

Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Needs Assessment 2026

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Final Report
October 2026

Main Contact: Dr Michael Bullock
Email: michael.bullock@arc4.co.uk
Telephone: 0800 612 9133
Website: www.arc4.co.uk

© 2026 arc⁴ Limited (Company No. 06205180)



Table of Contents

Executive Summary	6
Introduction.....	6
Population and households	6
Need assessment period.....	7
Planning policy requirements for needs assessments	7
Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements	7
Transit provision	8
Travelling Showperson plot requirements	8
Other caravan dweller needs.....	8
1. Introduction.....	9
Overview.....	9
Who the study covers	9
Study geography and time frame.....	10
Report structure.....	10
2. Policy and local context	12
Government policy and guidance	12
New NPPF	14
Intentional unauthorised development.....	14
Responding to challenges	14
Previous GTAA.....	15
3. Methodology	16
Introduction.....	16
Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions	16
Phase 2: Fieldwork survey and interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople and stakeholder engagement.....	16
Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of report.....	17
4. Review of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population and existing provision of pitches and plots	20
Census data	20
Caravan Count information.....	22
Local site and yards.....	23
5. Household and stakeholder survey findings	27
Gypsy and Traveller households living in Bradford district	27
Housing Register evidence.....	30
Travelling Showperson households living in Bradford district.....	30
Other caravan dwellers.....	31
6. Gypsy and Traveller pitch, Travelling Showperson plot and transit site requirements.....	32
Introduction.....	32
Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview	32

Gypsy and Traveller pitch need analysis: Description of factors in the 5-year need model: Bradford district.....	33
Longer-term pitch need to 2042/43.....	36
Overall pitch need.....	37
Reconciling with Local Plan period	37
Tenure preferences	37
Summary	38
Stakeholder views on residential pitch need.....	38
Transit requirements.....	39
Cross-boundary issues	41
Other Traveller needs	41
7. Travelling Showperson plot requirements	42
Introduction.....	42
Showperson plot requirement modelling	42
Stakeholder views on Travelling Showperson accommodation need	42
8. Conclusion and response	43
Gypsy and Traveller Current accommodation	43
Future Gypsy and Traveller residential need.....	43
Transit provision	43
Travelling Showperson need	43
Policy recommendations	44
Future updating	45
Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire	46
Appendix B: Glossary of terms	50

List of Tables

Table ES1	Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2026/27 to 2042/43	7
Table 4.1	Characteristics of properties and households which are occupied by people identifying as Gypsy and Traveller from 2021 Census in Bradford district	21
Table 4.2	Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures: January 2022 to January 2026 for Bradford district.....	23
Table 4.3	Annual Travelling Showperson caravan count figures: January 2022 to January 2026 for Bradford district.....	23
Table 4.4a	List of Gypsy & Traveller sites (as of May 2026).....	25
Table 4.4b	List of Travelling Showperson yards (as of May 2026)	25
Table 5.1	Ethnicity of respondent type of dwelling.....	27
Table 5.2	Number of people in household by type of dwelling.....	28
Table 5.3	Household type by type of dwelling	28
Table 5.4	Age group by type of dwelling.....	29
Table 5.5	Length of residence by type of dwelling	29
Table 5.6	Overcrowding by type of dwelling	30

Table 5.7	Current accommodation setting of Gypsy and Traveller households on the housing register	30
Table 6.1	Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – Bradford district 2026/27 to 2030/31	35
Table 6.2	Future pitch requirements based on the assumption that 50% of children will require a pitch in Bradford district	36
Table 6.3	Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: growth rate analysis.....	37
Table 6.4	Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2026/27 to 2042/43 – Bradford district	37
Table 6.5	Tenure preferences.....	38
Table 6.6	Unauthorised encampment activity in Bradford district	39
Table 7.1	Plan period Travelling Showperson plot need 2026/27 to 2042/43	42

List of Maps

Map 4.1	Location of sites and yards in Bradford district	26
---------	--	----

Please note that in this report some of the tables include rounded figures. This can result in some column or row totals not adding up to 100 or to the anticipated row or column 'total' due to the use of rounded decimal figures. We include this description here as it covers all tables and associated textual commentary included. If tables or figures are to be used in-house then we recommend the addition of a similarly worded statement being included as a note to each table used.

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

arc⁴ Limited accepts no responsibility or liability for, and makes no representation or warranty with respect to, the accuracy or completeness of any third party information (including data) that is contained in this document.

Registered Address: arc4, 41 Clarendon Road, Sale, Manchester, M33 2DY
Email: businessteam@arc4.co.uk Web: www.arc4.co.uk
arc4 Limited, Registered in England & Wales 6205180 VAT Registration No: 909 9814 77
Directors Helen Brzozowski and Michael Bullock

Executive Summary

Introduction

The Bradford district 2026 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) provides the latest available evidence to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the area.

The GTAA has included:

- A review of existing (secondary) data.
- Stakeholder consultation with a range of stakeholders including council officers and neighbouring councils.
- A household survey and a review of household information and site/yard observation. For Gypsies and Travellers 35 responses from 40 households living on sites were obtained (87.5% response rate) with the 5 non-responses a result of households not being available for interview. For Travelling Showpeople, data on 12 households out of 12 living on the Travelling Showperson's yard was obtained (100% response rate)
- A household survey of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation. This was carried out by Leeds GATE and from around 30 households identified, 16 interviews were successfully achieved. This is a particularly strong response from bricks and mortar households and reflects the deep knowledge of Travelling households held by Leeds GATE. Households living in bricks and mortar also include people living on 'yards' which include bricks and mortar accommodation with caravans located within the curtilage of properties.

Across Bradford district there are currently three sites with a total of 50 pitches:

- 2 council sites (47 pitches, 39 occupied, 6 short-term vacant and 2 long-term vacant).
- 1 private authorised site (3 pitches, 3 occupied by 1 extended family, 0 vacant).

There is one longstanding Travelling Showperson yard in Bradford at Paley Road with a 36 plot capacity. This currently accommodates 12 households. There are also two unauthorised yard with six plots in total.

We are grateful for the assistance of people living on sites and in bricks and mortar accommodation who took part in the household survey; for the support of Leeds GATE throughout the process; stakeholders who participated in the study; and the support of council officers.

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

Population and households

The 2021 Census reported a population of 906 people who identified as 'White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller' or 'Gypsy/Romany' and 252 people identifying as 'Roma' living in Bradford district. The total number of households was estimated to be 290 based on

the number of Household Reference People identified in the census of which an estimated 278 live in bricks and mortar accommodation.

In January and July each year, councils carry out a Traveller caravan count to inform MHCLG statistics. The latest January 2026 count reports 68 caravans on Gypsy and Traveller sites (41 on social rented pitches and 27 on private pitches) and 16 on Travelling Showperson plots.

Need assessment period

Need has been assessed over a short-term period 2026/27 to 2030/31 and longer-term period 2031/32 to 2042/43.

Planning policy requirements for needs assessments

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

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

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

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirements

The GTAA identifies a minimum need for 54 residential pitches across Bradford district over the plan period 2026/27 to 2042/43 (Table ES1). The main driver of need is new household formation.

Table ES1 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2026/27 to 2042/43

Period	Pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2026/27 to 2030/31) (A)	25
Longer-term need	
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36 (B)	11
Over period 2036/37 to 2040/41(C)	10
Over period 2041/42 to 2042/43(D)	8
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2031/32 to 2042/43 (12 years) E=(B+C+D)	29
NET SHORTFALL 2026/27 to 2042/43 (A+E) (15years)	54

It is recommended that the Local Plan recognises the minimum need for 54 pitches and continues to set out criteria-based policies to inform future planning applications for sites should they come forward. Note that the needs modelling assumes that 2 vacant pitches on council sites are not currently available as they have been long-term vacant. Measures to bring these back into use are recommended to help meet need identified. The modelling also assumes that occupancy of the site at Mary Street continues over the plan period.

Transit provision

There is clear and ongoing evidence of a need for transit provision. Good practice has moved away from identifying transit sites in favour of negotiated stopping. It is recommended that the council also considers negotiated stopping arrangements to positively manage any unauthorised encampment activity, with a recommendation to identify land to accommodate encampments of up to 5 caravans, encampments of between 6 and 10 caravans and encampments of more than 10 caravans. More information can be found at [Negotiated Stopping](#).

Travelling Showperson plot requirements

There is one long-standing Travelling Showperson's yard in Bradford district and two unauthorised yards. There is sufficient capacity for the existing households at the Showperson's yard at Paley Road and space for more households to use it. However, there is a national strategic shortfall of Travelling Showperson yards and need may arise in Bradford district over the plan period. The council should maintain a criteria-based policy in the Local Plan to appraise applications that may be received.

Other caravan dweller needs

Through our engagement with the council officers and wider stakeholders, there was no evidence of specific accommodation needs from other nomadic groups such as New Age Travellers or other nomadic groups in Bradford district.

1. Introduction

Overview

- 1.1 In March 2026, arc⁴ was commissioned by the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council to prepare a 2026 Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Needs Assessment Update (GTAA).
- 1.2 The overall scope of the study is to ensure that the council has a robust evidence base to determine an appropriate level of residential pitch and transit provision needed over the period 2026/27 to 2042/43 for Gypsies and Travellers and residential plots for Travelling Showpeople.
- 1.3 The 2024 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) and section 124 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 provide the policy context for this work.
- 1.4 We are very grateful for the support provided by council officers, a fieldworker from Opinion Research Service who had local knowledge of families in the area and the invaluable support of Leeds GATE who supported the project throughout, provided helpful advice on methodology and facilitated bricks and mortar interviews. We are also grateful to the positive engagement by community members to this study.

Who the study covers

- 1.5 The 2024 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites provides the updated definition of Gypsies and Travellers as set out within Annex 1 of the 2024 PPTS:
“Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family’s or dependants’ educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.”
- 1.6 Similarly, the following definition from Annex 1 of the Guidance in respect of Travelling Showpeople is used:
‘Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.’
- 1.7 In addition:
‘For the purposes of this planning policy, “pitch” means a pitch on a “gypsy and traveller” site and “plot” means a pitch on a “travelling showpeople” site (often called a “yard”). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for “gypsies and travellers” and mixed-use

pitches for “travelling showpeople”, which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.’ (DCLG Planning policy for traveller sites December 2024 Annex 1, para 5).

- 1.8 For the purposes of this study, therefore, Gypsies and Travellers live on pitches within sites, whilst Travelling Showpeople live on plots within yards.
- 1.9 An Opinion dated 27th October 2025 by Marc Willers KC ‘On the interpretation and application of the new planning policy definition of the term ‘Gypsies and Travellers’ was prepared on behalf of Friends, Families and Travellers. This concludes that:

“The DHCLG’s (sic) decision to extend the scope of the planning policy definition of ‘Gypsies and Travellers’ is a positive step which goes some way to facilitating the traditional way of life of ethnic Gypsies and Travellers. It gives individuals from ethnic minority groups ‘with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan’ (whether or not they have ever lived a nomadic habit of life or lived in caravans themselves) the opportunity to rely upon the positive planning guidance in PPTS 2024 if they seek planning permission for a caravan site. It also ensures that the needs of such people for caravan pitches are properly assessed and met by LPAs.

Finally, it should be noted that the PPTS 2024 planning policy definition does not just cater for the accommodation needs of ethnic Gypsies and Travellers. New Travellers who can demonstrate that they pursue a ‘nomadic habit of life’ including those ‘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’ will also be captured by the definition and will be entitled to: rely upon the positive planning policy in PPTS 2024 when they seek planning permission; have their accommodation needs assessed when a LPA undertakes a new assessment of the need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in its area; and have their needs met in any planned provision.”

- 1.10 This opinion therefore concludes that GTAA studies should cover cultural need and people who pursue a general ‘nomadic habit of life’.

Study geography and time frame

- 1.11 This study focuses on the needs of Travelling communities across Bradford district. The time period is 2026/27 to 2042/43.

Report structure

- 1.12 The GTAA 2026 report structure is as follows:
 - **Chapter 1 Introduction:** provides an overview of the study.
 - **Chapter 2 Policy and local context:** presents a review of the national policy context which guides the study.
 - **Chapter 3 Methodology:** provides details of the study’s research methodology.

- **Chapter 4 Review of current Gypsy and Traveller population and provision of pitches/plots:** reviews estimates of the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Bradford district and existing site/yard provision.
 - **Chapter 5 Household and Stakeholder surveys:** presents relevant data obtained from the household survey research.
 - **Chapter 6 Gypsy and Traveller residential pitch/transit requirements:** focuses on current and future requirements for pitches. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, supply and any shortfalls across Bradford district.
 - **Chapter 7 Travelling Showperson plot requirements:** focuses on current and future plot requirements. This chapter includes a detailed assessment of drivers of demand, supply and current shortfalls across Bradford district.
 - **Chapter 8 Conclusion and strategic response:** concludes the report, providing brief summary of key findings and recommendations.
- 1.13 Stakeholder feedback is presented in relevant sections throughout the report.
- 1.14 The report is supplemented by the following appendices:
- **Appendix A** Household questionnaires.
 - **Appendix B** Glossary of terms.

2. Policy and local context

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

Government policy and guidance

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

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

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

New NPPF

- 2.11 The Bradford Local Plan is being examined under the previous NPPF but it is noted that the NPPF 2026 published on 17 August 2026 replaced the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites in full and integrates traveller accommodation into the housing policies of the Framework. The Planning Practice Guidance page on travellers' sites has been withdrawn and, at the time of writing, no replacement has been published.

Intentional unauthorised development

- 2.12 The [planning policy statement](#) issued with PPTS 2015 and confirmed by [Ministerial Statement](#) makes clear that if a site is intentionally occupied without planning permission this would be a material consideration in any retrospective planning application for that site. Whilst this does not mean that retrospective applications will be automatically refused, it does mean that failure to seek permission in advance of occupation will count against the application.
- 2.13 In addition, PPTS 2024 (Paragraph 12) makes clear that in exceptional cases where a local authority is burdened by a large-scale unauthorised site that has significantly increased their need, and their area is subject to strict and special planning constraints, then there is no assumption that the local authority will be required to meet their Gypsy and Traveller site needs in full. This is intended to protect local planning authorities with significant land constraints from being required to provide for additional needs arising directly from large sites such as Dale Farm (a large unauthorised site in Essex).

Responding to challenges

- 2.14 GTAAAs are subject to intense scrutiny, particularly at planning inquiries and hearings. The methodological approaches taken by arc⁴ aim to maximise the robustness of evidence and measures include:
- An up-to-date assessment of the number of pitches on sites and the number of households living on pitches and any vacancies.
 - Maximising response rates from households.

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

Previous GTAA

- 2.15 The 2021 GTAA identified an overall need for 62 Gypsy and Traveller pitches over the period 2020/21 to 2037/38 across the district. The GTAA assumed that 36 pitches would become available on council sites to help meet need, resulting in a residual need of 26 pitches. The Paley Road Showperson's yard with 36 plots and 18 households at the time of the assessment was considered to provide sufficient residential capacity.

3. Methodology

Introduction

- 3.1 The GTAA research method is grounded in an understanding of the requirement of the NPPF and based on an established methodology which regularly withstands scrutiny at planning inquiries and hearings.
- 3.2 The methodology has comprised:
- a desktop analysis of existing documents, including data on pitches/sites and unauthorised encampments;
 - the collection of primary data, including household interviews with Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople;
 - extensive engagement with bricks and mortar households by Leeds GATE
 - stakeholder engagement with council officers, advocacy groups and contact with the Showmen's Guild: 2 responses were received which included a detailed responses on behalf of council officers and an advocacy organisation. Stakeholder feedback is presented in relevant sections throughout the report and please note that stakeholder views may not necessarily be the views of the council or arc⁴;
 - an assessment of accommodation needs taking into account all available data and information.
- 3.3 The information gathering has been carried out in three phases, as outlined below:
- Phase 1: Literature/desktop review.
 - Phase 2: Survey and analysis of data relating to Gypsies and Traveller across Bradford district.
 - Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of the GTAA 2026 report.

Phase 1: Literature/desktop review and steering group discussions

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

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

- 3.5 Our aim is to obtain interviews from all households living on sites using a standard questionnaire (Appendix A). This questionnaire has been carefully

designed in consultation with councils, feedback from community representatives and planning agents.

- 3.6 Interviews took place during May and June 2026. A total of 35 interviews on pitches (87.5% response rate), 16 bricks and mortar interviews (from around 30 households identified) and one interview covering all households (100% response rate) living on the Travelling Showpersons yard at Paley Road were achieved.
- 3.7 Regarding stakeholder engagement, a total of 21 individuals in organisations were contacted including council officers (17) national organisations including the Showmen's Guild (1) and advocacy groups (3). Stakeholders were contacted multiple times to complete a survey. 2 responses were received which included a detailed responses on behalf of council officers and an advocacy organisation.

Phase 3: Needs assessment and production of report

- 3.8 A detailed explanation of the pitch requirements is contained in Chapter 7 but briefly comprises analysis of the following:
 - current pitch supply, households either living on sites or temporarily elsewhere; households living in bricks and mortar accommodation; households planning to move in the next five years, and emerging households to give total need for pitches; and
 - supply based on the number of authorised pitches and turnover on sites on public pitches.
- 3.9 The overall need for pitches is then compared with the overall supply.
- 3.10 Similar analysis was carried out for Travelling Showperson plot needs.

Site and pitch size

- 3.11 There are no definitive parameters for site or pitch sizes for Gypsies and Travellers. Although now withdrawn, the DCLG Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites: good practice guide (2008) states in paragraph 4.4 that **'Gypsy and Traveller sites are designed to provide land per household which is suitable for a mobile home, touring caravan and a utility building, together with space for parking. Sites of various sizes, layouts and pitch numbers operate successfully today and work best when they take into account the size of the site and the needs and demographics of the families resident on them'**.
- 3.12 Paragraph 4.47 states that **'to ensure fire safety it is essential that every trailer, caravan or park home must be not less than 6 metres from any other trailer, caravan or park home that is occupied separately'**.
- 3.13 Paragraph 7.12 states that **'as a general guide, it is possible to specify that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc.)), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area'**.

- 3.14 Paragraph 4.13 states that **‘smaller pitches must be able to accommodate at least an amenity building, a large trailer, drying space for clothes and parking for at least one vehicle’**.
- 3.15 As a general guide, it is suggested by arc⁴ that the minimum pitch size is 25m by 25m (625 square metres or 0.0625 hectares). This would support a twin-unit chalet/mobile home (15m x 6.5m), a tourer, an amenity shed/building (5m x 4m), two vehicle spaces (minimum 2.4m x 4.8m for each space) and turning circle for vehicles, amenity space and a small garden area/play space. Residential units need to be 3m from the pitch boundary and at least 6m apart. A slightly larger pitch of 25m by 30m (750 square metres or 0.075 hectares) would be appropriate for larger household units requiring several residential units. Additionally, it may be appropriate to have several caravans on a pitch to accommodate newly-forming households who may require independent accommodation but want to stay living as part of an extended family group.
- 3.16 It is generally accepted amongst the Travelling community that private sites of up to 6-10 pitches are appropriate. Public sites tend to be larger and have policies and procedures in place to ensure the effective management of sites.

Showperson yard and plot sizes

- 3.17 In 2010, the Showmen’s Guild of Great Britain prepared a document ‘Travelling Showpeople’s sites: a planning focus – model standard package’. This document was intended to provide guidelines to Travelling Showpeople and Local Planning Authorities when considering the needs of Travelling Showpeople.
- 3.18 This document confirmed that:
- A plot is a piece of land occupied by a Showperson with their family and equipment, used to store fairground rides, vehicles and other items as well as for living accommodation. The family unit can be large or small, for instance an extended family with grandparents, parents and children, or a single-family unit of parents and children.
 - A yard is two or more plots owned by the same family who may use this for their own family purposes or may let part out to other Showpeople.
 - A site is a group of plots where the land is owned by individual plot holders. Quite often a Showperson’s site will have a common shared access onto the main road network.
 - Showpeople’s sites do not fit neatly into the definition of a one land use category. The sites combine a residential use with a storage use, and maintenance is also likely to be carried out on site. The residential use can take the form of static homes and caravans.
 - For a Travelling Showperson yard, the minimum size of a plot is 0.5ha and should include space for residential accommodation and equipment storage.
- 3.19 There is no formal guidance on the minimum size of a yard or a plot. Discussions with members of the Showpersons community provide some further insight into current practice on yards.

- 3.20 Within West Yorkshire, a Showperson's 6.5 acre development comprising 7 yards has been developed in Fitzwilliam, Wakefield district. The view of the Guild member who helped establish the development suggested a standard size of 150ft x 150ft per plot (0.2 hectares). For the Fitzwilliam yards, the basic plot size is 120ft x 220ft (0.25 hectares) but there are variations in the size of each plot depending on household circumstances.
- 3.21 Following further discussion with a member of the community who wants to develop new yards, it was recommended that the minimum size of a yard is 0.15ha and ideally 0.2ha. To take account of minimum spacing required under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, the minimum spacing between caravans is 6m for fire safety and 3m between the caravan and boundary. This would suggest that for a 0.15ha yard, a reasonable assumption is this could accommodate 2 caravans (or 2 plots) and a 0.2ha yard, 3 caravans (or 3 plots).
- 3.22 For any applications coming forward, the council should work flexibly to ensure that any development reflects the specific needs of families and that the number of caravans on each yard accords with legal requirements for distance between caravans.

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

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

Census data

- 4.2 Detailed 2021 Census data relating to Gypsy and Traveller populations has been prepared by the Office for National Statistics. This provides valuable insights into the population dynamics and comparisons with overall populations although it is widely recognised that this is likely to under-report households who chose not to divulge they were from Travelling communities.
- 4.3 The 2021 Census reported a population of 906 people who identified as ‘White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller’ or ‘Gypsy/Romany’ and 252 people identifying as ‘Roma’ living in Bradford district. The total number of households was estimated to be 290 based on the number of Household Reference People identified in the census.
- 4.4 The previous 2011 Census reported 424 people and 168 households.
- 4.5 Table 4.1 sets out a range of data relating to people identifying as Gypsies and Travellers from the 2021 Census across Bradford district. In summary:
- 95.7% of census respondents lived in bricks and mortar accommodation and 4.3% lived in a caravan/mobile structure.
 - 90.9% rent (15.6% from a social landlord and 75.3% privately) and 9.1% are owner occupiers.
 - 38.7% were overcrowded compared with 11.9% of the general population. This is related to bricks and mortar and pitch overcrowding.
 - 7.5% of household were single person, 4.3% couples, 38.2% couples with children, 23.1% single parents and 26.9% other household types such as extended families.

Table 4.1 Characteristics of properties and households which are occupied by people identifying as Gypsy and Traveller from 2021 Census in Bradford district**Dwelling Stock**

Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
Detached whole house or bungalow	150	16.1%
Semi-detached whole house or bungalow	280	30.1%
Terraced (including end-terrace) whole house or bungalow	300	32.3%
Flat, maisonette or apartment	160	17.2%
A caravan or other mobile or temporary structure	40	4.3%
Total	930	100.0%

Tenure

Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
Owned: Owns outright	50	5.4%
Owned: Owns with a mortgage or loan or shared ownership	35	3.8%
Private rented or lives rent free	700	75.3%
Rented Social rented	145	15.6%
Total	930	100.0%

Occupancy

Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
Occupancy rating of bedrooms 0 or more	570	61.3%
Occupancy rating of bedrooms -1 or less (overcrowded)	360	38.7%
Total	930	100.0%

Household composition

Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
One person household: Aged 66 years and over	10	1.1%
One person household: Other	60	6.5%
Single family household: Couple family household: No children	40	4.3%
Single family household: Couple family household: Dependent children	330	35.5%
Single family household: Couple family household: All children non-dependent	25	2.7%
Single family household: Lone parent household	215	23.1%
Other household types	250	26.9%
Total	930	100.0%

General Health

Category	Number of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller	% of people identifying as Gypsy/Traveller
Very Good	515	55.4%
Good	245	26.3%
Fair	90	9.7%
Bad	65	7.0%
Very Bad	15	1.6%
Total	930	100.0%
Net health score (VG+G-B-VB)		73.1%

Source: [2021 Census](#)

- 4.6 In terms of health 81.7% of Gypsies and Travellers said their health was very good/good and 8.6% stated it was bad/very bad. The overall net health satisfaction score (% saying very good/good minus bad/very bad) was therefore 73.1% compared with 74.7% of the overall population.
- 4.7 Overall, 95.7% of Gypsies and Travellers live in bricks and mortar accommodation and this is applied to the total number of households (290), an estimate of 278 households live in bricks and mortar and 12 live in caravans.
- 4.8 Please note that the data reported from the census may differ from the findings of the household survey. This is because of the small population base of the Gypsy and Traveller population and data highly influenced by the level of response to both the 2021 Census and households information obtained as part of the 2026 GTAA. It is also important to note that an estimate of total households in bricks and mortar is very difficult to establish.

Caravan Count information

- 4.9 Snapshot counts of the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans were requested by the government in 1979 and have since been undertaken every January and July by local authorities. An annual count of Travelling Showperson caravans takes place every January. The counts provide a source of information on the number of caravans located on authorised and unauthorised sites but do not record the actual number of pitches on sites/yards.
- 4.10 The figures for the last nine Traveller caravan counts for Bradford district are set out in Table 4.2. Data shows between 56 and 71 caravans across the district during the period January 2022 to January 2026, with an overall average of 61 caravans reported. Of the overall average, 62% were on council sites, 31% on private sites and 7% on unauthorised sites.

Table 4.2 Bi-annual Traveller caravan count figures: January 2022 to January 2026 for Bradford district

Year	Authorised sites with planning permission SOCIAL RENTED	Authorised sites with planning permission PRIVATE (TEMPORARY)	Authorised sites with planning permission PRIVATE (PERMANENT)	Unauthorised sites WITHOUT PLANNING PERMISSION	Total
Jan 2022	41	0	16	10	67
July 2022	38	0	12	21	71
Jan 2023	36	0	16	4	56
Jul 2023	36	0	22	0	58
Jan 2024	39	0	17	0	56
Jul 2024	36	0	22	0	58
Jan 2025	38	0	18	0	56
Jul 2025	39	0	24	0	63
Jan 2026	41	0	27	0	68
9-count average	38	0	19	4	61

Source: MHCLG Traveller Caravan Count, Live Table 1

- 4.11 Over the period 2022 to 2026 there were an average of 21 caravans on Travelling Showpersons plots (Table 4.3). In the 2026 count there were 16 caravans on the Showperson's yard.

Table 4.3 Annual Travelling Showperson caravan count figures: January 2022 to January 2026 for Bradford district

Year	Authorised sites with planning permission SOCIAL RENTED	Authorised sites with planning permission PRIVATE	Unauthorised sites WITHOUT PLANNING PERMISSION	Total
2022	0	31	0	31
2023	0	20	0	20
2024	0	20	0	20
2025	0	19	0	19
2026	0	16	0	16
5-count average	0	21	0	21

Source: MHCLG Travelling Showpeople Caravan Count, Live Table 3

Local site and yards

- 4.12 For Gypsy and Traveller residential sites, there are different types of site based on their planning status. Authorised sites are those with planning permission and can be on public or private land. Unauthorised sites are made up of either longer-term (approximately three months or longer) unauthorised encampments which can be considered to be indicative of a permanent need

for accommodation (in some instances local authorities class these as tolerated sites and do not take enforcement action to remove them); and unauthorised developments, where Travellers are residing upon land that they own and that does not have planning permission (see Appendix B for more detailed definitions).

- 4.13 Table 4.4 sets out the location of Gypsy and Traveller sites across Bradford district.
- 4.14 Across Bradford district there are currently three sites with a total of 50 pitches:
- 2 council sites (47 pitches, 39 occupied, 6 short-term vacant and 2 long-term vacant).
 - 1 private authorised site (3 pitches, 3 occupied by an extended family, 0 vacant).
- 4.15 In the previous GTAA there was one private site at Gavin Close but this is no longer occupied.
- 4.16 Households living in bricks and mortar also include people living on ‘yards’ which include bricks and mortar accommodation with caravans located within the curtilage of properties.
- 4.17 There is one Travelling Showperson yard at Paley Road with a 36 plot capacity. This currently accommodates 12 households. In addition, there are two unauthorised yards located at 195-197 Gain Lane which provide accommodation and storage for Travelling Showpeople.
- 4.18 Map 4.1 shows the location of sites and yards.

Table 4.4a List of Gypsy & Traveller sites (as of May 2026)

Reference	Address	Tenure and type of site	Total pitches	Total occupied pitches	Total vacant	Total households	Household responses	Non response	Reason for non-response: not available
LA1	Esholt, Esholt Lane, Esholt, BD17 7RJ	Council (permanent authorised)	19	12	7 (2 long term but 5 short-term)	12	10	2	2
LA2	Mary Street, Bradford, BD4 8TF	Council (permanent authorised)	28	27	1 (short-term / not occupied on survey day)	27	24	3	3
Priv1	Square Street, Bradford, BD4 7NP	Private (permanent authorised)	3	3	0	1	1	0	0
-	Total Gypsy and Traveller		50	42	8 (2 long-term)	40	35	5	5

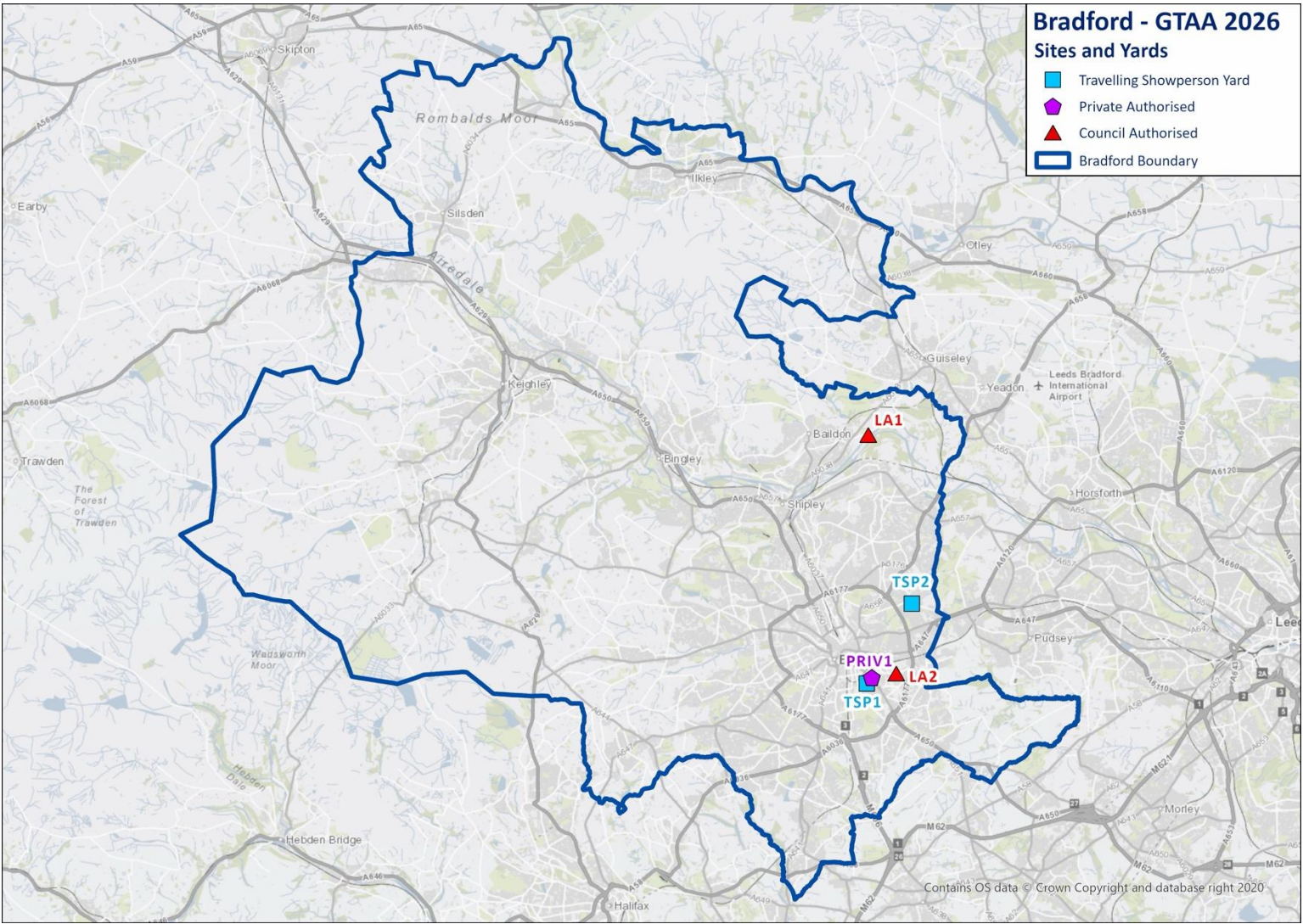
Table 4.4b List of Travelling Showperson yards (as of May 2026)

Reference	Address	Tenure and type of site	Total plots	Total occupied plots	Total vacant	Total households	Household responses	Non response	Reason for non-response: not available
TSP1	Paley Road	Private (permanent authorised)	36	12	24	12	12	0	0
TSP 2	195-197 Gain Lane	Unauthorised	6	6	0	0	0	6	6 (unable to contact)

Source: Council data 2026, site survey and fieldwork 2026

*note data for Square Street is represented by 1 household survey response so the total frequencies reported is 35

Map 4.1 **Location of sites and yards in Bradford district**



5. Household and stakeholder survey findings

- 5.1 This chapter presents the findings of stakeholder consultation and summary household information which informed the GTAA.
- 5.2 Key data from households was collected using the household questionnaire presented in Appendix A. The stakeholder views expressed in this section may not reflect the views of the council or arc⁴.

Gypsy and Traveller households living in Bradford district

- 5.3 A review of the characteristics of Gypsy and Traveller households living in Bradford district has been based on data for 35 households living on sites and 16 bricks and mortar households. Data from 12 Travelling Showperson households was also obtained. Where analysis refers to ‘small numbers’ this means 4 or fewer households responding.
- 5.4 Data obtained provided an insight into household size, type and the age of residents living on pitches.
- 5.5 The following data relates to the 53 Gypsy and Traveller households who either live on a pitch or in bricks and mortar accommodation. Please note that the data for the 3 households living on Square Street was captured in one single interview so the total base of household responses living on pitches is reported as 51. Note that The actual number of responses can vary between questions.
- 5.6 Ethnicity (base=47): Of households interviewed who provided an ethnicity, 61.7% identified as Romany Gypsy/English/Welsh/Scottish Traveller and 38.3% as Irish Travellers (Table 5.1). Most bricks and mortar households were Romany Gypsy/ English/Welsh/Scottish Travellers and the ethnic mix on pitches was almost even between the two groups.

Table 5.1 Ethnicity of respondent type of dwelling

Ethnicity	Living in Bricks and mortar	Living on Pitch	Total
Gypsy/Romany/English/Welsh/Scottish Traveller	85.7%	51.5%	61.7%
Irish Traveller	14.3%	48.5%	38.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Base (	14	33	47

- 5.7 **Household size** (base=51): 47.1% of all households have 1 or 2 people; 31.4% have 3 or 4; and 21.6% have 5 or more. Around half of households on pitches had 1 or 2 people and bricks and mortar tended to be larger households, with around 21.6% having 5 or more people (Table 5.2).

Table 5.2 Number of people in household by type of dwelling

People in household	Living in Bricks and mortar	Living on Pitch	Total
1	25.0%	37.1%	33.3%
2	18.8%	11.4%	13.7%
3	6.3%	17.1%	13.7%
4	18.8%	17.1%	17.6%
5	12.5%	8.6%	9.8%
6 or more	18.8%	8.6%	11.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Base	16	35	51

- 5.8 **Household type** (base=51): 68.6% of households were either single person or single parent households, ranging between 50% in bricks and mortar and 77.1% for households on pitches (Table 5.3). Couples, couples with children and extended families were more likely to live in bricks and mortar accommodation. This would suggest that existing pitches are more suited to smaller household sizes and echoes the view of Leeds GATE that a range of pitch sizes should be provided on sites to meet a range of household needs.

Table 5.3 Household type by type of dwelling

Household type	Living in Bricks and mortar	Living on Pitch	Total
Single	25.0%	37.1%	33.3%
Single parent	25.0%	40.0%	35.3%
Single adult	0.0%	2.9%	2.0%
Couple	12.5%	0.0%	3.9%
Couple with children	25.0%	11.4%	15.7%
Extended family	12.5%	0.0%	3.9%
Other	0.0%	8.6%	5.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Base	16	35	51

- 5.9 **Age profile:** The household survey obtained information on 153 Gypsy and Traveller residents from 51 households (Table 5.4). Household survey data reports the following age profile (base= 153 people in 51 households). Most notably, over half (53%) of residents were aged under 18 and only 3.3% were aged 65 and over. The household age profile varied slightly between type of accommodation, although the proportion aged under 18 was higher on pitches (56.3%) compared with 47% in bricks and mortar. All people aged 65 and over lived on pitches.

Table 5.4 Age group by type of dwelling

Age group	Living in Bricks and mortar	Living on Pitch	Total
13 and under	35.10%	46.90%	42.50%
14-17	12.30%	9.40%	10.50%
18-34	21.10%	18.80%	19.60%
35-49	22.80%	12.50%	16.30%
50-64	8.80%	7.30%	7.80%
65+	0.00%	5.20%	3.30%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Base	57	96	153

- 5.10 **Length of residence** (base=45). 20% of all households had lived at their current address for less than 5 years (increasing to 31% of bricks and mortar households). Overall, 62.6% of households in bricks and mortar had lived at their current address for less than 10 years compared with 41.4% of households on pitches. Households on pitches were much more likely to have lived at their place of residence for at least 20 years (41.4%) compared with 18.8% of bricks and mortar households (Table 5.5).

Table 5.5 Length of residence by type of dwelling

Length of residence	Living in Bricks and mortar	Living on Pitch	Total
Under 5 years	31.3%	13.8%	20.0%
5 to <10 years	31.3%	27.6%	28.9%
10 to <20 years	18.8%	17.2%	17.8%
20 or more years	18.8%	41.4%	33.3%
Total	100%	100%	100%
Base	16	29	45

- 5.11 **Overcrowding** of home (base = 38). 21.1% of households responding said they were overcrowded (lower than the census figure of 38.7%), although overcrowding was higher amongst bricks and mortar households (33.3%).
- 5.12 **Overcrowding of pitch (base =23)**. A similar proportion (21.7%) stated that their pitch was overcrowded.

Table 5.6 Overcrowding by type of dwelling

Overcrowding	Living in Bricks and mortar	Living on Pitch	Total
Home – Yes	33.3%	15.4%	21.1%
Home – No	66.7%	84.6%	78.9%
Home – Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Home = Base	12	26	38
Pitch – Yes	N/A	21.7%	21.7%
Pitch – No	N/A	78.3%	78.3%
Pitch – Total	N/A	100.0%	100.0%
Pitch Base	N/A	23	23

Housing Register evidence

- 5.13 There are 60 families active on the housing register who identify as Gypsy or Irish Traveller. Table 5.7 sets out the accommodation breakdown of families which indicates that households were particularly likely to be living in the private rented sector. There are 24 children aged 14-18 within 16 of the families on the register. The needs assessment modelling considers homeless households in its assessment of need.

Table 5.7 Current accommodation setting of Gypsy and Traveller households on the housing register

Type of accommodation	Count
Renting from a private landlord	23
No fixed abode/sofa surfing/homeless	6
Council or Housing Association Tenant	5
Living with parents	5
Temporary accommodation	5
Other	4
Supported accommodation or hostel	4
Living with friends/relatives	3
Caravan/houseboat	2
Renting from Incommunities	2
Adult Placement	1
Total	60

Source: Housing register

Travelling Showperson households living in Bradford district

- 5.14 There is one authorised Travelling Showperson's yard on Paley Road which has been in family use since the late nineteenth century. An interview with the site owner confirmed there are 12 different families currently living on the yard which has a total of 36 plots. The view of Showpeople on the site is there is plenty of room for showpeople who want to live there. There are currently (June

2026) 22 people living on the yard and this increases to about 30 during the winter. There are also two yards (termed TSP2) at 195-197 Gain Lane which provide accommodation and storage for Travelling Showpeople.

Other caravan dwellers

- 5.15 The revised PPTS 2024 broadens the definition of Traveller to include ‘all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or living in a caravan’ and therefore widens the range of people who are covered by the PPTS. This definitional change is also included in the proposed revisions to the NPPF currently out for consultation.
- 5.16 The key points around the phrasing include:
- ‘**cultural tradition**’ which means a long-standing, established way of life, not necessarily a short-term or linked to economic circumstances. The wording implies habits, customs and social practices passed through time.
- ‘**nomadism**’ which means regular or seasonal movement from place to place as part of that way of life, for instance historically for work, family networks or tradition.
- ‘**living in a caravan**’ refers to people who have culturally lived in a caravan or similar mobile accommodation, not simply anyone living in a van due to housing pressure.
- 5.17 Essentially, the definition is seeking to ensure that local authorities do not exclude groups that do not fit neatly into a particular ethnicity, for instance New Age Travellers with an established nomadic culture and other non-Gypsy Traveller groups with a demonstrable, long-term tradition of mobile living.
- 5.18 Although case law is currently limited as the definitional change is relatively new, in practice the phrase is unlikely to include:
- People living in vehicles solely because of lack of housing or cost;
 - People without a demonstrable cultural or historic tradition of nomadism; and
 - Short-term van dwellers or those adopting vehicle living later in life for economic reasons alone.
- 5.19 Stakeholder feedback on other Travellers, including New Age Travellers and Van Dwellers, was limited with no direct evidence provided to quantify need for permanent pitches for these groups. Some anecdotal awareness was reported of an increase in people living in cars and other vehicles. This was linked to wider financial pressures, the cost of renting, changes affecting private landlords and possible supply pressures in the private rented sector. The feedback suggests that vehicle living may emerge in response to wider housing pressures.

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

Introduction

- 6.1 This section reviews the overall pitch and plot requirements of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across Bradford district. It takes into account current supply and need, as well as future need, based on modelling of data. This chapter also considers transit pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers. Finally, the chapter presents planning policy recommendations.
- 6.2 The calculation of pitch requirements is based on modelling as advocated in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Guidance (DCLG, 2007). Although now formally withdrawn, the former DCLG Guidance still provides the best-practice approach towards the assessment of pitch and plot needs (see Chapter 2 for further discussion).
- 6.3 This approach requires an assessment of the current needs of Gypsies and Travellers and a projection of future needs. It advocates the use of a survey to supplement secondary source information and derive key supply and demand information. Modelling presents an overall need based on the revised 2024 PPTS definition.

Gypsy and Traveller pitch requirement model overview

- 6.4 Pitch need is assessed for two time periods. A short-term 5-year model looks at need over the next five years (2026/27 to 2030/31). A longer-term model looks at need over the remainder of the plan period (to 2042/43) arising from children likely to need a pitch.
- 6.5 In terms of **need**, the 5-year model considers:
- the baseline number of households on all types of site (authorised, unauthorised and temporary authorised sites) as of May 2026;
 - existing households planning to move in the next five years (currently on sites and also from bricks and mortar) and where they are planning to move to; and
 - emerging households currently on sites or in bricks and mortar accommodation and planning to emerge in the next five years and stay within the study area on a pitch; to derive a figure for total pitch need.
- 6.6 In terms of **supply**, the model considers:
- total supply of current pitches on authorised sites; and
 - short-term and long-term vacant pitches on authorised sites.
- 6.7 The model then reconciles total need and existing authorised supply over the next five years by summarising:
- total need for pitches; and

- total supply of authorised pitches.
- 6.8 The longer-term model then considers need over the period to 2042/43. This is based on the age profile of children under 13 living in Gypsy and Traveller households on pitches or in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 6.9 This chapter continues by setting out the standard modelling for Gypsy and Traveller residential pitch need before considering alternative approaches to assessing need.

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

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

Need

Current households living on pitches (Section 1 of Table 6.1)

- 6.11 These figures are derived from council data and site observation data. In summary there are 40 households living on pitches on authorised sites

Current households in bricks and mortar accommodation (Section 2 of Table 6.1)

- 6.12 The 2021 Census suggested there were around 278 households living in bricks and mortar accommodation living across Bradford district.

Existing households planning to move in the next five years (Section 3 of Table 6.1)

- 6.13 This was derived from information from the 2026 household information for respondents currently on pitches.
- 6.14 Of existing households currently on sites, the household survey indicates that several plan to move in the next 5 years, in particular between sites or from sites to bricks and mortar. The specific flows are reported in rows 3a to 3d.
- 6.15 For households currently in bricks and mortar, based on national arc⁴ studies it is estimated that 5.3% of households living in bricks and mortar would prefer to live on a site which would equate to around 15 households.
- 6.16 From bricks and mortar interviews carried out by Leeds GATE, a total of 5 households were planning to move in the next 5 years (2 to a site and 3 to another bricks and mortar property). As engaging with bricks and mortar households is particularly challenging, it is recommended that the modelling assumes an overall need from 15 households in bricks and mortar, of whom 6 plan to move to a site based on the household survey evidence and 9 plan to remain in bricks and mortar accommodation (row 3f). This is further corroborated through the housing register which identifies 6 households seeking alternative accommodation who identify as Gypsy/Traveller.

- 6.17 There has been some in-migration in the past five years (row 3i)
- 6.18 The factors presented in section 3 of the model result in an overall net requirement of 12 additional pitches from existing households planning to move in the next 5 years and homeless households identified on the housing register (row 3h).

Emerging households (Section 4 of Table 6.1)

- 6.19 This is the number of households expected to emerge in the next 5 years and require a pitch on a site based on 2026 household information (row 4). The total number is +19. In addition, there are 5 households to expect to emerge but remain in bricks and mortar accommodation which are not included in the calculation of pitch supply.
- 6.20 If young people aged 18 and over were living with family and have not specified that they want to form a new household, this is assumed to be through choice and the model does not assume they want to form a new household.

Total need for pitches (Section 5 of Table 6.1)

- 6.21 This is a total of current households on authorised pitches, households on pitches planning to move in the next five years, need from households wanting to move out of bricks and mortar onto a pitch and need from emerging households currently living on pitches. This indicates a total need for 73 pitches.

Supply

Current supply of authorised pitches (Section 6 of Table 6.1)

- 6.22 There are currently 50 authorised pitches (42 occupied and 8 vacant, of which 2 are long-term vacant). For modelling purposes, supply is based on 48 pitches as 2 vacant pitches are considered to be long-term vacant and not available for use.

Reconciling supply and demand

- 6.23 There is a total need over the next five years (2026/27 to 2030/31) for 73 pitches in Bradford district (Table 6.1) compared with a supply of 48 authorised pitches (occupied pitches and pitches that were short-term vacant at the time of survey). The result is an overall additional need for 25 pitches.

Table 6.1 Summary of demand and supply factors: Gypsies and Travellers – Bradford district 2026/27 to 2030/31

NEED			Bradford Total
1	Households living on pitches	1a. On council site	39
		1b. On private site - Authorised	1
		1c. On private site – Temporary Authorised	0
		1d. On unauthorised site	0
		1e. Total (1a to 1d)	40
2	Estimate of households living in bricks and mortar accommodation	2021 Census estimate (290 households and 95.7% live in bricks and mortar accommodation)	278
3	Existing households planning to move in next 5 years	Currently on sites	
		3a. To another pitch/same site (no net impact)	1
		3b. To another site in district (no net impact)	6
		3c. From site to bricks and mortar (-)	3
		3d. To site/bricks and mortar outside district (-)	0
		Currently in Bricks and Mortar	
		3e. Planning to move to a site in LA (+)	6
		3f. Planning to move to another B&M property (no net impact)	9
		Roadside or homeless in Bradford district	
		3g. Currently on roadside (+)	0
		3h. Homeless based on housing register (+)	6
		In-migrant households	
		3i. Allowance for in-migration (+)	3
3j. TOTAL Net impact (-3c-3d+3e+3g+3h+3i)	12		
4	Emerging households (5 years)	4a. Currently on site and planning to live on current site and will require a pitch	10
		4b. Currently on site and planning to live on another site in the district	9
		4c. Currently on site and planning to live outside the district	0
		4d. Currently in B&M planning to move to a site in LA (+)	2
		4e. Currently in B&M and moving to B&M (no net impact)	2
		4f. Currently on Site and moving to B&M (no net impact)	3
		4g. TOTAL (4a+4b+4d)	21
5	Total Need	1e+3j+4g	73
SUPPLY			
6	Current supply of authorised pitches	6a Current supply of occupied permanently authorised pitches	42
		6b. Current authorised pitches which are vacant (2 long-term and 6 short-term)	8
		6c. Total current authorised supply (6a) NOTE SOME VACANT PITCHES (2) ARE NOT INCLUDED AS THEY HAVE BEEN LONG-TERM VACANT AND CONSIDERED NOT TO BE AVAILABLE FOR USE. HOWEVER USE SHOULD BE MONITORED AND OVERALL NEED FIGURES ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY.	48
RECONCILING NEED AND SUPPLY			
7	Total need for pitches	5 years (from 5)	73
8	Total supply of authorised pitches	5 years (from 6c)	48
5 YEAR AUTHORISED PITCH SHORTFALL 2026/27 TO 2030/31			25

Longer-term pitch need to 2042/43

- 6.24 The standard approach to modelling longer-term need is to use known household structure information from the household survey of households who have stated a preference for living on a pitch. On the basis of the age of children in households, it is possible to determine the extent of 'likely emergence', which assumes that a child is likely to form a new household at the age of 18. On the advice of Leeds GATE we have also considered an alternative approach which assumes a growth rate of between 1.25% and 3% each year.

Approach A: Demographic modelling

- 6.25 When calculating longer-term need, a reasonable assumption is that half of these children will form new households, bearing in mind culturally women tend to move away on marriage and men tend to stay in close proximity to their families on marriage. The model therefore assumes that 50% of children will form households when they reach 18 and that these households remain in the local authority area. This approach has been tested at inquiry, and the assumption has been corroborated by several Travelling interviewees.
- 6.26 Analysis indicates an overall need for 29 additional pitches over the longer-term 2031/32 to 2042/43 based on the number of children living on sites and children in households wanting to move from bricks and mortar houses to pitches. (Table 6.2).

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

Time period	No. children	No. pitches
2031/32 to 2035/36 (5 years)	23	11
2036/37 to 2040/41 (5 years)	18	10
2041/42 to 2042/43 (3 years)	16	8
Total (13 years)	57	29

Note: figures subject to rounding

Approach B: Household growth rates

- 6.27 Overall growth rates take into account new household formation, migration as well as household dissolution. A [detailed technical note](#) on the matter has been prepared by ORS and can be viewed. For planning purposes, the overall rate used is typically in the 1.25% to 1.5% range but can be higher to reflect local circumstances. The methodology developed by ORS has been endorsed across more than 20 examinations and hearings. As a result of these and other decisions, the ORS approach to new household formation is no longer regularly challenged so there have been no more recent decisions from inspectors.
- 6.28 The impact on alternative growth rates is set out in Table 6.3 which considers a wide range of net growth rates of between 1.25% and 2%. This shows that under more alternative growth rates the overall increase in pitch need is notably lower than the actual rate which is 4.1% net each year.

Table 6.3 Gypsy and Traveller pitch need: growth rate analysis

Growth rate (gross)	Growth rate (net)	Base number of households on sites	Additional households by 2042/43	Total pitches by 2042/43
2.8%	1.25%	40	25	65
3.0%	1.5%	40	28	68
3.5%	2.0%	40	34	74
5.6% (actual)	4.1% (actual)	40	55	95

Overall pitch need

6.29 Table 6.4 summarises the overall need for pitches across Bradford district over the period 2026/27 to 2042/43. Need has been assessed over a short-term 2026/27 to 2030/31 and longer-term 2031/32 to 2042/43 period. It is recommended that the outcome of Approach A modelling is used because this is based on the actual demographics of people living in households.

6.30 The overall minimum need is for 54 additional residential pitches over the period 2026/27 to 2042/43.

Table 6.4 Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2026/27 to 2042/43 – Bradford district

Period	Pitch need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2026/27 to 2030/31) (A)	25
Longer-term need	
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36 (B)	11
Over period 2036/37 to 2040/41(C)	10
Over period 2041/42 to 2042/43(D)	8
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2031/32 to 2042/43 (12 years) E=(B+C+D)	29
NET SHORTFALL 2026/27 to 2042/43 (A+E) (17 years)	54

Reconciling with Local Plan period

6.31 The new Local Plan period is 2025/26 to 2042/43 however the GTAA base date is 2026/27. Overall, the GTAA demonstrates a high degree of stability of households living on pitches and it is reasonable to assume that had the study had a base date of 2025/26, a similar level of pitch need would have been established. Therefore, it is proposed that the GTAA should be considered to identify minimum need over the plan period 2025/26 to 2042/43.

Tenure preferences

6.32 The household survey considered the tenure preferences of households living in bricks and mortar and on sites who planned to move, either as an existing or emerging household. Table 6.5 shows that the vast majority (86.7%), including all those living on sites, stated a preference for social renting.

Table 6.5 Tenure preferences

Tenure	Living in Bricks and mortar	Living on Pitch	Total
Social rented	63.6%	100.0%	86.7%
Ownership	36.4%	0.0%	13.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Base	11	19	30

Summary

- 6.33 After considering short-term and longer-term need based on alternative approaches, it is recommended that the council acknowledges a need for at least 54 additional authorised pitches over the plan period. In addition, as the majority of Gypsies and Travellers live in bricks and mortar accommodation, housing policies which support larger homes to meet multi-generational needs and space on general housing sites to allow for caravans and vehicles should be considered.

Stakeholder views on residential pitch need

- 6.34 Stakeholder feedback indicates a perceived need for additional permanent residential pitches for Gypsies and Travellers across Bradford district. The main reasons given were the limited number of existing permanent sites, the lack of available space for new household formation, waiting list pressure at one existing site and a view that previous assessments had identified need without resulting in additional supply.
- 6.35 The Mary Street site was highlighted as a particular concern. Issues raised included its industrial setting, small plot sizes, limited parking, restricted space for children to play, limited access to green space, and environmental concerns associated with neighbouring uses. Feedback also referred to overcrowding on existing pitches and to households in bricks and mortar accommodation who may prefer to live on a site if suitable provision were available.
- 6.36 There was a consistent preference for greater choice in the type and location of provision. Stakeholders favoured smaller, family-focused sites distributed across the district, rather than reliance on a very small number of larger locations. Pitches need to be a range of sizes to reflect the different needs and families over time. Pitches should be able to accommodate a mix of pitches for: single people and childless couples; intergenerational households; and also accessible pitches for older people and those with disabilities.
- 6.37 Stakeholders emphasised that the location of any new sites should be informed by engagement with Gypsy and Traveller communities. Holme Wood was identified as an area with an established Gypsy and Traveller community, and Keighley was also identified as an area where Gypsy and Traveller households are understood to live.
- 6.38 Feedback also indicated that site provision should take account of family and community networks. Some households may seek to remain close to relatives

living in settled accommodation but have limited choice because there are no sites in the area where they wish to live.

- 6.39 The main barriers identified were funding, land availability, the suitability of potential locations, political will, local opposition and prejudice towards Gypsy and Traveller communities. Stakeholders also raised concerns about the gap between identifying need and delivering new provision.
- 6.40 Feedback also pointed to the importance of clear ownership, leadership and governance within the council. A planned delivery approach involving relevant services and partners was seen as necessary to move from assessment to implementation. Concerns that site provision can be perceived as difficult to manage were also identified as a potential barrier to delivery.

Transit requirements

- 6.41 There are a number of ways to deliver temporary places where Travellers can stop whilst passing through a local authority area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping. A good indicator of transit need is unauthorised encampment activity. An unauthorised encampment refers to land where persons unknown reside in vehicles or tents without permission. Unauthorised encampments can occur in a variety of locations and constitute trespass.
- 6.42 The council reports a total of 118 unauthorised encampments reported across Bradford district over the period 2020 to 2025 (Table 6.5), with an average of 19.7 encampments each year and an overall range of between 1 and 25 caravans on each encampment, with a median and mode (most frequently reported) number of 4 caravans.

Table 6.6 Unauthorised encampment activity in Bradford district

Calendar Year	Total Encampments	Encampments w/ known caravans	Caravans – Range (where known)	Median Caravans	Modal Caravans
2020	17	9	2 – 15	5	3
2021	27	15	1 – 25	4	2
2022	30	25	2 – 13	5	4
2023	14	12	3 – 17	8.5	4
2024	19	12	1 – 15	3.5	3
2025	11	10	1 – 12	3.5	3
All years	118	83	1 – 25	4	4
Average	19.7	13.8	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: 2020 is bimodal (3 and 5 each occur twice); table shows the lower mode.

Source: Council data

Stakeholder views on transit need across Bradford district

- 6.43 Stakeholders reported awareness of unauthorised encampment activity in Bradford. Feedback referred to roadside camps, outreach activity where possible, local authority responses to encampments on council land, and advice to private landowners where encampments occur on private land.
- 6.44 A recurring theme was the importance of recording and reporting data on roadside camps, including locations and levels of activity, to help understand demand for temporary provision. Feedback also indicated that Bradford district does not generally operate a toleration approach and does not have a negotiated stopping policy. Stakeholders suggested that data collection, welfare assessment and temporary stopping policy arrangements should be considered alongside evidence of unauthorised encampment activity.
- 6.45 Stakeholder feedback supported consideration of transit provision but stressed that it should be informed by community engagement and local evidence. A transit site was seen as potentially helpful for households seeking a short-term stay in Bradford, although the number of pitches required was not quantified because encampment sizes were reported to vary significantly.
- 6.46 The location of any transit provision was considered dependent on land availability and suitability. Stakeholders emphasised that any site should be well located, well managed and provide appropriate facilities. In addition to hard-standing, water and electricity, feedback identified the importance of toilet provision and, ideally, shower facilities.
- 6.47 Stakeholders supported the principle of temporary stop-over places as a practical option for short stays when unauthorised encampments occur. Potential sources of land included disused council land, private land, land held by other organisations, churches, leisure centre land and areas of hard-standing or disused land.
- 6.48 Feedback suggested that temporary stop-over places would need at least basic facilities to operate effectively. Although stop-over places may be less formal than transit sites, stakeholders considered that a lack of facilities could create practical and welfare issues.
- 6.49 Negotiated stopping was viewed positively in the stakeholder feedback. It was seen as a way to support the health and wellbeing of Travelling households and settled communities, while potentially reducing costs associated with repeated enforcement or displacement.
- 6.50 Stakeholders suggested that a negotiated stopping approach would require an identified supply of suitable land and clear agreements on use, facilities and duration. Feedback indicated that a mix of urban and rural locations would be needed, informed by previous locations where unauthorised encampments have occurred in Bradford district.
- 6.51 The barriers to transit provision were similar to those identified for permanent sites, including finance, land availability, political will and local opposition. Stakeholders also raised concerns that temporary provision could become ineffective if it is poorly located, poorly managed or lacks appropriate facilities.

- 6.52 Feedback also cautioned that temporary provision should support lawful travelling rather than simply displace households from Bradford district. Stay and return arrangements, land supply and site management were all identified as important to ensuring that transit or temporary provision functions as intended.

Conclusions on transit need across Bradford district

- 6.53 The GTAA has considered evidence of unauthorised encampment activity and views of stakeholders. The council also needs to be mindful of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 (Part 4). This makes using land for stopping without permission a criminal offence rather than a civil offence. The Act gives police increased powers to act and introduces significant penalties (fines up to £2,500, impounding vehicles and prison sentences).
- 6.54 It is recommended that the council considers negotiated stopping arrangements to positively manage any unauthorised encampment activity. Based on unauthorised encampment activity, a recommendation is to identify land to accommodate encampments of up to 5 caravans, encampments of between 6 and 10 caravans and encampments of more than 10 caravans to reflect the varying sizes of encampments experienced across Bradford district. More information can be found at [Negotiated Stopping](#).
- 6.55 Negotiated stopping involves councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tends to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site.

Cross-boundary issues

- 6.56 The main cross-boundary issue identified by stakeholders was the need for consultation where permanent or temporary sites are proposed close to the boundary of Bradford district. In those circumstances, neighbouring authorities and potentially affected residents should be included in consultation.

Other Traveller needs

- 6.57 Stakeholders indicated that there is no evidence of residential need from other Travellers.

7. Travelling Showperson plot requirements

Introduction

- 7.1 There is a long-standing Showperson's yard at Paley Road with 36 plots. Interviews took place with a yard representative who indicated that the yard currently accommodates 12 families. At the time of interview there were 22 people living on the yard and this increases to 30 during the winter. The interviewee indicated there is plenty of room for Showpeople to live on the yard and is happy to accommodate Showpeople if they are known to the community. There are also two yards with 6 plots at 195-197 Gain Lane which accommodate households and equipment.

Showperson plot requirement modelling

- 7.2 The GTAA usually models Showperson plots need over the shorter- and longer-term taking into account need and supply in the short term 2026/27 to 2030/31 and longer-term 2031/32 to 2042/43. Given the availability of plots, the overall additional need for plots is zero (Table 7.1) although it would be prudent to regularise the yards at Gain Lane through the Local Plan process.

Table 7.1 Plan period Travelling Showperson plot need 2026/27 to 2042/43

Period	Pitch need
5yr Authorised Plot Shortfall (2026/27 to 2030/31) (A)	0
Longer-term need	-
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36 (B)	0
Over period 2036/37 to 2040/41(C)	0
Over period 2041/42 to 2042/43(D)	0
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2031/32 to 2042/43 (12 years) E=(B+C+D)	0
NET SHORTFALL 2026/27 to 2042/43 (A+E) (17years)	0

- 7.3 However, there is a national strategic shortfall of Travelling Showperson yards and need may arise in Bradford district over the plan period. The council should maintain a criteria-based policy in the Local Plan to appraise applications that may be received.

Stakeholder views on Travelling Showperson accommodation need

- 7.4 Stakeholder responses did not provide any evidence of the need for additional permanent residential plots for Travelling Showpeople in Bradford.

8. Conclusion and response

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

Gypsy and Traveller Current accommodation

- 8.2 There are well-established Gypsy and Traveller communities living in Bradford district, most of whom live in bricks and mortar accommodation. There are two council and one private site in the district.

Future Gypsy and Traveller residential need

- 8.3 Based on an analysis of the needs of households living across all sites in Bradford district and evidence of need from bricks and mortar households, the overall need for pitches is 54 over the period 2026/27 to 2042/43. Alternative options have considered overall growth rates based on standard assumptions of between 1.25 and 3% and these point to a lower need. Therefore, the modelling based on local demographic evidence is recommended as a basis for the study. This is a slight reduction in the scale of need identified in the previous GTAA (62 pitches over the period 2020/21 to 2037/38 across the district).
- 8.4 The needs modelling assumes that any long-term vacant pitches are not available until further management practices are put into place to support households living on them. There are currently 2 long-term vacant pitches and these could provide for some of the need in due course. Additionally, modelling assumes that the site at Mary Street continues to be operational.

Transit provision

- 8.5 Given the level of unauthorised encampment activity, it is recommended that the council considers negotiated stopping arrangements to positively manage any unauthorised encampment activity, with a recommendation to identify land to accommodate encampments of up to 5 caravans, encampments of between 6 and 10 caravans and encampments of more than 10 caravans.

Travelling Showperson need

- 8.6 There is one long-standing Travelling Showperson's yard in Bradford district and two unauthorised yards. There is sufficient capacity for the existing households using the yard and space for more households to use it. It is also recommended that the unauthorised yards are regularised. However, there is a national strategic shortfall of Travelling Showperson yards and need may arise in Bradford district over the plan period. The council should maintain a criteria-based policy in the Local Plan to appraise applications that may be received.

Policy recommendations

- 8.7 It is recommended that the Local Plan continues to set out policies to inform future planning applications for private Gypsy and Traveller sites and Travelling Showperson yards.
- 8.8 The following suggestions, based on a range of policies from other local authorities could be taken into account when drafting the council's policies on new Gypsy and Traveller residential pitch provision:
- The site is in a sustainable location in terms of accessibility to services and facilities, including health and schools.
 - The site is suitable in terms of vehicular access to the highway, parking, turning, road safety and servicing arrangements and has access to essential services such as water supply, sewerage, drainage and waste disposal.
 - Appropriate screening and landscaping is included within the proposal to protect local amenity and the environment.
 - The site is not affected by environmental hazards that may affect the residents' health or welfare or be located in an area of high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains.
 - They promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community.
 - They enable mixed business and residential accommodation (providing for the live-work lifestyle of Travellers).
 - They avoid undue pressure on local infrastructure and services.
 - The proposal is well related to the size and location of the site and respects the scale of the nearest settled community.
 - Proposals make adequate provision for on-site facilities that meet best practice for modern Traveller site requirements, including play areas, storage, provision for recycling and waste management.
- 8.9 Regarding Travelling Showpeople, policies should reflect the specific needs to store and service equipment. Specific considerations include:
- The yard is in a sustainable location in terms of accessibility to services and facilities, including health and schools.
 - Safe and convenient access can be achieved for large vehicles, HGVs and articulated lorries.
 - The development will not result in unacceptable impacts on highway safety or traffic flow.
 - Adequate internal circulation and turning space is provided.
 - Yard is of sufficient size to accommodate residential accommodation; storage, maintenance and testing of equipment; plot sizes appropriate to the family needs of Travelling showpeople; safe separation between living areas and working areas.

Future updating

- 8.10 The GTAA should be updated on a 5-yearly basis to ensure that the level of pitch and plot provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson populations across Bradford district

Appendix A: Gypsy and Traveller Fieldwork Questionnaire

Date and Time	
Site Reference	
Address	
General Data Protection Regulation (2018) and Data Protection	GDPR came into effect from 25 th May 2018. This provides rights of people to control personal data held about them by organisations. This study is being done for Bradford Council to identify if there is a need for more residential pitches and transit provision in the area. A report will be prepared based on the findings of these surveys. The information you provide will not be used for any other purpose.
Can you please say if you are happy to carry on with the questionnaire on this basis?	Yes No

1	Pitch/Property Type (and tenure if B&M)	
2	No. statics/mobiles/chalets or bricks and mortar	
3	No. tourers/caravans	
3A	No. of amenity blocks	
4	Description of pitch occupancy	
5	No. households	
6	No. concealed households	
7	No. doubled up households	
8	Does anyone else use this pitch as their home/main home base? If so, who	

9	HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS			
		Gender	Age	Relationship to respondent
	Respondent			
	Person2			
	Person 3			
	Person 4			
	Person 5			
	Person 6			
	Person 7			
	Person 8			

10	ETHNICITY	
----	------------------	--

11	How many bedspaces are there on your pitch?	
12	Overcrowding of home	Y / N
13	Overcrowding of pitch	Y / N
14	Thinking back to when you were 15, were you living on a site, on the roadside or living in bricks and mortar housing?	S, R, B&M
15	Where were you living? Record district/settlement name	

	TRAVELLING QUESTIONS	
16	In the last year have you or someone in your household travelled?	Y / N
17	If yes, reason(s) for travelling	
18	If yes, please describe when and where do you travel? (if relevant)	
19	If no, what reasons do you or your household have for not travelling now or in the future?	

	WHERE YOU PLAN TO LIVE IN THE FUTURE	
20	Are you planning to move to another place to live in the next 5 years?	Y / N
21	Why are you planning to move?	
22	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)	
23	What type of dwelling? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)	
24	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)	
24A	Do you need any grazing land for any livestock?	Y / N
24B	If you are considering bricks and mortar, what are your reasons	

	IF IN B&M HOUSING	
25	If you live in bricks and mortar housing, are you happy to live here or would you prefer to live on a pitch?	Happy Here / Prefer pitch
26	If you would prefer to live on a pitch is this because you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar (this means it affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)?	Y / N

	EMERGING HOUSEHOLDS	
27	Emerging households: Are there any people in your household who want to move to their own pitch in the next 5 yrs?	Y / N

		HH1	HH2	HH3	HH4
28	Where are you planning to move to? (Same Site, Private Site in District, Council Site in District, Outside District (if so where), Bricks and Mortar housing)				
29	What type of dwelling? (caravan, trailer, chalet, house, flat, bungalow)				
30	If pitch, single (one static) or double pitch (for two statics)				
31	If living in bricks and mortar, do you have a 'cultural aversion' to living in bricks and mortar? (this means if affects your mental health and makes you unhappy/ depressed)	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N

	ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL PITCHES	
32	Scope to expand site (extend the boundary of the site)	Y / N
33	No. additional pitches	
34	Scope to intensify pitches (put more pitches on the existing site)	Y / N
35	No. additional pitches	
36	Are there any vacant pitches on the site which could be used by another family? If so, how many pitches	
37	In general, is there a need for more residential pitches (for people to live on all the time?)	Y / N
38	If so, now many are needed?	
39	Who should own them (Council, people from the Traveller Community, non-Travellers)	
40	Do you own any land or know of anywhere within the district which could be considered for development as a site?	

	TRANSIT AND TEMPORARY STOPOVER NEED	
41	Is there a need to provide places where people can stop whilst travelling through the district? This can include transit pitches or stopover places	Y / N
42	Is there a need for transit pitches (for people stopping over temporarily) in the district? A transit pitch is intended for short-term use and usually includes space for two caravans, parking space and access to electricity, a toilet, washing facilities	Y / N
43	If so, how many are needed?	
44	Who should manage them? (Council, Traveller Community)	
45	Where should they be located?	
46	Is there a need for stopover places? A stopover place is land which can be used on a temporary basis and usually include access to portaloos, waste disposal and water	Y / N
47	If so, how many are needed?	
48	Who should manage them? (Council, Traveller Community)	
49	Where should they be located?	

	RESIDENTIAL HISTORY	
50	How many years have you lived here?	
Routing	If more than five years	Go to Q56
	If five years or less	Go to Q51
51	Where did you move from? (District)	
52	Were you living on a Private Site, Council Site, Roadside or Bricks and Mortar housing?	
53	When you moved here, was the pitch vacant, a brand-new pitch or had the pitch been created by dividing up an existing pitch?	
54	What were the reasons for moving here?	
55	Did you already have a connection with the area? (e.g. family or friends living here; or you used to live here?)	

	SUPPORT NEEDS
56	Do you or a member of your household have any health-related needs? Could you please explain what they are?

	FINAL QUESTIONS	
57	Is there anything else you'd like to tell us about your housing or support needs?	
58	Do you know anyone in bricks and mortar housing looking to live on a pitch? If so, can you provide contact details	

OTHER COMMENTS

Appendix B: Glossary of terms

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

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

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

CRE: Commission for Racial Equality.

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

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

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

MHCLG: Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (renamed DLUHC Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities 2018-21, then reverted) The ministry has oversight of policies to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers in England.

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

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

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

Plot: see pitch

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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