (2008) states in paragraph 4.4 that '*Gypsy and Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building, together with space for parking. Sites of various sizes, layouts and pitch numbers operate successfully today and work best when they take into account the size of the site and the needs and demographics of the families resident on them*'.

- 3.14 Paragraph 4.47 states that *‘to ensure fire safety it is essential that every trailer, caravan or park home must be not less than 6 metres from any other trailer, caravan or park home that is occupied separately’*.
- 3.15 Paragraph 7.12 states that *‘as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area’*.
- 3.16 Paragraph 4.13 states that *‘smaller pitches must be able to accommodate at least an amenity building, a large trailer, drying space for clothes and parking for at least one vehicle’*.
- 3.17 As a general guide, it is suggested by arc⁴ that the minimum pitch size is 25m by 25m (625 square meters or 0.0625 hectares). This would support a twin-unit chalet/mobile home (15m x 6.5m), a tourer, an amenity shed/building (5m x 4m), two vehicle spaces (minimum 2.4m x 4.8m for each space) and turning circle for vehicles, amenity space and a small garden area/play space. Residential units need to be 3m from the pitch boundary and at least 6m apart. A slightly larger pitch of 25m by 30m (750 square meters or 0.075 hectares) would be appropriate for larger household units requiring several residential units. Additionally, it may be appropriate to have several caravans on a pitch to accommodate newly-forming households who may require independent accommodation but want to stay living as part of an extended family group.
- 3.18 It is generally accepted amongst the Travelling community that private sites of up to 6-10 pitches are appropriate. Public sites tend to be larger and have policies and procedures in place to ensure the effective management of sites.
- 3.19 In 2010, the Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain prepared a document ‘Travelling Showpeople’s sites: a planning focus – model standard package). This document was intended to provide guidelines to Travelling Showpeople and Local Planning Authorities when considering the needs of Travelling Showpeople.
- 3.20 This document confirmed that:
- A plot is a piece of land occupied by a Showperson with their family and equipment, used to store fairground rides, vehicles and other items as well as for living accommodation. The family unit can be large or small, for instance an extended family with grandparents, parents and children, or a single-family unit of parents and children.
 - A yard is two or more plots owned by the same family who may use this for their own family purposes or may let part out to other Showpeople.
 - A site is a group of plots where the land is owned by individual plot holders. Quite often a Showperson’s site will have a common shared access onto the main road network.
 - Showpeople’s sites do not fit neatly into the definition of a one land use category. The sites combine a residential use with a storage use, and maintenance is also likely to be carried out on site. The residential use can take the form of static homes and caravans.

- For a Travelling Showperson yard, the minimum size of a plot is 0.5ha and should include space for residential accommodation and equipment storage.
- 3.21 It is generally accepted amongst the Travelling community that private sites of up to 6-10 pitches are appropriate. Public sites tend to be larger and have policies and procedures in place to ensure the effective management of sites.

Occupancy

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

Response

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

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

- 4.1 This chapter looks at the current picture in terms of the current population and demography of Gypsies and Travellers across Central Lancashire before going on to explore the extent and nature of provision across the area.

Census data

- 4.2 In October 2023, the ONS published detailed census data relating to Gypsy and Traveller populations. This provides valuable insights into the population dynamics and comparisons with overall populations.
- 4.3 The 2021 Census reported a population of **196** people who identified as ‘White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ or ‘Gypsy/Romany’ and no people identifying as ‘Roma’ living in Central Lancashire (58 Chorley, 113 Preston and 25 South Ribble). The total number of households was estimated to be **65** based on the number of Household Reference People (15 Chorley, 50 Preston and 0 South Ribble).
- 4.4 The previous 2011 Census reported 153 people (37 Chorley, 99 Preston and 17 South Ribble) and 58 households (16 Chorley, 35 Preston and 7 South Ribble).
- 4.5 Table 4.1 sets out a range of data relating to people identifying as Gypsies and Travellers from the 2021 Census across Central Lancashire, which mainly relates to those living in Chorley and Preston. In summary:
- 82% live in bricks and mortar accommodation and 18% live in a caravan/mobile structure.
 - 80% rent (34% privately and 46% from a social landlord) and 20% are owner occupiers.
 - 9.7% were overcrowded compared with 5% of the general population.
 - 32% were couples with children, 23% single parents and 45% other household types.

Table 4.1 Characteristics of properties and households which are occupied by people identifying as Gypsy and Traveller from 2021 Census.

Theme	Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
Dwelling Stock	Detached whole house or bungalow	20	18.2%
	Semi-detached whole house or bungalow	50	45.5%
	Terraced (including end-terrace) whole house or bungalow	25	22.7%
	Flat, maisonette or apartment	15	13.6%
	A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	20	18.2%
	Total	130	100.0%
Tenure	Owned: Owns outright	25	11.6%
	Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	#	0.0%
	Private rented or lives rent free	45	20.9%
	Rented Social rented	60	27.9%
	Total	130	100.0%
Occupancy	Occupancy rating of bedrooms 0 or more	140	90.3%
	Occupancy rating of bedrooms -1 or less (overcrowded)	15	9.7%
	Total	155	
Household composition	One person household: Aged 66 years and over	#	0.0%
	One person household: Other	#	0.0%
	Single family household: Couple family household: No children	#	0.0%
	Single family household: Couple family household: Dependent children	35	31.8%
	Single family household: Couple family household: All children non-dependent	#	0.0%
	Single family household: Lone parent household	25	22.7%
	Other household types	50	45.5%
	Total	110	100.0%
General Health	Very Good	100	57.1%
	Good	45	25.7%
	Fair	30	17.1%
	Bad	0	0.0%
	Very Bad	0	0.0%
	Total	175	100.0%
	Net health score (VG+G-B-VB)		82.9

Note 1 : # indicates data are suppressed as they relate to a small number of people.

Source: 2021 Census

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/culturalidentity/ethnicity/articles/gypsyoririshtravellerpopulationsenglandandwales/census2021>

4.6 In terms of health, 82.9% of Gypsies and Travellers said their health was very good/good and none said it was bad/very bad. The overall net health

satisfaction score (% saying very good/good minus bad/very bad) was 82.9% compared with 76.5% of the overall population.

- 4.7 Please note that the data reported from the census may differ from the findings of the household survey. This is because of the small population base of the Gypsy and Traveller population and data highly influenced by the level of response to both the 2021 Census and 2024 household survey. It is also important to note that an estimate of households in bricks and mortar is very difficult to establish. The 2021 Census does appear to undercount households living on pitches and therefore unlikely to fully reflect the circumstances of households living in Central Lancashire.

Caravan Count information

- 4.8 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the government in 1979 and have since been undertaken every January and July by local authorities. An annual count of Travelling Showperson caravans takes place every January. The counts provide a source of information on the number of caravans located on authorised and unauthorised sites but do not record the actual number of pitches on sites/yards.
- 4.9 The figures for the last 16 Traveller caravan counts for Central Lancashire are set out in Table 4.3. Data shows an average of 31 caravans across the area during the period January 2016 to July 2024. Of these 65% were on council sites, 7.2% on private (temporary authorised) sites and 27.8% on unauthorised sites.

Table 4.3 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures January 2016 to July 2024: Central Lancashire

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission			Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private (Temporary)	Total Private (Permanent)	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2016	22	11	0	0	33
Jul 2016	23	5	0	18	46
Jan 2017	22	5	0	0	27
Jul 2017	23	2	0	0	25
Jan 2018	22	5	0	1	28
Jul 2018	23	2	0	0	25
Jan 2019	22	5	0	0	27
July 2019	21	0	0	13	34
Jan 2020	21	0	0	13	34
Jul 2021	18	0	0	7	25
Jan 2022	17	0	0	13	30
Jul 2022	18	0	0	19	37
Jan 2023	17	0	0	14	31
Jul 2023	18	0	0	18	36
Jan 2024	17	0	0	13	30
Jul 2024	14	0	0	7	21
15-Count Average (Jan 2016- Jul 2024)	20	2	0	9	31
15-Count % Average (Jan 2016- Jul 2024)	65.0%	7.2%	0.0%	27.8%	100.0%

Source: MHCLG/DLUHC Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1

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

- 4.10 Over the period 2015 to 2024 there was one reported Travelling Showperson caravan across Central Lancashire (1 during the 2018 count in South Ribble) in government caravan count statistics (Table 4.4). There were no reported caravans in Chorley or Preston.

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

Count	Authorised sites with planning permission		Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private	Total Unauthorised	
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0
2018	0	0	1	1
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0
2024	0	0	0	0
Ten-Count Average	0	0	0	0
Ten-Count % Average	0	0	0	0

Source: MHCLG/ Travelling Showpeople Caravan Count, Live Table 3

Local site and yards

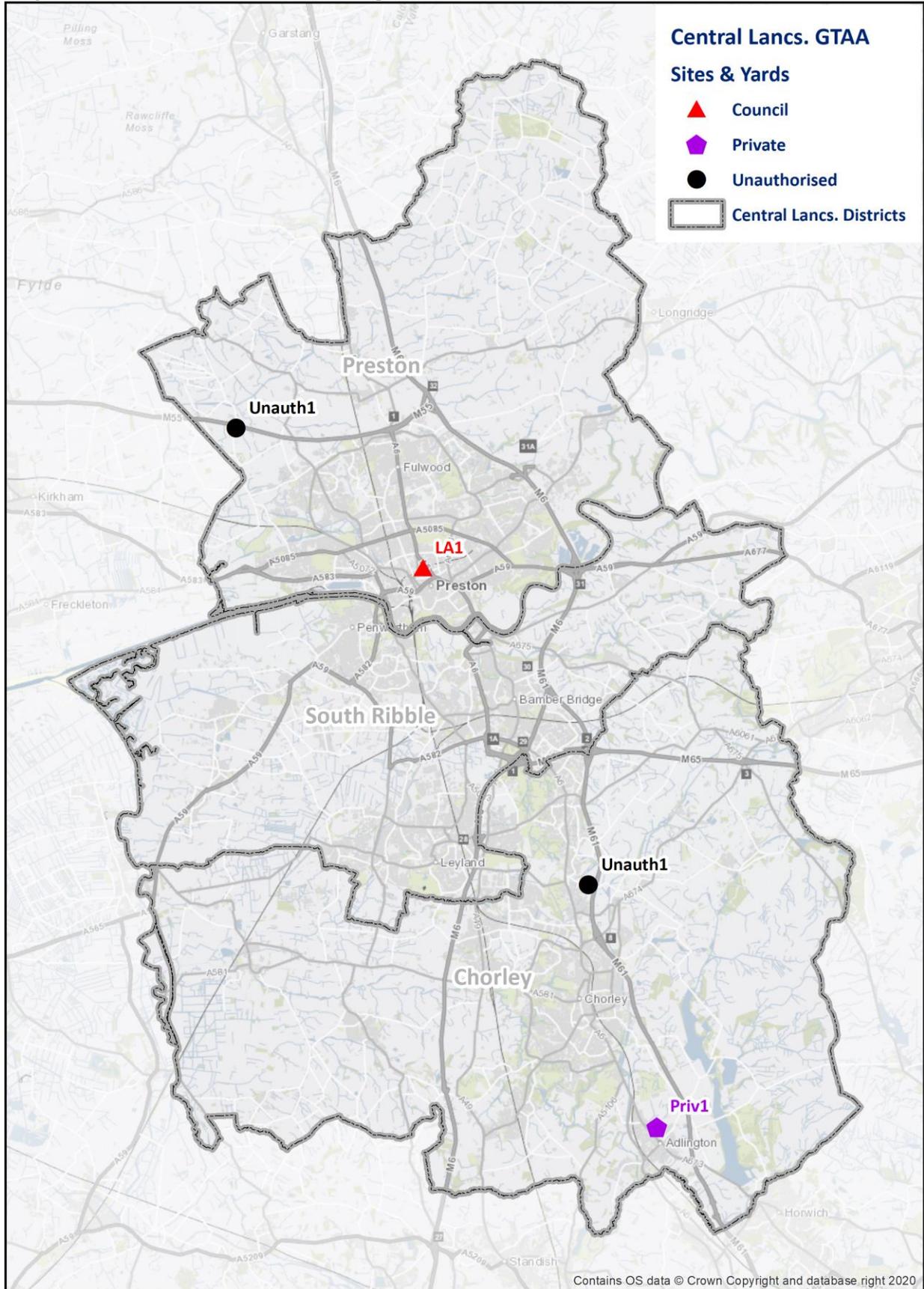
- 4.11 There are several ways in which sites can be described which are associated with their planning status. Authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on either public or privately-owned land. Unauthorised sites are made up of either longer-term (approximately three months or longer) unauthorised encampments and can be considered to be indicative of a permanent need for accommodation (in some instances local authorities class these as tolerated sites and do not take enforcement action to remove them); and unauthorised developments, where Travellers are residing upon land that they own and that does not have planning permission (see Appendix B for more detailed definitions).
- 4.12 Table 4.5 sets out the range of sites across Central Lancashire. The table also shows the number of household survey responses achieved. There are a total of four sites across Central Lancashire:
- Preston – one former council site now leased to the community to manage (15 pitches); and one unauthorised site (8 pitches).
 - Chorley – one permanent authorised site (3 pitches) and one unauthorised site for which planning permission is being sought (7 pitches).
 - South Ribble – no sites.
- 4.13 There are no Travelling Showperson’s yards in Central Lancashire.

- 4.14 Table 4.5 sets out assumptions regarding pitches and household occupancy on each site. This provides a transparent base position from which the modelling of future pitch in section 6 need can proceed.

Table 4.5 List of Gypsy & Traveller sites and Travelling Showperson yards (as at September 2024)								Comments
Site Code	Site address	Postcode	Ownership	Number of pitches	Total households (Sep 2024)	Total vacant (Sep 2024)	Response	
Chorley								
Priv1	Heath Paddock, Hut Lane, Chorley	PR6 9PB	Private Permanent Authorised	3	4	0	4	A residential Gypsy and Traveller site with the siting of up to seven caravans, of which no more than three can be mobile homes, and the retention of the utility block and site entrance. On this basis, the number of pitches has been revised to from 2 to 3
Unauth1	Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods	PR6 7DH	Unauthorised	7	4	3	4	This is a new site and a planning application is currently being considered by the council
Preston								
LA1	Leighton Street, Preston	PR1 2PX	Co-operative (previously Council)	15	15	0	15	The number of pitches has been increased to 15
Unauth1	Rosemary Lane, Catforth, Preston	PR4 0HB	Unauthorised	8	8	0	8	Previously temporary authorised (ended July 2016) which state no more than 8 caravans (no more than 2 should be static caravans/mobile homes). For pragmatic purposes, 8 pitches are assumed in the GTAA.
South Ribble								
No sites				0	0	0	0	
Central Lancashire Total				33	31	3	31	

Source: Council data 2024, site survey and fieldwork 2024

Map 4.1 Location of sites and yards in Central Lancashire



5. Household survey findings

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

Gypsy and Traveller households living in Central Lancashire

- 5.2 A review of the characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller households living in Central Lancashire has been based on data from a total of 30 households pm pitches interviewed as part of the 2024 GTAA.
- 5.3 The number of responses achieved to particular questions is summarised for each question. It would not be appropriate to provide a detailed analysis of the survey information, for instance by type or location of site, as this has the potential to identify individual responses. Broad summaries of the household data are presented in a manner which maintains respondent confidentiality. Where analysis refers to ‘small numbers’ this means 4 or fewer households responding.
- 5.4 **Ethnicity** (base=31): Of household representatives interviewed 51.6% described themselves as Romany Gypsy and 48.4% as Irish Traveller.
- 5.5 Data from the household survey provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on pitches.
- 5.6 **Household size** (base=31): 6.5% of households were single person; 16.1% two person; 25.8% three person; 22.6% four person, 22.6% five person and 6.5% six or more person households.
- 5.7 **Household type** (base=31): 48.4% couples with child(ren), 25.8% were single parents, 6.5% were single, 3.2% were couples, 3.2% were older couples and 12.9% were other households (for instance couples with adult children).
- 5.8 **Age profile:** The household survey identified a total of 107 Gypsies and Travellers living on sites across Central Lancashire. Household survey data reports the following age profile (base=107) of the Travelling population in Central Lancashire: 39.3% were aged 13 or under, 5.6% aged 14-17, 28.0% aged 18-34, 17.8% aged 35-49, 7.5% aged 50-64 and 1.9% aged 65 and over.
- 5.9 **Length of residence** (base=31): 38.7% had lived at their current place of residence for less than 5 years, 0% between 5 and less than 10 years, 38.7% between 10 and less than 20 years and 22.6% for 20 years or more.
- 5.10 **Overcrowding:** When asked if their home was overcrowding (base=31), 100% said no it was not overcrowded.
- 5.11 **Regarding the need for more residential pitches,** site owners/managers stated there was a need for more pitches.

Help and support needs

- 5.12 Respondents were asked if they had any broader help and support needs. Very few stated there were specific needs, but one specific need was for a regular electricity supply to ensure medication was kept at the correct temperature.

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

Introduction

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Central Lancashire. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data. This chapter also considers transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers. Finally, the chapter presents planning policy recommendations.
- 6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on modelling as advocated in *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Guidance* (DCLG, 2007). Although now formally withdrawn, the former DCLG Guidance still provides the best-practice approach towards the assessment of pitch and plot needs (see Chapter 2 for further discussion).
- 6.3 This approach requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. It advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information. Modelling presents an overall need based on the 2012 PPTS definition which is also called the ‘cultural’ need.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

- 6.4 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2040/41) arising from children likely to need a pitch.
- 6.5 In terms of **need**, the 5-year model considers:
- the baseline number of households on all types of site (authorised, unauthorised and temporary authorised sites) as at September 2024;
 - existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
 - emerging households currently on sites and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a pitch; to derive a figure for total pitch need.
- 6.6 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
- total supply of current pitches on authorised sites; and
 - vacant pitches on authorised sites.
- 6.7 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:
- total need for pitches; and

- total supply of authorised pitches.
- 6.8 The longer-term model then considers the cultural need over the period to 2040/41. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches.

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

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

Need

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

- 6.10 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. In summary there are 4 households living on an authorised site and 4 households living on an unauthorised site.

Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

- 6.11 The 2021 Census suggested there were 15 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

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

- 6.12 This was derived from information from the 2024 household survey for respondents currently on pitches.
- 6.13 Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that none plan to move and in the next 5 years.
- 6.14 For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc⁴ studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate less and one household. Furthermore, the council have indicated that they are not aware of any households living in bricks and mortar accommodation who need an pitch and therefore the model assumes no need from bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 6.15 Regarding in-migration, analysis of household survey data indicates that zero households) have moved into the borough and onto a pitch in the past 5 years.
- 6.16 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of zero pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years.

Emerging households (4)

- 6.17 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2024 household survey information. The total number is +6. If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

Total need for pitches (5)

- 6.18 This is a total of current households on authorised pitches, households on pitches planning to move in the next five years and demand from emerging households currently living on pitches. This indicates a total need for 14 pitches.

Supply

Current supply of authorised pitches (6)

- 6.19 There is one recently authorised site in Chorley which accommodates an extended family. This site has three statics and it is proposed that the GTAA recognises this site has 3 pitches. Within the site, there is flexible use of statics and tours to accommodate family needs and therefore the modelling assumes that 4 households can be adequately accommodated.

Table 6.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – Chorley Borough 2024/25 to 2028/29

CULTURAL NEED			Chorley Borough Total
1	Households living on pitches (includes households doubled up on pitches)	1a. On council site	0
		1b. On private site - Authorised	4
		1c. On private site – Temporary Authorised	0
		1d. On unauthorised site	4
		1e. Total (1a to 1d)	8
2	Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation	2021 Census	15
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years or on unauthorised site	Currently on sites	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	0.0
		3b. To another site in district (no net impact)	0.0
		3c. From site to bricks and mortar (-)	0.0
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside district	0.0
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0.0
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0.0
		In-migrant households	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	0.0
	3i. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3g+3h)	0.0	
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	6.0
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the district	0.0
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the district	0.0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0.0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0.0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0.0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	6.0
5	Total Need	1e+3i+4g	14.0
SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised pitches	3
		6b. Households adequately housed on existing pitches	1
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are vacant	0
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	4
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	14
8	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 6c)	4
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (row7-row8)			10

Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.20 There is a total need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29) for 14 pitches in Chorley Borough (Table 6.1) compared with a supply of 4 authorised pitches. The result is an overall need for 10 additional pitches.

Longer-term pitch requirement modelling

- 6.21 Longer-term pitch need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on pitches. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.
- 6.22 Need in Chorley is based on two families living on the two sites in the borough. Since the previous GTAA, a number of people aged under 13 now live in the borough and this will increase pitch need in the longer-term.
- 6.23 When calculating longer-term need, a reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage. The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in the local authority area. This approach has been tested at inquiry and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees. Analysis would suggest a total need for 3 (rounded) additional pitches over the period 2029/30-2040/41. However, as families form it is expected that future studies will show a longer-term need for pitches.

Table 6.2 Future pitch requirements based on the assumption that 50% of children will require a pitch in Chorley Borough

Time period	No. children	No. pitches
2029/30 to 2033/34 (5 years)	1	0.5
2034/35 to 2038/39 (5 years)	1	0.5
2039/40 to 2040/41 (2 years)	3	1.5
Total (2029/30 to 2040/41) (12 years)	5	2.5

Overall plan period pitch need

- 6.24 Table 6.3 summarises the overall need for pitches across Chorley Borough over the plan period 2024/25 to 2040/41. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term 2029/30 to 2040/41 period. The

overall need is 13 pitches. The main driver of need in the first five years is need from an unauthorised site and emerging households currently living on existing sites.

Table 6.3 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2040/41: Chorley Borough	
	Additional pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)	10
Longer-term need	
<i>Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)</i>	0
<i>Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)</i>	1
<i>Over period 2039/40 to 2040/31(D)</i>	2
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2040/41 (12 years) E=(B+C+D)</i>	3
NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2040/41 (A+E) (17 years)	13
Annual net shortfall	0.76

Potential capacity for Gypsy and Traveller pitches on existing sites

Turnover on sites

- 6.25 Turnover relates to the number of pitches that are expected to become available for occupancy. Analysis only includes expected turnover on public sites as this is referenced in (former) CLG guidance and more accurate data on changes in pitch occupancy is likely to be available. Although there is likely to be turnover on private sites, the ability of households to move onto private sites may be more restrictive (for instance the site may be restricted to a particular family) and less likely to be recorded. No turnover is assumed as there are no public sites in Chorley Borough.

Regularisation

- 6.26 Regularisation of sites that are not permanently authorised would help meet the needs identified. Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods is currently unauthorised but this site is occupied and has potential to meet needs arising from the extended household living there.

Potential for additional pitches on existing sites

- 6.27 Discussions with private site owners indicated there was potential to intensify existing sites with the addition of statics/caravans to help meet need using

existing sites. Emerging household needs from both Hutt Lane and Town Lane have the potential to be met through the use of existing sites which would help meet identified need.

Summary of need and capacity

- 6.28 Overall, there is a need across Chorley to plan for 13 additional authorised pitches over the period 2024/25 to 2040/41. There is a need for 10 additional pitches in the first five years of the Local Plan and 3 pitches in the period 2029/30 to 2040/41.
- 6.29 There is a potential supply of additional authorised pitches through:
- Regularisation (7 pitches).
 - Potential expansion/intensification (additional caravans on Hutt Lane and Town Lane to meet identified emerging need).
- 6.30 For Chorley Borough, there is no strategic need to identify additional sites over and above the existing sites occupied and the allocated site. However, a criteria-based policy should be used to assess any additional needs that may arise over the plan period.

Tenure preferences

- 6.31 Across Chorley, all sites are private. All emerging households stated a preference to live on private sites.

Transit requirements

- 6.32 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping. A good indicator of transit need is unauthorised encampment activity.
- 6.33 For Chorley, over the period 2022 to 2024, there were 24 incidences of unauthorised encampment activity (Table 6.4) although the number of caravans on each encampment was not reported.
- 6.34 Recommendations for transit provision across Central Lancashire are presented at the end of this chapter.

Table 6.4 Unauthorised encampment activity in Chorley Borough

Number of encampments recorded January 2022 to December 2024	24 encampments (2022=17; 2023=5 2024=2)
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Source: Council data

Showperson plot requirements

- 6.35 No Travelling Showpersons needs have been identified.

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

- 6.36 Table 6.5 provides a summary of the 5-year pitch need calculation for Preston. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

Need

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

- 6.37 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. In summary there are 15 households living on 15 co-operative (former council) pitches. There are also 8 households living on 5 unauthorised pitches at a site on Rosemary Lane in Catforth.

Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

- 6.38 The 2021 Census suggested there were 41 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

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

- 6.39 This was derived from information from the 2024 household survey for respondents currently on pitches and site management data.
- 6.40 Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that none plan to move and in the next 5 years.
- 6.41 For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc⁴ studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate to 1.8 households. Two households in bricks and mortar accommodation were interviewed in 2022 and needed a pitch, so the model uses this figure as an indication of need from bricks and mortar households.
- 6.42 Regarding in-migration, analysis of household survey data indicates that zero households) have moved into Preston and onto a pitch in the past 5 years.
- 6.43 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of +2 pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years.

Emerging households (4)

- 6.44 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years based on 2024 household survey and site management information. The total number is +7. If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

Total need for pitches (5)

- 6.45 This is a total of current households on authorised pitches, households on pitches planning to move in the next five years and demand from emerging households currently living on pitches. This indicates a total need for 32 pitches (rounded) (23 existing households on pitches plus a net need for 2 pitches from existing households planning to move and a need for 7 pitches from emerging households).

Supply

Current supply of authorised pitches (6)

- 6.46 There are 15 authorised pitches in Preston which are all occupied.

Table 6.5 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – City of Preston 2024/25 to 2028/29

CULTURAL NEED			Preston Total
1	Households living on pitches (includes households doubled up on pitches)	1a. On council site	15
		1b. On private site - Authorised	0
		1c. On private site – Temporary Authorised	0
		1d. On unauthorised site	8
		1e. Total (1a to 1d)	23
2	Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation	2021 Census	41
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years or on unauthorised site	Currently on sites	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	0.0
		3b. To another site in district (no net impact)	0.0
		3c. From site to bricks and mortar (-)	0.0
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside district	0.0
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	2.0
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0.0
		In-migrant households	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	0.0
		3i. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3g+3h)	2.0
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	5.0
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the district	2.0
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the district	0.0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0.0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0.0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0.0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	7.0
5	Total Need	1e+3i+4g	32.0
SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised pitches	15
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are vacant	0
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	15
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	32
8	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 6c)	15
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2024/25 TO 2028/29			17

Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.47 There is a total need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29) for 32 pitches in Preston (Table 6.6) compared with a supply of 15 authorised pitches. The result is an overall additional need for 17 pitches.

Longer-term pitch requirement modelling

- 6.48 Longer-term pitch need modelling has been carried out using known household structure information from the household survey of households living on pitches and from bricks and mortar interviews. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18.
- 6.49 When calculating longer-term need, a reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage. The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in the local authority area. This approach has been tested at inquiry and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees. Analysis (Table 6.6) would suggest a total need for 19 additional pitches over the period 2029/30-2040/41.

Table 6.6 Future pitch requirements based on the assumption that 50% of children will require a pitch in the City of Preston

Time period	No. children	No. pitches (rounded)
2029/30 to 2033/34 (5 years)	14	7
2034/35 to 2038/39 (5 years)	16	8
2039/40 to 2040/41 (2 years)	7	4
Total (2029/30 to 2040/41) (12 years)	37	19

Overall plan period pitch need

- 6.50 Table 6.7 summarises the overall need for pitches across Preston over the plan period 2024/25 to 2040/41. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2024/25 to 2028/29 and longer-term 2029/30 to 2040/41 period. The overall need is 36 pitches. The main driver of need in the first five years is households living on unauthorised sites and new household formation.

Table 6.7 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2040/41: City of Preston	
	Additional pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)	17
Longer-term need	
<i>Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)</i>	7
<i>Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)</i>	8
<i>Over period 2039/40 to 2040/31(D)</i>	4
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2040/41 (12 years) E=(B+C+D)</i>	19
NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2040/41 (A+E) (17 years)	36
Annual net shortfall	2.1

Potential capacity for Gypsy and Traveller pitches on existing sites

Turnover on sites

- 6.51 Turnover relates to the number of pitches that are expected to become available for occupancy. Analysis only includes expected turnover on public sites as this is referenced in (former) CLG guidance and more accurate data on changes in pitch occupancy is likely to be available. Although there is likely to be turnover on private sites, the ability of households to move onto private sites may be more restrictive (for instance the site may be restricted to a particular family) and less likely to be recorded. The local authority site in Preston as recently been transferred to a co-operative and therefore out of public ownership.
- 6.52 No turnover is assumed as there are no public sites in Preston.

Potential for additional pitches on existing sites

- 6.53 Discussions with private site owners indicated there was no potential to expand or intensify existing sites.

Potential new sites

- 6.54 Potential land was identified from a resident on one of the sites with a potential for at least 10 pitches. Further information on this has been forwarded to the council for further discussion and consideration.

Summary of need and capacity

- 6.55 Overall, across Preston there is need to plan for 36 pitches over the period 2024/25 to 2040/31. There is a need for 17 additional pitches in the first five years of the Local Plan and 19 in the period 2029/30 to 2040/41.
- 6.56 There is a potential supply of additional authorised pitches through
- Regularisation (8 pitches).
- 6.57 Through extensive discussions with local residents, there are no sites potentially available in Preston. However, a potential site in South Ribble to help meet need has been identified.

Tenure preferences

- 6.58 Across Preston, 65% of households live on the former council site now managed as a co-operative and 35% live in private pitches. Broadly speaking, emerging households on the co-operative site tended to prefer living social rented sites and those on private sites stated a preference to remain on a private site.

Transit requirements

- 6.59 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping. A good indicator of transit need is unauthorised encampment activity.
- 6.60 For Preston, over the period November 2022 to December 2024, there were 22 incidences of unauthorised encampment activity (Table 6.8).
- 6.61 Recommendations for transit provision across Central Lancashire are presented at the end of this chapter.

Table 6.8 Unauthorised encampment activity in the City of Preston		
Number of encampments recorded November 2022 to December 2024	22 encampments	
Number of caravans	Median	3
	Mode	1
	Range	1 to 15

Source: Council data

Gypsy and Traveller pitch need analysis: Description of factors in the 5-year need model: South Ribble

- 6.62 Table 6.9 provides a summary of the 5-year pitch need calculation for South Ribble. Each component in the model is now discussed to ensure that the process is transparent and any assumptions clearly stated.

Need

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

- 6.63 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. There are no households living on pitches in South Ribble.

Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (2)

- 6.64 The 2011 Census suggested there were 7 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation.

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

- 6.65 As there are no households living on sites and very few bricks and mortar households, the model identifies no need from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years. For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc⁴ studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate less and one household. Furthermore, the council have indicated that they are not aware of any households living in bricks and mortar accommodation who need a pitch and therefore the model assumes no need from bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 6.66 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of +0.00 pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years.

Emerging households (4)

- 6.67 As there are no households living on sites and very few bricks and mortar households, the model identifies no need from emerging households in the next 5 years.

Total need for pitches (5)

- 6.68 This is zero

Supply

Current supply of authorised pitches (6)

6.69 There are currently no authorised pitches in South Ribble Borough.

Reconciling supply and demand

6.70 There is a total need over the next five years (2024/25 to 2028/29) for zero pitches in South Ribble Borough (Table 6.8) compared with a supply of zero authorised pitches. The result is an overall cultural need shortfall of zero pitches.

Longer-term pitch requirement modelling

6.71 Longer-term pitch need modelling has not been carried out as no households have been identified in South Ribble.

Table 6.9 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – South Ribble Borough 2024/25 to 2028/29

CULTURAL NEED			South Ribble Borough Total
1	Households living on pitches (includes households doubled up on pitches)	1a. On council site	0
		1b. On private site - Authorised	0
		1c. On private site – Temporary Authorised	0
		1d. On unauthorised site	0
		1e. Total (1a to 1d)	0
2	Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation	2021 Census	0
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years or on unauthorised site	Currently on sites	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	0.0
		3b. To another site in district (no net impact)	0.0
		3c. From site to bricks and mortar (-)	0.0
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside district	0.0
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0.0
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	0.0
		In-migrant households	
		3g. Allowance for in-migration (+)	0.0
3i. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3g+3h)	0.0		
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site	0.0
		4b. Current on site and planning to live on another site in the district	0.0
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the district	0.0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	0.0
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0.0
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	0.0
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	0.0
5	Total Need	1e+3i+4g	0.0

SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised pitches	0
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are vacant	0
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a+6b)	0
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	0
8	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 6c)	0
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2024/25 TO 2028/29 (row7-row8)			0

Overall plan period pitch need

6.72 Table 6.10 summarises the overall need for pitches across South Ribble Borough over the plan period 2024/25 to 2040/41

Table 6.10 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2024/25 to 2040/41: South Ribble	
	Additional pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2024/25 to 2028/29) (A)	0
Longer-term need	
<i>Over period 2029/30 to 2033/34 (B)</i>	0
<i>Over period 2034/35 to 2038/39(C)</i>	0
<i>Over period 2039/40 to 2040/31(D)</i>	0
<i>Longer-term need TOTAL to 2040/41 (12 years) E=(B+C+D)</i>	0
NET SHORTFALL 2024/25 to 2040/41 (A+E) (12 years)	0
Annual net shortfall	0

Summary of need

6.73 Overall, there is no need identified within South Ribble over the period 2024/25 to 2040/41

Transit need

6.74 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping. A good indicator of transit need is unauthorised encampment activity.

- 6.75 For South Ribble, over the period March to September 2024, there were 15 incidences of unauthorised encampment activity (Table 6.11). Over this period:
- The number of caravans on unauthorised encampments has ranged between 1 and 18.
 - The median number of caravans on an encampment has been 2 and mode (most frequently reported) has been 1 caravan.
- 6.76 Recommendations for transit provision across Central Lancashire are presented at the end of this chapter.

Table 6.11 Unauthorised encampment activity in South Ribble		
Number of encampments recorded March 2024 to September 2024	15 encampments	
Number of caravans	Median	2
	Mode	1
	Range	1 to 18

Source: Council data

Conclusions on transit need across Central Lancashire and policy response

- 6.77 Households interviewed across Central Lancashire were asked their views on transit provision. The consensus from households on the former council site in Preston was that transit provision was needed. This view was echoed by several other respondents to the survey. Management of transit provision by a co-operative or council was preferred.
- 6.78 When considering transit need, the council needs to be mindful of the Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act (Part 4). This makes using land for stopping without permission a criminal offence rather than a civil offence. The Bill gives police increased powers to act and introduces significant penalties (fines up to £2,500, impounding vehicles and prison sentences).
- 6.79 The councils should consider how land can be provided for short-term use and particularly in response to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. It is recommended that the councils consider negotiated stopping arrangements to positively manage unauthorised encampment activity, with a recommendation to identify land to accommodate encampments of up to 5 caravans, encampments of between 6 and 10 caravans and encampments of more than 10 caravans.
- 6.80 Negotiated stopping involves councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tends to be around 28 days; and users

agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site. Developing a negotiated stopping policy is a recommended policy response for Central Lancashire.

Showperson plot requirements

6.81 No Travelling Showpersons needs have been identified.

7. Conclusion and response

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

Current accommodation

- 7.2 Culturally appropriate provision across Central Lancashire includes:
- Preston – one former council site now leased to the community to manage (15 pitches); and one unauthorised site (8 pitches)
- Chorley – one permanently authorised site (3 pitches) and one unauthorised site (7 pitches)
- 7.3 There are no sites in South Ribble and no Travelling Showperson’s yards in Central Lancashire. Private sites tend to be occupied by extended family groups. This means the ability of non-family members to move onto private sites is limited.

Future residential need

- 7.4 The overall needs evidenced in this report indicate a total shortfall of 49 pitches over the period 2024/25 to 2040/41 (13 Chorley, 36 Preston, 0 South Ribble).
- 7.5 There is potential to regularise 15 unauthorised pitches across two sites in Central Lancashire (7 Chorley and 8 Preston). There is also potential to meet emerging household needs from 8 households on through the intensification of two existing sites in Chorley.
- 7.6 Therefore, there is potential for up to 23 pitches to help meet need over the plan period. This would result in a shortfall of 26 pitches over the plan period.
- 7.7 It is recommended that the council engage with private site owners to consider new site applications to bring forward additional pitches, intensification of existing sites and consider regularising unauthorised sites. It should be noted that the council are actively engaging with local community members to bring forward sites and at least two have been considered by councils in the past year.
- 7.8 It is recommended that the Local Plan sets out policies to inform future planning applications for private sites. The following suggestions, based on a range of policies from other local authorities could be taken into account when drafting the council’s policies on new residential pitch provision:
- The site is in a sustainable location in terms of accessibility to services and facilities, including health and schools.
 - The site is suitable in terms of vehicular access to the highway, parking, turning, road safety and servicing arrangements and has access to essential services such as water supply, sewerage, drainage and waste disposal.

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

Transit site/stop over need

- 7.9 The council should consider the options for transit provision, particularly in the light of the Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act (Part 4). It is recommended the councils develop a negotiated stopping policy to support Travellers passing through Central Lancashire.

Future updating

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

Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire

	Date and Time			
	Site Reference			
	Address			
	General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection	GDPR came into effect from 25th May 2018. This provides rights of people to control personal data held about them by organisations		
		This study is being done for the Central Lancashire councils of Preston City, Chorley Borough and South Ribble Borough to identify if there is a need for more residential pitches and transit provision in the area. A report will be prepared based on the findings of these surveys. The information you provide will not be used for any other purpose.		
		The information you provide will not be used to identify you personally, will be kept strictly confidential		
		Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	Yes	No
1	Pitch/Property Type (and tenure if B&M)			
2	No. Statics/mobiles/chalets or bricks and mortar			
3	No. tourers/caravans			
4	Description of pitch occupancy			
5	No. households			
6	No. concealed households			
7	No. doubled up households			
8	Does anyone else use this pitch as their home? If so, who			
9	Household characteristics			
		Gender	Age	Relationship to respondent
	Respondent			
	Person 2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			
10	Ethnicity			
11	How many bedspaces are there on your pitch?			
12	Overcrowding of home	Y / N		
13	Overcrowding of pitch	Y / N		
14	Thinking back to when you were 15, were you living on a site, on the roadside or living in bricks and mortar housing?	S, R, B&M		
15	Where were you living? Record district/settlement name			

Travelling questions					
	In 2015, the Government changed its definition of Gypsies and Travellers for planning purposes. To be recognised as a Gypsy Traveller you or someone in your household has to travel (nomadic habit of life). I'm now going to ask a few questions about whether you or someone in your household travels				
16	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled?	Y / N			
17	Previous to the last year, did you or someone in your household travel?	Y / N			
18	Reason(s) for travelling				
19	Please describe when and where do you travel? (if relevant)				
20	Do you or a member of your household plan to travel next year?	Y / N			
21	Do you think you or a member of your household will travel in the next two to five years?	Y / N			
22	What reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?				
Where you plan to live in the future					
23	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N			
24	Why are you planning to move ?				
25	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
26	What type of dwelling ? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
26a	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
If in B&M housing					
27	If you live in bricks and mortar housing, are you happy to live here or would you prefer to live on a pitch?	Happy Here / Prefer pitch			
28	If you would prefer to live on a pitch is this because you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar (this means if affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/	Y / N			
Emerging households					
29	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own pitch in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N			
		HH1	HH2	HH3	HH4
30	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
31	What type of dwelling ? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
31a	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
32	Have they travelled / plan to travel ?	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N
33	If living in bricks and mortar do you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar? (this means if affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N
Additional residential pitches					
34	Scope to expand site (extend the boundary of the site)	Y / N			
35	No. additional pitches				
36	Scope to intensify pitches (put more pitches on the existing site)	Y / N			
37	No. additional pitches				
38	Are there any vacant pitches on the site which could be used by another family? If so how many pitches				
39	In general, is there a need for more authorised pitches (for people to live on all the time?) in this district?	Y / N			
40	If so, now many are needed?				
41	Who should own them (Council, people from the Traveller Community, non-Travellers)				
42	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a site?				

Transit and temporary stopover need			
43	Is there a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling through the district? This can include transit pitches or stopover places	Y / N	
44	Is there a need for transit pitches (for people stopping over temporarily) in the district? A transit pitch is intended for short-term use and usually includes space for two caravans, parking space and access to electricity, a toilet, washing facilities	Y / N	
45	If so, how many are needed?		
46	Who should manage them ? (Council, Traveller Community)		
47	Where should they be located?		
48	Is there a need for stopover places? A stopover place is land which can be used on a temporary basis and usually include access to portaloos, waste disposal and water	Y / N	
49	If so, how many are needed?		
50	Who should manage them ? (Council, Traveller Community)		
51	Where should they be located?		
Residential history			
52	How many years have you lived here?		
Routing	If more than five years	Go to Q58	
	If five years or less	Go to Q53	
53	Where did you move from? (District)		
54	Were you living on a Private Site, Council Site, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?		
55	When you moved here, was the pitch vacant, a brand new pitch or had the pitch been created by dividing up an existing pitch?		
56	What were the reasons for moving here?		
57	Did you already have a connection with the area ? (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)		
Support needs			
58	Do you or a member of your household have any health-related needs? Could you please explain what they are?		
Final questions			
59	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your housing or support needs?		
60	Do you know anyone in bricks and mortar housing looking to live on a pitch? If so, can you provide contact details		

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

Bargee Travellers: Itinerant boat dwellers on Britain’s inland and coastal waterways. This includes anyone whose home is a boat and who does not have a permanent mooring for their boat with planning permission for residential use

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

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

CRE: Commission for Racial Equality.

Duty to cooperate: introduced in the Localism Act 2011 and is set out in section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It placed a legal duty on local planning authorities in England to engage constructive, actively and on an ongoing basis with prescribed bodies on the preparation of a Local Plan. The Duty, as a legal test, has now been rescinded by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act, which received Royal Assent on 26 October 2023. This has replaced the legal test with a soundness test (in national policy). The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 will revoke the Duty to Cooperate in relation to the reformed plan making system. However, the Duty remains a legal requirement under the current local plans system and will continue to apply to local plans progressed within the current system.

Gypsies and Travellers: Defined in DCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites 2024* annex 1 as “Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.”

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

MHCLG: Ministry of Communities, Housing and Local Government. Previously renamed DLUHC Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in 2021 from the MHCLG in 2018. The ministry has oversight of policies to meet the needs Gypsies and Travellers in England.

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

Negotiated Stopping: involves Local Authority officers making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The agreement allows Travellers to stay either on the land they are camped on or move to a bit of land more suitable for all parties. The length of the agreement can also vary from 2 weeks to several months but tend to be around 28 days. The agreement is a local one and will vary but has so far included Travellers agreeing to leave sites clean and not make too much noise and the Local Authority providing waste disposal and toilets, sometimes showers and water too. See <http://www.negotiatedstopping.co.uk/> for more information.

Pitch: Area of land on a Gypsy/Traveller site occupied by one resident family; sometimes referred to as a plot, especially when referring to Travelling Showpeople. MHCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (December 2024) states that “For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use plots for “travelling showpeople”, which may / will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment”.

Plot: see pitch

PPTS: Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (DCLG, 2012 and 2015 editions, amended 2023 with latest edition published by MHCLG December 2024).

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

Roma: Migrant populations from Central and Eastern Europe that have arrived in the UK in the last half-century. It is an umbrella term used to describe sub-groups including Sinti, Lovari, Erlides and others.

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

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

Showpeople: Defined in MHCLG *Planning policy for traveller sites* (December 2024) as “Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Appendix C: Traveller count data by local authority area

Table C.1 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures January 2016 to July 2024 Chorley

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission			Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private (Temporary)	Total Private (Permanent)	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2016	0	3	0	0	3
Jul 2016	0	5	0	6	11
Jan 2017	0	5	0	0	5
Jul 2017	0	2	0	0	2
Jan 2018	0	5	0	0	5
Jul 2018	0	2	0	0	2
Jan 2019	0	5	0	0	5
July 2019	0	0	0	7	7
Jan 2020	0	0	0	7	7
Jul 2021	0	0	0	7	7
Jan 2022	0	0	0	7	7
Jul 2022	0	0	0	7	7
Jan 2023	0	0	0	7	7
Jul 2023	0	0	0	7	7
Jan 2024	0	0	0	7	7
Jul 2024	0	0	0	7	7

Table C.2 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures January 2016 to July 2024: Preston

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission			Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private (Temporary)	Total Private (Permanent)	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2016	22	8	0	0	30
Jul 2016	23	0	0	12	35
Jan 2017	22	0	0	0	22
Jul 2017	23	0	0	0	23
Jan 2018	22	0	0	0	22
Jul 2018	23	0	0	0	23
Jan 2019	22	0	0	0	22
July 2019	21	0	0	6	27
Jan 2020	21	0	0	6	27
Jul 2021	18	0	0	0	18
Jan 2022	17	0	0	6	23
Jul 2022	18	0	0	0	18
Jan 2023	17	0	0	6	23
Jul 2023	18	0	0	0	18
Jan 2024	17	0	0	6	23
Jul 2024	14	0	0	0	14

Date	Authorised sites with planning permission			Unauthorised sites without planning permission	Total
	Social Rented	Total Private (Temporary)	Total Private (Permanent)	Total Unauthorised	
Jan 2016	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2016	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 2017	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2017	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 2018	0	0	0	1	1
Jul 2018	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 2019	0	0	0	0	0
July 2019	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 2020	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2021	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 2022	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2022	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 2023	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2023	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 2024	0	0	0	0	0
Jul 2024	0	0	0	0	0

Source: MHCLG Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1

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