

Action Point 79 - HS13: Provide the evidence for only 5% of the Gypsy community moving from bricks and mortar onto sites

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. This is based on the findings of 363 bricks and mortar interviews across studies for 140 local authorities over the period 2012-2025. These interviews asked whether the respondents or newly forming households wanted to move onto a site from bricks and mortar in the next 5 years.

When preparing GTAA's we actively try to identify bricks and mortar households. However this can be challenging. It must be appreciated that many households in bricks and mortar housing do not want to identify as being a Traveller for fear of persecution and abuse which sadly remains a very real issue. Further, due to GDPR we can only have our contact details forwarded to potential households and rely on people making contact, unless we are given information directly with the person's consent. Often when households are contacted they don't want or need to take part because they are satisfied with their housing situation.

For the Central Lancashire GTAA we achieved two bricks and mortar interviews linked to families associated with the council site at Leighton Street. Their needs for pitches were included in the modelling for Preston. For Chorley and South Ribble, the census reports low numbers in bricks and mortar accommodation and the councils were not aware of any families who had expressed an interest in living on sites. For these two districts, modelling based on 5.3% would result in less than one pitch being needed and therefore not included in modelling.