

**The City of Cardiff
Council**

**Gypsy and Traveller
Accommodation
Assessment
2015**

Contents

Chapter One: Policy Context

| | |
|--|---|
| 1.1 Legislation and Guidance..... | 3 |
| 1.2 Local Development Plan Policies..... | 4 |
| 1.3 Definition of key terms..... | 5 |

Chapter Two: Background and Analysis of Existing Data

| | |
|---|----|
| 2.1 Previous Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment findings..... | 7 |
| 2.2 Identified need to be met and progress to date..... | 8 |
| 2.3 Caravan Count and Current Accommodation Provision..... | 9 |
| 2.4 Unauthorised Encampments..... | 10 |

Chapter Three: Methodology

| | |
|--|----|
| 3.1 Project Steering Group..... | 10 |
| 3.2 Study Methodology and Participating Organisations..... | 11 |
| 3.3 Engagement Checklist..... | 12 |

Chapter Four: Survey Findings

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| 4.1 Section A – Your Home..... | 15 |
| 4.2 Section B – Your Family..... | 21 |
| 4.3 Section C – Your Plans..... | 23 |
| 4.4 Section D – Family Growth..... | 27 |
| 4.5 Section E – Transit Sites..... | 30 |

Chapter 5: Assessing Accommodation Needs

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| 5.1 Residential Unmet Need..... | 32 |
| 5.2 Transit Unmet Need..... | 33 |

Chapter 6: Conclusions and Recommendations

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| 6.1 Next Steps..... | 33 |
|---------------------|----|

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Report 2015

Chapter One: Policy Context

1.1 Legislation and Guidance

Housing (Wales) Act 2014

Part 3 of the Housing Act (Wales) 2014 places a duty on the Local Authority to undertake an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers residing in or resorting to its area within 1 year of the legislation coming into force and then every 5 years. The current assessment must be submitted to Welsh Government for ministerial approval in February 2016. A failure to gain approval will result in either having to revise and resubmit or undertake a new assessment. The Act also places a duty on the Local Authority to meet the assessed needs.

Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013

Section 56 of the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013 provides the powers required for the Local Authority to deliver Gypsy and Traveller accommodation in accordance with the assessed need.

Planning circular 30/2007

Guidance on Planning for Gypsy & Traveller sites was published in the Welsh Government Circular 30/2007. The guidance focuses on finding sustainable sites and emphasising the need for local authorities to adopt an inclusive approach with Gypsies and Travellers to achieve this. This guidance remains valid.

Planning circular 78/91

This circular sets out the need for a realistic assessment of the amount of accommodation required for Travelling Showpeople and provides advice and guidance to local authorities about planning where a need is identified.

Welsh Government Guidance

The Welsh Government published the following guidance in May 2015:

- Undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments
- Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Wales
- Managing Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Wales

The purpose of the guidance is to ensure a comprehensive assessment of need and that the

accommodation is delivered in culturally appropriate ways and provides a good standard of living. Cardiff has sought to ensure that the process it has put in place has and will continue to adhere to these documents throughout.

1.2 Local Development Plan Policies

The Cardiff Local Development Plan does not contain a policy which allocates any land for a Gypsy and Traveller site. However, a working group made up of Council officers from Planning and Housing has been set up with the responsibility for making arrangements for the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment and for finding potential locations for both permanent and transit pitches to meet the required need. The working group is being led by the Director of Communities, Housing & Customer Services and is following the timetable set out in the LDP Monitoring Framework which is shown below.

Timetable for meeting the needs for permanent Gypsy and Traveller accommodation - LDP Monitoring Indicator OB2 S08

- i) Agree project management arrangements including reporting structure and representatives - July 15
- ii) Agree methodology for undertaking site search and assessment – December 2015
- iii) Undertake Gypsy and Traveller Needs Assessment for both permanent and transit pitches in accordance with Housing (Wales) Act 2014 – February 2016
- iv) Undertake a site search and assessment and secure approval of findings – July 2016
- v) Secure planning permission and funding (including any grant funding from Welsh Government) for identified sites(s) required to meet the short term need for 43 pitches by May 2017
- vi) Secure planning permission and funding (including any grant funding from Welsh Government) for identified(s) required to meet the long term need for 65 pitches by May 2021

Timetable for meeting the needs for transit Gypsy and Traveller accommodation - LDP Monitoring Indicator OB2 S09

- i) Agree project management arrangements including reporting structure and representatives - July 15
- ii) Agree methodology for undertaking site search and assessment – December 2015
- iii) Undertake Gypsy and Traveller Needs Assessment for both permanent and transit pitches in accordance with Housing (Wales) Act 2014 – February 2016
- iv) Undertake a site search and assessment and secure approval of findings – July 2016
- v) Secure planning permission and funding (including any grant funding from Welsh Government) for identified sites(s) required to meet short term – May 2017
- vi) Secure planning permission and funding (including any grant funding from Welsh Government) for identified(s) required to meet long term need – May 2021

In addition to the above timescales, Cardiff Council is keeping a potential site located at Seawall Road (Tremorfa) 'under review' as part of the Monitoring Framework, indicator OB2 S07. It is

currently located within a C2 Flood Risk Area, but should circumstances change this site will be reconsidered for use as a permanent Gypsy and Traveller site.

A further indicator included in the LDP Monitoring Framework (OB2 S010) sets out to ensure that the existing supply of Gypsy and Traveller pitches is maintained and where existing pitches are no longer available, alternative pitches will be sought.

The Cardiff LDP includes a criteria based policy (H8 New Sites for Gypsy and Traveller Caravans) which provides a framework for assessing proposals for both new and extensions to existing sites, whether for permanent or transit uses. The policy wording is set out below for information.

H8: Sites for Gypsy and Traveller Caravans

New sites and extensions to existing sites will be permitted where:

- i. Necessary physical, transport and social infrastructure are accessible or can be readily provided;
- ii. Environmental factors including flood risk, ground stability, land contamination and proximity of hazardous installations do not make the site inappropriate for residential development;
- iii. The site is designed with reference to both the Welsh Government Good Practice Guide in Designing Gypsy Traveller Sites and the views of local Gypsies and Travellers;
- iv. There would be no unreasonable impact on the character and appearance of the surrounding areas including impact on residential amenity of neighbouring occupiers or the operation conditions of existing businesses; and
- v. In the case of a transit or touring site, it has good access to the primary highway network.

1.3 Definition of key terms

The Local Authority is in agreement with the recommendation to use the common definitions included in the Welsh Government Guidance: Undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (May 2015). These are set out below.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Gypsies and Travellers | <p>(a) Persons of a nomadic habit of life, whatever their race or origin, including:</p> <p>(1) 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</p> <p>(2) Members of an organized group of travelling show people or circus people (whether or not travelling together as such); and</p> <p>(b) All other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a mobile home.</p> <p>Source: Section 108, Housing (Wales) Act 2014</p> |
| Residential site | <p>A permanent residential site can be privately owned or owned by the Local Authority. This site will be designated for use as a Gypsy and Traveller site indefinitely. Residents on these sites can expect to occupy their pitches for as long as they abide by the terms of their pitch agreements, under the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013.</p> <p>Working space may also be provided on, or near, sites for activities carried out by community members.</p> |

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Temporary residential site | These sites are residential sites which only have planning permission or a site licence for a limited period. Residents on these sites can expect to occupy their pitches for the duration of the planning permission or site licence (or as long as they abide by the terms of their pitch agreements, under the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013 – whichever is sooner). |
| Transit site | <p>Transit sites are permanent facilities designed for temporary use by occupiers. These sites must be designated as such and provide a route for Gypsies and Travellers to maintain a nomadic way of life. Individual occupiers are permitted to reside on the site for a maximum of 3 months at a time.</p> <p>Specific terms under the Mobile Homes (Wales) Act 2013 apply on these sites. Working space may also be provided on, or near, sites for activities carried out by community members.</p> |
| Temporary Stopping Place | <p>Also known as a 'stopping place', 'Atchin Tan', or 'green lane', amongst other names. These are intended to be short-term in nature to assist Local Authorities where a need for pitches is accepted, however, none are currently available. Pro-actively identified temporary stopping places can be used to relocate inappropriately located encampments, whilst alternative sites are progressed.</p> <p>Temporary stopping places must make provision for waste disposal, water supply and sanitation at a minimum.</p> |
| Residential pitch | Land on a mobile home site where occupiers are entitled to station their mobile homes indefinitely (unless stated in their pitch agreement). Typically includes an amenity block, space for a static caravan and touring caravan and parking. |
| Transit pitch | <p>Land on a mobile home site where occupiers are entitled to station their mobile homes for a maximum of 3 months.</p> <p>Transit pitches can exist on permanent residential sites, however, this is not recommended.</p> |
| Unauthorised encampment | Land occupied without the permission of the owner or without the correct land use planning permission. Encampments may be tolerated by the Local Authority, whilst alternative sites are developed. |
| Unauthorised development | Land occupied by the owner without the necessary land use planning permission. |
| Current residential supply | The number of authorised pitches which are available and occupied within the Local Authority or partnership area. This includes pitches on Local Authority or private sites. |
| Current residential demand | <p>Those with a need for authorised pitches for a range of reasons, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an inability to secure an authorised pitch leading to occupation of unauthorised encampments; • an inability to secure correct planning permission for an unauthorised development; • households living in overcrowded conditions and want a pitch; • households in conventional housing demonstrating cultural aversion; • new households expected to arrive from elsewhere. |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Future residential demand | The expected level of new household formation which will generate additional demand within the 5 year period of the accommodation assessment and longer LDP period. |
| Overall residential pitch need | The ultimate calculation of unmet accommodation need, which must be identified through the Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessment process. This figure can be found by adding the immediate residential need to the future residential demand. The overall residential need will capture the needs across the 5 year period within which the accommodation assessment is considered to be robust. |
| Planned residential pitch supply | The number of authorised pitches which are vacant and available to rent on Local Authority or private sites. It also includes pitches which will be vacated in the near future by households moving to conventional housing or in other circumstances. Additional pitches which are due to open or private sites likely to achieve planning permission shortly should be included as planned residential supply. |
| Household | In this guidance this refers to individuals from the same family who live together on a single pitch / house / encampment. |
| Concealed or 'doubled-up' household | This refers to households which are unable to achieve their own authorised accommodation and are instead living within authorised accommodation (houses or pitches) assigned to another household. This may include adult children who have been unable to move home or different households occupying a single pitch. |
| Household growth | In this guidance household growth is defined by the number of new households arising from households which are already accommodated in the area. |

Chapter Two: Background and analysis of existing data

2.1 Previous Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment findings

Cardiff Council commissioned two consultants to undertake an independent Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment in 2013. The first stage was to establish the level of need for the LDP plan period and was carried out by Opinion Research Services. The study used 60 completed interviews and identified a need for an additional 108 pitches in Cardiff up to 2026 and this was broken down into 43 short-term and 65 long-term. It also identified an additional need for a transit site of around 10 pitches to be located near to the M4 and not necessarily within the boundaries of Cardiff County Council.

The second stage was prepared by Peter Brett Associates and provided advice to the Council on potential sites required to respond to the needs identified in the first study. The Peter Brett Study followed criteria set out in national guidance and looked at the availability, suitability and achievability of 32 potential sites. One of the sites at Seawall Road was allocated for a permanent site for 65 pitches in the Deposit LDP. However, following the LDP Examination the site was removed due to it being located within a C2 Flood Risk Area. Therefore, to date, no additional provision has been made to meet the previously identified need.

2.2 Identified need to be met and progress to date

The Census includes an estimate of residents classified by ethnic group according to their own perceived ethnic group and cultural background. The 2011 survey introduced an ethnicity category for ‘White: Gypsy and Irish Traveller’. Data from 2011 suggests a total of 521 Gypsy and Irish Travellers¹ in Cardiff on Census day (27th March 2011), representing approximately 0.15% of the total population of Cardiff at the time – 346,090. As noted by Welsh Government guidance², this number may not include Travelling Showpeople or New Travellers and may also exclude members of communities who declined to self-ascribe their ethnicity for fear of discrimination, stronger affiliation with other ethnicity categories (e.g. White Welsh; White Irish) and/or other reasons.

The 2011 Census also provides an estimate of residents classified by ethnic group and by accommodation type³. In Cardiff, a total of 260 Gypsy or Irish Travellers were recorded as living within a house or bungalow (see breakdown below). An additional 246 were recorded as living within either a flat, maisonette or apartment, or mobile/temporary accommodation. However, there is no breakdown of this category and so it is not possible to disaggregate the precise number living in caravans or bricks and mortar accommodation.

Extract of Table DC2121EW:

| Ethnic Group: | Gypsy or Irish Traveller |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Accommodation type | |
| Whole house or bungalow: Total | 260 |
| Whole house or bungalow: Detached | 42 |
| Whole house or bungalow: Semi-detached | 109 |
| Whole house or bungalow: Terraced (including end-terrace) | 109 |
| Flat, maisonette or apartment, or mobile/temporary accommodation | 246 |

Source: ONS Census 2011

Census Table QS401EW “Accommodation type – People” does however provide some additional detail and context in relation to the total population living in a caravan. In Cardiff, 243 people were recorded as living within a ‘Caravan or other mobile or temporary structure’ as shown in the extract below:

Extract of Table QS401EW

| Dwelling Type | People |
|--|---------------|
| All categories: Accommodation type | 334,551 |
| Whole house or bungalow: Total | 274,883 |
| Detached | 52,472 |
| Semi-detached | 107,782 |
| Terraced (including end-terrace) | 114,629 |
| Flat, maisonette or apartment: Total | 58,536 |
| Purpose-built block of flats or tenement | 43,983 |
| Part of a converted or shared house (including bed-sits) | 12,156 |
| In commercial building | 2,397 |
| Caravan or other mobile or temporary structure | 243 |

Source: ONS Census 2011

¹ Source: ONS Census 2011, Table QS211EW - Ethnic group (detailed)

² Undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments, Welsh Government (2015)

³ Source: ONS Census 2011, Table DC2121EW - Ethnic group by accommodation type

In addition to this, Travellers Education Services currently have 273 families recorded on their database and Gypsy and Traveller Wales have provided advice and support to 150 households over the last 2 years. It will be seen later in the report how these families formed the basis of the study's attempt to engage as widely as possible with Gypsies and Travellers who do not reside on the Local Authority sites. Health Services were unable to provide figures but were represented on the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Steering Group and provided direct assistance through helping to inform and encourage engagement during the period in which the surveys were being carried out.

2.3 Caravan Count and Current Accommodation Provision

The Welsh Government produce a biannual statistical report on Gypsy and Traveller caravans on both authorised and unauthorised sites in Wales using data collected and submitted by each local authority. The figures provided by Cardiff since January 2014 are shown below:

| Survey Date | Authorised Sites | Unauthorised Sites | Number of Caravans on Authorised Sites | Number of Caravans on Unauthorised Sites |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| January 2014 | 4 | 3 | 158 | 29 |
| July 2014 | 4 | 5 | 131 | 35 |
| January 2015 | 4 | 7 | 146 | 31 |
| July 2015 | 4 | 4 | 137 | 32 |

A further breakdown of the July 2015 result showed the following:

| | Authorised Local Authority Sites | Authorised Private Sites | Number of Caravans on Gypsies and Travellers own land | Number of Caravans on Gypsies and Travellers own land | Number of Caravans on land not owned by Gypsies and Travellers | Number of Caravans on land not owned by Gypsies and Travellers |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Tolerated | Not Tolerated | Tolerated | Not Tolerated |
| Number of Caravans | 130 | 7 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 7 |

The total number of caravans has remained reasonably stable over this period. However, it should be noted that the current data would now show a change. There are now 3 authorised private sites with 12 caravans in total and 1 unauthorised private site containing 12 caravans which is now at the final stages of gaining planning permission.

There are currently 80 residential pitches on Local Authority sites made up of 59 at Shirenewton and 21 at Rover Way. The total count of 130 caravans on these sites provides an indication of a measure of over-occupation.

2.4 Unauthorised Encampments

The Local Authority has a policy for responding to unauthorised encampments within its boundaries. The policy was developed over a number of years and more recently reviewed to ensure that it adhered to the principles set out in the Welsh Government Guidance on Managing Unauthorised Camping (2013). The 2015/16 figures to date can be seen in the table below.

| Unauthorised Encampments in Cardiff 2015/16 | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Date Reported | Location | Number of Vehicles | Date Ended | Total Days |
| 26/03/2015 | Nettlefold Road | 1 | 09/04/2015 | 9 |
| 05/06/2015 | Hendre lake | 12 | 09/06/2015 | 4 |
| 17/06/2015 | Capel Gwilym Road | 10 | 20/06/2015 | 3 |
| 14/07/2015 | Willowbrook Drive | 17 | 22/07/2015 | 8 |
| 06/08/2015 | Pen y Bryn | 37 | 08/08/2015 | 2 |
| 07/08/2015 | Nettlefold Road | 4 | 18/08/2015 | 11 |
| 10/08/2015 | Hendre Lake | 30 | 13/08/2015 | 3 |
| 25/09/2015 | Trowbridge Green | 4 | 30/09/2015 | 5 |
| 05/10/2015 | Community Centre St Melons | 8 | 09/10/2015 | 4 |
| 09/11/2015 | Cardiff East Park and Ride | 24 | 13/11/2015 | 4 |
| 19/11/2015 | Cardiff East Park and Ride | 24 | 26/11/2015 | 7 |
| 23/11/2015 | Nettlefold Road | 2 | 02/12/2015 | 9 |
| 02/12/2015 | Ocean Park | 2 | 13/12/2015 | 11 |

There has been an increase in frequency this year and even more significantly on the number of vehicles contained within some of these encampments, both of which support the need for transit provision.

Chapter Three: Methodology

3.1 Project Steering Group

A Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Steering Group was established in the lead up to the survey period which then met on a monthly basis throughout. At the last meeting in December 2015, it was agreed that the group would reform in early 2016 to allow further consultation with stakeholders and develop effective community engagement during the critical period of the site search and assessment process.

Having agreed that all appropriate agencies had been invited to take part, the main objective for the Steering Group was to publicise the study to as many people as possible using all established contact with Gypsies and Travellers in Cardiff. In doing this, it was agreed that, to encourage full participation, it was very important to stress to people the duty that now fell on the Local Authority to meet the assessed need as part of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014. The Group then oversaw the process during the survey period, monitoring the level of engagement and continuing to look at ways to maximise this (both at the meetings and in ongoing individual dialogue between partners as the survey progressed).

The Steering Group also approved the recommendation to use the Research Unit within Cardiff Council to carry out the analysis of the surveys to ensure both consistency and accuracy.

The membership of the Steering Group contained representation from a number of different organisations which are shown below.

- Cardiff Council – Housing
- Cardiff Council – Strategic Planning
- Cardiff Council – Travellers Education
- Cardiff Council – Flying Start (including Health Visitors)
- Cardiff & The Vale – Community Cohesion
- STAR – Communities First
- South Wales Police – Community Engagement
- Gypsy and Traveller Wales
- Save the Children – Travelling Ahead
- Romani Arts (unable to attend meetings but minutes provided for comment and suggestion)

3.2 Study Methodology and Participating Organisations

The Council's Working Group gave consideration to different methods of undertaking the assessment, which included using internal staff and the use of a tendering process, before deciding on extending the existing Service Level Agreement with Gypsy and Traveller Wales to allow them to carry out the surveys with the Council's Research Unit then completing the analysis. The main reasons for this was that it was anticipated that Gypsy and Traveller Wales would be in a strong position to achieve a high level of participation and the welcomed clarity of the Welsh Government's guidance which now gave a more prescriptive process that would allow it to be carried out in-house.. The Local Authority was confident that this methodology would considerably increase the participation level that had gained only 60 respondents in 2013. The survey period was set for 1st September 2015 to 4th December 2015.

The terms agreed with Gypsy and Traveller Wales were that they would ensure a direct approach was made with all those residing on the Local Authority sites (with assistance from Cardiff Council staff), households living on private sites, all households not occupying residential pitches that had accessed their services over the previous 2 years and all unauthorised encampments in Cardiff during the survey period. The survey would be undertaken using the standard questionnaire contained within the Welsh Government guidance.

In addition to this, whilst unable to share their records with Gypsy and Traveller Wales, Travellers Education would send letters to all households on their database inviting people to take part. This also extended to speaking to people directly 'at the school gates' to encourage participation and to ask that they help spread the word to any family members and other associates. Those that wanted to participate could either be referred to Gypsy and Traveller Wales or complete the survey with Travellers Education staff (allowing confirmation of their participation to be passed on to Gypsy and Traveller Wales to avoid duplication as their records would inevitably contain replication).

The other organisations represented on the Steering Group volunteered to make sure that they

publicised the study directly with people during all of their day to day contact throughout the survey period. Finally, towards the later stages of the survey period, Travelling Ahead agreed to undertake sessions on the Local Authority sites where they would speak with residents to ensure they had fully understood the purpose of the study so that they might want to urge family members and / or other associates to complete a survey where they thought it would be in their interest.

In the lead up and throughout the survey period opportunities were taken to publicise the assessment. This included playing the DVD prepared by the Welsh Government at events such as the Macmillan Coffee Morning arranged by residents of Shirenewton.

The Local Authority made contact with the South Wales branch of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain. They had placed an advert in The World's Fair newspaper which they reported was very widely read amongst travelling showpeople. The advert advised people to contact them or the local authority directly but no approach was made in relation to Cardiff. The Guild reported that they would be interested to hear of progress in relation to transit provision but stated their main concern was the availability of Winter Quarters, which was not covered under this assessment. They may make contact again to discuss this issue separately.

Cardiff's General Housing Waiting List, the list of homeless families in temporary accommodation during the survey period and the Local Authority Gypsy and Traveller Waiting List were all used to identify people who had self-ascribed their ethnicity as 'Gypsy Traveller'. Due to the same confidentiality issues, the letters distributed to the families on the Travellers Education database were also sent to households on the General Housing Waiting List and to those on the Local Authority Gypsy and Traveller Waiting List who did not reside on the sites. The Council staff were able to approach each of the households on the Gypsy and Traveller Waiting List currently residing on the sites, all of whom agreed to take part. The council were aware of 2 families who had left the sites to live on other sites away from Cardiff but who still wished to remain on the waiting list. After contact with these families had been unsuccessful in the survey period, it was decided that both families should be included in the identified need. No families were found to be in homeless temporary accommodation.

Contact has been maintained with neighbouring local authorities in relation to the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment to ensure effective information sharing. This included matters such as people who were residing within one local authority but reported that they owed land in another on which they wished to develop a private site and liaison to identify the exact location of a reported encampment close to the boundary. Perhaps most importantly, formal discussion has started on a regional response to transit provision and a first meeting of Housing and Planning officers from the membership of the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group has been arranged in January 2016.

3.3 Engagement Checklist

The Local Authority and Steering Group paid particular attention to the engagement checklist contained in the Welsh Government guidance to make sure that a robust system was in place. The measures taken can be described against each heading.

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Visit every Gypsy and Traveller household identified through the data analysis process up to 3 times, if necessary.</p> | <p>Gypsy and Traveller Wales made a direct approach to all households on the Local Authority sites, all private sites and each household that had accessed its services within the last 2 years. This continued until the survey was completed; the household declined to take part; it was evident that the family were no longer at that address; or that 3 visits had been carried out without success.</p> <p>In addition to this, because the information could not be shared directly with Gypsy and Traveller Wales for reasons of confidentiality, letters were sent out to every family on the Travellers Education database (where the address could be verified). Together with discussion 'at the school gates' this ensured that opportunity to engage was widened as far as possible from the known records that were held. This measure led directly to a number of the completed interviews that were conducted.</p> <p>The interview logs are shown in the background papers.</p> |
| <p>Publish details of the GTAA process, including contact details to allow community members to request an interview, on the Local Authority website, Travellers' Times website and World's Fair publication</p> | <p>Direct contact from the community was invited through Welsh Government adverts placed in the Travellers' Times and The World's Fair (which the Showmen's Guild had also used) and Local Authority publicity. No approach was received.</p> |
| <p>Consult relevant community support organisations.</p> | <p>As shown from the Steering Group and the methodology used, the Local Authority sought and gained the involvement of all agencies that have direct contact with the community in Cardiff in addition to an approach to external providers who may have knowledge of people in Cardiff.</p> |
| <p>Develop a Local Authority waiting list for both pitches and housing, which is accessible and communicated to community members.</p> | <p>The Local Authority have accessible General and Gypsy and Traveller waiting lists in place. All those identifying as 'Gypsy Traveller' were included in the invitations to take part in the survey.</p> |
| <p>Endeavour to include Gypsies and Travellers on the GTAA project steering group</p> | <p>The approach adopted in Cardiff was to make a direct approach to everyone included in the records held by each organisation and that through this contact invitation would be made for them to identify further family members or associates who may want to get involved. Travelling Ahead also followed up with sessions at both Local Authority sites to ensure residents</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| | fully understood the purpose of the study so that they might want to identify more people they thought it would be in their interest to take part. A number of interviews were included as a direct result of this measure. Consultation was undertaken on the methodology and representation from Gypsies and Travellers is now being arranged for the forthcoming site selection process. |
| Ensure contact details provided to the Local Authority by community members through the survey process are followed up and needs assessed. | As stated, all information provided to the Council, Travellers Education and Travelling Ahead were followed up and the assessment form was completed in each case. |
| Consider holding on-site (or nearby) GTAA information events to explain why community members should participate and encourage site residents to bring others who may not be known to the Local Authority. | The Welsh Government DVD was played at events on site and a direct approach was made to all households on the sites, both agreement holders and those on the waiting list. As described, methods were in place to ask community members taking part in the survey to publicise it to others that might want to participate. |

Chapter Four: Survey Findings

All completed questionnaires were submitted to the Research Unit within the Local Authority to carry out a full analysis. Due to the high number of people engaging with each organisation and Gypsies and Travellers themselves spreading the word, more than 400 households were approached to take part in the assessment from which 172 completed the survey. This is very nearly three times the number that participated in the 2013 study. The only difficulty encountered by Gypsy and Traveller Wales and Travellers Education was that some addresses could not be recognised or that the families had moved but not updated the organisation. There was a 100% completion level on the Local Authority sites (although 1 family who had stated a preference to complete the survey with a Social Worker rather than the Council or Gypsy and Traveller Wales later decided that they did not wish to submit the form). With 45.2% of all respondents living off the Local Authority sites (in either bricks and mortar, private sites or unauthorised encampments) it can be seen that the survey successfully engaged with a wide cross-section of the community. The results of the survey are as follows:

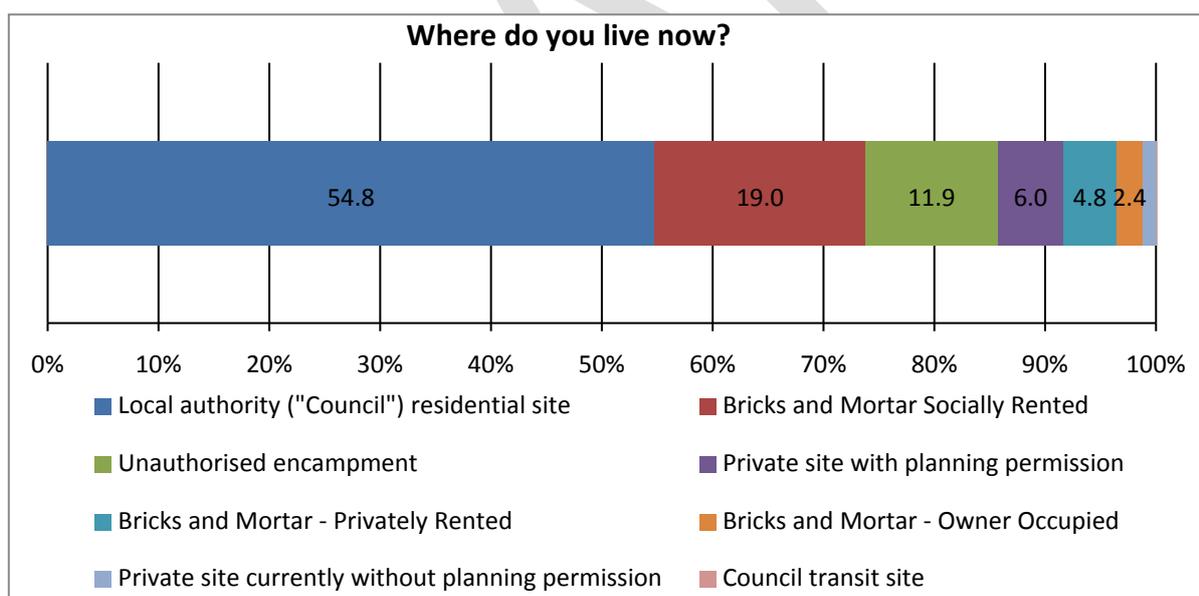
Note – Where figures do not add up to the expected 172 respondents this is explained by different sections of the form not being completed in all cases.

4.1 Section A – Your Home

A1. Where do you live now?

Over a half (54.8%) of respondents to the survey claimed to live on a Local Authority (council) residential site. Almost one in five (19.0%) of respondents claimed to live in Bricks and Mortar socially rented accommodation, whilst over one in ten (11.9%) stated that they lived on an unauthorised encampment.

| | No. | % |
|---|------------|--------------|
| Local authority ("Council") residential site | 92 | 54.8 |
| Bricks and Mortar Socially Rented | 32 | 19.0 |
| Unauthorised encampment | 20 | 11.9 |
| Private site with planning permission | 10 | 6.0 |
| Bricks and Mortar - Privately Rented | 8 | 4.8 |
| Bricks and Mortar - Owner Occupied | 4 | 2.4 |
| Private site currently without planning permission | 2 | 1.2 |
| Council transit site | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 168 | 100.0 |



A2. Are you satisfied with your current accommodation?

Over seven in ten (71.9%) suggested that they were happy with their current living accommodation, whilst over a quarter (26.3%) claimed to be unhappy.

| | No. | % |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 123 | 71.9 |
| No | 45 | 26.3 |
| Prefer not to say | 3 | 1.8 |
| Total | 171 | 100.0 |

Respondents who stated they were not happy with their accommodation and of whom left a valid reason why have been categorised below:

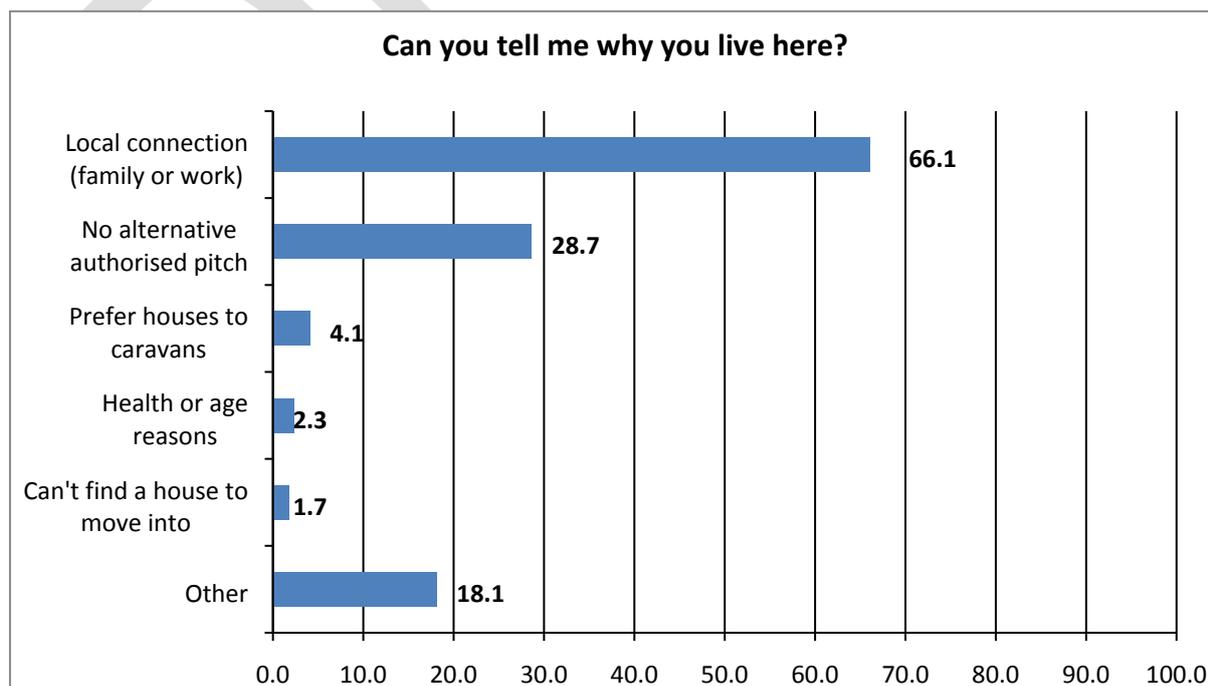
| | No. | % |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Repairs | 13 | 19.4 |
| Need own plot /Would prefer to live on a site | 16 | 23.9 |
| Access to transit site & Waste disposal or collection facilities | 20 | 29.9 |
| Pitch Unsafe | 13 | 19.4 |
| Awaiting Planning permission | 2 | 3.0 |
| Miscellaneous | 8 | 11.9 |
| Total Respondents | 67 | - |

N.B. Total respondents here are higher than total respondents that indicated they weren't happy with current accommodation due to people who were happy highlighting improvements.

The level of respondents unhappy with their current accommodation would be expected in relation to some overcrowding on Local Authority sites, people in bricks and mortar stating they would want to live on a site if pitches were available, the known issues at Rover Way and households in unauthorised encampments expressing the need for transit provision.

A3. Can you tell me why you live here?

Local connection (family or work) was the stand out reason why people chose to live in their current accommodation with two thirds (66.1%) of respondents citing this option. This was followed by almost three in ten (28.7%) of respondents who stated that no alternative authorised pitch was the reason they live where they do.

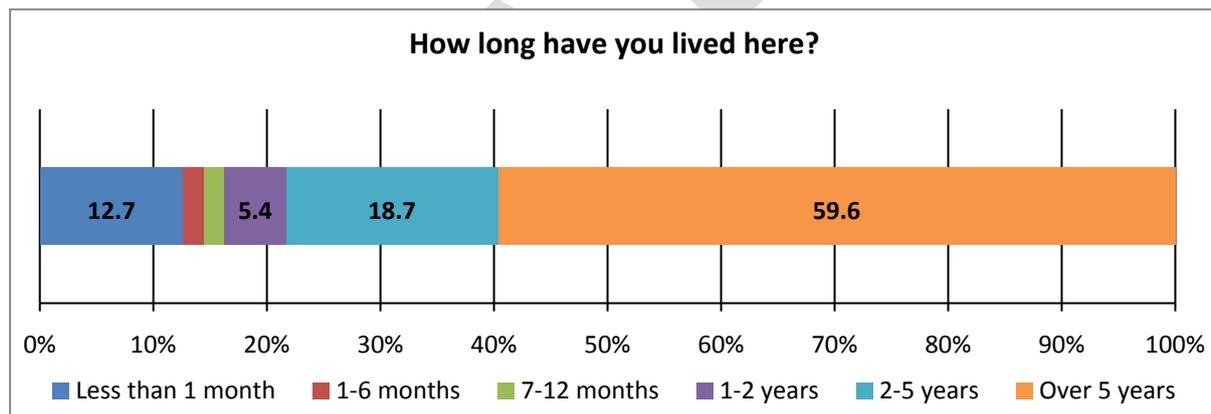


Almost a fifth of respondents indicated 'Other' as their reason for their current accommodation, these have been categorised and can be seen below:

| | No. |
|------------------------|-----|
| Nowhere else to go | 15 |
| Family Reasons | 8 |
| Miscellaneous | 4 |
| Fled Domestic Violence | 2 |

A4. How long have you lived here?

Three fifths (59.6%) of people interviewed stated that they'd been in their current accommodation for over 5 years, while almost a quarter (24.1%) had been there for 1 – 5 years. In contrast one in eight (12.7%) had only been in their current accommodation for less than a month.



A5. If you have moved in the last year, was your last home in the Local Authority?

Respondents who cited that they'd moved within the last year were then asked if their last home was within the Local Authority. Over eight in ten (82.1%) claimed that their last home was outside the Local Authority.

| | No | % |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Yes | 10 | 17.9 |
| No | 46 | 82.1 |
| Total | 56 | 100.0 |

With the ten respondents who had previously lived in the local authority the subject of the following questions, responses were low.

Type of Accommodation

Of the 8 respondents who had moved in the last year there was a fairly even split between accommodation types with Private Rent, Encampment and Caravan all scoring 25.0%.

| Type of Accommodation | No. | % |
|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Private Rent | 2 | 25 |
| Encampment | 2 | 25 |
| Caravan | 2 | 25 |
| Socially rented Bricks & Mortar | 1 | 12.5 |
| House | 1 | 12.5 |
| Total | 8 | 100.0 |

Did it have planning permission?

Of the 3 respondents to this section of the question, only a third (33.3%) of respondents who had moved in the last year had planning permission.

| Did it have planning permission? | No. | % |
|---|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 1 | 33.3 |
| No | 2 | 66.7 |
| Total | 3 | 100.0 |

Which Local Authority was it in?

Only 6 interviewees left a valid response to this question, of those whom did over eight in ten (83.3%) stated that if they'd moved in the last year it was in the Cardiff Local Authority.

| Which Local Authority was it in? | No. | % |
|---|------------|--------------|
| Cardiff | 5 | 83.3 |
| Coventry | 1 | 16.7 |
| Total | 6 | 100.0 |

Why did you leave?

7 Respondents left a reason as to why they left, reasons for leaving were fairly evenly split with 'Overcrowding', 'Domestic violence' and 'Couldn't stay on encampment' all scoring 28.6%)

| Why did you leave? | No. | % |
|-----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Overcrowded | 2 | 28.6 |
| Domestic Violence | 2 | 28.6 |
| Couldn't Stay On Encampment | 2 | 28.6 |
| Wasn't permanent | 1 | 14.3 |
| Total | 7 | 100.0 |

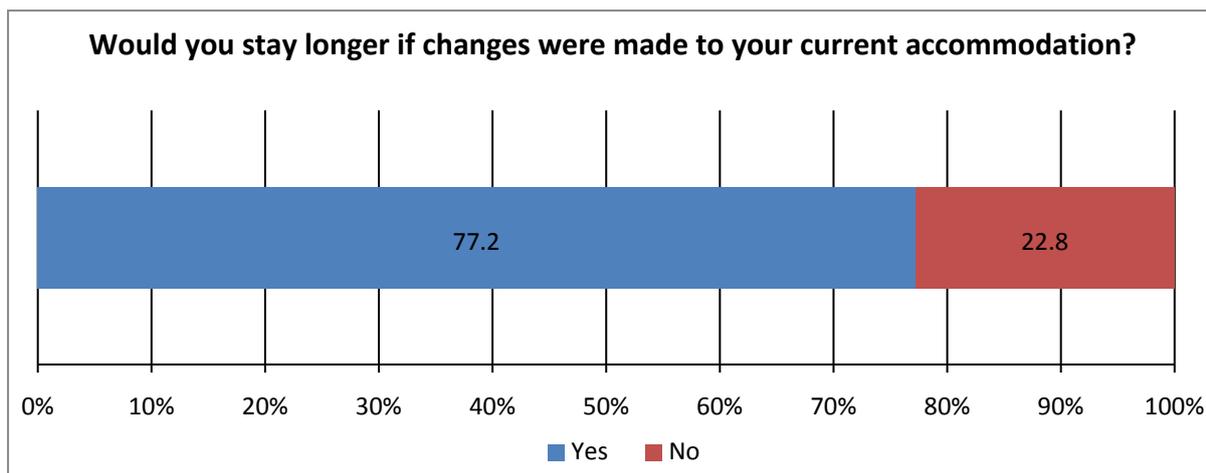
A6. How long do you think you'll stay here?

When interviewees were asked how long they intended to stay, three fifths (59.6%) stated that had no intention of moving, whilst just under a third (32.5%) claimed they didn't know how long they'd be there for. This was largely due to the fact that most of these were illegally camped and were at risk of potentially being moved on.

| | No | % |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| 1 or 2 days | 0 | 0.0 |
| 3-28 days | 8 | 4.8 |
| 1-3 months | 0 | 0.0 |
| 3 months - 2 years | 0 | 0.0 |
| 2-5 years | 0 | 0.0 |
| Over 5 years | 5 | 3.0 |
| Do not intend to move | 99 | 59.6 |
| Don't know | 54 | 32.5 |
| Total | 166 | 100.0 |

A7. Would you stay longer if changes were made to your current accommodation?

Over three quarters (77.2%) of respondents claimed they would stay longer if changes were made to their current accommodation.



The two main reasons that would encourage respondents to stay longer in their current accommodation were repairs being carried out and an enlargement of the site (both 54.0%). These were closely followed by the accommodation being made safer, which was highlighted by over two in five (44.0%) respondents.

| Reason | No | % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------|
| Repairs needed | 27 | 54.0 |
| Site made bigger | 27 | 54.0 |
| Accommodation made safer | 22 | 44.0 |
| Adaptions needed | 8 | 16.0 |
| Planning permission granted | 2 | 4.0 |
| Total Respondents | 50 | - |

Totals do not sum to 100% as respondents could give more than one answer

Over two-fifths (44.1%) of respondents claimed that living in a caravan was their main reason for not staying longer if changes or improvements were made to their current accommodation, whilst just over one in nine (11.8%) cited broken down relationships.

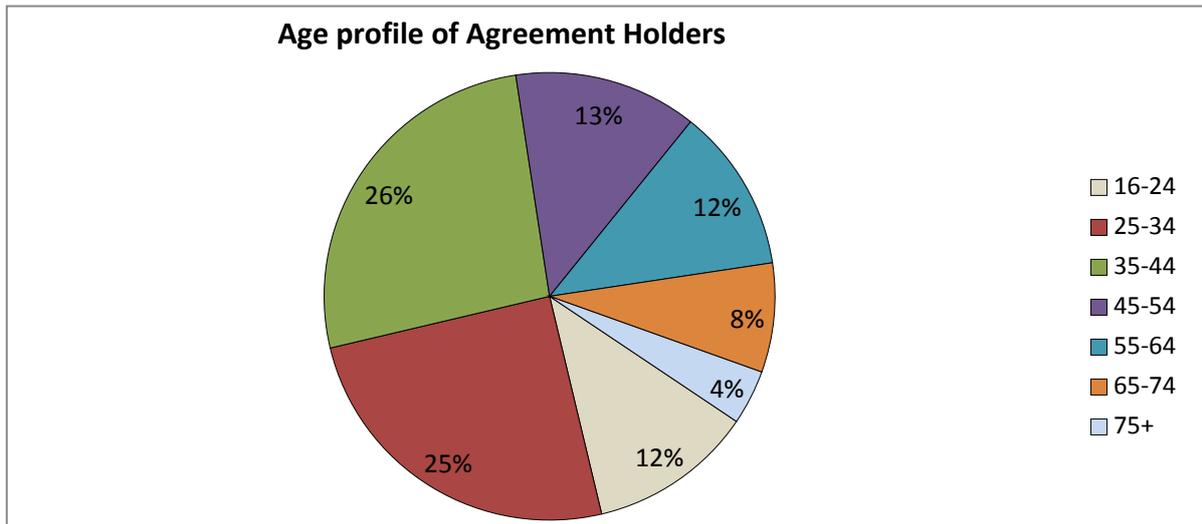
| Reason | No | % |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Prefer living in caravan | 15 | 44.1 |
| Just passing through | 10 | 29.4 |
| Want to move into housing | 6 | 17.6 |
| Want authorised pitch in other area | 5 | 14.7 |
| Relationships broken down | 4 | 11.8 |
| Total Respondents | 34 | - |

Totals do not sum to 100% as respondents could give more than one answer

4.2 Section B – Your Family

Profile of Agreement Holders

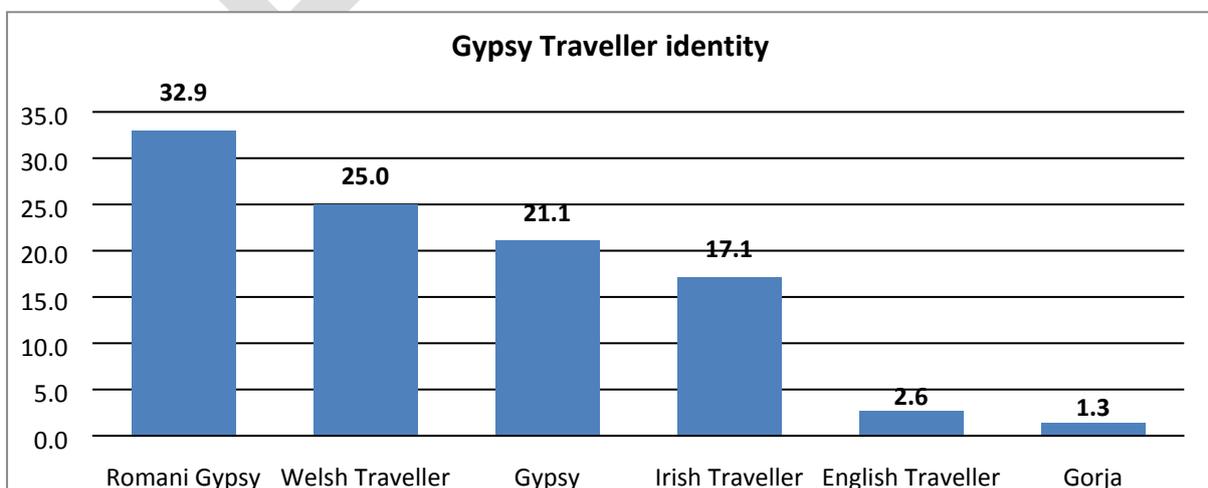
Over a half (51.0%) of agreement holders were aged between 25 – 44, whilst only one in eight (12.0%) were aged 65 and above.



Over eight tenths (83.1%) of agreement holders were female.

| | No. | % |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Male | 13 | 16.9 |
| Female | 64 | 83.1 |
| Total | 77 | 100.0 |

A third (32.9%) of agreement holders were Romani Gypsy, this was followed by a quarter (25.0%) that were Welsh Travellers, whilst less than one in six (17.1%) were Irish Travellers.



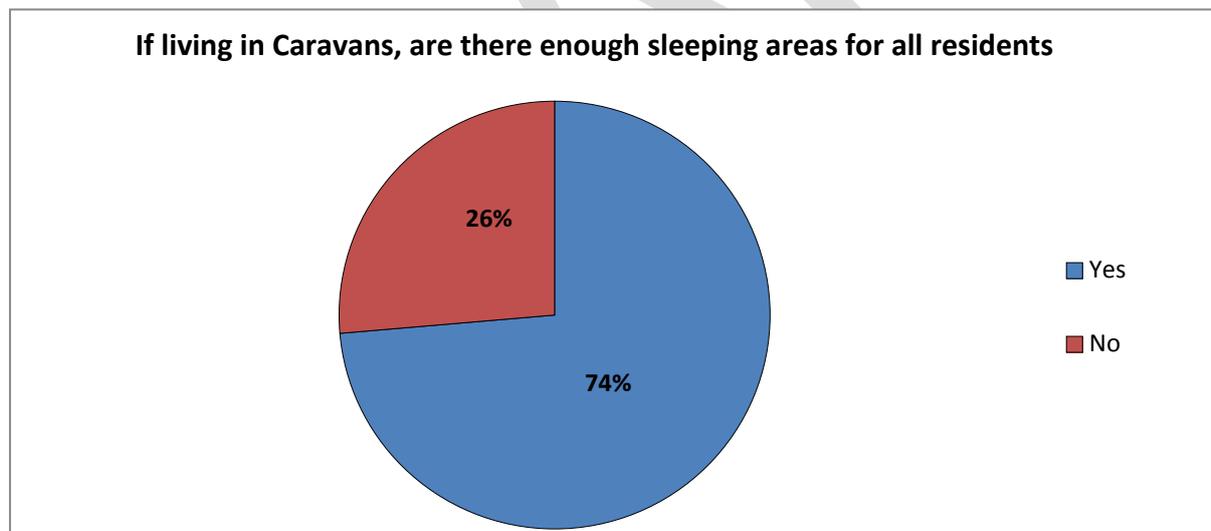
B1. Do you live in caravans?

An overwhelming proportion (96.6%) of interviewees who responded to question stated that they lived in caravans.

| | No. | % |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 112 | 96.6 |
| No | 4 | 3.4 |
| Total | 116 | 100.0 |

B2. If living in Caravans, are there enough sleeping areas for all residents?

Respondents who claimed to live in a caravan were then asked if they believed there were enough sleeping areas for all residents. Three quarters (74.0%) of respondents stated that there were sufficient areas.



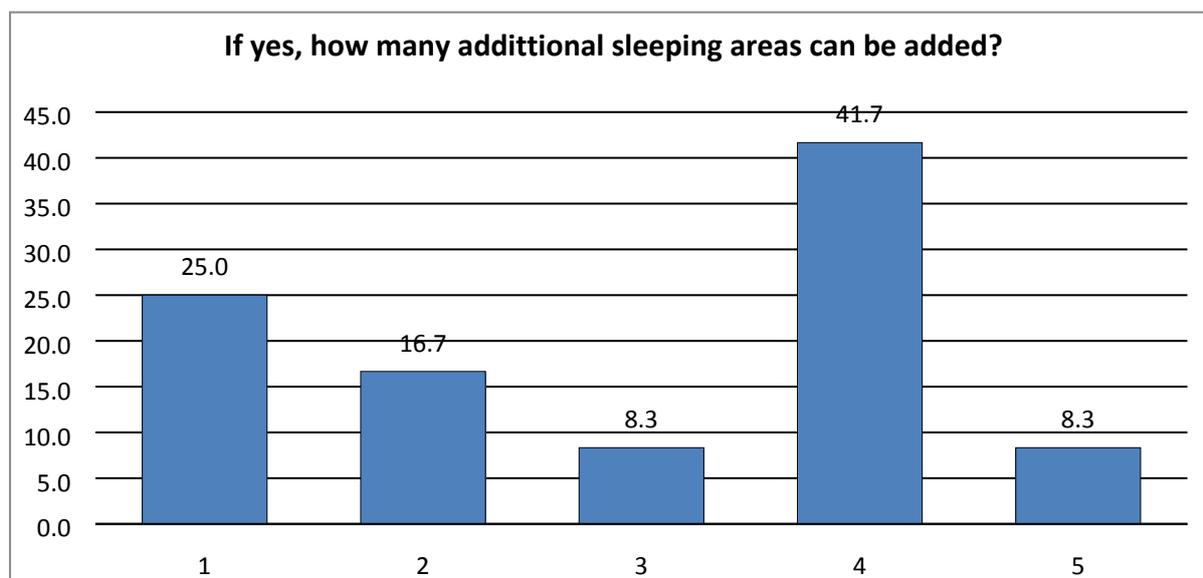
B3. Is there room on the pitch for additional trailers to prevent overcrowding?

There was a fairly even split between respondents who claimed there was room for additional trailers to prevent overcrowding (53.6%) and those that stated there was insufficient space (46.4%).

| | No. | % |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Yes | 37 | 53.6 |
| No | 32 | 46.4 |
| Total | 69 | 100.0 |

If yes, how many additional sleeping areas can be added?

Respondents who claimed there was room on the pitch for additional trailers were then asked to state how many sleeping areas they felt could be added. Over two in five (41.7%) suggested there was room for another 4 sleeping areas, whilst a quarter (25.0%) claimed there was only room for one more sleeping area to be added to their site.



B4. Would anyone in your family like to join the Local Authority waiting list for pitches or housing?

Almost three-tenths (28.8%) of respondents claimed that somebody in their family would like to join the Local Authority waiting list for pitches or housing.

| | No. | % |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 46 | 28.8 |
| No | 114 | 71.3 |
| Total | 160 | 100.0 |

4.3 Section C – Your Plans

C1. Are you planning to move into other accommodation?

Over a quarter (26.2%) of respondents suggested they were planning to move into other accommodation, whilst almost three-quarters (73.2%) claimed they had no plans to move.

| | No. | % |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 44 | 26.2 |
| No | 123 | 73.2 |
| Prefer not to say | 1 | 0.6 |
| Total | 168 | 100.0 |

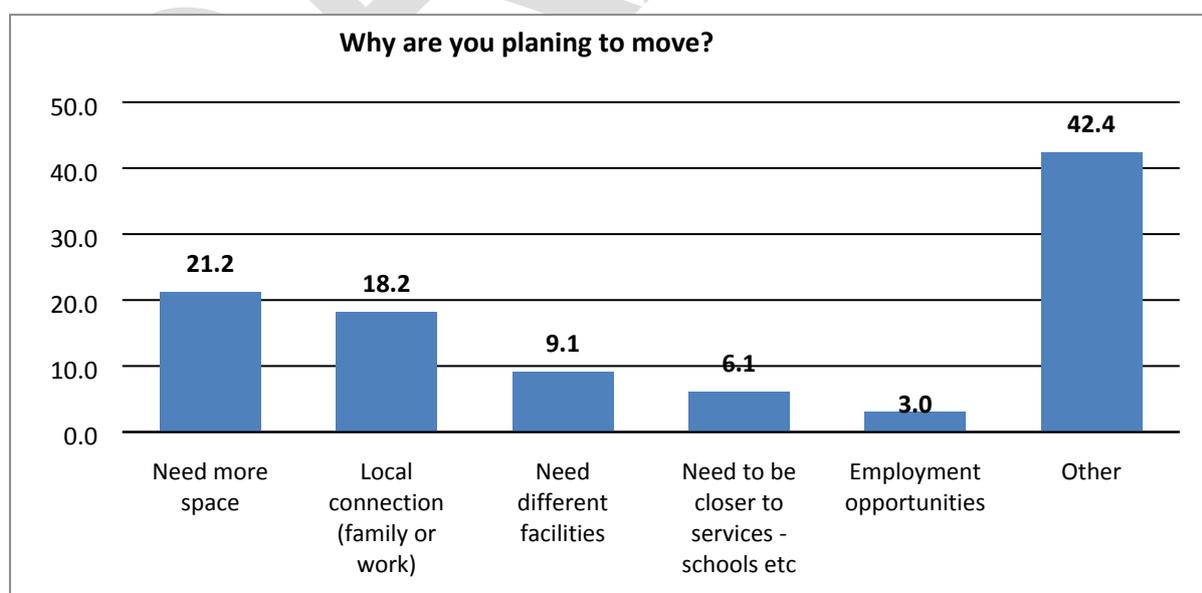
C2. Where are you planning to move to?

Interviewees who claimed they were planning to move were then asked to indicate where they planned to move, two thirds (66.7%) planned to move within the Local Authority, whilst three in ten (30.8%) were planning to move somewhere else in the UK, reflecting the responses received from unauthorised transit encampments during the survey .

| | No. | % |
|---|-----------|--------------|
| Within the Local Authority | 26 | 66.7 |
| Another Local Authority in Wales – Please state which | 1 | 2.6 |
| Somewhere else in the UK | 12 | 30.8 |
| Total | 39 | 100.0 |

C3. Why are you planning to move?

The two main reasons respondents gave for planning to move were that they needed more space and because of a local connection (family or work) with 21.2% and 18.2% of responses respectively.



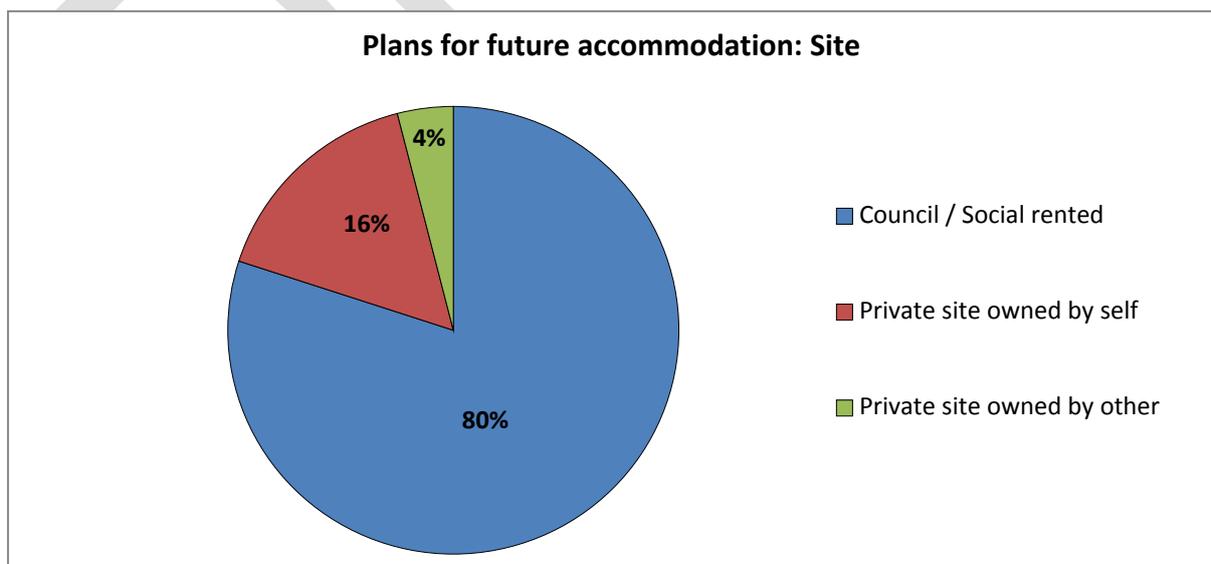
| | |
|--|------------|
| Respondents who indicated 'Other' as the reason they were planning to leave have been categorised and can be seen below. | No. |
| Family Reasons / Fleeing domestic violence | 6 |
| Feel Isolated | 3 |
| Can't stay on Encampment | 7 |
| Want own pitch | 7 |
| Have somewhere else to go | 3 |
| Total Respondents | 26 |

C4. What type of accommodation are you planning to move to?

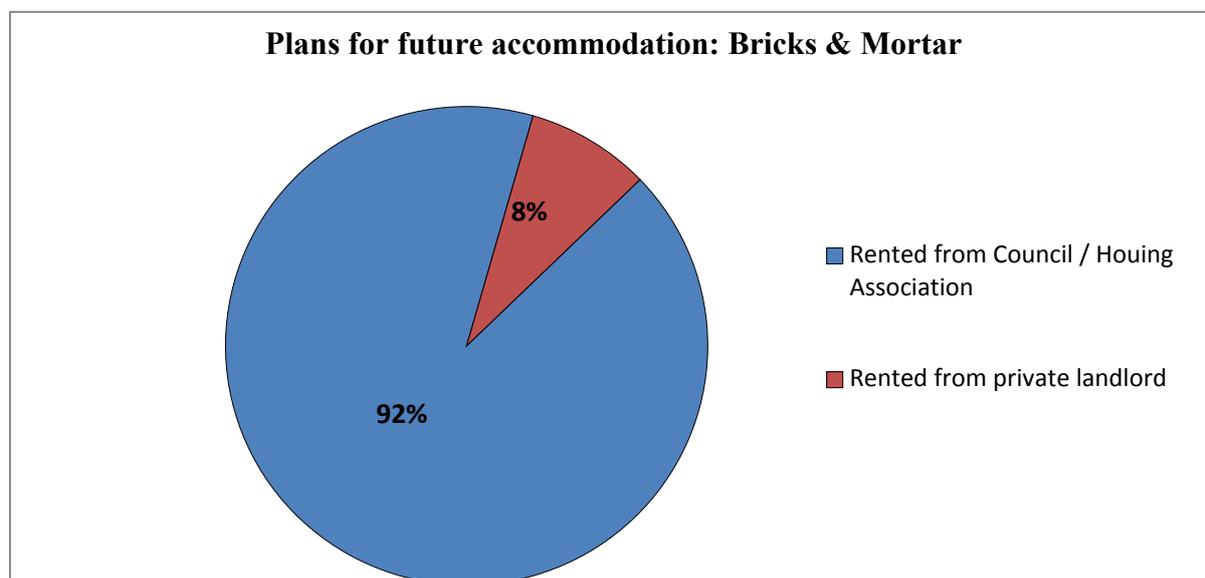
Seven in ten (70.7%) of respondents indicated that they would like to move into a site, whilst three in ten (29.3%) give Bricks & Mortar as their chosen accommodation preference.

| | No. | % |
|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| Site | 29 | 70.7 |
| Bricks & Mortar | 12 | 29.3 |
| Total | 41 | 100.0 |

Of the respondents who indicated a 'Site' as the type of accommodation they were planning to move to, it can be seen that four in five (80.0%) chose Council / Social rented accommodation.



Of the respondents who indicated Bricks & Mortar as the type of accommodation they were planning to move to, over nine in ten (92.0%) chose 'Rented from Council / Housing Association', whilst just under one in ten (8.0%) highlighted 'Rented from private landlord'.



C5. Do you own land in the Local Authority which you would like to be considered as a possible future site?

Only 2 respondents claimed to own land in the Local Authority which they would like to be considered as a possible future site.

| | No. | % |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Yes | 2 | 4.4 |
| No | 43 | 95.6 |
| Prefer not to say | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 45 | 100.0 |

C6. If you are looking for an authorised pitch, would you live on a site managed by the Local Authority?

Over three quarters (77.5%) of respondents looking for an authorised pitch would be happy to live on a site managed by the Local Authority.

| | No. | % |
|--------------|-----------|------------|
| Yes | 31 | 77.5 |
| No | 9 | 22.5 |
| Total | 40 | 100 |

C7. If an authorised pitch was available in another Local Authority, would you consider moving there?

There was an even split of respondent who would or wouldn't consider moving to another Local Authority, with 51.5% agreeable to a move and 48.5% against a move.

| | No. | % |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Yes | 17 | 51.5 |
| No | 16 | 48.5 |
| Total | 33 | 100.0 |

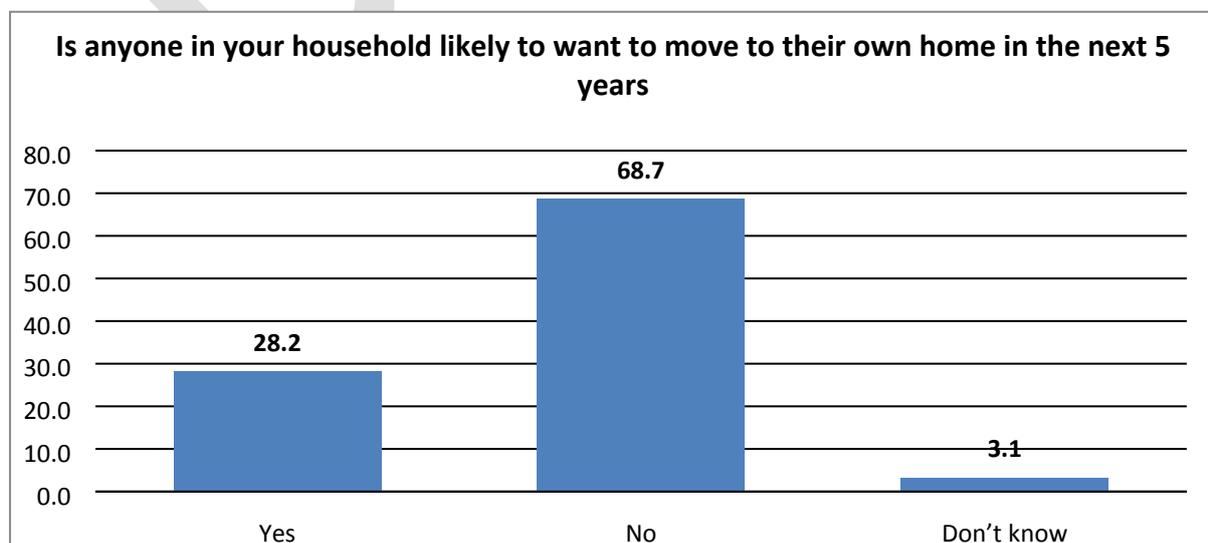
Respondents who would consider moving to another Local Authority were asked to indicate where they'd consider moving, these have been categorised and can be seen below.

| Location | No. |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Any | 4 |
| With Irish Travellers | 3 |
| Newport | 1 |
| Transit Site | 3 |
| Swindon | 1 |
| Total Respondents | 10 |

4.4 Section D – Family Growth

D1. Is anyone in your household likely to want to move to their own home in the next 5 years?

Of the 163 interviewees of whom left a response to this question, 46 respondents (28.2%) claimed that someone within their household was likely to want to move into their own home in the next 5 years, whilst almost seven in ten (112 respondents; 68.7%) stated that there was nobody in their house that would want to move in that time period.



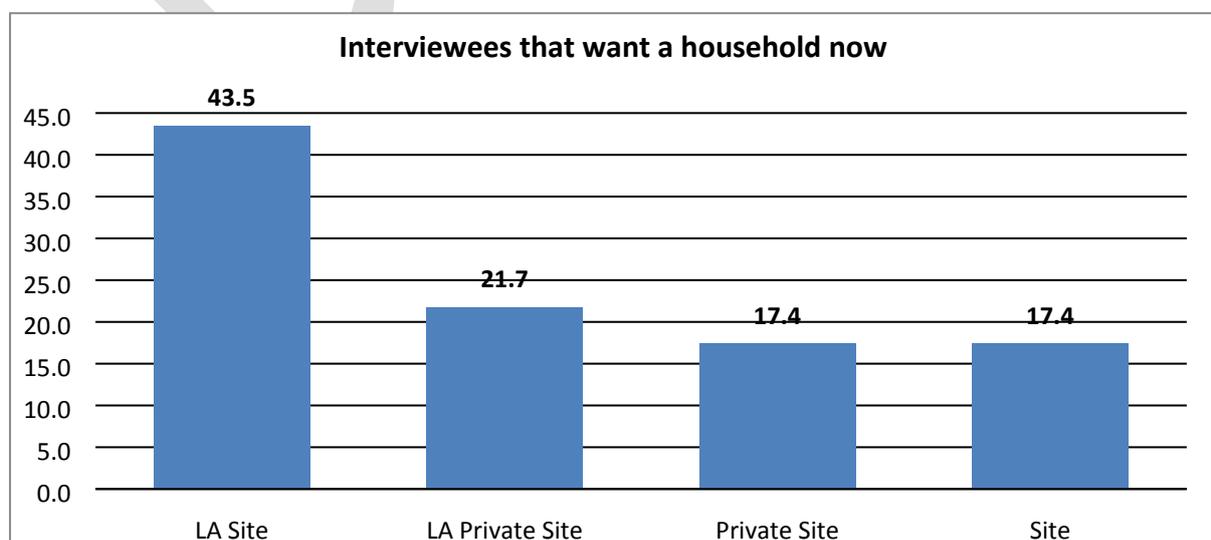
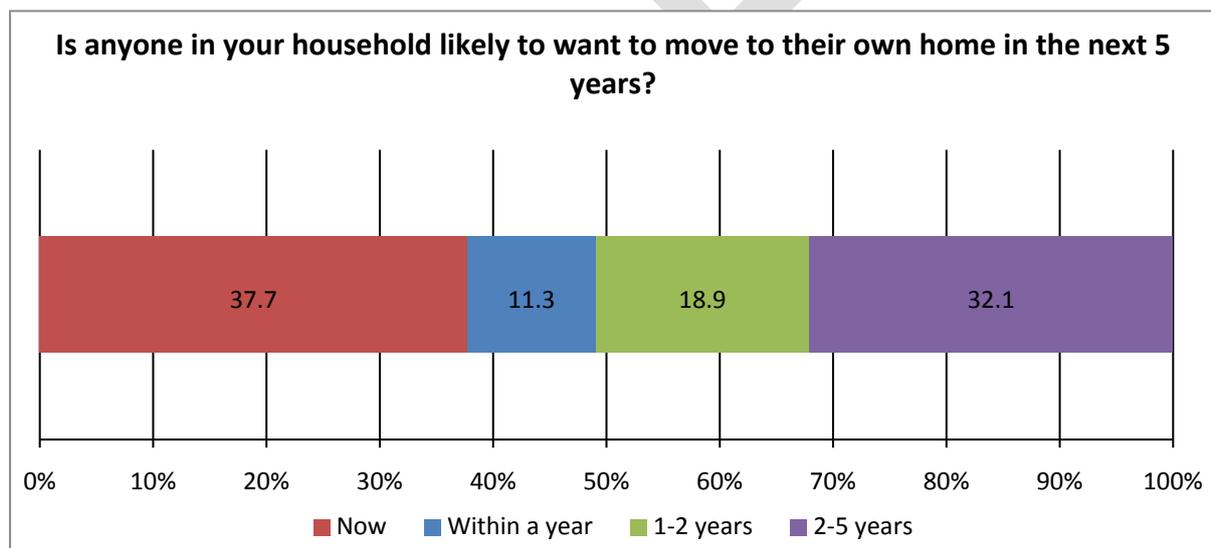
D2. Will this be in this Local Authority?

Of the respondents that suggested someone in their household is likely to want to move to their own home in the next 5 years, eight in ten (79.2%) suggested they would want to remain within this Local Authority.

| | No. | % |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Yes | 38 | 79.2 |
| No | 6 | 12.5 |
| Prefer not to say | 4 | 8.3 |
| Total | 48 | 100.0 |

D3. How many new households will there be and when will they be needed?

The direct responses to this question were as follows:



From careful analysis of each form, taking into account the combination of responses provided to all the questions, the following need for residential pitches was identified:

| | Identified Accommodation Need | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | Now | 1 Year | 1 – 2 Years | 2-5 Years | Total |
| Overcrowded Pitches | 10 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 17 |
| Conventional Housing | 1 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 7 |
| New Households to arrive | 5 | 0 | 8 | 10 | 23 |
| | | | | | Overall Total 47 |

Overcrowding issues could be determined from the ability to accommodate the overall household size and the ability to add to their current provision which meant that it could be measured without a respondent stating the need for more pitch provision. Family growth could be easily measured from current household size against the stated need for increased current and future need.

The issue of cultural aversion to bricks and mortar needed to be assessed on a combination of a number of different factors. These included the length of time in their current accommodation, the desire to move to a Local Authority and/or private site, the expression that people were only occupying bricks and mortar due to the unavailability of a pitch, satisfaction with their accommodation, why people left their previous accommodation, supporting information such as reported harassment where they were living now and people stating that they did not know how long they would stay at their current address where it was apparent that this was due to being unhappy there.

The assessment of people on private sites could only be carried for those who took part in the survey. All residents on these sites were approached and invited to take part but many declined. This made it impossible to fully assess current circumstances and future needs for those families.

D4. Do you have family members living outside this area who camp in this Local Authority?

Over a quarter (27.8%) claimed to have family members living outside the area who camp within this Local Authority, whilst almost seven in ten (69.0%) did not.

| | No. | % |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 44 | 27.8 |
| No | 109 | 69.0 |
| Don't know | 5 | 3.2 |
| Prefer not to say | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 158 | 100.0 |

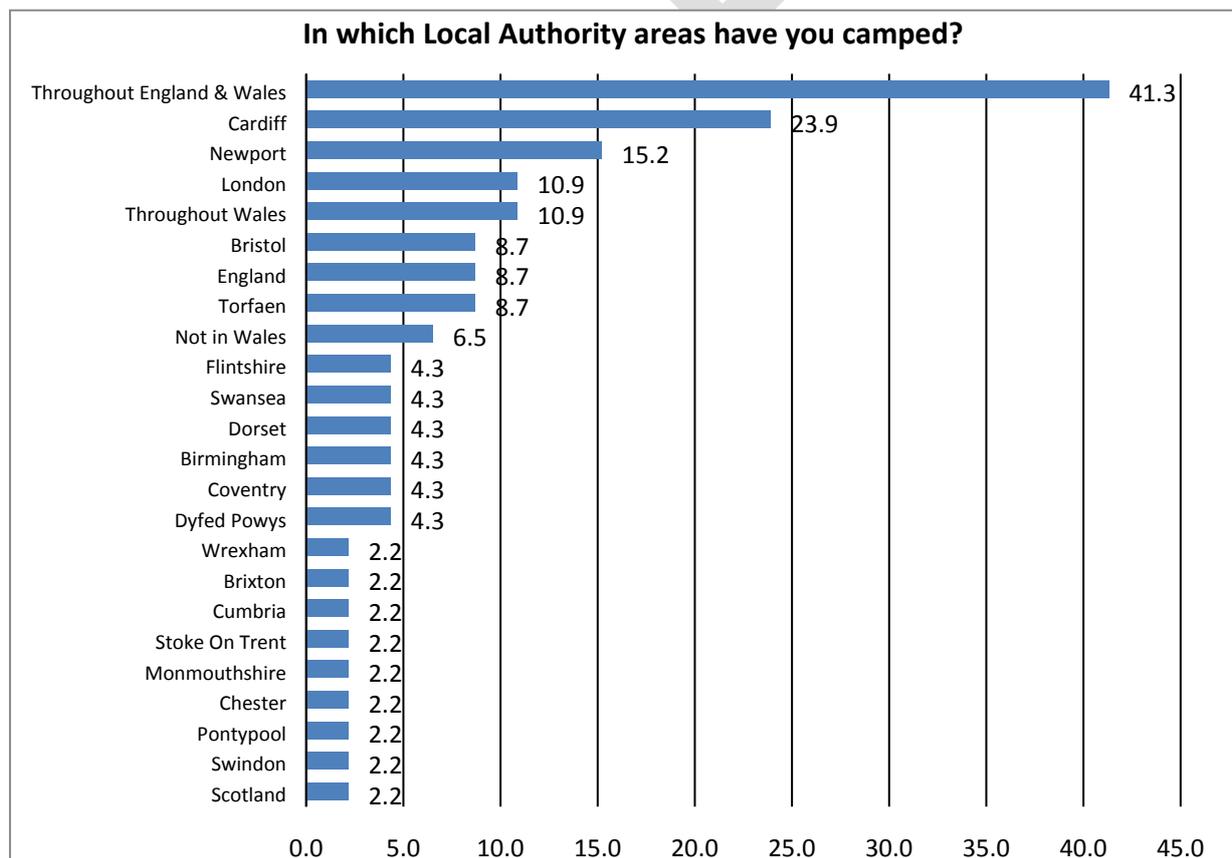
4.5 Section E – Transit Sites

E1. Have you camped by the roadside / on an unauthorised encampment / on a transit site in Wales while travelling in the past year?

| | No. | % |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 49 | 30.4 |
| No | 112 | 69.6 |
| Prefer not to say | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 161 | 100.0 |

E2. In which Local Authority areas have you camped?

Respondents who claimed to have camped by the roadside / on an unauthorised encampment / on a transit site in Wales whilst travelling in the last year were asked to indicate where they'd stayed, these locations have been categorised and can be seen below.



E3. How long would you usually stay in one place whilst travelling?

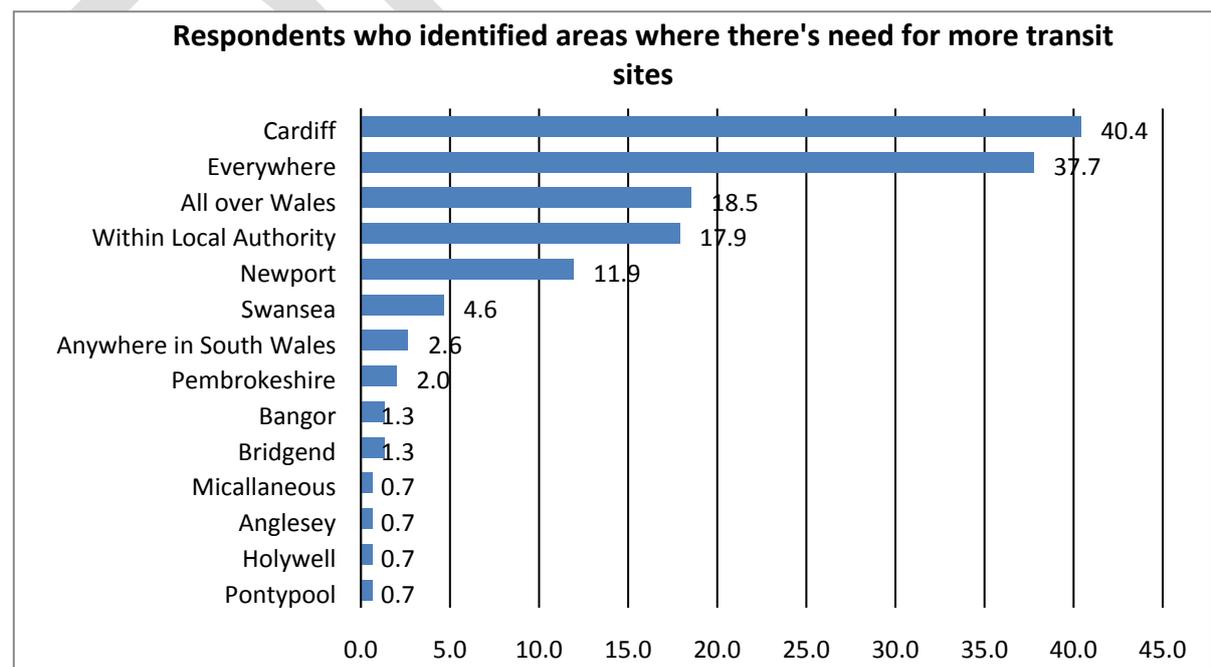
Over two fifths (43.1%) of respondents claimed they would usually stay in one place between 2 weeks and 3 months, whilst over three in ten (31.9%) would usually stay between a day and a week.



E4. Do you think there is a need for more transit sites in Wales?

| | No. | % |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 152 | 93.8 |
| No | 7 | 4.3 |
| Prefer not to say | 3 | 1.9 |
| Total | 162 | 100.0 |

Respondents who indicated there was need for more transit sites were asked to specify an area where they deemed there was a greater need for these sites. Two fifths (40.4%) of respondents felt there was need for more transit sites in Cardiff.



Totals do not sum to 100% as respondents could give more than one answer

Chapter Five: Assessing accommodation needs

5.1 Residential Unmet Need

The overall outcome of the assessment is shown in the table below:

Cardiff GTAA - An estimate of need for residential site pitches -

| Current Residential Supply | | Number of Pitches | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Occupied Local Authority pitches | | 80 | |
| Occupied authorised private pitches | | 12 | |
| Total | | 92 | |
| | | | |
| Planned Residential Supply | | Number of Pitches | |
| Vacant Local Authority pitches and available vacant private pitches | | 0 | |
| Pitches expected to become vacant in near future | | 0 | |
| New local authority and private pitches with planning permission | | 0 | |
| Total | | 0 | |
| | | | |
| Current Residential Demand | | Number of Pitches | |
| Unauthorised encampments | | 1 | |
| | | 1 household identified that they were NFA because of a lack of residential pitches in Cardiff and had strong local connection. The other responses related only to the provision of transit sites in Cardiff. | |
| Unauthorised developments | | 0 | |
| Overcrowded pitches | | 17 | |
| Conventional housing | | 7 | |
| New households to arrive | | 23 | |
| Total | | 48 | |
| | | | |
| Current Households | Future Households (at year 5) | Future Households (at 2026) | |
| 140 | 156 | 179 | |
| Additional household pitch need | 16 | 39 | |
| | | | |
| Unmet Need | Need Arising | | |
| Current residential demand | 48 | | |
| Future residential demand (5 year) | 16 | | |
| Future residential demand (to 2026) | 39 | | |
| Planned residential supply | | | |
| Unmet need (5 year) | 64 pitches | | |
| Unmet need (to 2026) | 87 pitches | | |

There are currently 80 residential pitches on Local Authority sites made up of 59 at Shirenewton and 21 at Rover Way and 12 pitches on three private sites. There are currently no vacant spaces on these sites which would contribute to meeting need for pitches in Cardiff.

There are currently no new local authority pitches with planning permission and no outstanding planning applications on private sites. As indicated in the table 1 household identified that they were NFA because of a lack of residential pitches in Cardiff and had strong local connection. The other responses related only to the provision of transit sites in Cardiff. There are currently also no unauthorised developments within Cardiff.

An anticipated growth rate of 2.25% has been used to project future households as recommended in Welsh Government guidance on undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Assessments.

As described in paragraph 1.2 above, the Local Development Plan has set out a timetable to meet the short term need in 2017/18 and the long term need in 2021/22.

5.2 Transit Unmet Need

The figures contained within the caravan count, the record of unauthorised encampments in 2015/16 and the GTAA itself clearly show an identified need for transit provision. The Local Development Plan has set out a timetable to develop transit provision from 2017. In addition to this, Housing and Planning officers from the local authorities that make up the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group will be meeting in January 2016 to discuss a regional response.

Chapter Six: Conclusions and Recommendations

6.1 Next Steps

1. It is evident from the assessment findings that there is a clear need in Cardiff for the provision of additional permanent and transit socially rented Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation. As set out above in paragraph 1.2 the Council has established a working group made up of Council officers from Planning and Housing with the responsibility for finding locations for both permanent and transit pitches to meet this need.
2. The timetable for meeting this is included in the LDP Annual Monitoring Report and a site search and assessment of potential sites is due to commence in early 2016 with the findings and recommendations due to be considered by the Council's Cabinet in July 2016. Sites suggested as part of this assessment will also be included in the list of potential sites and as noted in paragraph 3.1 above the Project Steering Group will reform early in 2016 to allow further consultation with stakeholders and develop effective community engagement during this site search and assessment process.
3. Following this process it envisaged that planning permission and funding will be secured for the identified site(s) required to meet short term need for permanent pitches by May 2017 and for identified site (s) required to meet long term need for permanent pitches by May 2021.
4. This assessment gives an indication of the likely demand for new pitches up to 2026. When planning any new accommodation provision it is important to distinguish between demand and need. "Need" refers to households who are unable to access suitable accommodation without some financial assistance and "demand" to the quantity of housing that households are willing and able to buy or rent.
5. In Cardiff we will do this by using the established common housing register as the mechanism for allocating pitches on any socially rented site that is provided. Prospective residents are required to complete the standard housing application form which then allows the local authority to make an assessment of both their need and eligibility for a pitch.
6. In terms of transit provision the Cardiff Local Development Plan contains a target to identify a transit site by July 2016. The new site should have received planning permission by May 2017. Potential sites will be assessed to meet this need in parallel with the permanent site assessment

process identified above. However, it may be appropriate for a regional approach to be taken with regard to providing a site or sites for transit need. This approach would require regional collaboration between authorities in South East Wales and is something that needs to be considered in more detail, particularly given the assessment findings which show that 50% of respondents camped by the roadside/on an unauthorised encampment in South East Wales in the last year while travelling.

7. The South East Wales Strategic Planning Group (SEWSPG), of which the local authority is a member, has already started to address this issue. SEWSPG consists of 10 local planning authorities, plus the Brecon Beacons national park authority. The Group meets every 2 months in order to discuss planning issues that impact on the region. With the introduction of the Planning (Wales) Act in July 2015, changes to regional planning and the creation of a strategic planning area are very much on the agenda.
8. SEWSPG officers have agreed to discuss their respective Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Assessments and consider them in a regional context at future meeting in January 2016. Although this is simply an agreement to discuss initial findings, there are clear benefits to a regional approach for this type of work as opposed to each authority working in isolation.

Background Papers

1. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment letters that were sent out to families on the Travellers Education database
 2. Interview Log – Record of contact for families on the Travellers Education database
 3. Interview Log – Record of contact with families on the Gypsy and Traveller Wales database residing in bricks & mortar and private sites
 4. Interview Log – Record of contact with families on the Gypsy and Traveller Wales database residing on the Local Authority sites
-