

East Kent Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment

Final Report

Philip Brown and Joanna Wilson Brown
Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit
University of Salford

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University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

About the Authors

Philip Brown is Senior Research Fellow and Joanna Wilson Brown is Research Associate within the Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) at the University of Salford.

The Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit is a dedicated multi-disciplinary research and consultancy unit providing a range of services relating to housing and urban management to public and private sector clients. The Unit brings together researchers drawn from a range of disciplines including: social policy, housing management, urban geography, environmental management, psychology, social care and social work.

Study Team

Core Team Members: Dr Philip Brown Joanna Brown Victoria Morris	Community Interviewers: Sharon Finney Tracey Finney
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This report is based on research undertaken by the study team and the analysis and comment thereafter do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the research commissioners, or any participating stakeholders and agencies. The authors take full responsibility for any inaccuracies or omissions in the report.

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Glossary

The following terms are used in this report and or are used in conjunction with planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople accommodation. As such these terms may need some clarification. In the case of those terms which are related to Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and culture, it is noted that a number of these terms are often contested and debated. It is not the intention of the authors to present these terms as absolute definitions: rather, the explanations provided are those the authors used in this assessment as their frames of reference.

Term	Explanation
Amenity block/shed	On most residential Gypsy/Travellers sites these are buildings where basic plumbing amenities (bath/shower, WC and sink) are provided at the rate of one building per pitch.
Authorised social site	An authorised site owned by either the local authority or a Registered Housing Provider.
Authorised private site	An authorised site owned by a private individual (who may or may not be a Gypsy or a Traveller). These sites can be owner-occupied, rented or a mixture of owner-occupied and rented pitches.
Bricks and mortar	Permanent mainstream housing.
Caravan	Mobile living vehicle used by Gypsies and Travellers. Also referred to as trailers. Both terms are used within this report.
Caravan Count	Bi-annual count of Gypsy and Traveller caravans conducted every January and July by local authorities published by the DCLG
Chalet	In the absence of a specific definition the term 'chalet' is used here to refer to single storey residential units which resemble mobile homes but can be dismantled.
Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)	The main government department responsible for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation issues.
Development Plan Documents (DPDs)	Documents which outline the key development goals of the Local Development Frameworks/Local Plans.
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA)	The main document that identifies the accommodation requirements of Gypsies and Travellers.
Green Belt	A policy or land use designation applied to retain areas of largely undeveloped, wild, or agricultural land surrounding or neighbouring urban areas.
Gypsy	Members of Gypsy or Traveller communities. Usually used to describe Romany (English) Gypsies originating from India. This term is not acceptable to all Travellers.
Gypsies and Travellers (as used in this report)	Consistent with the Housing Act 2004, inclusive of: all Gypsies, Irish Travellers, New Travellers, Showpeople, Circus People and Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)	National housing and regeneration agency. Has been responsible for administering the Gypsy and Traveller Site Grant programme since 2009/10.
Local Development Framework/Local Plan	A document or set of documents which a Local Planning Authority creates to describe their strategy for development and use of land in their area of authority.
Pitch/plot	Terms often used inter-changeably. Describes an area of land on a site/development generally home to one licensee household. Can be varying sizes and have varying caravan occupancy levels. Travelling Showpeople more often use the term 'plot'. There is no agreed definition as to the size of a pitch/plot. The DCLG good practice guide – Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites - offers more details and is available here: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/11439/designinggypsiesites.pdf
Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)	Previous planning approach across England. In July 2010 the government announced its decision to revoke RSSs.
Settled community/people	Reference to non-Travellers (those who live in houses).
Site	An area of land on which Gypsies and Travellers are accommodated in trailers/chalets/vehicles. Can contain one or multiple pitches.
Static caravan	Larger caravan than the 'tourer' type. Can be moved but only with the use of a large vehicle. Often referred to simply as a trailer.
Stopping place	Locations frequented by Gypsies and Travellers, usually for short periods of time.
Suppressed/concealed household	Households, living within other households, who are unable to set up separate family units and who are unable to access a place on an authorised site, or obtain or afford land to develop one.
Trailer	Term commonly used by Gypsies and Travellers to refer to a moveable caravan. Both terms are used within this report.
Transit site	Site intended for short stays. Such sites are usually permanent, but there is a limit on the length of time residents can stay.
Travelling Showpeople	Commonly referred to as Showmen, these are a group of occupational Travellers who work on travelling shows and fairs across the UK and abroad.
Unauthorised development	This refers to a caravan/trailer or group of caravans/trailers on land owned (possibly developed) by Gypsies and Travellers without planning permission.
Unauthorised encampment	Residing in caravans/trailers on private/public land without the landowner's permission (for example, at the side of the road, on a car park or on a piece of undeveloped land).
Yard	Term used by Travelling Showpeople to refer to a site.

Executive Summary

The Study

1. The Housing Act 2004 placed a duty upon local authorities to produce assessments of accommodation need for Gypsies and Travellers. In summer 2013, Canterbury, Dover District, Shepway and Thanet Councils commissioned the Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) at the University of Salford to produce an updated Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment that was undertaken by DeMonfort University in 2007. The primary purpose of this assessment was to provide up to date information and data regarding the needs and requirements of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. This report presents the projection of pitch requirements for the period 2013 – 2027.
2. The assessment was undertaken by conducting a review of the following data sources:
 - Previous assessments of need and information submitted through the previous regional planning process;
 - The policy and guidance context;
 - Census 2011 data;
 - The bi-annual Caravan Count;
 - Information from the local authority with regards to pitch provision and supply;
 - Information from key stakeholders;
 - A survey of 168 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople households.

Local Accommodation Provision

3. There is no one source of information about the size of the Gypsy and Traveller population across the study area. Our best estimate in relation to the resident population is that there are at least 381 individuals or 101 households in Canterbury, 234 individuals or 63 households in Dover District, 164 individuals or 42 households in Shepway and 187 individuals or 42 households in Thanet. The population was found across the following accommodation types:
 - There are **two socially rented sites**, one in Canterbury and one in Dover District. These sites currently accommodate 32 households;
 - There are **34 private sites with permanent planning permission** across Canterbury, Dover District and Shepway accommodating a total of 47 households.
 - There are **4 private sites with temporary planning permission** across Canterbury and Dover District accommodating a total of 5 households.
 - There are **11 unauthorised developments** across Canterbury, Dover District and Shepway accommodating a total of 18 households.

- There are **2 authorised Travelling Showpeople sites** in Dover District and Shepway and 1 unauthorised site in Shepway. In total these are thought to accommodate 6 households. Two of the households are located on land owned by Travelling Showpeople, which currently does not have planning permission and is not necessarily occupied by Travelling Showpeople households.
- It is estimated that in terms of households in **bricks and mortar accommodation** in the area, there are at least:
 - Canterbury 40 households;
 - Dover District 28 households;
 - Shepway 32 households;
 - Thanet 42 households.

Characteristics of Local Gypsies and Travellers

4. The survey of Gypsies and Travellers identified some of the important characteristics of the local population:
 - Although the average household size over the whole sample is 3.7, this varied between different accommodation types. For example, the average household size for those in bricks and mortar was 4.3, compared to 3.6 on the socially rented sites, and 3.9 on the private developments with planning permission;
 - The majority of Gypsies and Travellers on all site types have strong and longstanding local connections. Communities across all four districts generally appear to be settled with little travelling and very little apparent intention to move or to travel;
 - The local population is largely Romany Gypsies (93%), with a smaller number of Showpeople and Irish Travellers;
 - The population are most likely to not travel or only travel for one to two weeks per year.

Accommodation Need and Supply

5. There are no signs that the growth in the Gypsy and Traveller population will slow significantly. Research from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) indicated that there are around 6,000 additional pitches for Gypsies and Travellers immediately required to meet the current shortage of accommodation within England.
6. This study has taken a thorough assessment of the need arising from all accommodation types present at the time of the survey. It should be regarded as a reasonable and robust assessment of need upon which to base planning decisions going forward. Sites developed after 21st August 2013 contribute to the need requirements detailed in the table below:

Table A: Residential accommodation need arising from existing district level Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople populations

	Canterbury	Dover	Shepway	Thanet
Current authorised residential provision¹ (pitches)	48	31	4	0
Residential pitch/plot need (2013–2017)	23	8	5	0
Residential pitch/plot need (2018–2022)	8	4	1	0
Residential pitch/plot need (2023–2027)	9	5	1	0
Total Residential pitch/plot need (2013–2027)	40	17	7	0

7. It is recommended that this assessment of accommodation need is repeated in due course (circa 5 years) to ensure it remains as accurate as possible.
8. Numerical transit requirements have not been made due to the low level of quantifiable need for transit accommodation in the areas.

¹ These are approximations of the provision (public and private) based on information obtained from the authorities during the course of the assessment. This includes Travelling Showpeople sites.

1. Introduction

Background and Scope

- 1.1 The Housing Act 2004 placed a duty upon local authorities to produce assessments of accommodation need for Gypsies and Travellers. In 2007, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet commissioned DeMonfort University to produce the *East Kent Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment*, a sub-regional assessment of need. This assessment provided an overview of the accommodation and related needs and experiences of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across the four local authorities. Crucially, it identified the accommodation need – in the form of residential pitch shortfall – of the population on an individual local authority level. This assessment identified the following accommodation needs:
- **Canterbury** - a need for 22 permanent and 15 transit pitches over the period 2007-2012;
 - **Dover** - a need for three permanent and six transit pitches over the period 2007-2012;
 - **Shepway** - a need for just three permanent pitches over the period 2007-2012;
 - **Thanet** - a need for just four permanent pitches over the period 2007-2012.
- 1.2 The 2007 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) was subject to a number of criticisms at a recent planning appeal decision and within the South East Plan Panel Report.² Such criticisms focused on: the lack of attention paid to the potential for need as a result of inward migration; the lack of consideration towards overcrowding by households on socially rented and private pitches; and the inclusion of vacancy rates in the determination of supply factors.
- 1.3 In July 2010 the Secretary of State announced the revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs) which included the South East Plan. Local authorities were advised to continue to develop Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) and where these had already been adopted, use the adopted Development Plan Documents. In early 2012 a revised policy for the planning of Gypsy and Traveller sites was released by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) replacing previous guidance in this area.³
- 1.4 In June 2013, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet Councils commissioned the Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit (SHUSU) at the University of Salford to produce a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment. The

² Available at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100528142817/http://www.gos.gov.uk/gose/planning/regionalPlanning/ThePanelReport/>

³ DCLG (2012) *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites*. Available at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2113371.pdf>.

primary purpose of this assessment was to provide up to date information and data regarding the needs and requirements of the local Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. This report presents the projection of accommodation requirements for the following periods:

- 2013 – 2017 (0-5 years);
- 2018 – 2022 (6-10 years);
- 2023 – 2027 (11-15 years).

Research Approach

1.5 The approach to this assessment involved bringing together various existing data sources, consultations with key stakeholders and empirical research with the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities across the four local authority areas. Details about the methodology for the assessment can be found in Appendix 1. The following briefly summarises the methodology for the study:

- **Secondary Data** including analysis of the previous GTAA, analysis of evidence submitted as part of the South East Plan Partial Review, national policy context, the bi-annual Caravan Count, 2011 Census data, information from key stakeholders and the local authorities on the supply of sites and pitches in the districts;
- **Stakeholder Interviews** with officers representing the local authorities, Kent County Council Gypsy and Traveller Unit, The Showmen’s Guild and One Voice 4 Travellers.
- **A Survey of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople** through face to face structured interviews with 168 households living in trailer-based and bricks and mortar accommodation across the four areas. See Appendix 2 for specific details of this sample. The sample - across accommodation type - is detailed in Tables 1.1 – 1.4:

Table 1.1: Canterbury sample in relation to local Gypsy and Traveller population as of August 2013 (Households)

Type of accommodation	No. of sites			No. of known occupied pitches/households		
	Total	Sample	%	Total	Interview Sample	%
Socially rented sites	1	1	100%	18	16	89%
Residential private authorised pitches (permanent)	20	17	85%	29	26	90%
Sites immune from enforcement	1	1	100%	1	0	0%
Residential private authorised pitches (temporary)	3	3	100%	4	9 ⁴	225%
Unauthorised developments	5	4	80%	9	6	67%
Unauthorised encampments	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Travelling Showpeople yards	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
TOTAL SITE BASED POPULATION	30	26	87%	61	57	93%
Housed	0	0	N/A	40	32	80%

⁴ Our sample included a greater number of households than was thought to live on the site. This is due to a number of households who were visiting the area and staying temporarily with permanent site residents. All available households were consulted as this provides an opportunity to understand how transit accommodation is working in the area. The response rate from resident households is thought to be 100% but is larger as the sample includes visiting households.

Table 1.2: Dover sample in relation to local Gypsy and Traveller population as of August 2013 (Households)

Type of accommodation	No. of sites			No. of known occupied pitches/households		
	Total	Sample	%	Total	Interview Sample	%
Socially rented sites	1	1	100%	14	14	100%
Residential private authorised pitches (permanent)	10	10	100%	15	12	80%
Residential private authorised pitches (temporary)	1	1	100%	1	1	100%
Unauthorised developments	5	3	60%	5	4	80%
Unauthorised encampments	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Travelling Showpeople yards	1	1	100%	2	1	50%
TOTAL SITE BASED POPULATION	18	16	89%	37	32	87%
Housed	0	0	N/A	28	15	54%

Table 1.3: Shepway sample in relation to local Gypsy and Traveller population as of August 2013 (Households)

Type of accommodation	No. of sites			No. of known occupied pitches/households		
	Total	Sample	%	Total	Interview Sample	%
Socially rented sites	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Residential private authorised pitches (permanent)	2	2	100%	2	2	100%
Residential private authorised pitches (temporary)	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Unauthorised developments	1	1	100%	4	4	100%
Unauthorised encampments	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Travelling Showpeople yards ⁵	2	2	100%	4	4	100%
TOTAL SITE BASED POPULATION	5	5	100%	10	10	100%
Housed	0	0	N/A	32	11	34%

⁵ This includes two households who were accommodated on land owned by Travelling Showpeople but where the site did not have planning permission (see Chapter Nine for details).

Table 1.4: Thanet sample in relation to local Gypsy and Traveller population as of August 2013 (Households)

Type of accommodation	No. of sites			No. of known occupied pitches/households		
	Total	Sample	%	Total	Interview Sample	%
Socially rented sites	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Residential private authorised pitches (permanent)	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Residential private authorised pitches (temporary)	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Unauthorised developments	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Unauthorised encampments	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Travelling Showpeople yards	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
TOTAL SITE BASED POPULATION	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
Housed	0	0	N/A	42	11	26%

1.6 The key points to note from the methodological approach adopted is that:

- The response rate overall was excellent;
- Interviews were achieved with households living in all occupied accommodation types in the study area;
- We secured interviews with households in bricks and mortar accommodation in all local authority areas. Response rates for households in bricks and mortar have been provided but these are purely indicative as the number of people in housing could be more than is estimated here;
- We believe that the sample is as representative as can be reasonably expected given the relatively hidden nature of the population, particularly those in bricks and mortar housing;
- Due to the size of the sample it is reasonable to scale up findings from the survey to the total population of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the study area (see *Chapter Ten* for a description of how the survey findings have been translated into accommodation need).

Structure of the Report

1.7 This report is intended to assist the local authorities in their formulation of planning policies for the provision of accommodation for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling

Showpeople communities. It sets out the background and current policy context, identifies the estimated Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population and presents evidence of need arising within the four district authority areas. The report is structured as follows: *Chapter Two* looks at the past, present and emerging policy context in the area of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation; *Chapter Three* notes the trends in caravan numbers evident from the bi-annual Caravan Count and estimates the size of the local Gypsy and Traveller community; *Chapter Four* discusses current socially rented site provision across the areas; *Chapter Five* focuses on current private site provision across the districts; *Chapter Six* examines the level of planning applications made in the areas and the presence of unauthorised sites; *Chapter Seven* looks at the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation as well as drawing upon the views of households obtained through the survey; *Chapter Eight* explores a range of issues including the movement intentions of the sample, the formation of new households, the concealment of existing ones and the accommodation preferences of the Gypsy and Traveller population; *Chapter Nine* considers more specific issues as they relate to Travelling Showpeople within the local authorities; *Chapter Ten* provides the numerical assessment of accommodation need for Canterbury, Dover District, Shepway and Thanet; *Chapter Eleven* shows the details of accommodation need for Travelling Showpeople in the study area; and, finally, *Chapter Twelve* offers an analysis of the need for transit provision for Canterbury, Dover District, Shepway and Thanet.

- 1.8 The base date for this assessment is 21st August 2013. Any changes in the level of accommodation provided after this date impacts on the level of accommodation need identified in this report.
- 1.9 This study has taken account of, and is considered consistent with, Planning Policy for Traveller Sites and the DCLG's guidance for conducting Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments.

2. Policy Context

2.1 This chapter looks at the past and current policy context in relation to the assessment of need for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

Planning Policy 2006-2011

2.2 The main document for detailing planning policy in England over the 2006-2011 period was ODPM Circular 01/2006 *Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites*. This specified that the aims of legislation and policy were to:

- Ensure that Gypsies and Travellers have fair access to suitable accommodation, education, health and welfare provision;
- Reduce the number of unauthorised encampments and developments;
- Increase significantly the number of Gypsy and Traveller sites in appropriate locations and with planning permission in order to address under-provision by 2011;
- Protect the traditional travelling way of life of Gypsies and Travellers;
- Underline the importance of assessing accommodation need;
- Promote private site provision;
- Avoid Gypsies and Travellers becoming homeless, where eviction from unauthorised sites occurs and where there is no alternative accommodation.

2.3 The circular directed local authorities to assess needs through Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAs) which should then form part of the evidence base for subsequent Development Plan Documents.

2.4 Travelling Showpeople were the subject of separate planning guidance - CLG Circular 04/07 - which aimed to ensure that the system for pitch assessment, identification and allocation as introduced for Gypsies and Travellers was also applied to Travelling Showpeople.

Regional Planning Policy

2.5 Circular 01/2006 made it clear that district level requirements identified in GTAAs were to be submitted to the relevant Regional Planning Body (RPB).⁶ The RPB would then, in turn, provide pitch requirements on a district by district basis once a strategic view of needs had been taken through the process of producing the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). The broad purpose of the strategic view was to ensure requirements were identified fairly and did not compound existing inequalities of accommodation provision.

⁶ In the case of the South East, this was the South East of England Regional Assembly (SEERA) which was then dissolved with the planning function transferring to the South East England Partnership Board.

- 2.6 During early 2010, a partial review of the South East Plan on Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople was examined in public, including the regional pitch requirements identified for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities. In July 2010, the Secretary of State announced his intention to revoke all RSSs. As a consequence, the South East Plan Partial Review was not completed. Local authorities were advised to continue to develop Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) Core Strategies and, where these had already been adopted, use the adopted Development Plan Documents. Specific guidance was provided in July 2010, in the form of a letter from the Chief Planner, in order to assist in the determination of provision for Gypsy and Traveller sites.⁷ With respect to the needs of Gypsies and Travellers, this guidance stated that:

Local councils are best placed to assess the needs of travellers. The abolition of Regional Strategies means that local authorities will be responsible for determining the right level of site provision, reflecting local need and historic demand, and for bringing forward land in DPDs. They should continue to do this in line with current policy. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAAs) have been undertaken by all local authorities and if local authorities decide to review the levels of provision these assessments will form a good starting point. However, local authorities are not bound by them. We will review relevant regulations and guidance on this matter in due course.

Current National Planning Policy

National Planning Policy Framework⁸

- 2.7 In March 2012 the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) for England and Wales. This framework represents a core aspect of the Government's reforms to the planning system to: (1) make it less complex and more accessible; (2) to protect the environment and; and (3) to promote sustainable growth. Among the many significant changes to the planning system, the NPPF places greater emphasis on the role communities can play in the planning process. The NPPF also contains a presumption in favour of sustainable development and makes provisions for the protection of the Green Belt. Whilst the NPPF is not an act of law, as a national policy it has legal weight, taking precedence on issues where local planning policies remain silent.

Planning Policy for Traveller Sites

- 2.8 In tandem with the publication of the NPPF, the Government published the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS). This replaces Circulars 01/06 and 04/2007. The policies in the PPTS must be taken into account in preparing development plans and are key material in decision making. The PPTS should be read in conjunction with the NPPF policies.⁹

⁷ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7995/100706-Letter_to_Chief_Planning_Officers-Revocation_of_Regional_Strategies.pdf

⁸ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

⁹ DCLG (2012) *Planning for Traveller Sites*. Available at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2113371.pdf>

2.9 The PPTS states that the Government's overarching aim is:

To ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.

2.10 The Government's aims in respect of Traveller sites are:

- That local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning;
- To ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites;
- To encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale;
- That plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development;
- To promote more private Traveller site provision, whilst recognising that there will always be those Travellers who cannot provide their own sites;
- That plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective;
- For local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies;
- To increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply;
- To reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions;
- To enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure;
- For local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment.

2.11 Policy A of the PPTS states that in assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, Local Planning Authorities should:

- a) 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);

- b) Co-operate 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
- c) Use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions.

2.12 National policy is clear that there is a need for Local Planning Authorities to understand and plan for the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in their Local Plans. This accommodation assessment will form one of the main components in the evidence base underpinning the preparation of the planning approach for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the four district authority areas. It has been developed through engagement with Gypsies, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in the districts and through discussion with key stakeholders, in accordance with national policy.

Local Planning Policy

2.13 In terms of Local Planning Policies in the four local authority areas there is mixed inclusion regarding Gypsies and Travellers.

Canterbury

There is no saved Local Plan policy relating to Gypsies and Travellers. However, *Policy HD10 of the Canterbury District Local Plan Preferred Option Draft Consultation 2013*, includes the following proposed text:

Policy HD10

In considering applications for seasonal, temporary or permanent use of land by Gypsies and Travellers, planning permission will only be permitted if the following criteria are met:

- a. The Council is satisfied that there is a clearly established need for the site and the number of pitches involved cannot be met by an existing site;
- b. The site should be well related to and within a reasonable distance of local services and facilities - shops, public transport, schools, medical and social services, particularly where it is outside an existing settlement;
- c. Where the site is on the outskirts of a built up area, care is taken to avoid encroachment on the open countryside;
- d. If location outside an existing settlement is unavoidable, the form and extent of the accommodation does not adversely affect the visual or other essential qualities of an AONB, SSSI, national or local nature reserve, or other area of landscape significance designated in the development plan, or conservation area;
- e. The use of the site should not have an adverse impact on residential amenity or existing buildings or uses, either by the close proximity, activities or operations on the site which would be detrimental to the surrounding area;
- f. Access to the site should not be detrimental to highway safety for vehicles and pedestrians, and should not conflict with other transportation policies or objectives;
- g. Proposals should incorporate a landscape strategy where appropriate.

Dover

Within *Policy DM7 of the Adopted Core Strategy (February 2010)*, there is the following text:

Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

1.28 Adequate provision should be made to meet the housing needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople. The Regional Spatial Strategy will assess needs across the region and identify the number of pitches required for each local planning authority area.

1.29 Once this need has been established for the District, the Council will produce a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Document to identify sites for additional pitches. The Core Strategy includes a general criteria based policy to establish the overall policy approach to the issue and to provide a basis for dealing with any planning applications.

Policy DM7

The Council will allocate site(s) to meet the accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople identified in the Regional Spatial Strategy through the production of a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Document using the following assessment criteria:

The site(s) should be:

- i. Accessible to local services and facilities and by public transport;
- ii. Compatible with national flood risk policy;
- iii. Screened from wider view or capable of this through additional measures; and
- iv. Not lead to a reduction of the residential amenities of the occupants of any nearby dwellings.

These criteria will also be used to determine planning applications for such accommodation.

Shepway

Within the *Adopted Core Strategy (September 2013)*, *Policy CSD2* details the following in relation to Gypsies and Travellers:

The accommodation needs of specific groups will be addressed based on evidence of local need, including appropriate provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. Policies will be included in local plans to provide criteria and make allocations for Traveller sites in line with national policy.

Thanet

There is no saved Local Plan policy regarding Gypsies and Travellers. However, the *2006 Local Plan* included a specific paragraph relating to such needs:

3.112. Accommodation for Gypsies and Travelling Showpeople.

There is only occasional camping by gypsies in Thanet District. This can probably be attributed to a lack of suitable employment opportunities and the fact that Thanet is not an "en route" stopping place. There is also anecdotal evidence that such visits are for leisure purposes. For these reasons, the District Council does not envisage a need to consider specific provision for accommodation for gypsies in the District. Any such applications in Thanet will be determined on their merits. The District Council is not aware of any local need for "winter quarters" or permanent bases for travelling showpeople.

Thanet made note that they were currently preparing the new Local Plan and no draft policies had at the time of this assessment been formulated. However, it was likely that the new plan would make reference to the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers.

Planning for Pitch Provision in Surrounding Local Authorities

2.14 GTAAs across Kent are now complete with the exception of Tunbridge Wells. Pitch requirements for authorities which border the study area - as stated in the updated GTAAs - are as follows:

- *Swale*: Over the 2013-2031 period, the need is for 85 residential pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and nil plots for Travelling Showpeople;
- *Ashford*: Over the 2012-2028 period, the need is for 57 residential pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and nil plots for Travelling Showpeople.

2.15 In terms of all local authorities in Kent, Table 2.1 outlines the estimated provision in the areas, the period the updated GTAA covers and the estimated pitch/plot requirements:

Table 2.1: Estimated pitch provision and requirements across Kent local authorities

Local Authority	Gypsy and Traveller pitch provision	Travelling Showpeople plot provision	Period covered by GTAA	Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement	Transit pitches	Travelling Showpeople pitches
Ashford	124	4	2012-2028	57	Not specified	0
Dartford	62	12	2013-2028	34	Not specified	3
Gravesham	19	0	2013-2028	16	Not specified	0
Maidstone	172	5	2011-2026	157	Not specified	9
Sevenoaks	88	0	2012-2026	72	Not specified	0
Swale	112	7	2013-2031	85	Not specified	0
Tonbridge and Malling	36	3	2012-2028	21	Not specified	In preparation
Tunbridge Wells	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known
Medway	22	5	2013-2028	22	Not specified	0

2.16 In terms of local authorities beyond the Kent border, updated GTAAs are in the process of being commissioned. Wealden is working with other local authorities, the South Downs National Park and Brighton and Hove Council to commission a GTAA which will identify needs for the period beyond 2016 to 2028. At the current moment the *Wealden Core Strategy* (incorporating part of the South Downs National Park) identifies a need for 32 pitches by 2016, of which 9 have been provided, leaving 23 still to be identified. The remaining 23 pitches are to be identified in the *Delivery and Site Allocations Local Plan* which is currently being developed. It is intended that the Issues and Options consultation on the document will be in September 2014 with projected adoption being in winter 2016.

Defining Gypsies and Travellers

2.17 Defining Gypsies and Travellers is not straightforward. Different definitions are used for a variety of purposes. At a very broad level the term 'Gypsies and Travellers' is used by non-Gypsies and Travellers to encompass a variety of groups and individuals who have in common a tradition or practice of nomadism. More narrowly both Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are recognised minority ethnic groupings.

2.18 At the same time Gypsies and Travellers have been defined for accommodation and planning purposes. The statutory definition of Gypsies and Travellers for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments required by the Housing Act 2004 is:

*(a) persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan; and
(b) all other persons of a nomadic habit of life, whatever their race or origin, including:*

- i. such persons who, on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependant's educational or health needs or old age, have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently; and*
- ii. members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people (whether or not travelling together as such).*

2.19 The new planning policy contains a separate definition for planning purposes which offers a narrower definition and excludes Travelling Showpeople:

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

2.20 This definition focuses more narrowly upon people who either still travel or have ceased to do so as a result of specific issues and can as a consequence demonstrate specific land use requirements.

2.21 A separate definition of Travelling Showpeople is provided within the planning policy:

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.

2.22 The new planning policy document uses the term 'traveller' to refer to both Gypsy and Traveller communities and populations of Travelling Showpeople. This has been used as it is recognised that this definition is "more pragmatic and wider and enables local planning authorities to understand the possible future accommodation needs of this group and plan strategically to meet those needs".¹⁰

Housing/Accommodation Need

2.23 Crucially, for Gypsies and Travellers, the definition of housing need is varied slightly to acknowledge the different contexts in which members of these communities live. The general definition of housing need is "households who are unable to access suitable housing without some financial assistance", with housing demand defined as "the quantity of housing that households are willing and able to buy or rent".¹¹

¹⁰ DCLG (2011) *Planning for Traveller Sites: Consultation Paper*, London: HMSO. Available at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1886164.pdf>

¹¹ ODPM (2006) *Definition of the Term 'Gypsies and Travellers' for the Purposes of the Housing Act 2004: Consultation Paper*, London: HMSO.

- 2.24 In recognising that in many cases these definitions are inappropriate for Gypsies and Travellers, the guidance on producing GTAAs¹² refers to distinctive requirements that necessitate moving beyond the limitations of the definition for both caravan dwellers and those in bricks and mortar housing. For caravan dwelling households, need may take the form of those:¹³
- Who have no authorised site on which to reside;
 - Whose existing site accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable, but who are unable to obtain larger or more suitable accommodation; and
 - Who contain suppressed households who are unable to set up separate family units and are unable to access a place on an authorised site, or obtain or afford land to develop one.
- 2.25 In the context of bricks and mortar dwelling households, need may take the form of:
- Those whose existing accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable (including unsuitability by virtue of psychological aversion to bricks and mortar accommodation).
- 2.26 The needs presented in this report reflect the definition of Gypsies and Travellers as used in the Housing Act 2004, which gives an overall strategic level of accommodation need. It should also be noted that steps have been taken within this report to analyse need in the context of local and historic demand.
- 2.27 Housing need is assessed at the level of a single family unit or household (broadly a group of people who regularly live and eat together). On Gypsy and Traveller sites, this is assumed to equate to a 'pitch'; in housing, to a separate dwelling.

Defining a Pitch

- 2.28 There is no set definition for what constitutes a Gypsy and Traveller residential pitch. In the same way as in the settled community, Gypsies and Travellers require various accommodation sizes, depending on the number of family members.
- 2.29 The convention used in this report is that a pitch is the place on a Gypsy and Traveller site accommodating a single family/household. In some cases a single pitch may account for the entire site. The number of caravans that a household uses can be a single unit (trailer, touring caravan, static, chalet, etc.) or more. In order to ensure comparability across accommodation types it is important to determine a convention when translating caravan numbers into pitches/households.
- 2.30 Where the numbers of pitches are unknown, in order to deal with units which are comparable, we have used a 1.7 caravan to pitch ratio. This was the convention

¹² GTAA guidance has been used in developing the methodology but variations to the approach have been made to take account of local circumstances, where considered appropriate.

¹³ DCLG (2007) *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments: Guidance*, London: HMSO.

deployed in the last round of GTAAAs, and an approach advocated by DCLG guidance.¹⁴

Conventions

2.31 In addition, the following conventions are adopted in this report:

- Percentages in text and tables are rounded to the nearest whole number: this means that they do not always sum to exactly 100;
- Where sample numbers are too low to present the findings as percentages, the actual numbers of respondents are reported on. Typically, this is where there is a sample of less than ten;
- Numbers ten and below are displayed in text form while numbers 11 and above are displayed in numerical form;
- Quotes included from Gypsies and Travellers are sometimes in first and sometimes in third person form because interviews were not audio recorded but noted in written form. They are distinguished by being in italic type and usually inset.

¹⁴ DCLG (2007) *Preparing Regional Spatial Strategy Reviews on Gypsies and Travellers by Regional Planning Bodies*, London: DCLG.

3. The Bi-Annual Caravan Count and Population Size

- 3.1 This chapter looks at the Count of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans in order to present what is known about Gypsies and Travellers within East Kent. This chapter also presents information on the estimated size of the Gypsy and Traveller population.

Caravan Numbers and Trends from the Caravan Count

- 3.2 The bi-annual Caravan Count provides a snapshot of the local context in terms of the scale and distribution of caravan numbers across the local authorities in East Kent. The Count provides a starting point in assessing the current picture and recent trends. Indeed, in the absence of other datasets it is virtually the only source of information on Gypsy and Traveller caravan data. However, there are well documented issues with the robustness of the Count.¹⁵ These issues include: the 'snapshot' nature of the data, the inclusion of caravans and not households, the historic exclusion of Travelling Showpeople,¹⁶ and the exclusion of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation. It should be noted that the analysis contained in this report should be considered a more robust assessment of the current situation with regards to the local population than the Caravan Count.
- 3.3 The Caravan Count has recorded nil caravans in Thanet and Shepway since January 2008. Tables 3.1 and 3.2 provide the distribution of caravan numbers for Canterbury and Dover District respectively:

¹⁵ Niner, P. (2002) *Review of the ODPM Caravan Count*, London: ODPM.

¹⁶ The January 2011 and January 2012 counts included a count of Travelling Showpeople caravans for the first time. However, as this is not comparable with previous years and as nil caravans have been identified this is excluded from the tables in this report.

Table 3.1: Caravan numbers across accommodation types within Canterbury 2008-2013

Count	Authorised sites (with planning permission)				Unauthorised sites (without planning permission)				Total
	Socially Rented	Private			Unauthorised developments		Unauthorised encampments		
		Temporary permission	Permanent permission	All private	'Tolerated'	'Not tolerated'	'Tolerated'	'Not Tolerated'	
Jan 13	24	4	45	49	8	2	0	0	83
Jul 12	24	7	44	51	0	8	0	1	84
Jan 12	24	2	48	50	0	10	0	0	84
Jul 11	24	7	44	51	0	8	0	1	84
Jan 11	24	7	42	49	0	10	0	0	83
Jul 10	24	-	-	45	11	16	0	0	96
Jan 10	24	7	44	51	0	12	0	0	87
Jul 09 ¹⁷	24	-	-	45	11	16	0	0	96
Jan 09	24	-	-	43	17	8	0	0	92
Jul 08	24	-	-	45	11	16	0	0	96
Jan 08	24	-	-	43	11	13	0	0	91

Table 3.2: Caravan numbers across accommodation types within Dover 2008-2013

Count	Authorised sites (with planning permission)				Unauthorised sites (without planning permission)				Total
	Socially Rented	Private			Unauthorised developments		Unauthorised encampments		
		Temporary permission	Permanent permission	All private	'Tolerated'	'Not tolerated'	'Tolerated'	'Not Tolerated'	
Jan 13	22	1	19	20	0	3	0	0	45
Jul 12	25	1	17	18	0	2	0	0	45
Jan 12	25	1	17	18	0	2	0	0	45
Jul 11	23	1	16	17	0	2	0	0	42
Jan 11	24	2	17	19	0	5	0	0	48
Jul 10	24	2	17	19	0	5	0	0	48
Jan 10	21	2	15	17	0	5	0	0	43
Jul 09	24	2	17	19	0	5	0	0	48
Jan 09	22	-	-	17	0	2	0	0	41
Jul 08	27	-	-	13	0	7	0	0	47
Jan 08	27	-	-	12	0	16	0	0	55

¹⁷ Please note that data which breaks down private sites into permanent/temporary permission was not available or not required to be collected until this time.

3.4 These tables show the following:

- **Canterbury** – the highest number of caravans are recorded on private sites. This shows a slight increase in the number of caravans on private sites since 2008. The number of caravans recorded on the socially rented site has remained static over the years. A small number of caravans also feature on unauthorised developments; however, this number has decreased from 24 in January 2008 to 10 in January 2013.
- **Dover** – The highest number of caravans in the district were observed on socially rented sites, with a slight decrease in numbers since 2008 from 27 to 22 (based on January counts). There has been an increase in recorded caravans on private sites between 2008 and 2013 from 12 to 20 caravans. The number of caravans on unauthorised developments has been generally low over the six year period, with a significant decrease from 16 (in January 2008) to three (in January 2013).

The Size of the Local Gypsy and Traveller Community

3.5 For most minority ethnic communities, presenting data about the size of the community in question is usually relatively straightforward (with the exception of communities which have large numbers of irregular migrants and migrant workers, for example, amongst them). However, for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, one of the most difficult issues is providing accurate information on the size of the population. As a result, we have used our survey findings and information provided by the local authorities and key stakeholders in order to provide a best estimate as to the size of the local Gypsy and Traveller population at the time of the assessment.

3.6 The Census 2011 included an option, for the first time, for respondents to record their ethnicity as Gypsy or Traveller. Data relating to the local authorities here indicate that:

- Canterbury - 374 individuals;
- Dover - 234 individuals;
- Shepway - 164 individuals;
- Thanet - 187 individuals.

The Census 2011 is generally seen to be a significant under-enumeration of the Gypsy and Traveller population across the UK. However, in the absence of more reliable local level data it remains a useful yardstick in order to grasp the size of the population. However, this should remain under review.

3.7 Tables 3.3-3.6 present an estimation of the size of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population in Canterbury, Dover District, Shepway and Thanet respectively. Using the information available we estimate that the population size in each authority area is as follows:

Table 3.3: Gypsy and Traveller population based in Canterbury

Type of accommodation	Families/households (based on 1 pitch/house = 1 household)	Individuals	Derivation
Socially rented sites	18	59	Number of families estimated to live in the area multiplied by average household size from the survey (3.3)
Residential private authorised pitches (permanent) ¹⁸	30	111	Number of families estimated to live in the area multiplied by average household size from the survey (3.7)
Residential private authorised pitches (temporary)	4	15	Actual numbers based on a 100% response rate from the GTAA survey
Unauthorised developments	9	32	Number of families estimated to live in the area multiplied by average household size from the survey (3.5)
Bricks and mortar	40	164	Number of families estimated to live in the area (derived from subtracting the site based population from the population recorded in the Census) divided by average household size from the survey (4.1)
Total	101	381	

¹⁸ Inclusive of the site immune from enforcement.

Table 3.4: Gypsy and Traveller population based in Dover

Type of accommodation	Families/households (based on 1 pitch/house = 1 household)	Individuals	Derivation
Socially rented sites	14	56	Actual numbers based on a 100% response rate from the GTAA survey
Residential private authorised pitches (permanent)	15	44	Number of families estimated to live in the area multiplied by average household size from the survey (2.9)
Residential private authorised pitches (temporary)	1	2	Actual numbers based on a 100% response rate from the GTAA survey
Unauthorised developments	5	10	Number of families estimated to live in the area multiplied by average household size from the survey (2)
Bricks and mortar	28	122	Number of families estimated to live in the area (derived from subtracting the site based population from the population recorded in the Census) divided by average household size from the survey (4.4)
Total	63	234	

Table 3.5: Gypsy and Traveller population based in Shepway

Type of accommodation	Families/households (based on 1 pitch/house = 1 household)	Individuals	Derivation
Residential private authorised pitches (permanent)	2	10	Number of families estimated to live in the area multiplied by average household size from the survey (5)
Unauthorised developments	4	10	Actual numbers based on a 100% response rate from the GTAA survey
Travelling Showpeople	2	4	Actual numbers based on a 100% response rate from the GTAA survey
'Other' ¹⁹	2	8	Actual numbers based on a 100% response rate from the GTAA survey
Bricks and mortar	32	132	Number of families estimated to live in the area (derived from subtracting the site based population from the population recorded in the Census) divided by average household size from the survey (4.1)
Total	42	164	

¹⁹ Refers to a small number of households currently living on land owned by Travelling Showpeople in the area.

Table 3.6: Gypsy and Traveller population based in Thanet

Type of accommodation	Families/households (based on 1 pitch/house = 1 household)	Individuals	Derivation
Bricks and mortar	42	187	Number of families estimated to live in the area as recorded in the Census 2011 divided by average household size from the survey (4.5)
Total	42	187	

4. Authorised Socially Rented Sites

- 4.1 In order to provide more specific information on the local Gypsy and Traveller population, the remaining chapters draw upon the information provided by Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet Councils on site provision within the four authorities as well as information obtained through a survey of Gypsy and Traveller households. This chapter discusses issues arising from the socially rented sites and occupied by Gypsies and Travellers in the study area.
- 4.2 Of the four local authorities, only Dover and Canterbury have socially rented sites situated within their area. The following provides details from these two local authorities and interviews with Gypsies and Travellers residing on these sites.

Dover

- 4.3 There is currently one socially rented site in Dover: the *Aylesham Caravan Site*.

Aylesham Caravan Site

- 4.4 This site currently has a total of 14 residential pitches, all of which were occupied at the time of the study. There have been no changes to the site or the pitches in the last five years.
- 4.5 The site is managed by Dover District Council. Although there have been changes in site managers since 2007, there have been no changes in site management arrangements over the last six years. Similarly, the site has not been the subject of bids made through the Gypsy and Traveller Sites Grant.
- 4.6 Licensees are permitted to be absent for a discretionary length of time, agreed by the site manager subject to payment of full rent/licence fee. Licensees are permitted to have visitors on the site, again for a discretionary length of time as agreed by the site manager. However, visitors are not permitted to stay long-term and they must adhere to fire and safety regulations.
- 4.7 There is a formal waiting list in place for the site with 18 families listed. The Council indicated that the number of applicants has increased over the last few years. The site has a formal allocations policy for letting pitches. This takes the following factors into account in priority order: need for accommodation; medical/special health needs; local residence/local connection; and time on waiting list.
- 4.8 The weekly rent is £57 for a pitch for either a single or double pitch. Residents are not required to pay a damage deposit at the start of the license.
- 4.9 Information from Dover District Council indicates that there are currently 44 people living on the site: 28 adults; three children under the age of five; seven children aged five to 11; and six children aged 12 to 16. In terms of ethnic group, the residents were reported to be English Gypsy or Traveller. Dover District Council reported 100% occupancy for most of the year during 2012. Most of the residents (60%-90%) have lived on the site longer term (that is, five years or longer).

- 4.10 In terms of facilities, each pitch has an amenity unit, which contains a bath, WC, space/provision for cooking, space/provision/plumbing for laundry and effective heating.
- 4.11 Dover District Council described the quality of the general surroundings and environment of the site as average, the site's location in relation to access to schools and shops and the physical condition and maintenance of the site as good.
- 4.12 Dover District Council reported that there have been no known instances of intimidation and other anti-social behaviour on the site over the last 12 months.
- 4.13 It was indicated by Dover District Council that there were currently 2 households doubled-up on the site.
- 4.14 Dover District Council indicated that there are currently no plans to close or make any changes to this site or the provision of socially rented pitches in Dover District.

Canterbury

- 4.15 There is currently one socially rented site in Canterbury: the *Greenbridge Park*.

Greenbridge Park

- 4.16 The site is managed by Kent County Council, who have managed the site on a long-term basis.
- 4.17 This site currently has a total of 18 residential pitches; 17 of which were occupied at the time of the assessment. Each pitch accommodates a single static caravan. Kent County Council indicated that they expect the vacant pitch to be re-let imminently. A total of four pitches had been vacated and re-let over the past four years.
- 4.18 There has been no bid for a Gypsy and Traveller Sites Grant since 1996 and there are no plans to apply for further bids for the site. Similarly, there were no plans in place to develop more socially rented pitches in the area.
- 4.19 Licensees are permitted to be absent for 12 weeks subject to payment of full rent/licence fee. Visitors are permitted on the site for up to three weeks after receiving written permission from Kent County Council.
- 4.20 Kent County Council indicated that there is a formal waiting list for the site, which has increased over the last few years. The site has a formal allocations policy for letting vacant pitches. This takes the following factors into account, in order of importance: need for accommodation; medical/special health needs; family size/composition; local residence/local connection; and time on waiting list.
- 4.21 The weekly rent is £57.96 for either a single or double pitch. Most residents (between 60%-90%) are receiving housing benefit payments. A damage deposit is not required at the start of a licence.

- 4.22 Information from Kent County Council indicates that there are currently 49 people living on the site: 36 adults; seven children under the age of five; four children aged five to 11; and two children aged 12 to 16. In terms of ethnic group, the residents were reported to be a mix of English Gypsy or Traveller, Scottish Gypsy or Traveller and Irish Travellers. Kent County Council reported 100% occupancy for most of the year during 2012, with almost all the residents (over 90%) having lived on the site longer term (that is, five years or longer).
- 4.23 In terms of facilities, the site has provision for dogs and each pitch has an amenity unit with bath and shower, WC with outside entrance, laundry provision and effective heating.
- 4.24 Kent County Council described the quality of the general surroundings and environment of the site as good, the site's location in relation to access to schools and shops as very good, and the physical condition and maintenance of the site as very good.
- 4.25 Kent County Council indicated that there have been no known instances of disputes between residents, intimidation and other anti-social behaviour on the site over the last 12 months.
- 4.26 Kent County Council indicated that there were currently three households doubled up on the site.

Socially Rented Sites: Survey Findings

- 4.27 The following section details the findings from the survey of residents living on the socially rented sites.
- 4.28 A total of 30 respondents were consulted with who were living on socially rented sites (18% of the sample as a whole): 14 of these were in Dover District and 16 in Canterbury. A total of 28 respondents on the socially rented sites indicated that they were Romany Gypsies (97% of the sample as a whole), as for the remaining respondents, one was a Scottish Traveller and one preferred not to disclose their ethnicity.

Views on Size and Facilities

- 4.29 All respondents across both socially rented sites indicated that they owned their own trailers. The average number of trailers to households was 1.6 for Dover and 1.4 for Canterbury.
- 4.30 When asked if they had enough space, all respondents at the Canterbury site indicated that they did. However, four of the 14 respondents (31%) from the Dover District site indicated that they do not have enough living space. All four of these respondents would like a larger plot, two would like a larger trailer/chalet, one would like a larger site and one would like more bedrooms. In respect of this the following comments were made by respondents:

I have one of the smaller plots on here and I would like to get a chalet.

Would like a bit more room on the plot so that I can make it look nice.

- 4.31 Four respondents (13%) (two from each site) reported that visitors come to stay with them on a temporary basis: these visitors tended to be family visiting for holidays. At the Dover District site, the two respondents reported that visitors bring their own trailer, whereas the two respondents at the Canterbury site tend to have visitors stay in their trailer with them.
- 4.32 Just two respondents (14%) of the 14 living on the council site in Dover District reported that hosting visitors is a problem and in both cases this was due to feeling that their plot is too small for visitors to be able pull their trailer on to stay with them. There were no issues reported in relation to the Canterbury site.

Previous Accommodation Experiences

- 4.33 When asked why they came to live on their current site, people gave a variety of reasons (see Table 4.1 below). The most common reason was due to being born there (62% of the sample). As can be seen, this was particularly the case for the respondents from the Canterbury site (69%). Seven respondents (27% of the sample) stated that they lived on their current site to be near to close family members. Four respondents did not provide a reason:

Table 4.1: Main reason for moving to current site²⁰

Reason	All		Dover		Canterbury	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Born/raised here	16	62%	7	54%	9	69%
Have close family living in the area	7	27%	4	31%	3	23%
Have extended family living in the area	2	8%	2	15%	-	-
Lack of sites	1	4%	-	-	1	8%
Total	26	100%	13	100%	13	100%

- 4.34 Table 4.2 below shows the type of accommodation respondents had immediately before their current site. As can be seen, the respondents had moved from a range of accommodation types, with unauthorised encampments being the most common (33% of the sample), particularly amongst the respondents from the Dover District (43%). A large proportion of respondents (30% of the sample), however, had been born/raised in the area, and 63% had been living on their current site for more than ten years (see Table 4.4 below).

²⁰ Note that this excludes non-responses from four respondents.

Table 4.2: Previous accommodation

Accommodation type	All		Dover		Canterbury	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Unauthorised encampment	10	33%	6	43%	4	25%
Been here all my adult life	9	30%	2	14%	7	44%
Private site	5	17%	4	29%	1	6%
Transit site	2	7%	1	7%	1	6%
Local Authority site	2	7%	1	7%	1	6%
Bricks and mortar – socially rented	1	3%	-	-	1	6%
Unauthorised development	1	3%	-	-	1	6%
Total	30	100%	14	100%	16	100%

- 4.35 The respondents who stayed on unauthorised encampments prior to their current site stated that they primarily stayed on encampments within the broad Kent area.

Length of Time in the Area and on the Site

- 4.36 With regards to length of time in the area, 93% of the respondents had been living in the area for more than ten years. The remaining one respondent on the Dover District site had been living in the area for between five and ten years and the remaining one respondent from the Canterbury site had been living in the area for one to three years. The main reason for staying in the area was due to being born there (62% of the sample), this was especially the case for the respondents in Canterbury (69%). Seven (27%) of respondents cited their main reason for staying in their current area as being because they have close family living nearby (see Table 4.3 below).

Table 4.3: Main reason for staying in this area²¹

Reason	All		Dover		Canterbury	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Born/raised there	16	62%	7	54%	9	69%
To be with/near close family	7	27%	4	31%	3	23%
To be with/near extended family	2	8%	2	15%	-	
Lack of sites	1	4%	-		1	8%
Total	26	100%	13	100%	13	100%

- 4.37 With regards to length of time on their current site, the majority of respondents (63% of the sample) had lived there for ten years or more. This was followed by those who had lived there for between five and ten years (23%).

²¹ Again, this excludes non-responses from four respondents.

Table 4.4: Length of time on current site

Length	All		Dover		Canterbury	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Ten years or more	19	63%	6	43%	13	81%
5 years or more but less than 10	7	23%	6	43%	1	6%
3 years or more but less than 5	1	3%	-		1	6%
1 year or more but less than 3	2	7%	1	7%	1	6%
3 months or more but less than 6	1	3%	1	7%	-	
Total	30	100%	14	100%	16	100%

- 4.38 None of the respondents indicated that they had a base elsewhere, with the exception of one person who stated that their parents owned a private site in Eastborne, which they visited every now and again.

Travelling Experiences

- 4.39 Just over half the sample (16 respondents/53%) indicated that they never travelled (six in the Dover District, ten in Canterbury). The most common reasons for not travelling were: health (69%), age (44%), and children's education (44%). For those who never travel, the last time they did travel ranges from between four and 20 years ago.
- 4.40 With regards to the 14 respondents who did travel (46% of the sample), 11 travelled a few times a year, while the remaining three travelled once a year. When asked where they tended to go to, the majority of respondents made reference to travelling to fairs (for example, Appleby and Stow). However, individual respondents did make reference to visiting various parts of Britain such as the south coast and Scotland. All but one respondent travels with just one caravan. The remaining one respondent travels with two caravans.
- 4.41 The most common reason for travelling in the last 12 months was to visit fairs (8 respondents, 57% of the sample). The other reasons identified were to visit relatives (21%), for work purposes (14%), and for a holiday (7%). With regards to where people stayed while travelling, the majority of respondents stayed at designated fair sites when visiting the fairs. With regards to the other reasons for travelling, people primarily made reference to staying on private sites, caravan parks, at the roadside or on other council sites.

Experiences of Living in Bricks and Mortar Accommodation

- 4.42 Six respondents (29%) interviewed on the socially rented sites indicated that they had lived in a house at some point during their life, with those from the Dover District slightly more likely to have lived in a bricks and mortar property (33%). Of these six respondents, three had lived in privately rented accommodation, two in socially rented accommodation, while one had owned their own home. Four respondents gave details about where their bricks and mortar property was located:

- Alhkam, Dover;
- Edinburgh, Scotland;
- Margate, Thanet;
- Sittingbourne, Swale.

4.43 Two respondents stated that their main reason for moving into bricks and mortar accommodation had been due to a lack of sites: two had moved with family; one simply because a house became available to rent; and one respondent stated that they were offered a house by the council because they no longer wanted to live on the roadside.

4.44 When asked to rate their experience of living in a house, two respondents said it was good, one respondent said neither good nor poor, one stated it was poor, and two respondents said it was very poor. With regards to their reasons for leaving the house, two indicated they had moved out when they got married; one had to move due to eviction, one had to move because of rent arrears and two respondents stated that they moved simply because they didn't enjoy living in a bricks and mortar property.

Employment

4.45 Across the two socially rented sites, respondents reported there being 109 household members in total.²² For 56 household members, respondents chose not to disclose their employment status. The following offers a breakdown of employment status for 53 household members:

- 19 were self-employed (36%);
- 11 were retired (21%);
- 11 were fulltime homemakers (21%);
- 6 were employed (11%);
- 3 were unemployed and looking for work (6%);
- 2 were unemployed and not looking for work (4%);
- 1 was both self-employed and employed (2%).

4.46 Respondents were asked where they tended to work and responses to this were mixed with many working in their local areas of Dover or Canterbury. However, those who are self employed tended to say that they worked across all Kent districts or "all over the country". One respondent on the Dover District site said that they would like a larger plot so that they could have a shed to put their tools for work in. Two respondents from the Dover District site cited that they had experienced problems accessing work, and on both occasions this was thought to be due to racial discrimination.

²² It should be noted that this differs from the information provided by the local authorities who reported 44 and 49 households respectively who were accommodated on the sites.

Access to Health, Education, Training and Careers Services

- 4.47 The respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and dentist. All respondents indicated that they had sufficient access to these services: where households said that that they did not currently have access, this was because the service was not personally relevant to them (for example, maternity care). None of the respondents indicated that they had experienced any problems accessing the local health care services.
- 4.48 Respondents were asked about their level of access to education, training and careers services. For many respondents, it was felt that these services were not appropriate for their household. However, seven respondents stated that they did not have access to training services, five respondents stated they do not have access to careers services and seven respondents stated they do not have access to work services.

5. Private Residential Sites

5.1 There are a number of private sites in the study area. These are detailed in full in Appendix 2. Private residential sites feature in three out of the four areas (Canterbury, Dover and Shepway): there are no private sites in Thanet. This chapter includes information on the private sites occupied by Gypsies and Travellers in the study area.

5.2 Table 5.1 provides an overview of the private sites in the area:

Table 5.1 Private sites with permanent, temporary and lawful status in Canterbury

	Canterbury		Dover		Shepway	
	No of sites	No of households	No of sites	No of households	No of sites	No of households
Private sites with permanent planning permission	20	29	10	15	2	2
Private sites with temporary planning permission	3	4 ²³	1	1	0	0
Sites immune from enforcement	1	1	0	0	0	0
Total	24	34	11	16	2	2

This table shows:

- In Canterbury there are currently 20 authorised private sites and one site which is deemed lawful. The Council indicated that the number of private sites and pitches had stayed static over the last five years: however, they expected the number of private sites to increase over the next five years;
- In the Dover District there are currently 10 authorised private sites with permanent planning permission and one with temporary permission. The Council indicated that the number of sites and pitches had increased since 2007. However, sites or pitches are not expected to increase over the next five years;
- In Shepway there are currently two authorised private sites with permanent planning permission accommodating two households. The Council indicated that there has been an additional site approved since 2007. They indicated that they do not expect the number of private sites to increase over the next five years.

²³ Fieldwork experience suggests that there are a total of 9 households occupying this site.

Private Sites with Permanent Planning Permission: Survey Findings

- 5.3 A total of 39 respondents, who were living on authorised private sites (23% of the overall sample), were consulted during the survey: 26 in Canterbury, 11 in Dover and two in Shepway. Out of this sample 97% of respondents indicated that they were Romany Gypsies, with only one respondent, living in the Dover District, indicating their ethnicity as Irish Traveller.

Views on Size and Facilities

- 5.4 All the respondents on the authorised private sites reported owning their trailers: 20 respondents had one trailer and 19 had two trailers. The average number of caravans to households was 1.5 for Canterbury, Dover and Shepway.
- 5.5 When asked if they had enough living space, just two respondents said they did not. Both respondents were from Canterbury and indicated that they needed a larger site and a larger pitch. One respondent also noted that they required a larger caravan. When asked why this extra space was needed, one respondent reported that they have space but are not permitted by Canterbury Council to use it. The other respondent cited that they would like more space for a utility block, a larger chalet and space for a dog run.
- 5.6 A total of 15 respondents (36%) reported that visitors come to stay with them (eight in Canterbury, five in Dover and two in Shepway). Of these, 13 respondents (87%) indicated that visitors brought a trailer and stayed with them on their pitch/site, whilst one has visitors stay in their own trailer and one has visitors who bring their own trailer and stay elsewhere. All visitors were described as close and extended family members who tend to stay for a few weeks at different times throughout the year.
- 5.7 Only two respondents, from Canterbury, indicated that hosting visitors was a problem for them, and this was due to lack of space on their site. Respondents indicated that they would generally not allow people outside of their own families and close friends to stay with them on their site.

Previous Accommodation Experiences

- 5.8 When asked why they came to live on their current site, the most common reason was to be near family/friends (49% of the sample) or because of there being land available to buy (33%) (see Table 5.2 below). Those from Dover were more likely to say that they came to their current site to be close to family/friends (73%) whilst those from Canterbury were just as likely to live on their current site because there was land available as to be close to family or friends.

Table 5.2: Main reason for moving to current site

Reason	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
To be near family	19	49%	8	73%	11	42%	-	
Land available to buy	13	33%	1	9%	11	42%	1	50%
Born on the site	2	5%	-		2	8%	-	
Other	2	5%	1	9%	1	4%	-	
Children's education	2	5%	-		1	4%	1	50%
Lack of sites	1	3%	1	9%	-		-	
Total	39	100%	11	100%	26	100%	2	100%

5.9 Table 5.3 below shows the type of accommodation respondents had immediately before their current site. As can be seen, the respondents had moved to their current site from a range of accommodation types, with unauthorised encampments (28%) and private sites (18%) being the most common. Both respondents from Shepway previously lived on other private sites. Overall, 23% of respondents had lived on their current site all their adult life

Table 5.3: Previous accommodation

Accommodation type	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Unauthorised encampment	11	28%	4	36%	7	27%	-	
Been here all my adult life	9	23%	3	27%	6	23%	-	
Private site	7	18%	2	18%	3	12%	2	100%
Council site	6	15%	-		6	23%	-	
Transit site	2	5%	1	9%	1	4%	-	
Unauthorised development	2	5%	1	9%	1	4%	-	
Bricks and mortar	2	5%	-		2	8%	-	
Total	39	100%	11	100%	26	100%	2	100%

5.10 With regards to the locations people had moved from, all had previously lived in the broader Kent area.

Length of Time in the Area and on the Site

5.11 One respondent from Canterbury and one from the Dover District have lived in the same local authority for 5-10 years. All other respondents (93%) have lived in the area for 10 years or more. The main reason for continuing to remain in the area was having been born there (57% of the sample) followed by having family in the area (37%) (see Table 5.4 below).

Table 5.4: Main reason for staying in this area²⁴

Reason	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Born/raised here	17	57%	4	50%	12	60%	1	50%
Have family living in the area	11	37%	2	25%	8	40%	1	50%
Health reasons	1	3%	1	13%	-		-	
Work available in the area	1	3%	1	13%	-		-	
Total	30	100%	8	100%	20	100%	2	100%

- 5.12 With regards to length of time on their current site, the majority of respondents had lived there for more than ten years (see Table 5.5 below). No respondents have lived on their current site for less than one year, with just three respondents having lived on their site for between one and three years (two in Canterbury and one in the Dover District).

Table 5.5: Length of time on current site

Length	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Ten years or more	30	77%	8	73%	21	81%	1	50%
5 years or more but less than 10	5	13%	2	18%	3	12%	-	
3 years or more but less than 5	1	3%	-		-		1	50%
1 year or more but less than 3	3	8%	1	9%	2	8%	-	
Total	39	100%	11	100%	26	100%	2	100%

- 5.13 Just two respondents reported having a base elsewhere. One respondent, who currently lives in Dover, also has a socially rented bricks and mortar property in Bramling, Canterbury where they sometimes live. One respondent from Canterbury also owns an unauthorised site which they have recently bought and are seeking to gain planning permission for, so that they can use it every now and again. This respondent did not specify the location of this base.

Travelling Experiences

- 5.14 A total of 20 respondents (51%) indicated that they never travelled (14 in Canterbury and six in the Dover District). The reasons for not travelling were cited as health reasons (six respondents); age (five respondents); and children's education (10 respondents).²⁵ Respondents also indicated reasons such as not feeling safe on the road, having animals to look after and generally due to feeling settled and preferring not to travel.
- 5.15 With regards to the 19 respondents (49%) who did travel, 16 travelled a few times a year; one travelled once a year; and two travelled every month. When asked where

²⁴ This excludes nine missing cases.

²⁵ Respondents were permitted to cite multiple reasons.

they tended to go to, the majority of respondents made reference to travelling to fairs (for example, Appleby, Cambridge and Stow). However, individual respondents did make reference to visiting relatives in various parts of England, including Birmingham, London and Brighton. One respondent also stated that they travelled to France.

- 5.16 A total of 15 respondents (79%) had travelled in the last 12 months. As highlighted above, this was primarily to attend a fair (36%) or for a holiday (21%). With regards to where people stayed while travelling, 11 respondents stayed at designated fair sites when visiting the fairs and five had stayed with relatives on private sites. Seven respondents indicated that they also stayed on caravan/holiday parks, while five respondents stated that they had stopped at the roadside.

Experiences of Living in Bricks and Mortar Accommodation

- 5.17 Six respondents interviewed on the authorised private sites (four in Canterbury and two in Dover) stated that they had previously lived in bricks and mortar accommodation (two, as stated above, immediately prior to their current accommodation). Three respondents were previously in socially rented accommodation, whilst two were privately renting, and one respondent had owned the property they lived in. Two respondents simply stated that their property had been in Canterbury, one was in Seasalter, Canterbury and one in Sussex. The two respondents from Dover lived in properties in Bramling, Canterbury and Portsmouth. Two respondents moved to a bricks and mortar property in order to be close to family and friends, two because of a lack of sites, one lived there in order to move off the roadside and one still lives in the property as an alternative base to their site based accommodation: *"My girlfriend rents it so I help with the rent and spend two to three nights there"*. Three respondents described their experience of living in bricks and mortar as 'very poor', while one described it as 'poor' and two were ambivalent about their experience. Three respondents left the property as they did not enjoy the experience of living in a bricks and mortar property, one left due to divorce, one left because they found land to purchase and one respondent still lives in the property for part of the week.

Employment

- 5.18 The majority of households have members who are self-employed (32 respondents, 82% of the sample). Ten households (31%) also have members who are employed. These respondents primarily worked within the local authority area that they lived in or across Kent. Two respondents indicated that they worked in other areas of the UK and two respondents stated that they mainly work abroad.
- 5.19 Respondents were asked if they had ever experienced any issues or problems accessing employment. While no-one made reference to any problems accessing employment, two respondents did clarify that where they work, people are not always aware that they are Gypsies/Travellers. As one commented:

We have been around here all our lives and everyone knows us and some are very good friends. If we go somewhere different and go about a job we don't tell them that we are Gypsies.

Access to Health, Education, Training and Careers Services

5.20 The respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and the dentist. All respondents indicated that they had sufficient access to these services: where households said that they did not currently have access, this was because the service was not relevant to them (for example, maternity care). This is also the case for education services such as school with all those respondents who felt it relevant for their household reporting having access to local schools. In terms of training and careers services, ten respondents (31%) said they did not have access to training or careers services and 15 respondents (38%) said they did not have access to work services.

Authorised Private Sites with Temporary Planning Permission: Survey Findings

5.21 A total of 10 respondents were interviewed, nine in Canterbury and one in the Dover District. Providing statistical analysis on such a low number is impractical, therefore responses are displayed in summary form:

- All 10 respondents cited their ethnicity as Romany Gypsy;
- Seven respondents report that they own their own plot and the remaining three respondents' reported that the plot belongs to a family member who allows them to stay there. The one household in the Dover District owns two caravans and in Canterbury the average number of caravans is 1.7;
- All respondents reported having enough space, and two respondents in Canterbury have close family stay with them for one to two weeks a year, bringing their own trailer and staying on the respondent's pitch;
- No respondents reported hosting visitors as a problem;
- One respondent from Canterbury stated that they didn't know how long they had lived in the area. All other respondents have lived in the area for at least 10 years;
- Six respondents reported that they have lived on their current site for 10 years or more, two for five to ten years, one for three to five years and one for one to three years;
- The respondent from the Dover District reported that they were born on the site they live on. In Canterbury, seven respondents moved to the site to be closer to family and two because land was available there to buy;
- Out of the ten respondents, four reported that they never travel, five travel a few times per year and one respondent travels once a year. Two respondents reported that they no longer travelled because of poor health, two because of their children's education and two because of old age. One respondent also reported that they have too many animals to look after, whilst another

respondent said it was because they were working to gain planning for their site. As an estimation, respondents reported not travelling for between three and 18 years;

- For the six respondents who do still travel to some extent, all have travelled in the last 12 months: three mainly travelling to visit fairs; one to visit relatives; one for work; and one for a holiday. All respondents stay on either designated fair sites or with relatives when travelling;
- No respondents reported having a base elsewhere;
- From the nine households who responded to this question, six households have members who are self-employed and three households have members who are employed. The respondents have no needs or problems in terms of work or in accessing health or education services. Two respondents, both from Canterbury, report that they do not have access to training and careers services;
- The one respondent from Dover District previously lived on a private site in Canterbury and left when they found land to buy. In Canterbury, one respondent previously lived on an unauthorised encampment, one on an unauthorised development, three on a private site, and three have lived on their current site all their life. Two left their previous site due to planning problems, two because they found alternative land to buy, and one for family health reasons;
- Two Canterbury respondents have previously lived in a bricks and mortar property in Dover. One respondent moved there because a household member was ill and needed to be close to other family members living in the area and one respondent moved there to try living in a bricks and mortar property. One respondent was ambivalent about the experience and one reported that it was 'very poor'. One respondent moved from the house to travel and another respondent moved due to not enjoying the experience of living in a bricks and mortar property: *"my husband didn't like the house and didn't want to bring the children up in a house so we sold it"*.

6. Planning and Unauthorised Sites

6.1 The development of unauthorised sites for Gypsies and Travellers can be a major source of tension between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled population. The current planning system is intended to create conditions where there is no need for unauthorised developments because land will be allocated for authorised site development within the Local Plan. This chapter focuses upon instances where there has been the development of Gypsy and Traveller sites without planning permission. The chapter concludes by looking at the presence of unauthorised encampments in the area.

Planning Applications Since 2007

6.2 Only Dover and Shepway reported that they had experienced receiving applications for the development or extension of Gypsy and Traveller sites since 2007. This amounted to four applications: one in Shepway and three in Dover. Two applications had been allowed (one on appeal) and two applications were, at the time of the assessment, not determined.

Unauthorised Development of Gypsy and Traveller Sites

6.3 Details of current unauthorised developments were given and are summarised in Table 6.1. There are 11 sites in all. When caravan numbers only are provided we tend to use a 1.7 caravan to pitch ratio to determine the number of pitches. It is estimated that there are approximately 18 households accommodated across these sites.

Table 6.1: Current Unauthorised Developments

Site	Pitches	Comments
Canterbury		
2 Pye Alley Farm	1	N/A
Prospect Farm	5	N/A
Plot 3	1	N/A
Littlebrook Farm	1	N/A
Plot 7	1	N/A
Dover		
1 The Land	1	Under investigation
Sun Top and Greenwich	1	N/A
Ivy Farm	1	Under investigation
Greenfields	1	Enforcement notice served
Newcastle Cottage	1	N/A
Shepway		
Lydd Caravan Park	4	Permission for 14 caravans granted in August 1984. The site was sold by KCC and used for other purposes until approximately 2006 when the owner started putting caravans on it. It is thought that there are 18 caravans on the site (approx 8 households) of which 50% are assumed to be for Gypsies and Travellers.

- 6.4 Shepway Council indicated that the unauthorised development located in the district is currently owned by a member of the non-Gypsy or Traveller community and is used, in part, as a general holiday caravan park. There is estimated to be four pitches on the site which are occupied by Gypsy or Traveller households. There are no known unauthorised developments in Thanet

Unauthorised Developments: Survey Findings

- 6.5 A total of 15 respondents were consulted with who lived on unauthorised developments (5% of the sample): six from Canterbury, five from Dover and four from Shepway. All of the respondents on the unauthorised developments indicated that they were Romany Gypsies apart from one respondent who chose not to disclose their ethnicity.

Views on Size and Facilities

- 6.6 Seven of the respondents (47%) on the unauthorised developments indicated that they owned their pitches, while seven (47%) rented a pitch and one respondent stated that it is a family member's site. All respondents stated that they owned their own trailers and one respondent in Canterbury stated that they also owned two mobile homes which they 'rent out to anyone'. 10 respondents had one trailer and five respondents had two. The average number of caravans to households was 1.4 in the Dover District, 1.3 in Canterbury and Shepway.
- 6.7 When asked if they had enough space, all respondents across all three local authority areas stated that they did.
- 6.8 Five respondents reported that visitors come to stay with them: three in Canterbury, one in Dover and one in Shepway. They indicated that these visitors tended to be family members who brought their own trailers with them. This was particularly the case for those from Dover and Shepway. However, two respondents stated that any visitors were permitted to stay on the site: "I let anyone pull on as long as they abide by the rules and pay the rent on time".
- 6.9 A total of 11 respondents (73%) felt that hosting visitors was unproblematic. For the remaining four respondents, for whom it was a problem, this is mainly due to the fact that the site is not owned by them and therefore they would not invite visitors to stay there. Respondents from the site in Shepway reported that the site is not exclusively for Gypsies and Travellers and that the owner runs the site as a holiday park and therefore allows visitors on the site throughout the year.

Previous Accommodation Experiences

- 6.10 When asked why they came to live on their current site, seven respondents (50%) moved there to be close to family. This is particularly true for respondents from Dover (80%) and Shepway (75%) whereas no respondents from Canterbury gave this as a reason. The five respondents from Canterbury each gave individual responses as to why they moved to their current site (see table 6.2 below).

Table 6.2: Main reason for moving to current site²⁶

Reason	All		Canterbury		Dover		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
To be near family	7	50%	-		4	80%	3	75%
Land available to buy	2	14%	1	20%	1	20%	-	
Born on the site	1	7%	1	20%	-		-	
Other	1	7%	-		-		1	25%
Moved with family	1	7%	1	20%	-		-	
Lack of sites	1	7%	1	20%	-		-	
Vacancy	1	7%	1	20%	-		-	
Total	14	100%	5	100%	5	100%	4	100%

6.11 Table 6.3 below shows that five respondents previously lived on unauthorised encampments and five lived on private sites immediately before they came to their current site. With regards to where people had moved from, respondents tended to have lived close to their current site, with those who lived on unauthorised encampments reporting that they lived on the roadsides around Shepway, Canterbury and Folkstone: *“no particular place, just around Shepway. Before we came here we were on the roadsides between here and Ashford”*, said one respondent from Shepway.

Table 6.3: Previous accommodation

Accommodation type	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Unauthorised encampment	5	33%	2	40%	1	17%	2	50%
Private site	5	34%	2	40%	2	33%	1	25%
Been here all my adult life	3	20%	-		2	33%	1	25%
Farmer’s field	1	7%	-		1	17%	-	
Bricks and mortar	1	7%	1	20%	-		-	
Total	15	100%	5	100%	6	100%	4	100%

Length of Time in the Area and on the Site

6.12 All respondents stated that they have lived in their local area for 10 years or more with the exception of one respondent from Canterbury who doesn’t know how long they have lived there. The main reason for residing in the area was having been born there (80% of the sample) followed by having family in the area (20%) (see Table 6.4 below).

Table 6.4: Main reason for staying in this area²⁷

²⁶ Excludes one missing case.

Reason	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Born/raised here	8	80%	4	100%	3	100%	1	33%
Have family living in the area	2	20%	-		-		2	67%
Total	10	100%	4	100%	3	100%	3	100%

6.13 With regards to length of time on their current site, the majority of respondents had lived on their current site for more than ten years (see Table 6.5 below). No respondents have lived on their current site for less than one year, with just three Dover District respondents having lived on their site for between one and three years.

Table 6.5: Length of time on current site

Length	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Ten years or more	9	60%	2	40%	3	50%	4	100%
5 years or more but less than 10	1	7%	-		1	17%	-	
3 years or more but less than 5	2	13%	-		2	33%	-	
1 year or more but less than 3	3	20%	3	60%	-		-	
Total	15	100%	5	100%	6	100%	4	100%

6.14 No respondents living on unauthorised developments report having a base elsewhere.

Travelling Experiences

6.15 Nine respondents (60%) indicated that they never travelled (three in each of the local authorities). The reasons for not travelling were health reasons (four respondents), age (four respondents) and children's education (two respondents). Respondents also indicated reasons such as work commitments, animals to look after and generally due to feeling settled and preferring not to travel. Respondents have not travelled for between two and 18 years.

6.16 With regards to the six respondents (40%) who did travel, five travelled a few times a year and one travelled once a year. When asked where they tended to go to, the majority of respondents made reference to travelling to fairs (for example, Appleby, Cambridge and Stow). However, individual respondents did make reference to visiting various parts of England, including Essex, Plymouth and Scarborough. One respondent also stated that they travelled to France.

6.17 Two respondents had travelled in the last 12 months: one to attend a fair, staying on a designated fair site and one for a holiday, staying on a caravan park. When travelling, respondents tended to travel with just one caravan.

²⁷ Note this excludes five missing cases.

Experiences of Living in Bricks and Mortar Accommodation

6.18 Four respondents interviewed on the unauthorised developments (one in Canterbury and three in the Dover District) stated that they had previously lived in bricks and mortar accommodation (one, as stated above, immediately prior to their current accommodation). One socially rented their bricks and mortar property whilst one privately rented, and two owned the property they lived in. The respondent from Canterbury reported having lived in a property in Hoath, Canterbury. The three respondents from the Dover District lived in properties in Knowlton in Dorset, Ewell Minnis in Dover and one simply stated that their property was in Dover. Each respondent gave a separate reason for moving to a bricks and mortar property:

“Moved there with my girlfriend years ago”;

“My wife wanted to buy it and settle down”;

“The farmer owned the house and rented it to us as we used to work for him”;
and

“To try and get planning on here”.

6.19 Two respondents described their experience of living in bricks and mortar as ‘poor’, while one described it as ‘very poor’ and one was ambivalent about their experience. Again all four respondents gave separate reasons for moving out of bricks and mortar:

“My wife still owns it. We have separated”;

“Planning reasons and I don’t like living in a house”;

“We got married and moved back into trailers”; and

“We had no more work with the farmer”.

Employment

6.20 The majority of households have members who are self-employed (nine respondents, 60% of the sample). Six households (40%) also have members who are employed. These respondents primarily worked within the local authority area that they lived in or across Kent. One respondent indicated that they worked in other areas of the UK and another respondent stated that they mainly work abroad.

6.21 Respondents were asked if they had ever experienced any issues or problems accessing employment. While no-one made reference to any problems accessing employment, one respondent did clarify that where they work, people are not always aware that they are Gypsies/Travellers.

6.22 The respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and the dentist. All respondents indicated that they had sufficient access to these services: where households said that they did not currently have access, this was because the service was not relevant to them (for example, maternity care). This is also the case for education services such as school with all those respondents who felt it relevant for their household reporting to have access to local schools. In terms of training and careers services, two respondents from Canterbury said they did not have access to training or career services.

Unauthorised Encampments

6.23 The presence and incidence of unauthorised encampments is often a significant issue that impacts upon local authorities, landowners, Gypsies and Travellers and the settled population. Due to the nature of unauthorised encampments (i.e. unpredictability, seasonal fluctuations, for example), it is often very difficult to grasp a comprehensive picture of need for residential and/or transit accommodation without considering a range of interconnected issues. During the assessment period we did not receive notification from the Councils of any unauthorised encampments in the study area.

6.24 The survey showed that just Shepway Council has a written policy for managing unauthorised encampments. Similarly Shepway was the only authority where there were joint agreements in place with other local authorities.

6.25 First contact with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments is normally made by an officer of the local authority.

6.26 There was variable recording of encampments across the local authorities. Dover reported that they did not keep a log of authorised encampments, Thanet noted that they logged some encampments while Shepway stated that they log all encampments.

6.27 In order to attempt to ascertain the experience of the local authorities with regards to unauthorised encampments, each authority was asked to comment on the number of separate encampments they had experienced during 2012:²⁸ Canterbury did not provide any information; Dover had none (normally none in area); Shepway had one (normally one in area at any time); and Thanet had none (normally none in area).

6.28 Officers from Kent County Council's Gypsy and Traveller team provided support for the view that there is generally a low level of unauthorised encampments in East Kent. This was attributed partly to the coastal position it occupies but also the relative poor economy and lack of work opportunities in comparison to other areas.

²⁸ The last full calendar year prior to the assessment taking place.

6.29 Authorities were asked how the number of unauthorised encampments has changed over the past 5 years with all reporting that they had remained at low levels.

6.30 Similarly, other characteristics were noted including:

- Most households were seen to be in transit;
- When they did stop they left the area within a week or less; and
- There was a slight increase in encampments during the summer period.

6.31 Authorities were asked to provide details of how many encampments had occurred in the last three years. This is presented in Table 6.6. Canterbury were unable to provide this information, Dover recorded zero encampments over this period whilst the numbers in Shepway and Thanet were very low.

Table 6.6. Unauthorised encampments in the study area by year

Year	Canterbury	Dover	Shepway	Thanet
2012	N/A	Nil	1	Nil
2011	N/A	Nil	2	1
2010	N/A	Nil	2	Nil

6.32 We did not manage to locate any unauthorised encampments in the study area over the assessment period. The exception to this was a small number of households which we identified who were living on land close to the Travelling Showpeoples Wintering Ground in Shepway. Respondents here named the site as *Hope Farm* and reported that they rented the land from the owner of the Travelling Showpeople yard. Two interviews were secured with these households, and the details of these interviews are detailed in Chapter Nine.

7. Gypsies and Travellers in Social and Private Bricks and Mortar Accommodation

7.1 Nationally, it is recognised that the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers currently accommodated within bricks and mortar accommodation are unknown, but potentially large. Indeed, the Commission for Racial Equality's 2006 report - *Common Ground: Equality, Good Race Relations and Sites for Gypsies and Irish Travellers* - suggested that the housed population was around three times the number of trailer-based populations, while the DCLG guidance on producing GTAAs suggested the housed population to be more than half of the total population.²⁹ However, it is widely acknowledged that there is very little secondary data available on the number of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation. Numbers can only be estimated, as Gypsies and Travellers are not counted as a separate group by most data sources.³⁰ Where they are included separately, Gypsies and Travellers may sometimes be reluctant to identify themselves for fear of reprisals.³¹ Movement to and from housing is a major concern for the strategic approach, policies and working practices of local authorities in relation to the provision of new accommodation for Gypsy and Traveller communities. This chapter brings together findings from all respondents where appropriate including Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

Housing Policies

7.2 Authorities were asked whether specific reference is made to Gypsies and Travellers in various housing strategies:

- **Current housing strategy:** All authorities said specific reference is made to Gypsies and Travellers;
- **Current homelessness strategy:** There is no mention of Gypsies and Travellers in any of the homelessness strategies; and
- **Current BME housing strategy:** No authority has a specific BME housing strategy.

Gypsies and Travellers are identified in **ethnic records and monitoring** of social housing applications and/or allocations in Dover but not in any of the other local authorities.

Homelessness Policies in Relation to Gypsies and Travellers

7.3 Authorities were asked to provide details of how homeless Gypsies and Travellers are supported through the homelessness process and any steps taken to provide Gypsies and Travellers with housing advice and assistance. Authorities normally reported on arrangements in place to support all homeless applicants.

²⁹ DCLG (2007) *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments: Guidance*, London: HMSO.

³⁰ Shelter (2008) *Good Practice Guide: Working with Housed Gypsies and Travellers*, London: Shelter.

³¹ DCLG (2007) *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments: Guidance*, London: HMSO.

Gypsies and Travellers in Social Housing

7.4 Within the survey of authorities there was a sequence of questions about Gypsies and Travellers in social housing and among applicants and allocations. Most authorities were unable to provide any information:

- Only Dover was able to provide a figure for the number of Gypsies and Travellers currently registered for social housing: this was one;
- Similarly, only Dover was able to say how many Gypsies and Travellers were housed in 2012: again this was noted to the one household;
- No homelessness presentations had been made by Gypsies and Travellers in the previous 12 months in Dover or Thanet. A total of four presentations had been made in Shepway. In the latter area, the reasons given were harassment and a desire to be closer to family and friends; and
- No authority was able to say whether or how the number of Gypsies and Travellers moving into social rented housing had changed over the past five years. Most were also unable to say how numbers might change in the future: only Dover expected numbers to remain broadly the same.

7.5 Two authorities commented on the main reasons why Gypsies and Travellers move into housing (from a list of eight potential reasons). In order of significance these were:

- Want a permanent house or flat (Thanet);
- Want to move nearer to family/friends (Shepway); and
- Harassment or other problems on a site (Shepway).

7.6 Authorities were asked to estimate how many Gypsies and Travellers live in social housing in their area. Only Dover made an estimate (less than 10 families). There was no information provided about particular geographical concentrations of Gypsies and Travellers within social housing with the exception of Dover which commented that concentrations were likely around the socially rented site in the District (Aylesham).

Gypsies and Travellers in Private Housing

7.7 Answers to questions about Gypsies and Travellers in other forms of housing were almost entirely uninformative:

- No authority had information about any significant numbers of Gypsies and Travellers living in private housing in their area; and
- No authority noted any issues arising in relation to Gypsies and Travellers living in private housing in their area.

Estimating the Size of the Gypsy and Traveller Population in Bricks and Mortar Housing

- 7.8 The Commission for Racial Equality's 2006 report, noted above, suggested that the housed population was around three times the number of trailer-based populations. However, using a multiplier of three times the site population may be excessive in the absence of definitive evidence of the size of the population.
- 7.9 None of the stakeholders that were consulted or members of the local Gypsy and Traveller communities in the study area were able to accurately estimate the size of the Gypsy and Traveller population in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 7.10 In order to engage with households in bricks and mortar accommodation we adopted three main strategies:
- Our research team, via community interviewers, utilised their own extensive social networks in order to find people who lived in housing in the areas;
 - We asked respondents from trailer-based accommodation to pass on the details of people living in houses who would be agreeable to be interviewed; and
 - We utilised snowball-sampling techniques (asking respondents from housing to recommend other similar households to engage with) to help identify potential respondents. However, it is recognised that the survey is unlikely to have captured *all* bricks and mortar residents.
- 7.11 Engaging with households in bricks and mortar accommodation appeared unproblematic. However, there was a sense from our community interviewers that they were reaching an upper limit of respondents through their networks. As such it is recommended that a pragmatic approach is taken to provide a workable estimation of the population in bricks and mortar housing that combines Census 2011 data with survey experience.
- 7.12 As outlined in Chapter 3, using the Census 2011 data as a base we assume the bricks and mortar population to be: 40 households in Canterbury; 28 households in Dover; 32 households in Shepway; and 42 households in Thanet.
- 7.13 It should be noted that we believe that this may be an understatement of the actual housed population, but it is based on the best empirical information available at the time of the assessment. A more accurate estimation of the numbers of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in houses will only be possible when the data from the Census 2011 is available by accommodation type and when Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople feel able to disclose their ethnic group in monitoring forms and to the wider community.
- 7.14 Until some of the above issues are resolved, estimates based on limited census data, the informal knowledge of stakeholders and the experiences of fieldworkers, such as those in this study, will be the only and best source of evidence. It is recommended that the issue of housed Gypsies and Travellers be revisited in more detail in future studies of this type.

Living in Bricks and Mortar Accommodation: Survey Findings

7.15 A total of 69 respondents living in bricks and mortar accommodation were consulted (41% of the sample): 15 in the Dover District, 32 in Canterbury, 11 in Shepway and 11 in Thanet. Table 7.1 below shows the breakdown by tenure. As can be seen, 65% of the sample living in bricks and mortar accommodation were living in socially rented accommodation, with smaller numbers of owner occupiers (22%) and those living in private rented accommodation (3%). A total of 94% of residents who reported their ethnicity described themselves as Romany Gypsies. Two respondents described their ethnicity as Irish Traveller and one as Welsh Traveller.

Table 7.1: Tenure of bricks and mortar respondents

Tenure	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Rented from LA or social landlord	45	65%	9	60%	26	81%	5	45%	5	45%
Owner occupation	2	3%	-		1	3%	-		1	9%
Rented from private landlord	22	22%	6	40%	5	16%	6	55%	5	45%
Total	69	100%	15	100%	32	100%	11	100%	11	100%

Overall Experience of Living in a House

7.16 When asked to rate their experience of living in a house, the majority of respondents (76%) described it as ‘good’ or ‘very good’: this percentage was highest amongst the Dover District and Shepway respondents (86% and 82% respectively), compared to 73% and 71% respectively for Thanet and Canterbury. Only three respondents rated their current experience of living in a house as ‘poor’ (one in Shepway and two in Canterbury). Those living in an owner occupied property were more likely to rate their experience of living in a bricks and mortar property as ‘good’ or ‘very good’ (95%) than those socially renting (70%) and those privately renting (0%).

Ownership of Trailers

7.17 Over half of respondents (37 respondents, 54% of the sample) across all four districts owned trailers, 36 respondents had just one trailer and one owned two trailers.

Views on Size of Property

7.18 Across all local authorities and all tenure types, respondents are most likely to live in three bedroom properties (80% of all those living in bricks and mortar properties) followed by two bedroom properties (17%). One respondent living in the Dover District and one respondent in Canterbury have four bedroom properties. Both of these respondents own their homes.

- 7.19 When asked if they had enough space in their current home, just eight respondents (12%) said no. All of these respondents live in socially rented property: four in Canterbury; two in Shepway; one in the Dover District and one in Thanet. The most common reason for needing more space was that respondents needed more outside space for somewhere to put their trailer. One respondent also cited that they needed more bedrooms.
- 7.20 A total of 16 respondents (23%) across all four local authorities reported that visitors come to stay with them, mainly staying in the host’s home. However five respondents also report that visitors bring their own trailer. In terms of who visits, it tends to be close family members visiting throughout the year for between one and five weeks at a time.
- 7.21 A total of 11 respondents (16%) indicated that hosting visitors was a problem for them. When asked to elaborate, these respondents made reference to not having enough space for visitors to park their trailers.

Previous Accommodation Experiences

- 7.22 The most common primary reason for moving to their current accommodation was to be near family and friends (64% of total), followed by a lack of sites (21%). Respondents across all four local authorities identified these two reasons for moving, as Table 7.2 below shows.

Table 7.2: Main reason for moving to the house³²

Reason	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
To be near family/friends	43	64%	10	71%	23	72%	6	60%	4	36%
Lack of sites	14	21%	-		5	16%	4	40%	5	45%
Overcrowding	3	4%	1	7%	2	6%	-		-	
Health reasons	2	3%	1	7%	1	3%	-		-	
Other	3	4%	-		1	3%	-		2	18%
There was a vacancy	1	1%	1	7%	-		-		-	
Born there	1	1%	1	7%	-		-		-	
Total	67	100%	14	100%	32	100%	10	100%	11	100%

- 7.23 Prior to living in their current accommodation, the most common accommodation was on a council site (30%), followed by unauthorised encampments (16%) and private sites (16%). A total of 17% of respondents had lived in their current accommodation for all their adult life. When asked where they had lived previously, respondents tended to report living close to their current accommodation, with a small number having moved from other areas across Kent. Table 7.3, below, shows a breakdown of respondents’ previous accommodation.

³² Excludes two missing cases.

Table 7.3: Previous accommodation

Accommodation type	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Council site	21	30%	5	33%	16	50%	-		-	
Been here all my adult life	12	17%	3	20%	5	16%	1	9%	3	27%
Unauthorised encampment	11	16%	2	13%	4	13%	2	18%	3	27%
Private site	11	16%	2	13%	3	9%	3	27%	3	27%
Unauthorised development	6	9%	1	7%	2	6%	3	27%	-	
Transit site	3	4%	-		1	3%	1	9%	1	9%
Another house	3	4%	-		1	3%	1	9%	1	9%
Other	2	3%	2	13%	-		-		-	
Total	69	100%	15	100%	32	100%	11	100%	11	100%

- 7.24 Although only three respondents had lived in a house immediately prior to moving to their current accommodation, a further nine respondents had also lived in bricks and mortar accommodation at some point in the past. One of these 12 respondents (8%) stated that their experience had been 'very good', four (33%) stated that it had been 'good', three (25%) were ambivalent about their experience, three (25%) stated it was poor and one respondent (8%) said their experience was 'very poor'. Respondents identified a number of reasons for moving from their previous house: three moved out of the house with their parents as their parents did not like living there; two moved due to marriage; one to travel; one to be closer to family/friends; one because they bought a new property; and three respondents did not give any particular reason.

Length of Time in the Area and in the House

- 7.25 The majority of respondents (93%) had been living in the area for ten years or more (including all of the respondents from Dover and all the respondents who owned their own property). The main reasons for staying in the area were being born/raised there (49%) or having family living in the area (38%) (see Table 7.4 below).

Table 7.4: Main reason for staying in this area³³

Reason	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Born in the area	26	49%	7	58%	15	54%	2	33%	2	29%
To be near close family/friends	20	38%	4	33%	12	43%	4	67%	-	-
To look after family members	2	4%	1	8%	-	-	-	-	1	14%
To be near extended family	1	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14%
Health reasons	1	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14%
Children's education	1	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14%
Lack of sites	1	2%	-	-	1	4%	-	-	-	-
Other	1	2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14%
Total	53	100%	12	100%	28	100%	6	100%	7	100%

7.26 With regards to length of time in their current house, 64% of the sample as a whole had lived there for ten years or more, with over a quarter (26%) indicating that they had lived in the house for between five and ten years. Table 7.5 below provides full details of length of time in current house by local authority.

Table 7.5: Length of time in current house

Length	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Ten years or more	44	64%	9	60%	20	63%	8	73%	7	64%
5 years or more but less than 10	18	26%	5	33%	8	25%	3	27%	2	18%
3 years or more but less than 5	3	4%	-	-	2	6%	-	-	1	9%
1 year or more but less than 3	4	6%	9	7%	2	6%	-	-	1	9%
Total	69	100%	23	100%	32	100%	11	100%	11	100%

7.27 Three respondents reported having a base elsewhere (two from Canterbury and one from Thanet). Two respondents explained they had a base elsewhere in the form of a private site (one with temporary and one with permanent planning permission) which they used to live on but no longer use. One of these sites is owned by the respondent and one by the respondent's parents. One respondent reports owning an unauthorised site near their home which they only use for horses.

Travelling Experiences

7.28 A total of 32 respondents (46%) indicated that they never travelled. The reasons cited by respondents for not travelling were children's education (seven respondents), health (seven respondents) and age (two respondents). Many respondents also

³³ Based on responses from 53 respondents.

indicated that they never travelled just because they no longer have a trailer and prefer to drive to the fairs. Respondents reported not travelling for a number of years (ranging from two to over 15 years).

- 7.29 With regards to the 37 respondents (54%) who did travel, the majority (82%) stated that they travelled a few times a year. Two respondents stated that they travelled once a year, while another two said that they travelled once a month. When asked where they tended to go to, the majority of respondents made reference to travelling to fairs (for example, Appleby, Cambridge and Stow). However, individual respondents did make reference to visiting relatives in various parts of England and holiday resorts such as Brighton, Cornwall, Yarmouth and Scarborough.
- 7.30 The most common reason for travelling was to attend fairs (43%). However, respondents also made reference to travelling to visit relatives for work or for a holiday. With regards to where people stayed while travelling, people stayed at designated sites when visiting the fairs. When visiting relatives, holidaying or working, people made reference to staying with relatives on private sites or stopping on caravan parks. Only a very small number reported staying on the roadside when travelling.

Employment

- 7.31 72% of households had one or two members who were self-employed, whilst 14% of households have members employed and 14% of households have members who are unemployed. A total of 58% of respondents also live in households where one member is a fulltime homemaker.
- 7.32 One respondent, living in a socially rented property in Canterbury, reports a need for more room to be able to park a lorry for work. Four respondents noted having problems accessing work, and in all cases this is thought to be due to negative perceptions of Gypsies and Travellers among employers.

Access to Health, Education, Training and Careers Services

- 7.33 The respondents were asked if they had access to the following health services: GP/health centre; health visitor; maternity care; A & E; and the dentist. All respondents indicated that they had sufficient access to these services: where households said that they did not currently have access, this was because the service was not relevant to them (for example, maternity care). None of the respondents indicated that they had experienced any problems accessing the local health care services. Similarly, all respondents indicated that they had access to schools. A small number of respondents indicated that they did not have access to training and careers services, but did not provide any further details about the specific problems experienced in accessing these services.

8. Future Accommodation, Household Formation and Accommodation Affordability

8.1 This chapter looks at a range of issues including the movement intentions of the sample, the formation of new households and concealment of existing ones and the accommodation intentions of the Gypsy and Traveller population. These factors are key drivers in the assessment of accommodation need within the four authorities. The findings from the survey are presented here and how this then translates into 'need' is discussed in Chapter 10

Future Accommodation Intentions

8.2 Table 8.1 below shows the movement intentions of the households. The majority of respondents (95% of the sample as a whole) had no plans to move or indicated that they intended to stay in their current accommodation indefinitely. This is particularly the case in Shepway, where all respondents either plan to stay indefinitely or have no plans to move from their current site.

8.3 Across all local authorities on both permanent and temporary sites, as can be seen, none of the residents indicated any intentions to move.

Table 8.1: Movement intentions of responding households

		Current accommodation													
	Intention	All		Private site		LA site		Unauthor Develop.		Unauthor Encamp.		TSP		Bricks and mortar	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Dover	Move in the next 12 months	1	2%	-		1	7%	-		-		-		-	
	Stay indefinitely	10	22%	4	33%	1	7%	2	40%	-		-		3	20%
	No plans to move	35	76%	8	67%	11	85%	3	60%	-		1	100%	12	80%
	Total	46	100%	12	100%	13	100%	5	100%	-		1	100%	15	100%
Canterbury	Move in the next 12 months	1	1%	-		-		-		-		-		1	3%
	Move in the next 1 – 2 years	1	1%	-		-		-		-		-		1	3%
	Move in the next 2-5 years	2	2%	-		-		-		-		-		2	6%
	Stay indefinitely	21	24%	15	44%	3	19%	-		-		-		3	9%
	No plans to move	61	69%	17	50%	13	81%	6	100%	-		-		25	78%
	Other	2	2%	2	6%	-		-		-		-		-	
	Total	88	100%	34	100%	16	100%	6	100%	-		-		32	100%
Shepway	Stay indefinitely	3	15%	1	50%	-		1	33%	-		-	-	1	9%
	No plans to move	17	85%	1	50%	-		2	67%	2	100%	2	100%	10	91%
	Total	20	100%	2	100%	-		3	100%	2	100%	2	100%	11	100%
Thanet	Move in the next 1-2 years	1	9%	-		-		-		-		-		1	9%
	Stay indefinitely	1	9%	-		-		-		-		-		1	9%
	No plans to move	9	82%	-		-		-		-		-		9	82%
	Total	11	100%	-		-		-		-		-		11	100%

8.4 Six respondents (one in Dover, four in Canterbury and one in Thanet) indicated that they needed to move. The following from our respondents in these locations provides further insights about moving intentions:

Dover District

HH1: Currently living on the socially rented site, this respondent indicated that they plan to move in the next 12 months. The household has lived in the Dover District for more than 10 years and have been on the site for between five and 10 years. Prior to this site they had lived on unauthorised encampments. They indicated that they needed to move as they want to find a bricks and mortar property in the Aylesham area of Dover to be closer to family: *“my mother has a house in Aylesham and I would like to be near her as she has bad health”*.

Canterbury

HH2: Currently socially renting a bricks and mortar property in Canterbury, this household has lived in the area for at least 10 years and has lived in property for one to three years, having previously lived on a private site in Canterbury. The household intends to move back to the private site they own in Canterbury in the next 12 months due to old age and a desire to be near to close family members.

HH3: Currently socially renting a bricks and mortar property in Canterbury, this household has lived in the area for at least 10 years and has lived in property for five to ten years, having previously lived on a socially rented site in Canterbury. The respondent intends to go travelling in the next two to five years and plans to buy land for a private site somewhere outside the study area, in another part of the UK.

HH4: Currently socially renting a bricks and mortar property in Canterbury, this household has lived in the area for at least 10 years and has lived in property for five to ten years, having previously lived on private sites in Woolwich, Faversham and Chatham. The respondent reports living in overcrowded conditions and as such is looking to purchase land in the next two to five years in the Canterbury area to move to. The household would like to be close to family but does not know if there is land available to do so.

HH5: Currently privately renting a bricks and mortar property in Canterbury, this household has lived in the area and the property for one to three years, having previously lived on private sites in Southampton, Chichester, Maidstone and Guilford. The respondent reports needing to move for their children’s education, because of overcrowded conditions and because they would like to buy their own land. They plan to purchase land in the Canterbury area in the next one to two years. The household have not enjoyed their experience of living in bricks and mortar accommodation and desire to move back to site based accommodation to be close to family members.

Thanet

HH6: Currently privately renting a bricks and mortar property in Thanet, this household has lived in the area and the property for one to three years, having previously lived on a private site in Potters Bar. The respondent reports needing to move in the next 12 months for work and to travel. The household would like to purchase some land close to family but has not specified where they would like the land to be.

- 8.5 With regards to the two respondents who indicated 'other', one respondent currently lives on a private site in Canterbury and plans to move if and when they can sell the land on which they currently live. The second respondent also currently lives on a private site in Canterbury and is moving to another site in Great Yarmouth for two to three weeks: *"I am moving tomorrow. We're going to Great Yarmouth for two to three weeks but we'll be back for the winter"*.

Household Concealment

- 8.6 Just one household living on the socially rented site in Dover reported concealed households (that is, separate households currently in need of accommodation and living with them). This household is the same household who are intending to move to a bricks and mortar property in Ayelsham, Dover and includes two children aged 11 and 12 who are reported as needing their own separate accommodation. The respondent reports that if they find a house to move to, they will each need their own bedroom. However, if they do not move to a bricks and mortar property they will need a small trailer on the respondent's plot to sleep in.

Household Formation

- 8.7 Respondents were also asked whether there were people living with them who were likely to need their own separate accommodation in the next five years (by 2017). Five respondents said yes. The following provides details of these five households:

Dover

HH1: Currently living on the socially rented site, the respondent reports having a 21 year old son who will soon need his own separate accommodation. The respondent does not know where this son will live but feels it will be site based accommodation, potentially in the Ayelsham area of Dover: *"I am not sure where they will live. I know it will be a trailer. May try and get a plot on here or might move around for a bit"*.

Shepway

HH2: Currently living on a private site with permanent planning permission, the respondent reports having a 12 year old son who will need his own separate accommodation in the next five years. The respondent reports that the separate household will be located on the current site.

Canterbury

HH3: Currently living on a private site with permanent planning permission, the respondent reports having a 14 year old son who will need his own separate accommodation in the next five years. The respondent reports that the separate household will be located on the current site.

HH4: Currently living on a private site with permanent planning permission, the respondent reports having a 14 year old daughter who will need her own separate accommodation in the next five years. The respondent reports that the separate household will be located on the current site and that they have the space for it. However, it was reported that planning permission will be needed.

HH5: Currently socially renting a bricks and mortar property, the respondent reports having a 16 year old son who will need his own separate accommodation in the next five years. The respondent reports that the son will live in site based accommodation in the Dover area: *"if there was a site built, we would move together"*.

- 8.8 A total of 35 respondents (21%) from the total sample also stated that they didn't know if anyone in their household would require separate accommodation in the next five years and this is most likely due to having teenagers living in the household, but not knowing at the time of the study whether these teenagers will need to move out of the household in the near future. Across the sample a total of 81 households (72%) have children aged 11-16 living within them. Due to the numerous variables we need to take into consideration in household formation - such as marriage, culture, house and land availability and affordability - we are not able to estimate how many of these children will require their own separate accommodation in the next five years. This should be continuously monitored.

Accommodation Affordability

- 8.9 In order to explore issues of accommodation affordability we asked respondents if they could afford to purchase either land to be developed into a site or land with planning permission. The vast majority of respondents (65%) indicated that they could not afford any of these options (25 in Dover, 60 in Canterbury, 15 in Shepway and seven in Thanet), while 46 respondents (28%) indicated that it was not relevant as they were not moving or not looking for land (17 in Dover, 25 in Canterbury, 3 in Shepway and one in Thanet).
- 8.10 A total of 15 respondents (9%) indicated that they could afford to buy land with planning permission or land to be developed into a site (four in Dover, five in Canterbury, three in Shepway and three in Thanet).
- 8.11 Respondents were also asked how much they paid per week in rent or mortgage for their current accommodation. In terms of proportions:

- 8% of respondents paid £30-£59;
- 11% of respondents paid £60-£89;
- 22% of respondents paid £90-£119; and
- 5% of respondents paid £120-£149.

The remaining respondents either did not pay rent because they were on a private site, they did not know their accommodation costs or did not want to say.

Note about Affordability

8.12 It is worth noting that there is a diversity of socio-economic situations present amongst the Gypsy and Traveller communities, from the moderately wealthy to very poor families. Although obtaining empirical evidence on the economic circumstances of Gypsies and Travellers is very difficult, it is well established that Gypsies and Travellers are amongst the most culturally, socially, physically and financially excluded in society. A number of families will always be able to afford to purchase or rent pitches at market rates. However, in line with the rest of society, other sections of the communities will be excluded from accommodation provided at market rates and will require additional support to access safe and secure accommodation in line with their cultural needs. The absence of a range of tenure to address this diversity of socio-economic circumstances may lead to a perpetuation and possible increase in hidden homelessness.

9. Travelling Showpeople

9.1 Travelling Showpeople occupy an unusual position in planning terms and a separate planning Circular, detailing the particular planning needs of Travelling Showpeople, was produced. As well as detailing the requirements for pitch identification and allocation for Travelling Showpeople, Circular 04/07 also required that the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople were included within the assessments of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs. Circular 04/07 has been replaced by the new planning policy.³⁴ However, it is clear that the accommodation needs of Travelling Showpeople should be included within the assessments of accommodation need for 'travellers' within this new framework.

Information from Local Authorities and the Showmen's Guild

9.2 The planning policies in Dover and Shepway and the content of the Thanet Local Plan all make reference to Travelling Showpeople. There have been no incidents of unauthorised development of sites for Travelling Showpeople in the study area since 2007.

9.3 There are authorised yards for Travelling Showpeople in the study area: one in Shepway and one in Dover. In addition, there is a further unauthorised development in Shepway near to the authorised yard. The authorised yard in Shepway accommodates approximately two households. It was thought this yard was under However, it should be noted that this yard also appears to service some accommodation need in the area via the unauthorised development. It is unclear whether this is residential or short-stay need. It is understood households use this – both Showpeople and Travellers – for periods of the year. The situation on the two yards in Shepway is far from clear. Both yards are thought to be owned by the same extended family. Shepway Council considered the authorised yard (Disused Sandpit) to be under occupied and likely to be available to meet accommodation needs. There was no evidence of significant occupancy and households from the unauthorised development (Hope Farm) may move onto the yard in due course. Interviews were undertaken with households occupying both yards (see below).

9.4 The level of provision of sites for Showpeople has been static across the study area since 2007 with the exception of the addition of one plot in Shepway. No authority expects the number of sites to increase in the next 5 years.

Survey Findings: Travelling Showpeople

9.5 A total of three respondents were interviewed from the Travelling Showpeople's yards: one in the Dover District and two in Shepway. Providing statistical analysis on such a low number is impractical, therefore responses are displayed in summary form:

- All three respondents reported their ethnicity to be Travelling Showperson;

³⁴ DCLG (2012) *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites*. Available at:
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2113371.pdf>

- Two respondents report that they own their plot and one respondent's plot is owned by a family member. All households own their own trailer with the one household living in the Dover District having one caravan and the two households living in Shepway having two caravans, giving an average of 1.5 caravans per household;
- All respondents reported having enough space, and one reported having visitors to stay on the site, bringing their own trailer and staying on the respondent's plot. No respondents stated that having visitors to the site was a problem. Two respondents from the Shepway site commented on having visitors stay at the site:

"Anyone in a trailer, Gypsies, new age travellers, etc";

"It's a family run fair so the people here are always working on the fair. Mainly family";

- The one respondent from the Dover District is a retired household and so no longer has any equipment to store on site. One of the respondents from the Shepway site reports having generators, a sweet van and rides all stored on the site. No respondents report having any need for work or any problems in accessing work;
- The respondents have lived in their local area for at least 10 years, two living there as it was seen as a convenient location and one to be close to family;
- Two respondents have lived on their current site for over 10 years and one respondent from Shepway has lived on the site for 6-12 months;
- Two respondents reported that they never travelled; one from Dover and one from Shepway. One respondent reports not travelling anymore because of old age and the other due to poor health: *"I ain't moved for eight months and I won't be moving again. I have got arthritis and it has become very painful working with the fair";*
- One respondent reported travelling every week with the fair;
- One respondent from Shepway reports owning another base, in the form of a field close by to the Travelling Showpeople's Ground where they currently live: *"Hope Farm is going to be made into another ground for fair people. The field we let people pull in for as long as they want for a small fee";*
- The respondents reported having no needs or problems in terms of work or in accessing health, education and training services;
- Only one respondent has previously lived elsewhere - this was a Travelling Showpeople's Ground in 'Horton' (although it is unclear where Horton is);
- None of the respondents have any experience of living in a bricks and mortar property.

9.6 In terms of the people who were residing on 'Hope Farm' - within the vicinity of the authorised site in Shepway - we secured interviews with two households. The key points from these interviews are detailed below:

- One respondent on this site reported their ethnicity to be Travelling Showperson and the other described their ethnicity as Romany Gypsy;

- Both respondents rent their plot and own their own trailers. One household had one caravan and the other had two caravans, giving an average of 1.5 caravans per household;
- Both respondents reported having enough space, and both have visitors to stay on the site:
 - “He (site owner) lets most Showpeople on and some Travellers who he knows pull on at any time of the year”;*
 - “They (site owner) let other Showmen on here if they are passing this way for two to three weeks and some Travellers who he has known for years”;*
- The respondents reported that they have lived in Shepway for at least 10 years, one living there as it’s a convenient location and one because of work;
- One respondent has lived on their current site for over 6-12 months and one stated that they did not know how long they have lived on the site;
- One respondent reports living on the site because of a lack of sites and the other because of work available in the area;
- One of the households reported usually being on the site for 21-30 weeks per year, travelling to the fairs the rest of the time. The other respondent stated that they did not know how long each year they lived on the site, but stated that they travelled with the fair throughout the year;
- Neither respondent reported having a base elsewhere;
- The respondents reported having no needs or problems in terms of accessing work or in accessing health, education and training services;
- One respondent previously lived on a private site and one previously lived on a farmer’s field. One of these sites was located in Ashford and one in Cambridgeshire. Both respondents left the site for work reasons;
- Neither respondent has any experience of living in a bricks and mortar property.

10. An Assessment of Accommodation Need for Gypsies and Travellers

10.1 In the national context, there are no signs that the accommodation need from Gypsy and Traveller communities has yet been met. Research from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has indicated that around 6,000 additional pitches for Gypsies and Travellers are immediately required nationally to meet the current shortage of accommodation within England.³⁵

A Note on the Assessment of Accommodation Need

10.2 Because of the historical inequalities in pitch provision, Gypsies and Travellers have constrained choices as to where and how they would choose to live if they had real choice. So while choices for the non-Travelling community are generally much wider - as there is social housing available in every authority in the country - there are no local authority sites in around a third of the local authorities in England. Few local authorities have more than one socially rented site and a significant number of authorities have no authorised private sites.

10.3 Despite all local authorities across England completing a first round of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments (GTAAs) over the 2006-2009 period, the methods of assessing and calculating the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers are still developing. The model drawn upon here derives from a number of sources including:

- The Guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments;³⁶
- Guidance and experience of benchmarking the robustness of GTAAs;³⁷
- Knowledge and experience of assumptions featuring in other GTAAs and results of EiP tests of GTAAs; and
- The document '*Planning Policy for Traveller Sites*' which was released in March 2012.

10.4 This study has taken a thorough assessment of the need arising from all accommodation types present at the time of the survey. As such it should be regarded as a reasonable and robust assessment of need upon which to base planning decisions in the future.

³⁵ See Brown, P., Henning, S. and Niner, P (2010) *Assessing Local Housing Authorities' Progress in Meeting the Accommodation Needs of Gypsy and Traveller Communities in England and Wales: Update 2010*, Manchester: Equality and Human Rights Commission.

³⁶ DCLG (2007) *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments: Guidance*, London: HMSO.

³⁷ CURS, SHUSU and CRESR (2007) *Preparing Regional Spatial Strategy Reviews on Gypsies and Travellers by Regional Planning Bodies*, London: CLG. Available at:

http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/209/PreparingRegionalSpatialStrategyreviewsonGypsiesandTravellersbyregionalplannings_id1508209.pdf

10.5 Table 10.1 below contains the requirements for net additional pitches that need to be developed to meet the measured need. Accommodation need has been considered in this assessment by carefully exploring the following factors:

Current Residential Supply:

- Socially rented pitches;
- Private authorised pitches;
- Pitches immune from enforcement.

Residential Need 2013 – 2017:

- Temporary planning permissions, which will end over the assessment period;
- Concealment of households;
- Allowance for family growth over the assessment period;
- Need for authorised pitches from families on unauthorised developments;
- Movement over the assessment period between sites and housing;
- Whether the closure of any existing sites is planned;
- Potential need for residential pitches in the area from families on unauthorised encampments;
- Movement between areas;
- Overcrowding of sites.

10.6 **Additional Supply 2013-2017:** The requirements are presented in summary form in Table 10.1 below. This table details the overall accommodation and pitch needs, over the next 15 years, for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople resident in East Kent, based on the definition of households in the Housing Act. Each element is explained in greater detail below. **All figures relate to pitches not sites.**

Table 10.1: Summary of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and pitch need (2013-2028)

	Element of supply and need	Canterbury	Dover	Shepway	Thanet
		Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)	Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)	Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)	Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)
Current residential supply					
1	Socially rented pitches	18	14	0	0
2	Private authorised pitches	29	15	2	0
3	Pitches immune from enforcement	1	0	0	0
4	Total authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches	48	29	2	0
Residential pitch need 2013-2017					
5	End of temporary planning permissions	9	1	0	0
6	Concealed households	3	2	0	0
7	New household formation	0	1	0	0
8	Unauthorised developments	9	5	4	0
9	Net movement between housing and sites	2	-1	0	0
10	Closure of sites	0	0	0	0
11	Unauthorised encampments	0	0	0	0
12	Movement between areas	0	0	0	0
13	Residential pitch need (2013–2017)	23	8	4	0
14	Supply (2013-2017)	0	0	0	0

15	Residential pitch need (2013–2017)	23	8	4	0
16	Residential pitch need (2018–2022)	8	4	1	0
17	Residential pitch need (2023–2027)	9	5	1	0
18	Total Residential pitch need (2013–2027)	40	17	6	0

Explanation of the Need Requirement Elements

Current Residential Supply

- 10.7 **Row 1:** The number of pitches on socially rented sites provided by local authority information.
- 10.8 **Row 2:** The number of pitches on private authorised sites provided by local authority information.
- 10.9 **Row 3:** The number of pitches thought to be immune from enforcement situated in the study area. This relates to the Romany View site in Canterbury. However, there are a number of issues which should be taken into consideration. Firstly, the number of households on the sites could be more than estimated. As we were unable to consult households on the site the actual number of people on the sites should be monitored in order to ensure accurate data is being used. Secondly, incorporating these sites into supply serves the purpose of illustrating the ‘immune from enforcement’ status these sites have for the local authority and that there will be no future pursuit of enforcement on the households occupied there. However, this does not mean the same as acknowledging the current planning status as being appropriate. Households occupied there are in need of regularised accommodation and an ability to improve the conditions in which they live. The local authority should seek to work towards addressing these issues as soon as is practicable.
- 10.10 **Row 4:** The total number of residential pitches within the study area.

Residential Pitch Need 2013–2017

- 10.11 **Row 5:** The number of pitches which have temporary planning permission due to expire within the assessment period.

Pitch Requirement from Temporary Planning Permission Expiring

Finding: There are four sites in the study area which currently have temporary planning permission due to expire within the assessment period: three sites in Canterbury with permission for four households/pitches, and one site in Dover with permission for one household. One of the sites in Canterbury (Puddledock Wood) was home to five households at the time of the assessment.

Assumptions:

- Respondents on the sites appeared long-term residents of the area in which they lived and appeared to engage in travelling infrequently;
- The 'excess' households on Puddledock Wood were also long-term residents of the site and area;
- These households on these sites appear to demonstrate a need for authorised residential accommodation, whether through the granting of planning permission, the provision of other accommodation options or the provision of accommodation elsewhere.

Calculation: The need arising from pitches with temporary planning permission is for **10 pitches/households**.

10.12 **Row 6:** The number of concealed households occupying existing accommodation who require independent accommodation within the study area. This element addresses one of the major criticisms levelled at the previous 2007 GTAA by the South East Plan Panel:

Pitch Requirement from Concealed Households Across All Accommodation Types

Finding: The authorities provided information about the presence of over-occupation (or doubling-up) on the two socially rented sites in the study area. For the Canterbury site there were three households who were seen as in need of independent accommodation. On the Dover site there were two households who were seen as in need of independent accommodation.

Within the survey of households, across all accommodation types, just one household reported being overcrowded. This household was located on the socially rented site in Dover but reported being actively looking for bricks and mortar accommodation in the area or requiring a larger plot to live upon.

Assumptions:

- The information from both Dover District Council and Kent County Council are assumed to be accurate;
- As a 100% Census of the site was not completed, the respondent reporting a need for independent accommodation in Dover is assumed to be in addition to that identified by Dover District Council. However, it is assumed that the accommodation need can be alleviated either by a move into bricks and mortar housing or by a move to a larger plot/purchase of an additional trailer;
- Concealed households are likely to require site-based accommodation;
- Survey findings are assumed to be reflective of the whole site-based population in the study area;
- There was some pitch overcrowding noted from respondents to the survey from the site in Dover.

Calculation: Pitch need from concealed households equates to **five households (three in Canterbury and two in Dover)**.

10.13 **Row 7:** This is the number of pitches required from new household formation:

Pitch Requirement from New Households Forming

Finding: Drawing upon the information contained within Chapter 8, responses to the survey suggested that there were five households living with them who would require independent accommodation before 2017. One household each in Dover and Shepway and three in Canterbury.

Assumptions:

- The household in Dover is assumed to require a site based solution in the study area;
- The need for the household in Shepway is assumed to be able to be resolved by providing a larger pitch or additional living units. This may or may not require an amendment to planning consent;
- The need for two of the households in Canterbury living on private sites is assumed to be able to be resolved by providing a larger pitch or additional living units. This may or may not require an amendment to planning consent;
- The remaining need identified from Canterbury has been considered under movement between housing and sites;
- There are a number of older children within the age range of 11-17 years living in the areas (81 households, that is 72%, have children aged 11-16 living within them). It is possible that a proportion of these children may require additional accommodation over the assessment period. However, due to the large sample included in this research from site based accommodation we assume respondents expect to be able to accommodate this household growth within existing provision. We also assume that household growth within bricks and mortar housing will remain with housing;
- It is possible that some of the potential overcrowding issues can be resolved by allowing more caravans to be sited on pitches or undertaking work to enlarge existing pitches.

Calculation: Household growth features in Dover only. When the one household need is scaled up to the population on private sites, this need equates to a need for **one household**.

10.14 **Row 8:** This is the level of need arising from current unauthorised developments:

Households on Pitches on Unauthorised Developments

Finding: According to the local authorities, the unauthorised developments featured across the study area are as follows:

- Canterbury: five sites comprising a total of nine pitches;
- Dover: five sites comprising a total of five pitches;
- Shepway: one site comprising a total of four pitches.

Assumptions:

- The survey has shown that the inhabitants of these sites are all long-term residents of the local authority in which they live;
- Family connections were a particularly key reason for living in the area in which they lived;
- Most respondents also reported infrequent travelling;
- Since these sites are, by definition, unauthorised, these households are in need of authorised, legal accommodation, whether through the granting of planning permission, the provision of other accommodation options or the provision of accommodation elsewhere.

Calculation: Number of households on unauthorised developments in need of accommodation in the study area = **18 households/pitches**

10.15 **Row 9:** This is the estimation of the flow from sites to houses and vice versa:

Net Movement Between Housing and Sites

Information from the survey of households reveals the following:

- **Movement from sites to housing:**
 - **Canterbury:** No movement indicated;
 - **Dover:** A household on the socially rented site reported intentions to move from the site into a house in the Dover area. **This provides supply of a single pitch on the socially rented site;**
 - **Shepway:** No movement indicated;
 - **Thanet -** N/A.

- **Movement from housing to sites:**
 - **Canterbury:** One household reported intentions to move back to a site they already own. It is assumed there is no need for additional pitch provision. Another household reported a move from housing to travelling but with no intention to live on a pitch in the study area. Two households reported living in over-crowded conditions in housing and were intending to move to pitch based accommodation in the near future. **This indicates a need for two pitches:**
 - **Dover:** No movement indicated;
 - **Shepway:** No movement indicated;
 - **Thanet:** Some potential movement from housing but has no specific intentions to live on pitch based accommodation in Thanet.

Assumptions:

- Responses in the survey suggest that it is likely that there will be some movement from housing to sites over the assessment period;
- It is assumed that upon the creation of more pitches and improvement to site conditions, there will be no movement from sites to housing over the assessment period;
- For Shepway, it is believed that where there is movement between sites and housing these factors will balance;
- For Thanet, there will be no movement onto pitch based accommodation from households in housing;
- There is a young person currently occupied in bricks and mortar accommodation whose parent believes they will require accommodation on a site in another local authority within the next five years (from Canterbury to Dover). However, we assume this to indicate demand for provision as opposed to need.

Calculation:

- **Dover:** There appears to be a potential **supply occurring of one pitch** but due to the large sample size there is no need to gross to the population;
- **Canterbury:** There is a need for two respondents to move onto pitch based accommodation in the area. This represents 6% of the sample of households living in bricks and mortar. This indicates a need for **two households/pitches.**

- 10.16 **Row 10:** Plans to close existing sites, which have been calculated within the supply of site accommodation, will ultimately displace a number of Gypsies and Travellers resulting in an increase in housing need. There are no pitches due to close in the study area.
- 10.17 **Row 11:** Information received from the local authority, the County Council and derived from fieldwork indicated that the level of unauthorised camping was usually low to nil. The small number of encampments which did occur were primarily attributed to requiring transit accommodation for short periods. There appears a nil need for permanent pitches identified from households on unauthorised encampments. This should however be monitored.
- 10.18 **Row 12:** This is the level of movement of households between areas. The exclusion of this factor was a major criticism in a recent planning appeal. We sought to explore this issue by examining responses to the survey and from the content of consultations with key stakeholders. Although it was reported by local authority officers that historically there had been movement between Canterbury and Swale and Canterbury and Ashford, there was no evidence that movement will occur between areas from the survey or from consultations with stakeholders. This is not to say that movement will not occur. Instead it is assumed that if migration between areas occurs it is thought that this will balance.
- 10.19 **Row 13:** This is the total gross residential need for pitches arising in the study area.
- 10.20 **Row 14:** This includes the supply of pitches from all authorised sites. This is assumed to be zero. As highlighted by the South East Plan Panel, vacancies arising from pitch turnover are not certain and as such are not included in estimates of supply.
- 10.21 **Row 15:** This is the total net requirement for pitches arising across the four authorities 2013 and 2017.

Permanent Residential Accommodation Need Over 2018-2022 and 2023-2027

- 10.22 It is necessary to plan for the long term and anticipate pitch need from Gypsy and Traveller households. In order to tackle the complexity of needs that may well occur over the next decade, it is established practice in assessment of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation need to apply an assumed rate of household growth. It has been common in similar studies to employ a standard 3% per annum compound rate of household growth. This figure is then applied, minus an assumed ratio for pitch sharing of 1:0.75, to the projected number of pitches which should be available by 2017. All household growth is assumed to require a site-based solution. This study does not allow for unauthorised developments over the next periods (2018-2022 and 2023-2027) because the factors which will contribute to future need have been clearly identified and measured as part of the study. The supply of pitches over the 2018-2027 period has been considered, but has been assumed to be zero. This is consistent with earlier GTAAs and implicitly compensates for not taking into account needs arising from drivers other than family growth. However, it is recommended that the rate of household growth is kept under review.

10.23 **Row 16:** The total requirement for pitches in each authority area over the period 2018-2022.

10.24 **Row 17:** The total requirement for pitches in each authority area over the period 2023-2027.

10.25 **Row 18:** The total overall requirement for pitches in each authority area over the period 2013-2027.

Summary

10.26 This analysis has shown that there is an accommodation need for **63 households** over the 2012-2028 period:

- **40 pitches in Canterbury;**
- **17 pitches in Dover;**
- **6 pitches in Shepway;**
- **0 pitches in Thanet.**

These figures incorporate a household growth rate of 3% a year compound as applied to all current households in the area and all future households that should be accommodated on pitches by 2018 to estimate need in the period 2018-2027.

11. Assessment of Accommodation Need for Travelling Showpeople

11.1 As highlighted previously, this study has taken a thorough assessment of the need arising from all accommodation types present at the time of the survey. Table 11.1 below contains the requirements for net additional plots that need to be developed to meet the measured need of Travelling Showpeople in the study area. There was no provision of accommodation in Thanet and Canterbury for Travelling Showpeople and there was no evidence of need arising in those districts from Travelling Showpeople. Therefore, Table 11.1 focuses on the need arising in Dover and Shepway.

11.2 Accommodation need has been considered in this assessment by carefully exploring the following factors:

Current Residential Supply:

- Socially rented plots;
- Private authorised plots.

Residential Need 2013–2017:

- Temporary planning permissions, which will end over the assessment period;
- Concealment of households;
- Allowance for family growth over the assessment period;
- Need for authorised pitches from families on unauthorised developments;
- Whether the closure of any existing sites is planned;
- Movement between areas.

Additional Supply 2013–2017

- There is no evidence of potential supply for plots in the districts.

Table 11.1: Summary of Travelling Showpeople accommodation and pitch need (2013-2027)

Element of supply and need		Dover Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)	Shepway Accommodation Need/Supply Total (households)
Current residential supply			
1	Socially rented plots	0	0
2	Private authorised plots	2	2
3	Total authorised plots	2	2
Residential plot need 2013-2017			
4	End of temporary planning permissions	0	0
5	Concealed households	0	0
6	New household formation	0	0
7	Unauthorised developments	0	1
8	Closure of sites	0	0
9	Movement between areas	0	0
10	Residential plot need (2013–2017)	0	1
11	Supply (2013-2017)	0	0
12	Residential plot need (2013-2017)	0	1
13	Residential plot need (2018–2022)	0	0
14	Residential plot need (2023–2027)	0	0
15	Total Residential plot need (2013–2027)	0	1

Explanation of the Need Requirement Elements

Current Residential Supply

- 11.2 **Row 1:** The number of plots on socially rented yards provided by local authority information. This was reported to be nil.
- 11.3 **Row 2:** The estimated number of households resident on private authorised plots on the yard provided by an assessment of local authority information. This was reported to be two in Dover and two in Shepway.

11.4 **Row 3:** The total number of authorised plots within the study area.

Residential Plot Need 2013–2017

11.5 **Row 4:** The number of pitches which have temporary planning permission due to expire within the assessment period. This was reported to be nil.

11.6 **Row 5:** The number of concealed households occupying existing accommodation who require independent accommodation within the borough. This was reported to be nil.

11.7 **Row 6:** This is the number of plots required from new household formation. This was reported to be nil.

11.8 **Row 7:** This is the level of need arising from current unauthorised developments.

Households on Plots on Unauthorised Developments

Findings:

- Within Shepway during the survey we consulted with residents of an unauthorised development known as ‘Hope Farm’ which was situated in vicinity of the authorised Showpeople site;
- There were two households on this yard;
- One household was a Showperson who was residing there because of a lack of sites;
- The other household was a Traveller who was residing there due to work opportunities in the area.

Assumptions:

- The survey illustrates that one household is a long-term resident in need of residential accommodation. The other household appears to be in transit in the area;
- Since this site is, by definition, unauthorised, these households are in need of authorised, legal accommodation, whether through the granting of planning permission, the provision of other accommodation options or the provision of accommodation elsewhere.

Calculation: Number of households on unauthorised developments in need of accommodation in Shepway = **one household/plot.**

11.9 **Row 8:** This is the need arising from the closure of sites. This is understood to be nil.

11.10 **Row 9:** This is the level of movement of households between areas. This is thought to be nil. However, there have been suggestions from GTAA’s conducted in other areas of Kent that there is low level need for additional accommodation for Travelling Showpeople households currently accommodated in other areas. However, it is not clear whether this is a need specifically for East Kent or for more accommodation for Travelling Showpeople who reside or require sustainable accommodation in wider Kent. This issue should be explored in collaboration with other Kent authorities and

the Showmen's Guild in greater depth in order to ascertain the wider sub-regional shortfall.

- 11.11 **Row 10:** This is the total gross residential need for plots arising in the district between 2013-2017.
- 11.12 **Row 11:** This is the level of plot supply over the 2013-2017 period. This is assumed to be nil.
- 11.13 **Row 12:** The total net requirement for plots in the district over the period 2013-2017.
- 11.14 **Row 13:** The total requirement for plots in the district over the period 2018-2022.
- 11.15 **Row 14:** The total requirement for plots in the district over the period 2023-2027.
- 11.16 **Row 15:** The total overall requirement for plots in the district over the period 2013-2027.

Summary

- 11.17 This analysis has shown that there is an accommodation need for a further 1 household over the 2012-2028 period within Shepway. This need arises from a household which currently accommodates an unauthorised development in the district. A rate of household formation at 2% a year compound has been applied to all current households in the districts and all future households that should be accommodated on plots by 2018 to estimate need in the period 2018-2027. The rate of household growth, therefore, appears low to negligible.

12. An Assessment of Need for Transit Accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers

12.1 Although to a certain extent nomadism and travelling are currently restricted by a lack of sites nationally, this remains an important feature of Gypsy and Traveller identity and way of life, even if only to visit fairs or visit family. Some Gypsies and Travellers are still highly mobile without a permanent base, and others travel for significant parts of the year from a winter base. More Gypsies and Travellers might travel if it were possible to find places to stop without the threat of constant eviction. Nationally the worst living conditions are commonly experienced by Gypsies and Travellers living on unauthorised encampments who do not have easy access to water or toilet facilities and have difficulties in accessing education and health services.

Need for Transit Sites and Stopping Places

12.2 National policy is clear that there should be provision in order for Gypsies and Travellers who choose to travel, to do so without resorting to stopping illegally or inappropriately.

12.3 Information provided by the local authorities and other stakeholders suggests that the study area experiences a low level of unauthorised camping each year. Most of these encampments, when they do occur, are thought to require transit solutions. The presence of unauthorised encampments does indicate an unmet need for transit provision, albeit quite low. However, determining the need for transit pitches is incredibly complex. A common method used by local authorities has been to base the level of need on the average size of the unauthorised encampments that were occurring in their area. However, as highlighted in Chapter 6, there was limited data available on the number and size of encampments that had occurred over the last few years. Consistent data would therefore be required in order to assess this issue.

12.4 It should also be noted that the private sites in the locations and families living in bricks and mortar housing may also be servicing transit need in the area. It is not entirely clear however how many households this may include.

12.5 While it is difficult to determine transit need, this assessment supports the approach of creating a network of transit facilities across the wider region to accommodate short-term accommodation requirements. Such an approach is discussed in a regional study on transit need produced in 2009.³⁸

12.6 Drawing together all this information, there is little evidence for the provision of formal separate transit sites. A number of alternative options could be explored, such as incorporating transit provision into existing residential sites and new residential site developments. Similarly, although transit need could be met by the creation of 'hard' purpose-made pitches/sites, it is also recommended that consideration is given

³⁸ Niner, P. (2009) *South East England Regional Gypsy and Traveller Transit Study*, Final Report, Birmingham: University of Birmingham, October 2009.

to the need for the development of such 'hard' pitches along with the possibility of 'soft' transit pitches (i.e. designated stopping places). Such 'softer' options would provide Gypsies and Travellers with somewhere authorised and more secure to stop with minimal environmental impact. Such stopping places are often favoured by Gypsy and Traveller households.

- 12.7 It is our conclusion that this remains an element of need and should be catered for by the provision of an appropriate solution. Not addressing this need, however informally, is likely to lead to a continuation of unauthorised camping and/or overcrowded authorised sites.

Appendix 1: The Assessment Methodology

Practice guidance for local authorities undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAs) was released by the ODPM (now DCLG) in February 2006, with final guidance made available in October 2007. Specialised guidance and assessments were felt to be required, as many local authority housing needs assessments had previously failed to assess or identify the needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The guidance explains why assessments are needed, how authorities might go about conducting an assessment and issues to consider. The guidance is non-prescriptive in terms of methods, but suggests that Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments integrate a wide variety of evidence, such as existing secondary information, views of selected stakeholders and the views of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople living within the study area.

The Planning Policy for Traveller Sites does not bind local authorities to producing specific GTAAs but it does state that robust evidence should be collected. In the absence of alternative methodologies for assessing the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers, a modified survey, of the sort used in the first round of GTAAs, has been adopted. The results of this survey form a key component of the evidence base for the Local Authority.

This assessment was undertaken in three distinct stages. Each of these stages is described in more detail below.

- Stage One: Collation and Review of Existing Secondary Information;
- Stage Two: Consultation with Key Stakeholders;
- Stage Three: Survey with Gypsies and Travellers across East Kent.

Stage One: Collation and Review of Existing Secondary Information

This first stage comprised a review of the available literature and secondary sources. This provided an historical, social and political overview to the situation of Gypsies and Travellers in the study area. More specifically, this included the collection, review and synthesis of:

- The bi-annual count of Gypsy and Traveller Caravans;
- Census 2011 data;
- Records and data maintained and provided by the local authority;
- The original GTAA produced by DeMonfort University in 2007;
- Review of previous GTAAs produced as evidence for the Partial Review of the South East Plan in 2009.

Stage Two: Consultation with Key Stakeholders

The analysis and review of existing information was supported by engagement and consultation with a small number of key stakeholders. This consultation took the form of telephone interviews and/or email discussions, which were tailored to the role of the individual. The aim of these interviews was to provide clarification on issues arising from

existing data and to provide an understanding of the context of current provision. A range of individuals and organisations were invited via email and phone to participate in the assessment by sending information and contacting the research team to present issues they felt were relevant. Information was received and incorporated into this report from: officers representing the local authorities; Kent County Council (education services and the Gypsy and Traveller Unit); The Showmen's Guild; and One Voice 4 Travellers.³⁹

Stage Three: Survey with Gypsies and Travellers

One of the most important aspects of the assessment was consulting with local Gypsies and Travellers. The fieldwork took place during July and August 2013. These consultations took the form of face-to-face interviews in order to gather information about their characteristics, experiences, accommodation and related needs and aspirations. The survey with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople is discussed below under three sections: (1) Sampling Strategy and Response Rates; (2) Questionnaire Design; and (3) Fieldwork and Interviewers.

Sampling and Response Rates

Sampling Gypsy and Traveller households for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments is always problematic given the absence of accurate information concerning the size and location of the Gypsy and Traveller communities. As such the sampling technique for the assessment was purposive rather than purely random. The sampling strategy for the assessment differed depending upon the particular accommodation type currently inhabited by Gypsies and Travellers in the four areas.⁴⁰

- Information given by the Councils provided the addresses of all sites and the Community Interviewers were asked to attempt an interview with every separate household currently on the site;
- For households on unauthorised encampments, officers from both authorities were asked to inform the fieldwork team when and where encampments occurred during the fieldwork period. We were not informed of any encampments in this assessment;
- As the population of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar housing is relatively hidden from official records, there was no sample frame from which to identify people. Therefore, in order to engage with housed Gypsies and Travellers, the fieldwork team relied on three main methods: (1) contacts of Gypsies and Travellers who had already been interviewed as part of the assessment (i.e. on site-based accommodation); (2) contacts of the Gypsy and Traveller Community Interviewers on the fieldwork team; and (3) snowball sampling where one respondent in housing recommended engaging with similar households.

³⁹ Invitations to contribute to the study were made to a number of Gypsy and Traveller groups such as: the Gypsy Council, Canterbury Gypsy Support Group, Irish Traveller Movement of Great Britain and the National Federation of Gypsy and Traveller Groups, but no information was received.

⁴⁰ Such a sampling strategy coupled with the lack of knowledge about the overall size of the Gypsy and Traveller population means that discussing statistical issues such as sampling error and confidence intervals would be misleading.

A total of **168 households** were involved in the assessment. In terms of the gender split between interviewees, we spoke to 131 women (77%) and 34 men (20%).⁴¹ This reflects a commonly achieved gender distribution in GTAAs.

We believe that the sample is as representative as can be reasonably expected and have no reason to believe that those households included in the survey are untypical from the total population in the area. The exception is the lack of data from households on unauthorised encampments, which do not feature largely as a result of their relative infrequency in the area. However, on balance, we believe that the findings for the assessment are based on reliable information from accommodation types within the study area.

Questionnaire Design

All household interviews have utilised a structured questionnaire upon which questions were routed according to the appropriate accommodation type. Questions were a mixture of tick-box answers and open-ended questions. This mixed approach enabled us to gather quantifiable information, but also allowed for contextualisation and qualification by the more narrative responses. The survey contained the following sections:

- Current accommodation;
- Local and historic connection;
- Travelling;
- Previous housing experiences;
- Household details;
- Health services;
- Future accommodation;

The questionnaire used in the assessment is available in Appendix 3.

Fieldwork and Interviewers

Of crucial importance to engaging as effectively as possible with the Gypsy and Traveller population was the involvement of Gypsy and Traveller Community Interviewers. In total, two members of the Gypsy and Traveller community were involved in the assessment as Community Interviewers. These interviewers have worked with SHUSU on a number of GTAAs. They are of Romany Gypsy background and live outside the study area.

Each interviewer was briefed on the assessment and the questionnaire prior to commencing fieldwork and provided with support from the core study team members during their interviewing activity. Each questionnaire which was returned to us was subject to quality control. By taking this approach we found we were able to access a range of people that would not otherwise have been included in the assessment, such as 'hidden' members of the community (e.g. people living in bricks and mortar accommodation), and those people who were uncomfortable talking to non-Travellers.

⁴¹ This excludes information from two surveys where the answer was not clear.

Appendix 2: Private Sites and Unauthorised Developments

Canterbury

Table A2.1. Private sites with permanent planning permission

Private Sites with Permanent Planning	Caravans	Households
The Shannon	3	2
1 Brookside	2	1
2 Brookside	2	1
3 Brookside	2	1
4 Brookside	1	1
Underdown Orchard Nursery	1	1
Romany Green Acres	5	3
The Caravans	1	1
Land South of Total Petrol Station	2	1
The Cobbs	4	2
The Paddock, High Street Road	1	1
The Oaks, High Street Road	3	2
Woodlands	1	1
4 Pye Alley Farm	1	1
The Oaks, Radfall Ride	1	1
Cartref	1	1
The Paddock, Ford Road	2	1
Sunnybank Farm	2	1
Bees End	2	1
Moate Farm	9	5
Total	46	29

Table A2.2. Private sites with temporary planning permission

Private Sites with Temporary Permission	Caravans	Households
Puddledock Wood	2	1
1 Plot 5	2	1
Hillside Paddocks	3	2
Total	7	4

Table A2.3. Pitches immune from enforcement

Lawful sites	Caravans	Households
Romany View	2	1

Table A2.4. Unauthorised developments since 2006

Unauthorised Developments	Caravans	Households
2 Pye Alley Farm	1	1
Prospect Farm	8	5
Plot 3	2	1
Littlebrook Farm	1	1
Plot 7	2	1
Total	14	9

Dover District

Table A2.5. Socially rented sites

Socially rented sites	Pitches	Households
Aylesham Caravan Site	14	14

Table A2.6. Private sites with permanent planning permission

Private with permanent permission	Pitches	Households
The Council House	1	1
Falconsview Meadow	1	1
Summerfields	1	1
1 The Land	1	1
Land adj to 6 California Road	2	2
The Willows	3	3
Homeland	1	1
Lawson Park	2	2
Land to the south of Alkham Valley Road	2	2
Hollyoak	1	1
Total	15	15

Table A2.7. Private sites with temporary planning permission

Private Sites with Temporary Permission	Pitches	Households
Cobbs Yard	1	1

Table A2.8. Unauthorised Developments

Unauthorised Developments	Pitches	Households
1 The Land	1	1
Ivy Farm	1	1
Sun Top and Greenwich	1	1
Greenfields	1	1
Newcastle Cottage	1	1
Total	5	5

Table A2.9. Travelling Showpeople's Sites

Travelling Showpeoples Sites	Pitches	Households
The Old Fairground	2	2

Shepway District

Table A2.10. Private sites with permanent planning permission

Private sites with permanent permission	Pitches	Households
Fishers Paddock, Ashford Rd, Brenzett Green	1	1
Paddock View, Ashford Rd, Brenzett Green	1	1
Total	2	2

Table A2.11. Unauthorised developments

Unauthorised developments	Pitches	Households
Lydd Caravan Park, Jurys Gap Rd, Lydd	4	4

Table A2. 11. Site owned by Travelling Showpeople

Private site	Pitches	Households
Disused Sandpit, Blind House La, Monks Horton	2	2

Table A2. 12. Site owned by Travelling Showpeople

Unauthorised development	Pitches	Households
Hope Farm, Gibbons Brook, Sellindge	2	2

Appendix 3: Demographics of the Local Gypsy and Traveller Population

This section aims to provide some information on the demographics of the sample involved in this accommodation assessment within the four districts.

Demographic and Household Characteristics

Characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller communities are often hidden or not widely known. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments present an ideal opportunity to get to know more about the community at large, particularly in terms of living circumstances, age, Gypsy and Traveller groups and household composition. The following aims to provide some information about the Gypsy and Traveller households in the sample.

Age of Interviewees

The age profile of the sample can be seen from Table A3.1. The 25–39 age groups were most consulted during the assessment, forming 50% of the sample as a whole.

Table A3.1: Age of interviewees⁴²

Age Group	All		Dover Dis.		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
17–24	4	2%	2	4%	2	2%	-		-	
25–39	84	50%	20	43%	49	55%	9	43%	6	55%
40–49	33	20%	12	26%	15	17%	2	9%	4	36%
50–59	23	14%	5	11%	13	15%	5	24%	-	
60–74	23	14%	8	17%	9	10%	5	24%	1	9%
Total	167	100%	47	100%	88	100%	21	100%	11	100%

Household Size

In total, the survey sample accounts for 623 members of the Gypsy and Traveller community: 166 in the Dover District; 332 in Canterbury; 76 in Shepway; and 49 in Thanet. The average household size across the sample as a whole was 3.7. There was very little difference between the household sizes of those living in the Dover District, Canterbury and Shepway (3.5, 3.7 and 3.6 respectively). The average household size for Thanet is considerably larger at 4.5, reflective of the fact that there are no site based households in the area.

Table A3.2 below shows the number of children of different age cohorts across the sample. There was an average of 1.8 children per household.

Table A3.2: Number of children in households

Age range	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
0-5	31	10%	4	5%	17	11%	6	17%	4	15%
6-10	144	48%	43	56%	75	47%	14	40%	12	44%
11-16	122	41%	30	39%	66	42%	15	43%	11	41%
Total	297	100%	77	100%	158	100%	35	100%	27	100%

⁴² Excludes one missing case.

Gypsy and Traveller Groups

Nearly all respondents indicated that they were Romany Gypsy (English) (93%). With regards to the respondents who indicated 'other', these respondents stated that they were married to Romany Gypsies.

Table A3.3: Interviewees by Gypsy and Traveller group⁴³

Gypsy and Traveller groups	All		Dover		Canterbury		Shepway		Thanet	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Romany Gypsy (English)	154	93%	43	91%	85	99%	16	76%	10	91%
Showman	3	2%	-		-		3	14%	-	
Irish Traveller	3	2%	1	2%	-		2	9%	-	
Welsh Traveller	1	1%	-		1	1%	-		-	
Scottish Traveller	1	1%	1	2%	-		-		-	
Other	2	1%	1	2%	-		-		1	9%
Total	165	100%	46	100%	86	100%	21	100%	11	100%

⁴³ Excludes three missing cases.

Appendix 4: Canterbury Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Study

Questionnaire

Introduction

My name is [] and I work for the University of Salford [show ID badge]. We have been asked by Canterbury Council to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople in this area. We're looking to speak with a number of people staying in the local area, in houses, on council sites, on private sites and on the roadside, to get a range of views. The views that we collect may help plan and improve accommodation, sites, planning and other services in the future.

We are completely independent of any local council or the government. Would you be willing to talk to me? If you agree it will probably take about 25 minutes. I have a number of questions I would like to ask but I would like to hear about anything else you feel is relevant. I will be writing down your answers, but the interview will be confidential. Therefore no one will be identified in any report that we write, and there is no way that anyone will be able to trace any particular answer back to you.

Would you be willing to talk to me? If it's not a good time I could arrange to come back later if that suits you better.

CHECK! Have you already been interviewed for this survey before? Do you have one of these (show pink sheet)?

Address/Site: _____

Date of Interview: _____

Interviewer name: _____

- If, during the interview a question comes up that you don't want to answer just say so and I'll move on

SECTION A: CURRENT ACCOMMODATION

QA1. What type of accommodation is your pitch? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | |
|--|---|
| Unauthorised encampment | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QA6 |
| Unauthorised development (own land no planning) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QA5 |
| Residential Council/site/yard | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QA5 |
| Residential Private site/yard with permanent planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ Go to QA4 |
| Residential Private site/yard with temporary planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> ₅ Go to QA5 |
| Site based but not sure what planning permission we have | <input type="checkbox"/> ₆ Go to QA5 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from the local authority or social landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₇ Go to QA2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from a private landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₈ Go to QA2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (owner occupier) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₉ Go to QA2 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁₀ Go to QA5 |
-

QA2. How many bedrooms do you have here? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| One | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QA3 |
| Two | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QA3 |
| Three | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QA3 |
| Four or more | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ Go to QA3 |

QA3. How would you rate your experience of living in a house? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Very good | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QA7 |
| Good | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QA7 |
| Neither good nor poor | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QA7 |
| Poor | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ Go to QA7 |
| Very poor | <input type="checkbox"/> ₅ Go to QA7 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> ₆ Go to QA7 |

QA4. Is the permission 'personal' i.e. for you and your family only? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QA5 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QA5 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QA5 |

QA5. Do you? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- Own your plot/pitch ₁ **Go to QA6**
Rent your plot/pitch ₂ **Go to QA6**
Other **(please specify below)** ₃ **Go to QA6**

Don't know ₄ **Go to QA6**

QA6. Do you? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- Own your trailer/chalets/units ₁
Rent your trailer/chalets/units ₂
Other **(please specify below)** ₃

Don't know ₄

QA7. How many trailers/chalets/units..... **(Please write in spaces provided - please note that this does not refer to any utility block that they may have)**

- a. Do you have in total? _____
b. Are used just as sleeping spaces? _____
c. Are used just as living spaces (non-sleeping)? _____
d. Are used as both sleeping and living spaces? _____
e. Are used mainly for storage/occasional use? _____
f. Are used just for travelling purposes? _____

QA8. Would you say you have enough space for your household at its current size in this home / pitch? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

(Interviewer: this relates not just to bedrooms but all of the dwelling / pitch)

- Yes ₁ **Go to QA11**
No ₂ **Go to QA9**
Don't know ₃ **Go to QA9**

QA9. Do you feel that you need? **(Please tick ✓ all that apply)**

1. A larger site/yard
2. A larger pitch/plot
3. More caravans/trailers/units
4. Larger caravans/trailers/units
5. More bedrooms or living space
6. Other **(please specify below)**
-

Q10. Why do you feel you need this? **(write reasons in below)**

QA11. What was the **main reason** for moving to this site/encampment/house/yard?
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

Moved there with parents/family (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving) ₁

Born/raised there (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving) ₂

Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons (please explain below) ₃

To be near family/friends ₄

To look after a family member / dependent in old age ₅

Evicted from last accommodation ₆

Lack of sites ₇

Overcrowded in previous accommodation ₈

For children's schooling/education ₉

Work available in the area ₁₀

Land/pitch was available to buy ₁₁

There was a vacancy ₁₂

Convenient for working pattern (**Showpeople only**) ₁₃

Holiday ₁₄

Family event ₁₅

Other (please specify below) ₁₆

INTERVIEWER: GO TO SECTION B IF INTERVIEWING SOMEONE ON AN UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENT/ROADSIDE

QA12. Do other Gypsies/Travellers/Showpeople (e.g. friends/family etc.) come to stay with you on a short-term/transit basis? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

Yes ₁ **Go to QA13**

No ₂ **Go to QA15**

Don't know ₃ **Go to QA15**

QA13. Where do they stay? (**Interviewer: this is to explore how much transit need is being taken care of informally**)

- With me in my trailer/chalet/house ₁
- They bring a trailer and stay on my pitch/driveway ₂
- They bring a trailer and stay elsewhere on this site (e.g. on a transit pitch) ₃
- They stay on the roadside near this site/house ₄
- Other (**please specify below**) ₅
-

QA14. Can you briefly describe who comes to stay, how often they come and how long they stay (i.e. daughter, her husband and dependent children, twice a year for around 2 weeks each time)?

QA15. Is hosting visitors that **are** your family and friends here? (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

- Not a problem for you ₁
- A problem (**please specify below**) ₂
-
- Other (**please specify below**) ₃
-

QA16. Is hosting visitors that **are not** your family and friends here? (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

- Not a problem for you ₁
- A problem (**please specify below**) ₂
-
- Other (**please specify below**) ₃
-

QA17. **Specific question for Showpeople** What equipment do you have at present? (**Please list main items and number of pieces of equipment as well as issues regarding the storage of them**)

SECTION B: LOCAL AND HISTORIC CONNECTION

QB1. Are there particular reasons for staying in this area?

- (Interviewer: a. Tick all the reasons that apply
 b. From the reasons they have given, ask them to choose the most important)

		a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: Tick most important reason <u>(one only)</u>
1	Born/raised here		
2	Have close family members living in area		
3	Have extended family members living in area		
4	Own/family/dependent health		
5	Look after a family member/dependent in old age		
6	Children’s schooling/education		
7	Work available in the area		
8	Convenient for working pattern (Showpeople)		
9	Availability of site(s)/accommodation		
10	Lack of sites		
11	Holiday		
12	Family or community event		
13	Only place I could find		
14	Other (please specify below)		

QB2. How long have you lived in this general area? (Interviewer: ideally we are looking at the local authority area) (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Less than 1 month 1
- Between 1 and 6 months 2
- 6 months or more but less than 12 3
- 1 years or more but less than 3 4
- 3 years or more but less than 5 5
- 5 years or more but less than 10 6
- 10 years or more 7
- Don’t know 8

QB3. How long have you been here on this site/encampment/house/yard?
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Up to 1 week ₁ Go to QB4
- 2-4 weeks ₂ Go to QB4
- More than 1 month but less than 3 months ₃ Go to QB4
- 3 months or more but less than 6 months ₄ Go to QB4
- 6 months or more but less than 12 months ₅ Go to QB4
- 1 years or more but less than 3 years ₆ Go to QB4
- 3 years or more but less than 5 years ₇ Go to QB4
- 5 years or more but less than 10 years ₈ Go to QB4
- 10 years or more ₉ Go to QB5
- Don't know ₁₀ Go to QB4

QB4. If resided for less than 10 years at the site/encampment/house/yard please can you tell me where you have lived since late 2002?

Dates (from – to) starting with 2002 onwards	Nearest town	Local authority (if known)	Site type (roadside, UD, LA site, private site)

QB5. Out of 52 weeks of the year how many weeks do you usually live in this area? (**Interviewer: we are looking at the local authority area**) (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

- | | |
|--|--|
| Between 1 and 10 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QB6 |
| Between 11 and 20 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QB6 |
| Between 21 and 30 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QB6 |
| Between 31 and 40 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ Go to QB6 |
| Between 41 and 51 weeks | <input type="checkbox"/> ₅ Go to QB6 |
| 52/Never leave | <input type="checkbox"/> ₆ Go to QB7 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> ₇ Go to QB6 |
| This is the first time I/we have been in this area | <input type="checkbox"/> ₈ Go to QB6 |

QB6. Where do you usually go for the other part of the year? (i.e. travel for x number of weeks during summer) (**Interviewer note: explore the general areas they go and why**)

QB7. Do you have a base somewhere else? (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QB8 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to SECTION C |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to SECTION C |

QB8. If **YES**, where is it and what type of base?

a: Where is it? (**i.e. town/local authority**)

b: What type of accommodation is it?

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Unauthorised development (own land no planning) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ |
| Residential Council/ site/yard | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ |
| Residential Private site/yard with permanent planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ |
| Residential Private site/yard with temporary planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from the local authority or social landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₅ |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from a private landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₆ |
| Bricks & Mortar (owner occupier) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₇ |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₈ |

c: Who owns/rents it? (**e.g. themselves, a friend, parent, etc.**)

QB9. Which of the following statements most apply to how you use this base?

- I/We visit this area every now and then ₁
 - I/We use it as a winter base ₂
 - I/We use it as a summer base ₃
 - I/We are based there for part of the year ₄
 - It's my/our permanent accommodation where we travel from ₅
 - Other (**please specify below**) ₆
-

SECTION C: TRAVELLING

QC1. How often do you travel or move at present? (Travelling whilst living in a caravan or trailer) (Please tick ✓ the statement that most closely resembles your travelling patterns)

- I/we travel or move every day or so ₁ Go to QC4
- I we travel or move every week or so ₂ Go to QC4
- I/we travel or move every month or so ₃ Go to QC4
- I/ we travel or move a few times a year ₄ Go to QC4
- I/we travel or move once a year only ₅ Go to QC4
- I/we never travel ₆ Go to QC2

QC2. If NEVER, is this because of any of the following reasons? (Please tick ✓ all that apply)

	Yes	No
Your, a family member or a dependents health		
Your, a family member or a dependents educational needs		
Your, a family member or a dependents older age		
Other (please specify below)		

QC3. If NEVER, When did you last travel? (Interviewer: ascertain number of months/years ago)

INTERVIEWER: IF NEVER TRAVEL, GO TO SECTION D

QC4. Which places do you like to go? - List 3 main areas (Note: Travelling Showpeople should indicate the 3 main areas their fairs/events take place)

1. _____
(nearest town: _____)
2. _____
(nearest town: _____)
3. _____
(nearest town: _____)

QC5. How many trailers/caravans do you normally travel with? _____
(Interviewer: insert 0 if none)

QC6. How many pieces of equipment do you normally travel with? _____
(Interviewer: insert 0 if none)

QC7. Have you travelled in the last 12 months?

- Yes ₁ **Go to QC8**
 No ₂ **Go to SECTION D**
 Don't know ₃ **Go to SECTION D**

QC8. In the last 12 months, did you travel for any of the following reasons?

- (Interviewer: a. Tick all the reasons that apply
 b. From the reasons they have given, choose one that was most important)**

		a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: The main reason (one only)
1	Work opportunities		
2	A holiday		
3	Attend a fair (not working at fair)		
4	To visit relatives		
5	To attend family events		
6	To attend community events		
7	Other (please specify below)		

QC9. In the last 12 months have you stayed at any of the following?
(Please tick ✓ all that apply)

		Yes
1	Roadside (countryside)	
2	Roadside (town/city)	
3	Caravan park (i.e. holiday park/campsite)	
4	With family/relatives on private sites	
5	With family/relatives on council/public sites	
6	Public or private transit sites	
7	Farmer's fields	
8	Fair sites	
9	Designated fairground land for Showpeople	
10	Other Showpeople yards	
11	Other (please specify below)	

SECTION D: PREVIOUS HOUSING EXPERIENCES

QD1. What type of accommodation did you live in/on immediately before you came here?
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----|-----------------|
| Unauthorised encampment | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 | Go to QD3 |
| Unauthorised development (own land no planning) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 | Go to QD3 |
| Residential Council/ site/yard | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 | Go to QD3 |
| Residential Private site/yard with permanent planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 | Go to QD2 |
| Residential Private site/yard with temporary planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 | Go to QD2 |
| Transit site | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 | Go to QD2 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from the local authority or social landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 | Go to QD3 |
| Bricks & Mortar (rented from a private landlord) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 | Go to QD3 |
| Bricks & Mortar (owner occupier) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 | Go to QD3 |
| Been here all my adult life | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 | Go to SECTION E |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 | Go to QD2 |
-

QD2. Was your pitch on this site: **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| An authorised pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 |
| An unauthorised pitch | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 |
-

Don't know 4

QD3. Where was this? **(i.e. which town/local authority)**

QD4. What was the **main reason** for leaving there? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----|
| To be near family/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 |
| Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 |
| Evicted | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 |
| For children's schooling/education | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 |
| Harassment | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 |
| Land/pitch was available to buy here | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 |
| There was a vacancy here | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 |
| Overcrowded conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 |
| Fears over personal safety | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 |
| Site closure | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 |
| Planning problems | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 |
| Wanted independence | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12 |
| Work reasons | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13 |
| To travel | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14 |
| Site/accommodation conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15 |
| Get married/live with partner | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16 |
| No particular reason | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18 |
-

QD5. Have you ever lived in a house? (Interviewer – if currently in a house this question asks about previous housing) (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 Go to QD6 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 Go to SECTION E |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 Go to SECTION E |

QD6. What type of house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Council rented | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 |
| Housing Association/RSL rented | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 |
| Private rented | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 |
| Privately owned | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 |
-

QD7. Where was it? (i.e. which town/local authority)

QD8. What was the **main reason** for moving to that house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Moved there with parents/family (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving) ₁

Born/raised there (if known, detail family/parents reasons for moving) ₂

Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons (please explain below) ₃

To be near family/friends ₄

To look after a family member / dependent in old age ₅

Evicted from last site ₆

Lack of sites ₇

For children's schooling/education ₈

Work available in the area ₉

House was available to buy ₁₀

House was available to rent ₁₁

Convenient for working pattern (Showpeople) ₁₂

Other (please specify below) ₁₃

QD9. How would you rate your experience of living in a house? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

Very good ₁

Good ₂

Neither good nor poor ₃

Poor ₄

Very poor ₅

Don't know ₆

QD10. What was the **main reason** for leaving the house? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----|
| To be near family/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 |
| Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 |
| Evicted | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 |
| For children's schooling/education | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 |
| Harassment | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 |
| Land/pitch was available to buy here | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 |
| There was a vacancy here | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 |
| Overcrowded conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 |
| Fears over personal safety | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 |
| Wanted independence | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 |
| Work reasons | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 |
| To travel | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12 |
| Site/accommodation conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13 |
| Get married/live with partner | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14 |
| No particular reason | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16 |
-

SECTION E: HOUSEHOLD DETAILS

QE1. Thinking about the people you live with, can you tell me their ages, whether they are male or female, their marital status and their relationship to you? (Interviewer: Please note that the person you interview is always number 1. To avoid confusion, get all information for one household member, then move on to next household member)

AGE	HOUSEHOLD MEMBER										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
0 – 5 years											
6 – 10 years											
11 – 16 years											
17 – 24 years											
25 – 39 years											
40 – 49 years											
50 – 59 years											
60 – 74 years											
75 – 84 years											
85 years +											
GENDER											
Male											
Female											
MARITAL STATUS											
Married											
Single											
Living together											
Widowed											
Separated											
Divorced											
RELATIONSHIP											
Partner											
Son or daughter											
Sister/brother											
Uncle/aunt											
Cousin											
Grandparent											
Grandchild											
Other											

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- QE2. How many people are there in the household? _____
- QE3. How many adults are there in the household aged 60 or over? _____
- QE4. How many children are there in the household aged:
- None
- 0 – 5 _____
- 6 – 10 _____
- 11 – 16 _____

QE5. How do you think of yourself? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- Romany/Gypsy (English) _1
- Welsh Gypsy/Traveller _2
- Scottish Gypsy/ Traveller _3
- Irish Traveller _4
- New Traveller _5
- Traveller (not specified) _6
- Showmen/Circus person _7
- Roma _8
- Bargee/Boat dweller _9
- Other **(please specify below)** _10
- _____
- Don't know _11
- Refused _12

QE6. How many members of your family **over the age of 16** are: **(Please write the number of people in the spaces below and ensure no double counting of individuals. If people fall into multiple categories explain situation in 'other')**

1. Self employed _____ **Go to QE7**
2. Employed _____ **Go to QE7**
3. Both employed and self-employed _____ **Go to QE7**
4. Retired _____ **Go to QE10**
5. Unemployed but looking for work _____ **Go to QE7**
6. Not working and not looking for work _____ **Go to QE7**
7. In further education (e.g. college/6th form) _____ **Go to QE7**
8. In higher education (e.g. University) _____ **Go to QE7**
9. Full time homemaker _____ **Go to QE10**
10. Other **(please explain)** _____ **Go to QE7**
- _____

QE7. Where do you/your family work? **(Please tick ✓ all that apply)**

Within Canterbury ₁
(note: show map of authority and include place below)

Outside Canterbury, but within nearby/neighbouring authority:
(note: please select one of the following)

Dartford District ₂

Ashford District ₃

Medway District ₄

Sevenoaks District ₅

Tunbridge Wells District ₆

Maidstone District ₇

Swale District ₈

Tonbridge and Malling District ₉

Dover District ₁₀

Shepway District ₁₁

Thanet District ₁₂

Gravesham District ₁₃

Other parts of the UK **(please specify below)** ₁₄

Abroad ₁₅

QE8. Do you have any site/space needs relating to your work now or in the near future?
(Please tick ✓ all that apply)

Yes - now ₁ **Go to QE9**

Yes – in the future ₂ **Go to QE9**

No ₃ **Go to QE10**

Don't know ₄ **Go to QE10**

QE9. If **YES**, what needs?

QE10. Have you/members of your family ever experienced any problems accessing employment?
(Note: includes self employment) (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes ₁ **Go to QE11**
- No ₂ **Go to SECTION F**
- Don't know ₃ **Go to SECTION F**

QE11. If **YES**, what problems?

SECTION F: PUBLIC SERVICES AND ISSUES

I'd like to talk to you a little bit about what you think of the local services.

QF1. Do you or your family feel that you have sufficient access to the following services?

Service	Have access		Not relevant
	Yes	No	
GP/health centre			
Health visitor			
Maternity care			
A&E			
Dentist			
Education/local schools services			
Training services			
Careers advice			
Access to work services			

QF2. Is there anything that stops you from accessing any of the above?
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes ₁ Go to QF3
- No ₂ Go to Section G
- Don't know ₃ Go to Section G

QF3. If YES, what? (Interviewer: probe for issues such as transport, lack of awareness, etc)

SECTION G: FUTURE ACCOMMODATION

QG1. Thinking about you and your household, what are the top three ways of residential living that best suit your needs?

	Tick ✓ 3 of the following
Bricks and Mortar – socially rent	
Bricks and Mortar – privately rent	
Bricks and Mortar – own it/have a mortgage	
Site - socially rent	
Site – rent on a private site	
Site – owned by you	
Roadside	
Official short stay sites	
Caravan/chalet parks – general use	

QG2. Thinking about your current accommodation which of the following applies to your whole household?

(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- I need to move immediately **1 Go to QG3**
- I need to move in the next 12 months **2 Go to QG3**
- I need to move in the next 1 – 2 years **3 Go to QG3**
- I need to move in the next 2 – 5 years **4 Go to QG3**
- I need to move in the next 5 – 10 years **5 Go to QG3**
- I am going to stay in this accommodation indefinitely **6 Go to QG9**
- I have no plans to move **7 Go to QG9**
- Other **(please describe below)** **8 Go to QG3**

QG3. Why does your whole household need to move?

(Interviewer:

a. Tick all the reasons that apply

b. From the reasons they have given, ask them to choose one that was most important)

		a: Yes (Tick ✓ all that apply)	b: The most important reason (Tick ✓ <u>one only</u>)
1	Own health/family member or other dependent health reasons		
2	For children's schooling/education		
3	To look after a family member / dependent in old age		
4	To be nearer to family/friends		
5	Overcrowded living conditions		
6	Overcrowded on site		
7	To move to a vacant pitch on a preferred site		
8	Going to buy own site/pitch		
9	Being moved on (as encamped)		
10	Eviction		
11	Harassment		
12	Fears over personal safety		
13	Site closure		
14	No planning permission		
15	Want independence		
16	Work reasons		
17	To travel		
18	Site/accommodation conditions		
19	Get married/live with partner		
20	No particular reason		
21	Other (please specify below)		

QG4. Do you intend to stay in this area? (Interviewer: the local authority area)

(Please tick ✓ one box only)

Yes ₁

No ₂

Don't know ₃

QG5. What accommodation are you looking for?

- (Interviewer: a. Tick all types that apply
b. From types they have given, ask them to choose one main preference)**

		a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: Main preference (Tick ✓ <u>one</u> only)
1	Green Bridge Park Site		
2	Council site (permanent) outside CANTERBURY		
3	Council site (transit) outside CANTERBURY		
4	Roadside/informal stopping place		
5	Own site with planning permission		
6	Private site owned by someone else		
7	Piece of land to buy (without planning permission)		
8	I already own a piece of land		
9	Bricks and mortar/another house		
10	Other (please specify below)		

QG6. Where do you need to move to? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

Within Canterbury

 1

(note: show map of authority and include neighbourhood below)

Outside Canterbury, but within nearby/neighbouring authority:

(note: please select one of the following)

Dartford District

 2

Ashford District

 3

Medway District

 4

Sevenoaks District

 5

Tunbridge Wells District

 6

Maidstone District

 7

Swale District

 8

Tonbridge and Malling District

 9

Dover District

 10

Shepway District

 11

Thanet District

 12

Gravesham District

 13

Other parts of the UK **(please specify below)**

 14

Abroad

 15

QG7. Why this place?

(Interviewer:

- a. Tick all the reasons that apply
- b. From the reasons they have given, ask them to choose one that was most important)

		a: Tick ✓ all that apply	b: The most important reason (Tick ✓ one only)
1	Born/raised there		
2	Have close family members living in area		
3	Have extended family members living in area		
4	Own/family/dependent health		
5	Look after a family member/dependent in old age		
6	Children's schooling/education		
7	Work available in the area		
8	Convenient for working pattern (Showpeople)		
9	Availability of site(s)/accommodation		
10	Lack of sites		
11	Holiday		
12	Family or community event		
13	Only place I could find		
14	Other (please specify below)		

QG8. Is there any accommodation available for you to move to? (Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes ₁
- No ₂
- Don't know ₃

QG9. Is there anyone in your household who is in need of their own separate accommodation **immediately**? (i.e. grown up children, extended family members etc.)
(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- Yes ₁ **Go to QG10**
- No ₂ **Go to QG17**
- Don't know ₃ **Go to QG17**

QG10. How many members of your household? _____

QG11. Who (**note: include ages, gender, and who they plan to live with**)?

Member 1: _____

Member 2: _____

Member 3: _____

Member 4: _____

QG12. Where do you expect them to move to? (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

Within Canterbury ₁
(note: show map of authority and include neighbourhood below)

Outside Canterbury, but within nearby/neighbouring authority:
(note: please select one of the following)

Dartford District ₂

Ashford District ₃

Medway District ₄

Sevenoaks District ₅

Tunbridge Wells District ₆

Maidstone District ₇

Swale District ₈

Tonbridge and Malling District ₉

Dover District ₁₀

Shepway District ₁₁

Thanet District ₁₂

Gravesham District ₁₃

Other parts of the UK (**please specify below**) ₁₄

Abroad ₁₅

QG13. What sort of accommodation are they likely to need? (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

Bricks & Mortar ₁ **Go to QG17**

Site based trailer/caravan ₂ **Go to QG14**

Up to them ₃ **Go to QG14**

Don't know ₄ **Go to QG14**

Other (**please specify below**) ₅ **Go to QG14**

QG14. How would they need to be accommodated?

- A pitch on a council site ₁ **Go to QG16**
- Live on this pitch with us ₂ **Go to QG15**
- Live on this site. ₃ **Go to QG16**
- Rent a pitch on a private site ₄ **Go to QG16**
- Purchase a pitch on a private site ₅ **Go to QG16**
- Purchase their own site/land to be developed into a site ₆ **Go to QG16**
- Don't know _____ ₇ **Go to QG16**
- Other (**please specify below**) ₈ **Go to QG16**

QG15. Is there enough room on your pitch to accommodate them? (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

- Yes, but likely to need planning permission ₁ **Go to QG16**
 - Yes, without needing planning permission ₂ **Go to QG16**
 - Yes, but uncertain of the need for planning permission ₃ **Go to QG16**
 - Yes, but would need permission from the landlord ₄ **Go to QG16**
 - No ₅ **Go to QG16**
 - Don't know ₆ **Go to QG16**
 - Other (**please specify below**) ₇ **Go to QG16**
- _____

QG16. Why would they need to be accommodated on this/this type of site? Is there anything that would put them off living on the other types of sites?

QG17. Is there anyone in your household (e.g. son or daughter) who is likely to need their own separate accommodation **in the next 5 years (by 2017)**? (**Please tick ✓ one box only**)

- Yes ₁ **Go to QG18**
- No ₂ **Go to QG25**
- Don't know ₃ **Go to QG25**

QG18. How many members of your household? _____

QG19. Who (**note: include ages, gender, and who they plan to live with**)?

- Member 1: _____
- Member 2: _____
- Member 3: _____
- Member 4: _____

QG20. Where do you expect them to move to? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

Within Canterbury

1

(note: show map of authority and include neighbourhood below)

Outside Canterbury, but within nearby/neighbouring authority:

(note: please select one of the following)

Dartford District

2

Ashford District

3

Medway District

4

Sevenoaks District

5

Tunbridge Wells District

6

Maidstone District

7

Swale District

8

Tonbridge and Malling District

9

Dover District

10

Shepway District

11

Thanet District

12

Gravesham District

13

Other parts of the UK **(please specify below)**

14

Abroad

15

QG21. What sort of accommodation are they likely to need? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

Bricks & Mortar

1 **Go to QG25**

Site based trailer/caravan

2 **Go to QG22**

Up to them

3 **Go to QG22**

Don't know

4 **Go to QG22**

Other **(please specify below)**

5 **Go to QG22**

QG22. How would they need to be accommodated? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | |
|--|--|
| A pitch on a council site | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QG24 |
| Live on this pitch with us | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QG23 |
| Live on this site. | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QG24 |
| Rent a pitch on a private site | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ Go to QG24 |
| Purchase a pitch on a private site | <input type="checkbox"/> ₅ Go to QG24 |
| Purchase their own site/land to be developed into a site | <input type="checkbox"/> ₆ Go to QG24 |
| Don't know _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> ₇ Go to QG24 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₈ Go to QG24 |
-

QG23. Is there enough room on your pitch to accommodate them? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

- | | |
|--|--|
| Yes, but likely to need planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QG24 |
| Yes, without planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QG24 |
| Yes, uncertain of the need for planning permission | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QG24 |
| Yes, but would need permission from the landlord | <input type="checkbox"/> ₄ Go to QG24 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> ₅ Go to QG24 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> ₆ Go to QG24 |
| Other (please specify below) | <input type="checkbox"/> ₇ Go to QG24 |
-

QG24. Why would they need to be accommodated on this/this type of site? Is there anything that would put them off living on the other types of sites?

QG25. Are you – or a member of your household – currently on a waiting list(s) for a site?

(Please tick ✓ one box only)

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> ₁ Go to QG26 |
| No | <input type="checkbox"/> ₂ Go to QG27 |
| Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> ₃ Go to QG27 |

QG26. Which site(s)? Where? Is it local authority site/private sites/etc.?

QG27. Are you – or a member of your household – currently on a waiting list for a house?

(Please tick ✓ one box only)

Yes ₁ **Go to QG28**

No ₂ **Go to QG29**

Don't know ₃ **Go to QG29**

QG28. Which list? Where?

QG29. Could you currently afford to purchase any of the following? **(Please tick ✓ all that apply)**

1. A pitch on a private site with planning permission

₁

3. Land with planning permission to be developed into a site

₂

4. Cannot afford to purchase land or a pitch

₃

5. Not relevant **(please specify below)**

₄

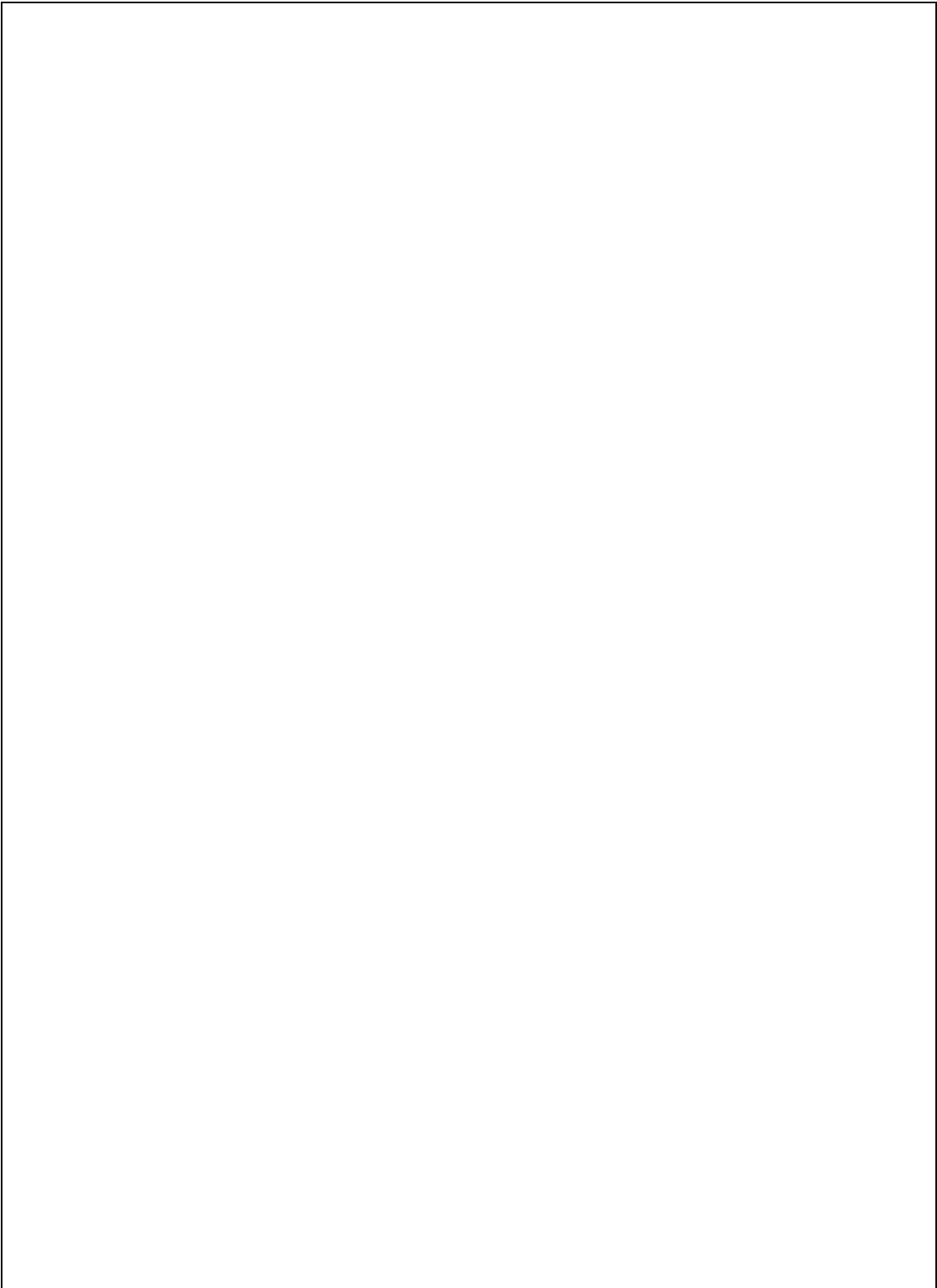
QG30. What does your rent / mortgage cost **in total** per week or month for your current accommodation approximately? **(Please tick ✓ one box only)**

Interviewer: please note that you need the TOTAL cost of rent / mortgage for the whole dwelling/pitch

Weekly	Monthly	
Under £30	Under £130	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁
£30 - £59	£130 - £255	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
£60 - £89	£256 - £385	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
£90 - £119	£386 - £515	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

£120 - £149	£516 - £645	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
£150 - £179	£646 - £775	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
£180 - £209	£776 - £905	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
£210 - £239	£906 - £1,035	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
£240 - £269	£1,036 - £1,165	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
£270 - £299	£1,166 - £1,295	<input type="checkbox"/> 10
£300 or more	£1,296 or more	<input type="checkbox"/> 11
Don't know		<input type="checkbox"/> 12
Prefer not to say		<input type="checkbox"/> 13
Don't pay rent or mortgage		<input type="checkbox"/> 14
Not applicable (unauthorised encampments only)		<input type="checkbox"/> 15

QG31. Finally, are there any other issues/concerns that we haven't talked about that you'd like to mention?



Thank you very much for your time

For further details on the study please contact:

Joanna Brown on 0161 295 6926 or Dr Phil Brown on 0161 295 3647

Appendix 5: District Summaries

This appendix to the report includes summaries for Canterbury, Dover District, Shepway and Thanet. These show tables detailing existing site provision (where there is provision), and the estimates for additional requirements for residential and transit site pitches for Gypsies and Travellers, and plots for Travelling Showpeople families. The explanation of how these figures have been derived is described.

Canterbury

The following tables detail the sites/pitches within the district and their assumed level of occupancy.

Private sites with permanent planning permission

Private Sites with Permanent Planning	Caravans	Households
The Shannon	3	2
1 Brookside	2	1
2 Brookside	2	1
3 Brookside	2	1
4 Brookside	1	1
Underdown Orchard Nursery	1	1
Romany Green Acres	5	3
The Caravans	1	1
Land South of Total Petrol Station	2	1
The Cobbs	4	2
The Paddock, High Street Road	1	1
The Oaks, High Street Road	3	2
Woodlands	1	1
4 Pye Alley Farm	1	1
The Oaks, Radfall Ride	1	1
Cartref	1	1
The Paddock, Ford Road	2	1
Sunnybank Farm	2	1
Bees End	2	1
Moate Farm	9	5
Total	46	29

Private sites with temporary planning permission

Private Sites with Temporary Permission	Caravans	Households
Puddledock Wood	2	1
1 Plot 5	2	1
Hillside Paddocks	3	2
Total	7	4

Pitches immune from enforcement

Lawful sites	Caravans	Households
Romany View	2	1

Unauthorised developments

Unauthorised Developments	Caravans	Households
2 Pye Alley Farm	1	1
Prospect Farm	8	5
Plot 3	2	1
Littlebrook Farm	1	1
Plot 7	2	1
Total	14	9

SUMMARY OF CURRENT PROVISION AND PITCH REQUIREMENTS

Accommodation	Number of sites	Estimated pitches/households
Socially rented residential pitches	1	18
Socially rented transit pitches	0	0
Private sites with permanent permission	20	29
Private sites with temporary permission	3	4
Pitches immune from enforcement	1	1
Unauthorised developments	5	9
Showpeople sites	0	0
Housing	—	40

Accommodation	Estimated requirements			
	2013 - 2017	2018 - 2022	2023 - 2027	2013 - 2027
Residential pitches	23	8	9	40
Transit pitches	NA	NA	NA	NA
Travelling Showpeople plots	NA	NA	NA	NA

The analysis of the survey responses when combined with the secondary data and baseline population information indicates that need arises in the next five years as a result of the following factors:

- The end of temporary planning permissions which implicate nine pitches in the area;
- A number of households currently living in overcrowded conditions who require their own independent accommodation in pitch based units;
- The presence of nine households living on unauthorised accommodation in the area requiring authorised provision;
- The net movement of two households who are actively planning to move from housing to pitches.

Accommodation need for the subsequent periods arise as a result of applying a 3% household growth figure to the current number of pitch based households and the households who will be accommodated on pitches by 2018.

Dover

The following tables detail the sites/pitches within the district and their assumed level of occupancy.

Socially rented sites

Socially rented sites	Pitches	Households
Aylesham Caravan Site	14	14

Private sites with permanent planning permission

Private with permanent permission	Pitches	Households
The Council House	1	1
Falconsview Meadow	1	1
Summerfields	1	1
1 The Land	1	1
Land adj to 6 California Road	2	2
The Willows	3	3
Homeland	1	1
Lawson Park	2	2
Land to the south of Alkham Valley Road	2	2
Hollyoak	1	1
Total	15	15

Private sites with temporary planning permission

Private Sites with Temporary Permission	Pitches	Households
Cobbs Yard	1	1

Unauthorised Developments

Unauthorised Developments	Pitches	Households
1 The Land	1	1
Ivy Farm	1	1
Sun Top and Greenwich	1	1
Greenfields	1	1
Newcastle Cottage	1	1
Total	5	5

Travelling Showpeople's Sites

Travelling Showpeoples Sites	Pitches	Households
The Old Fairground	2	2

SUMMARY OF CURRENT PROVISION AND PITCH REQUIREMENTS

Accommodation	Number of sites	Estimated pitches/households
Socially rented residential pitches	1	14
Socially rented transit pitches	0	0
Private sites with permanent permission	10	15
Private sites with temporary permission	1	1
Pitches immune from enforcement	0	0
Unauthorised developments	5	5
Showpeople sites	1	2
Housing	NA	28

Accommodation	Estimated requirements			
	2013 - 2017	2018 - 2022	2023 - 2027	2013 - 2027
Residential pitches	8	4	5	17
Transit pitches	NA	NA	NA	NA
Travelling Showpeople plots	0	0	0	0

The analysis of the survey responses when combined with the secondary data and baseline population information indicates that need arises in the next five years as a result of the following factors:

- The end of temporary planning permissions which implicate one pitch in the area;
- A number of households currently living in overcrowded conditions who require their own independent accommodation in pitch based units;
- A single household which is expected to form arising from a pitch based household;
- The presence of five households living on unauthorised accommodation in the area requiring authorised provision;
- The net reduction of pitches by one as a result of a single household planning to move from pitch based accommodation to housing.

Accommodation need for the subsequent periods arise as a result of applying a 3% household growth figure to the current number of pitch based households and the households who will be accommodated on pitches by 2018.

Shepway

The following tables detail the sites/pitches within the district and their assumed level of occupancy.

Private sites with permanent planning permission

Private sites with permanent permission	Pitches	Households
Fishers Paddock, Ashford Rd, Brenzett Green	1	1
Paddock View, Ashford Rd, Brenzett Green	1	1
Total	2	2

Unauthorised developments

Unauthorised developments	Pitches	Households
Lydd Caravan Park, Jurys Gap Rd, Lydd	4	4

Site owned by Travelling Showpeople

Private site	Pitches	Households
Disused Sandpit, Blind House La, Monks Horton	2	2

Site owned by Travelling Showpeople

Unauthorised development	Pitches	Households
Hope Farm, Gibbons Brook, Sellindge	2	2

SUMMARY OF CURRENT PROVISION AND PITCH REQUIREMENTS

Accommodation	Number of sites	Estimated pitches/households
Socially rented residential pitches	0	0
Socially rented transit pitches	0	0
Private sites with permanent permission	3	2
Private sites with temporary permission	0	0
Pitches immune from enforcement	0	0
Unauthorised developments	1	4
Showpeople sites	1	4
Housing	NA	32

Accommodation	Estimated requirements			
	2013 - 2017	2018 - 2022	2023 - 2027	2013 - 2027
Residential pitches	4	1	1	6
Transit pitches	NA	NA	NA	NA
Travelling Showpeople plots	1	0	0	1

The analysis of the survey responses when combined with the secondary data and baseline population information indicates that need arises in the next five years as a result of the following factors:

- The presence of four households living on unauthorised accommodation in the area requiring authorised provision;
- The presence of a single Travelling Showperson household living in the area on an unauthorised development requiring authorised provision.

Accommodation need for the subsequent periods arise as a result of applying a 3% household growth figure to the current number of pitch based households and the households who will be accommodated on pitches by 2018.

Thanet

SUMMARY OF CURRENT PROVISION AND PITCH REQUIREMENTS

Accommodation	Number of sites	Estimated pitches/households
Socially rented residential pitches	0	0
Socially rented transit pitches	0	0
Private sites with permanent permission	0	0
Private sites with temporary permission	0	0
Pitches immune from enforcement	0	0
Unauthorised developments	0	0
Showpeople sites	0	0
Housing	NA	42

Accommodation	Estimated requirements			
	2013 - 2017	2018 - 2022	2023 - 2027	2013 - 2027
Residential pitches	0	0	0	0
Transit pitches	NA	NA	NA	NA
Travelling Showpeople plots	0	0	0	0

There are no pitches for Gypsies and Travellers in Thanet. As such there is no apparent need arising from the existing supply of pitches. Similarly, although it is thought that there is a population of Gypsies/Travellers in housing, there is no evidence that there is a need for site based accommodation in the short or medium term from these households. Finally, there is no evidence that there is any demand for pitches in Thanet from Gypsies and Travellers living elsewhere.