



## East Sussex and Brighton & Hove

# Gypsy & Traveller Study - Final Report 2005

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# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## 1.1 Aims & Objectives

- 1.1.1 Brighton & Hove City Council, Eastbourne Borough Council, Hastings Borough Council, Lewes District Council, Rother District Council and Wealden District Council formally commissioned DCA in October 2004 to carry out a Sub-Regional study of the accommodation needs and aspirations of Gypsies and Travellers who are housed or living on authorised or unauthorised sites as part of a Sub-Regional housing needs assessment.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of the study was to examine the accommodation requirements, needs, aspirations and demands of Gypsies and Travellers. In order to obtain statistically reliable data at sub-regional level, the aim of the project was to achieve 120 interviews throughout the six authority areas.
- 1.1.3 The key aims of the project were to:-
- Assess need for sites, taking account of turnover rates and waiting lists;
  - Identify the scale and locational factors to address additional site requirements
  - Provide recommendations on:-
    - ◆ scale and type of need for sites / permanent accommodation;
    - ◆ locational demand / supply;
    - ◆ strategic and policy implications for planning and housing departments.

## 1.2 Methodology

- 1.2.1 The methodology developed for this study was developed in line with emerging Government guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs assessment. The latest guidance was issued in February 2006.
- 1.2.2 The July 2005 Caravan Count identified 159 caravans in the Sub-Region, accounting for around 122 households and East Sussex County Council advised there were 142 Settled Households with children living in the Sub-region.
- 1.2.3 From this information the aim was to conduct 120 interviews in order to achieve statistical validity for the sub-region. The guideline quota was split between 70 interviews with the settled community and 50 Interviews with Gypsy and Travellers on sites.
- 1.2.4 The fieldwork for the study took place from Wednesday 31st August to Saturday 17th September 2005. 128 face to face interviews, 63 in permanent housing, 39 on authorised and 26 on un-authorised sites were achieved with Gypsies and Traveller households throughout the six local authority areas across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove providing a confidence interval of 95%  $\pm$  8.84% for the Sub-region.
- 1.2.5 The response rate on Authorised sites was 64% and 43% on Unauthorised sites, a very high rate overall even for households living in general housing, where 65% would be an average and 50% in London.

### 1.3 Key Findings of the Survey

- There is a need for a continued supply of 9 pitches per year, arising from vacancies and new planning approvals, and an additional supply of 80 pitches over 5 years (16 per year) to meet the backlog of demand from unauthorised encampment, and concealed households, and newly arising need from new family formation and newly created encampments over the next 5 years. In addition, the data suggests a need for transit pitches across the study area.
- The Gypsy and Traveller survey for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove found that the majority of respondents were Romany Gypsy or English Travellers (78.9%). 59.4% of the Romany Gypsy / English traveller community are living in permanent accommodation.
- The survey identified some key issues facing the Gypsy and Traveller communities in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, with problems focused on those living on sites:
  - In terms of the lack of access to basic facilities, 15.9% of households living on sites have sole access to a water supply and 74.2% have shared access. 31.7% have sole access to a WC and 53.2% have shared access;
  - Concerns over health and safety on sites, 56.9% of respondents living on sites had worries about health and safety on their site, with proximity to roads being the main problem; the level of concern was broadly similar for authorised and unauthorised sites.
  - Lower levels of access to schools and health facilities amongst households living on sites.
  - Higher than expected levels of disability and illness (31.7%), and a lower than expected level of adaptations provided across the sample as a whole. Households living on sites were less likely to have adaptations or to be registered with a doctor than those in permanent accommodation.
  - 63% of all respondents in the survey were either unemployed, retired or a housewife. 30% of all respondents were self employed, and just 6.7% were in general employment. Levels of general employment were especially low amongst households living on sites, just 4.4% although levels of general employment amongst those living in permanent housing were also low (8.6%).
  - Eviction is a recurrent problem, 77.3% of households living on a site had been evicted in the last 12 months, 88.2% of whom had been evicted 5 or more times. Of those planning to move from a site 76.5% gave eviction as a reason.
  - High levels of harassment, 34.4% of households living on a site and 42.9% of those in permanent accommodation had experienced harassment.
  - There is instability of housing circumstances, as would be expected within the Gypsy and Traveller community. This is exacerbated by the high level of eviction and lack of suitable sites. 19.2% of all movers intend to move on to a roadside camp / car park, a further 17.3% to a transit site. 64% of all movers intend to stay at their next location until they are evicted.
- Over two thirds of households on sites and in housing have a preference for sites of 10 pitches or less. Of those currently living on a site 50.0% would prefer to live on a site owned by themselves or their family, with planning permission. 46.9% would prefer a Council owned site. Among households currently living in permanent housing 51.9% prefer a site owned by themselves or their family, with planning permission, 34.6% would prefer a site owned by the Council.

## 1.4 Ethnicity

- 1.4.1 The survey found that although 78.9% of all respondents in the survey as a whole were Romany Gypsy or English Travellers, only 40.6% (41) of this group were living on sites. Of the Irish Travellers and new Travellers interviewed however more were living on sites (14) than in permanent housing (3).

**Table 1-1 Type Of Gypsy / Traveller**

Type of Gypsy / Traveller	Housed / Settled Population	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	All Respondents
Romany Gypsy or English Traveller	95.2	76.9	42.3	78.9
Irish Gypsy or Traveller	0.0	15.4	42.3	13.2
New Traveller	1.6	5.1	15.4	5.5
Van Dweller	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.8
None	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.8
Other	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

- 1.4.2 No data was available for Welsh, Scottish, Horse Drawn or Fairground Gypsy / Travellers.
- 1.4.3 Of the 65 households responding and living on sites 44.7% (29) were within Brighton & Hove, 27.7% (18) in Wealden, 16.9% in Lewes (11), 9.2% in Rother (6) and 1.5% (1) in Hastings. There were no site respondents from Eastbourne.
- 1.4.4 Housed respondents were well spread across the sub-regions with 34.9% (22) living in Wealden, 30.2% (19) in Eastbourne, 14.3% (9) in Hastings, 9.5% (6) in Rother, 9.5% (6) in Lewes and 1.6% (1) in Brighton & Hove.

## 1.5 Adequacy and Satisfaction

- 1.5.1 36.9% of the sample group (24 households) responded to the question asking if their site or pitch was adequate for their needs. All 24 households indicated that their site or pitch was adequate for their needs. 42 respondents living in permanent housing (66.6% of the group) responded to the question on adequacy, all of whom said their home was adequate.
- 1.5.2 Satisfaction rates varied, with households living on authorised sites showing a far higher level of satisfaction than those living on unauthorised sites, as can be seen in Table 1-2 below. Site satisfaction issues were not asked of those living in permanent housing.

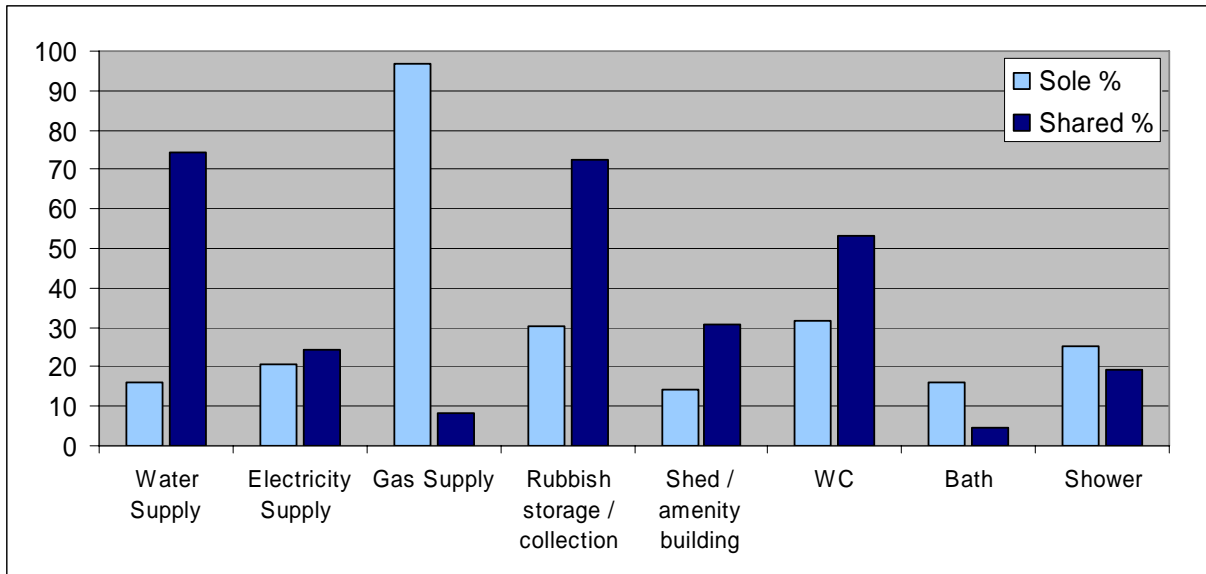
**Table 1-2 Level Of Satisfaction with Site**

Question 4 by Question 3

Satisfaction Levels	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites
Very Satisfied	31.0	0.0
Satisfied	31.0	30.8
Neutral	4.8	15.4
Dissatisfied	7.1	26.9
Very Dissatisfied	23.8	26.9
Don't Know	2.4	0.0

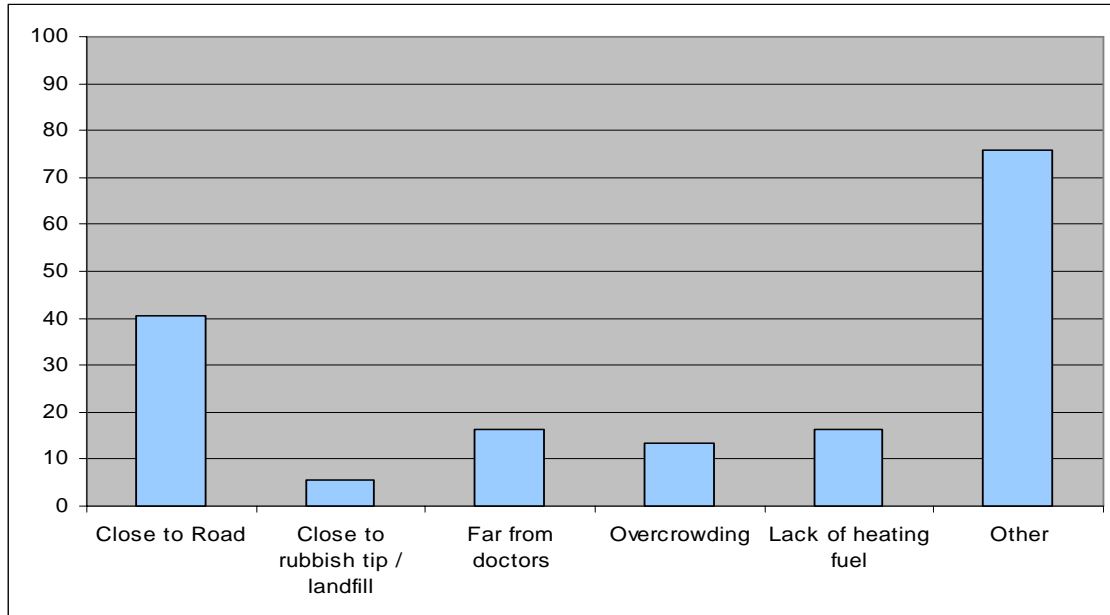
1.5.3 The facilities available to those living on sites were examined as seen in Figure 1-1.

**Figure 1-1 Sole And Shared Amenities Available**



1.5.4 The survey revealed that people living on sites had a low level of access to basic facilities. Only 74.2% (46) of respondents had shared access to a water supply. 53.2% (33) had shared access to a WC. 92.1% (58) had sole use of bottled gas and 42.8% (27) had sole access to an electricity supply and a further 48.4% (30) had shared access to electricity.

**Figure 1-2 Site Health And Safety Concerns**



1.5.5 Respondents were asked about the health and safety concerns that they had. The issue that the site was close to a road was a significant concern for respondents living on sites (40.5% 15 cases). 75.7% (28 cases) of respondents stated 'other' reasons. The majority of responses to the 'other' category were lack of amenities 42.9% (12 cases) and poor drainage / sewers smell (28.6%) 8 cases.

1.5.6 Overcrowding was an issue for 13.2% (5) of respondents living on sites.

## 1.6 Access to Healthcare and Education

- 1.6.1 31 households living on sites indicated that they had school aged children (47.6% of the site sample), this compared to 40 households living in permanent housing (64.5% of the housed sample). 27.6% (18) of households living on sites had school age children in school and 20% had school age children who were not in school (13 households compared to only 4 in housing). The data suggested that households living on sites were more likely than those in permanent housing to have school age children who did not attend school.
- 1.6.2 9 (29% of those with school age children) households on sites reported difficulties with schooling because of their accommodation / site. Of those, 7 had disrupted schooling due to their mobility, 1 had experienced difficulties getting a school place and 1 was afraid to send their children due to local hostility. 10 families on sites had moved in the last 12 months in order to access schools (32.3% of those with school age children).
- 1.6.3 96.8% (61) of respondents currently living in permanent accommodation were registered with a doctor in the area. This compares to just 45.3% (29) of respondents living on a site.

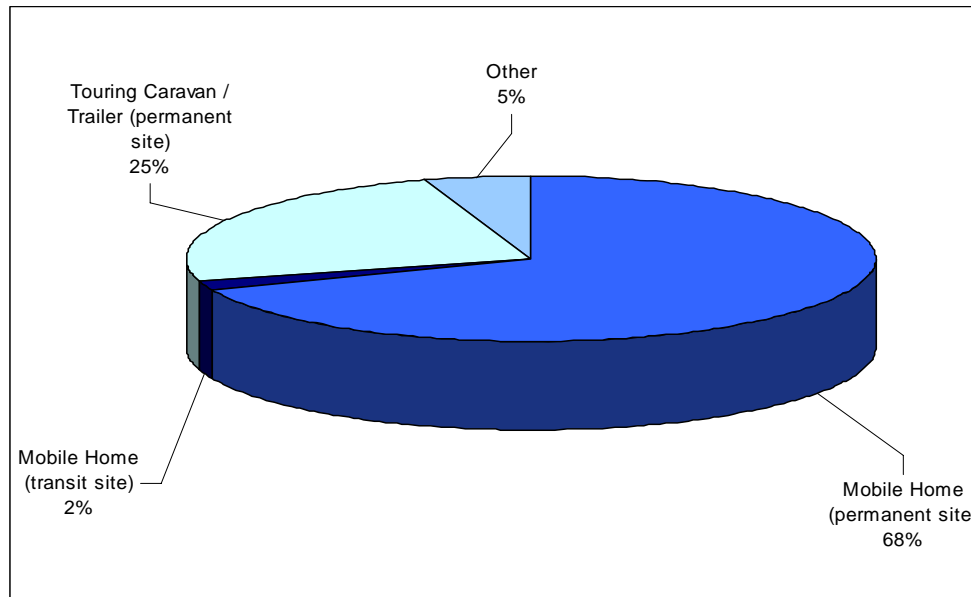
## 1.7 Harassment / Eviction

- 1.7.1 34.4% (22) of households currently living on a site had experienced harassment at their current site, compared to 42.3% (27) in housing. 52.4% (33) of those currently living on a site had left accommodation as a result of harassment, compared to 22.2% (14) of those in housing. In all the cases cited, the harassment had taken place at the site / home rather than at school or at work.
- 1.7.2 75% (48) of those currently living on a site and 71% (44) of those in housing said they would take harassment into consideration when deciding to move again.
- 1.7.3 77.3% (34) had been evicted from a site, compared to 17.6% in housing (3). 79.4% (27) had left the site voluntarily, compared to all of those in housing, and 20.6% (7) had been evicted from sites by the police or bailiffs. Of all those that had been evicted, 88.2% had been evicted five or more times in the last 12 months.

## 1.8 Ideal Accommodation

- 1.8.1 All households were asked for their views on what would make their ideal site. Generally at least two thirds of respondents' preferred smaller sites, irrespective of their current accommodation type.
- 1.8.2 83% (52) of those currently on a site and 91% (43) of those currently in permanent housing would prefer permanent sites with 10 pitches or less. Among those currently living on a site 68.8% (33) of preference for transit sites was also for sites of 10 pitches or less, and for 66.7% (16) of respondents currently living in permanent housing.
- 1.8.3 68% (42) of those currently living on a site would prefer a mobile home on a permanent site. 25% (15) would prefer a touring caravan / trailer on a permanent site. Among those in permanent housing 81% (42) would prefer a mobile home on a permanent site.

**Figure 1-3 Ideal Type Of Site (Respondents Currently Living On Site)**

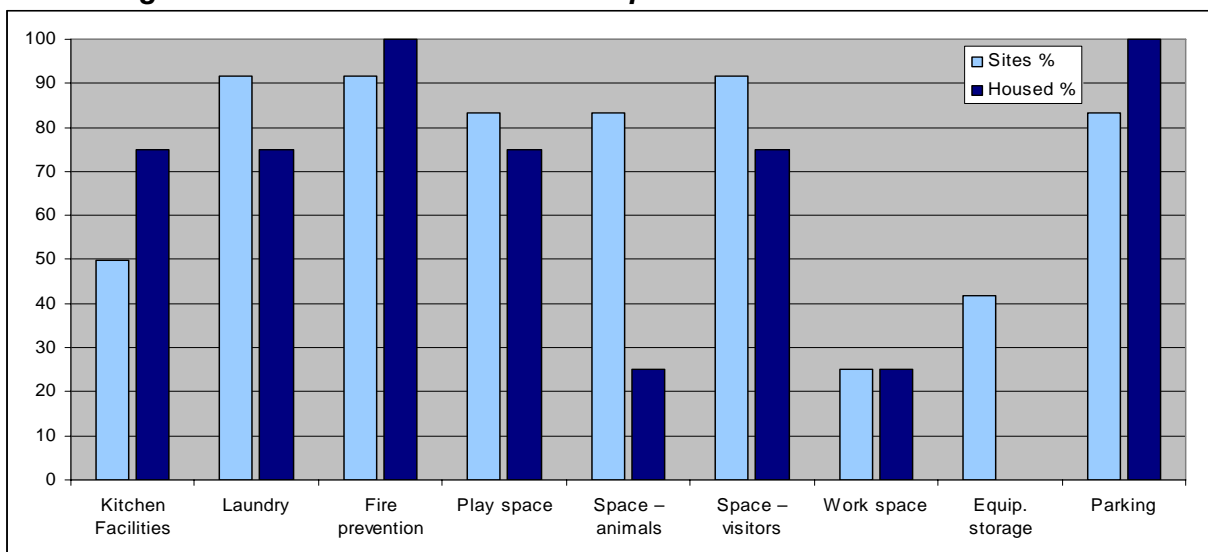


1.8.4 Of those currently living on a site 50.0% (32) would prefer to live on a site owned by themselves or their family, with planning permission. 46.9% (30) would prefer a Council owned site. Among households currently living in permanent housing 51.9% (27) prefer a site owned by themselves or their family, with planning permission, 34.6% (18) would prefer a site owned by the Council.

1.8.5 When considering their ideal location the majority of those currently living on sites wanted to stay in the same area, 94.4% (17) in the case of Wealden, 66.6% in the case of Brighton and Hove (18 cases). Overall the level of mobility is less than might be expected within the Gypsy and Traveller community, with most moves being relatively local.

1.8.6 Respondents living on sites, and those currently in housing who wish to return to sites, were asked what shared facilities would be required at the next site they moved to. Figure 1-4 shows the shared facilities required.

**Figure 1-4 Shared Facilities Required At Next Site**





## 1.9 Disability

- 1.9.1 22 households in permanent accommodation had a member with a disability or long term illness (35.5%). The incidence of disability was marginally lower amongst Gypsy and Traveller households on sites than it was amongst those living in permanent accommodation (28.1%). On sites 13 cases needed regular medical treatment from a doctor or hospital, compared to all 12 households in permanent accommodation.
- 1.9.2 The adaptations required in both sites and housing included ramps outside, handrails, other alterations for access and bath / shower / toilet adaptations.

## 1.10 Concealed Households

- 1.10.1 6 households currently living on a site (9.2% of the group) indicated that they had a family member who would be looking for independent accommodation in the next 3 years compared to 2 households currently living in permanent housing (3.2% of the group).
- 1.10.2 Preference on the type of accommodation was predominantly for a site (6 cases). 2 new households wanted a house / flat / bungalow. In terms of location, 3 of the movers from sites were from Brighton and Hove, of whom 1 wanted to remain in Brighton and Hove, 1 wanted to move to Wealden and 1 to Crawley. 2 new households were from Lewes, both planned to move to Rother. There was no data for one household.

**Table 1-5 Concealed Households**

No. of concealed households	Housed / Settled Population	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites
One	1	1	3
Two	1	1	0
Three or more	0	0	1

## 1.11 Recommendations

- 1.11.1 Both the current and future accommodation circumstances of Gypsy and Travellers need to be addressed across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. Strategies and plans need to be developed in consultation with the Gypsy and Traveller community within the cross-district Forum.
- 1.11.2 Development of plans and strategies to meet the housing needs of Gypsy and Traveller households must be based on reliable and robust local data. Local Authorities should cooperate in developing common waiting lists, and consistent monitoring of site management information in order to provide comparable sub-regional data on housing needs.
- 1.11.3 There is a need to investigate further the use of unauthorised sites and the extent of homelessness within the Gypsy and Traveller communities. Where unauthorised sites are being regularly used there may be a case for developing them as authorised sites. Where this is not feasible site search criteria should be adopted to help identify alternative sites that can be developed and authorised for use by the Gypsy and Traveller community. Our survey invited respondents to identify such sites. Illegal sites are a symptom of the lack of legal places for Gypsies and Travellers to stop.

- 1.11.4 There is a need to introduce a procedure for regular inspection of sites, covering the provision of basic facilities including water and sanitation, as well as health and safety. A local code of standards could build on the basic legal requirement for site licence conditions on private sites and health and safety law on public sites. The code of standards should be developed in consultation with local Gypsy and Traveller communities to ensure that sites meet not only the basic legal requirements but the needs of Gypsy and Traveller families.
- 1.11.5 The educational needs of children on sites need to be addressed through the education department. Children living on sites are more likely to be missing school or having problems accessing education. New sites should be developed with access to local facilities in mind. Adults also need access to literacy and numeracy courses to make up for missed education in childhood. Recommendations for improving access to education should be developed by the Education Department in consultation with the community.
- 1.11.6 Households living on sites need to be encouraged to access health facilities, the health authority needs to promote services to the travelling community and encourage Gypsy and Traveller households living on sites to register with a doctor. The health services could consider commissioning dedicated health care workers to provide an outreach service to Gypsy and Traveller communities, and improving the cultural competence of existing staff.
- 1.11.7 The needs of disabled members of the Gypsy and Traveller community need to be addressed through liaison with social services and local doctors. In particular there is a need for strategies to enable families living on sites to access adaptations. A local code of guidance should be developed by Occupational Therapy to enable Gypsy and Traveller families to gain equal access to adaptations compared to the settled community.
- 1.11.8 Allegations of harassment appear to be significant and need to be addressed in partnership with the settled community and the police. There may be a need to develop confidence in the police to tackle issues of harassment; lack of confidence in the police may be a particular problem because of the experience of eviction within the community.
- 1.11.9 The provision of more authorised sites across the sub-region is a priority. Smaller sites (10 or fewer pitches) are preferred for both permanent and transit sites, with most Gypsy and Traveller families preferring to live in the Countryside on sites owned by the community or by the Council.
- 1.11.10 Our needs assessment model (see Section 5 of this report) identifies a need for 80 additional authorised site pitches across the study area over the next 5 years to cope with both the backlog of existing need expressed through unauthorised encampments, and new family formation. In addition the model assumes a continued supply of 9 pitches a year as a result of vacancies and new pitch development, in line with existing supply in 2005.
- 1.11.11 Analysis of travel patterns and levels of eviction suggests a need for households to be accommodated on transit pitches across the study area.

- 1.11.12 There is a need to expand the supply of authorised sites across the study area (including Eastbourne and Hastings). Wealden is a popular location for Gypsies and Travellers, when asked about their ideal location 42.5% said they would prefer Wealden. Brighton and Hove has a high proportion of unauthorised sites, the reasons why these sites can not be authorised should be investigated. Eastbourne and Hastings currently have no authorised sites. Smaller sites (10 or fewer pitches) are preferred for both permanent and transit sites, although larger transit sites should be considered to enable flexibility of movement during the travelling season. Most Gypsy and Traveller families prefer to live in the Countryside on private sites or sites owned by the Council.
- 1.11.13 A range of types of sites is appropriate, although Gypsy and Traveller respondents in the survey favoured sites owned by the community, we suggest that a range of options including community owned and managed sites as well as private and local authority sites should be developed.
- 1.11.14 New sites should be located in areas considered appropriate for general residential use, and with access to local services and facilities, within existing communities. Planning applications should be considered on their merits in the context of site size and location, and the population density of the surrounding area. Permissions should be used to restrict the size of sites and where appropriate to recommend a “cap” on the number of people allowed to live on the site on a permanent basis and for transit / visiting.
- 1.11.15 The high level of refusal of planning applications made by the Gypsy and Traveller community needs further investigation. Gypsy and Traveller communities should be supported in their applications. Local authorities need to find a balance between the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller communities and the needs of the settled communities.
- 1.11.16 All sites should be effectively managed. There is a need for a senior manager to coordinate the work of local site managers and ensure that temporary and transit sites are well managed and illegal encampments are responded to appropriately and effectively.
- 1.11.17 The accommodation needs and preferences of the travelling community need to be clearly understood. This report provides an indication of the overall need for site accommodation across the study area. We also set out some recommendations for site search criteria, based on our findings and latest Government recommendations (ODPM Circular 01/2006 “Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites”), to inform local debate on the exact location of new sites.

## 2 INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 Brighton & Hove City Council, Eastbourne Borough Council, Hastings Borough Council, Lewes District Council, Rother District Council and Wealden District Council formally commissioned David Couttie Associates (DCA) in October 2004 to carry out a Sub-Regional study of the accommodation needs and aspirations of Gypsies and Travellers who are housed or living on authorised or unauthorised sites as part of a Sub-Regional housing needs assessment.
- 2.1.2 The methodology developed for the East Sussex and Brighton and Hove study is based on the requirements of draft guidance for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessments, issued by ODPM in February 2006. Although the study was carried out while guidance was being developed, and issued in draft form, the final report takes into account, and is consistent with the latest guidance issued in February 2006.
- 2.1.3 The East Sussex and Brighton and Hove local authorities commissioned this study jointly. Guidance clearly recommends that Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments be carried out at a sub regional level in order to achieve:-
- A bigger sample and hence more accurate results, and a better understanding of needs across administrative boundaries;
  - A better understanding of the travelling patterns, particularly where they cross administrative boundaries;
  - A common approach and consistency across the study area;
  - Economies of cost and scale;
  - Reduce the risk of double counting;
  - Opportunities to work together to devise a strategic approach to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation shortages and enforcement against unauthorised sites.
- 2.1.4 There is a strong emphasis on the requirement for local authorities to work alongside one another sub-regionally to analyse surrounding housing markets and assess the scale of demand and need for accommodation. However, there is also a need to understand the key local issues for an individual authority.
- 2.1.5 The need to evaluate the needs and requirements of key specialist groups within an area / sub-region is becoming ever more apparent. Thus within the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Sub-Regional Study there was a strong emphasis on acquiring information on a range of specialist groups within the sub-region, some of whose needs are met on a Sub-Region basis. This study is one of the first of its kind in the Country and was completed in summer 2005.
- 2.1.6 The sample (discussed in detail at 2.8) consisted of Gypsies and Travellers who are housed or living on unauthorised or authorised sites within the six participating authorities of Brighton & Hove City Council, Eastbourne Borough Council, Hastings Borough Council, Lewes District Council, Rother District Council, and Wealden District Council, as part of a Sub-regional housing needs assessment, rather than on a District / Borough / City-wide basis.

- 2.1.7 Mill Field Services, an independent interview company, were commissioned to conduct the fieldwork by DCA as part of the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Sub-Regional Study.

## 2.2 Definition of Need

- 2.2.1 The definition of need for gypsy and Traveller households takes as its starting point the understanding of “housing needs” as defined in Housing Market Assessment draft guidance (December 2005):

*“Households who lack their own housing or live in unsuitable housing and who can not afford to meet their need in the housing market”*

- 2.2.2 ODPM draft Planning Policy Statement 3 similarly defines housing need as:

*“Households who are unable to access suitable housing without some financial assistance”*

- 2.2.3 In conventional (bricks and mortar) housing need assessments “demand” is defined in market terms as the quantity of housing that households are willing or able to rent or buy. The conventional definition of need and demand relies heavily on an assessment of affordability and an understanding of the “market” for accommodation within the study area.

- 2.2.4 In terms of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs the standard definition of needs requires some adjustment to take account of those households:-

- Who have no authorised site on which to reside;
- Whose existing site accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable and are unable to obtain more suitable accommodation;
- Who contain suppressed households who are unable to set up separate family units, and are unable to access a place on an authorised site, or to afford land to develop one.

- 2.2.5 Draft guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments also recognises that there may be no real “market” in sites as supply is generally very limited and low income and local hostility to the travelling community may effectively restrict the ability of Gypsy and Traveller households to exercise a free choice in the accommodation market.

- 2.2.6 Finally the standard definition of housing needs relies heavily on an assessment of affordability, which in turn depends on accurate data on household incomes related to market costs. Experience of Gypsy and Traveller studies in other areas has shown that households are often reluctant to disclose financial information, making an assessment of affordability difficult.

## 2.3 Definition of Gypsy and Traveller Household

- 2.3.1 The definition of the term “Gypsy and Traveller” for the purposes of the 2004 Housing Act is set out in a consultation paper issued by ODPM in February 2006.

- 2.3.2 There are currently 2 definitions of Gypsies and Travellers, a planning definition that seeks to define gypsies and Travellers in quite a closed context specifically for the purposes of regulating the use and development of land. As such the planning definition is limited to those who can demonstrate a specific land use requirement arising from their nomadic lifestyle. There is also a housing definition; this is broader, and intended to be a pragmatic definition enabling local authorities to understand the possible future accommodation needs of this group.

- 2.3.3 The planning definition specifically excludes organised groups of show people, and travelling circus people, whose needs are addressed under a separate planning circular (22/91 Travelling Show people); this group is not specifically excluded from the housing definition.
- 2.3.4 The planning definition now covers:-  
“Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ education or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling show people or circus people travelling together as such.”
- 2.3.5 The proposed housing definition is:-  
“Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds of their own or their family’s or dependants’ education or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, and all other persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism and / or caravan dwelling but not excluding members of an organised group of travelling show people or circus people travelling together as such.”
- 2.3.6 Government recognises that it may not always be clear-cut whether a particular group falls within the housing definition, however, Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessments are now being carried out alongside general housing needs and market assessments as a requirement of section 8 of the 1985 Housing Act, if a particular group is not assessed under section 225 (Gypsy and Traveller assessment) they will need to be included as part of the wider section 8 requirement.

## 2.4 Community Consultation

- 2.4.1 Community liaison is a key part of our fieldwork methodology in Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessments.
- 2.4.2 Without strong links to the community it would not be possible for our fieldwork team to achieve high response rates from both authorised and unauthorised sites in the study area.
- 2.4.3 Interviews are carried out over a 2-week fieldwork period, in order to achieve the interviews it is essential that the fieldwork team have good local links to help them gain access and acceptance on sites.
- 2.4.4 Strong community liaison also has an important long-term impact. If the community accept both the methodology and results of the study then future planning disputes are minimised.
- 2.4.4.1 The community consultation approach developed by DCA respects the fact that Gypsy and Traveller households may have different expectations of an accommodation needs assessment compared to the settled community. In particular as an often marginalised group within the community there is a need to build trust in the process. We also recognise that our standard methods of raising awareness through letters and flyers may not be sufficient to engage the Gypsy and Traveller community, and that face to face contact from known officers and community leaders may be more effective.

- 2.4.5 Since April 2005, various meetings were organised to discuss the approaches and methods which need to be employed in order to study this sub-group. In-depth consultation and training has been put in place to ensure that the Gypsy and Traveller community have been adequately consulted throughout the project.
- 2.4.6 There has been extensive involvement from East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Gypsy Liaison Service, who have worked closely with the Travellers Education Service to establish the number of settled households within the area.
- 2.4.7 Outreach Support Workers were appointed to promote the study and encourage Gypsies and Travellers to take part. Two outreach workers, who themselves were from the Gypsy and Traveller community, were employed to liaise with Gypsy and Traveller households living in permanent housing to promote and encourage participation in the survey, working with the Travellers Education personnel.
- 2.4.8 Council or NOVAS personnel accompanied interviewers to all sites, to allow introduction and familiarisation with the community.
- 2.4.9 In addition to the direct personal contact with households prior to the survey starting, a letter explaining the survey was sent informing households of the time period in which the interviewers would be calling with a contact name and number from the Council and East Sussex County Council if any further information was required.
- 2.4.10 East Sussex County Council took the lead on issuing letters to the community to inform them of the research, and all letters were sent or hand delivered to houses and sites across the six authority areas. No negative feedback was received from the issue of this letter.

## **2.5 Cultural Awareness Event**

- 2.5.1 A Cultural Awareness event was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2005 for officers, consultants and interview fieldworkers for the project. The aim of this event was to raise awareness and understanding of the cultural needs and requirements of Gypsy and Travellers. The event was facilitated by Romany, English and Irish Travellers.

## **2.6 Survey Questionnaire**

- 2.6.1 A specific questionnaire to identify the housing needs of this community was agreed in consultation with all six authorities and East Sussex County Council. This followed a period of extensive consultation and feedback from officers, community members and service providers to ensure that an effective questionnaire was devised to assess the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers within East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. The questionnaire also covered health, education and employment issues.
- 2.6.2 Mill Field Services were provided with the questionnaire by DCA. Mill Field Services produced field materials as well as preparing a field ready version of the questionnaire for distribution to interviewers.

## **2.7 Methodology**

- 2.7.1 The methodology developed for this study was developed in line with emerging Government guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs assessment. The latest guidance was issued in February 2006.

- 2.7.2 In order to obtain statistically reliable data at sub-regional level, the aim of the project was to achieve 120 interviews throughout the six authority areas, as part of the Sub-regional Housing Needs Assessments rather than on a District / Borough / City wide basis.
- 2.7.3 In order to stratify a sample, information was obtained from the ODPM Caravan Count at January 2005 (available at the time of fieldwork organisation) and site and housed information obtained on the total Gypsy and Traveller population within the six authorities is as follows:

**Table 2-1 Breakdown Of Caravan Count By District 2005**

Area Name	Authorised Sites		Unauthorised Sites		Total all sites	
	Jan	July	Jan	July	Jan	July
Brighton & Hove	15	38	0	48	<b>15</b>	<b>86</b>
Eastbourne	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Hastings	0	0	0	4	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
Lewes	12	3	2	14	<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>
Rother	10	9	0	0	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
Wealden	18	23	11	14	<b>32</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>159</b>

Source: ODPM Caravan Count January 05 & July 05

- 2.7.4 East Sussex County Council identified approximately 142 Settled Households with children living in the six authorities.
- 2.7.5 The Gypsy count estimated a total of six private authorised sites containing approximately 60 pitches (12<sup>th</sup> January 2005).
- 2.7.6 In March 2005 there were four known unauthorised sites. The unauthorised information needed to be re-established at the time of interviews to determine the actual number of sites present at the time of fieldwork.
- 2.7.7 Samples were derived from the information provided by the County and the caravan counts.
- 2.7.8 Each council provided DCA with an address file of housed Gypsies and Travellers and details of those living on authorised and unauthorised sites known to each local authority.

## 2.8 Fieldwork and Response

- 2.8.1 The fieldwork for this project was conducted between Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2005. 128 interviews were carried out in total in the two week period and no fieldwork difficulties were experienced.
- 2.8.2 All interviewers taking part in the study were subject to a CRB check prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 2.8.3 Mill Field Services always conduct a minimum 10% 'back check'. In doing this, they can guarantee the validity of all interviews completed and ensure that high standards are met. Mill Field Services check that the interview took place, verify the answers to key questions and check that the respondent was happy with the way the interview was carried out.



- 2.8.4 The success of the fieldwork was not only down to the energy and enthusiasm of the interview team, but also the invaluable contribution of the Traveller Education team, Outreach workers and NOVAS Personnel in accompanying interviewers to each house / site and making initial introductions.
- 2.8.5 During the fieldwork process we found that housed Travellers who agreed to take part in the study introduced the interviewers to other housed Travellers, and those living on sites encouraged others to take part in the survey.
- 2.8.6 The breakdown of the number of interviews carried out with Gypsies and Travellers in each area is shown in Table 2-2 below. It should be noted that there are no authorised sites either in Hastings or Eastbourne.

**Table 2-2 Breakdown Of Completed Interviews**

Area Name	Housed	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	Total
Brighton & Hove	1	4	25	30
Eastbourne	19	0	0	19
Hastings	9	0	1	10
Lewes	6	11	0	17
Rother	6	6	0	12
Wealden	22	18	0	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>128</b>

- 2.8.7 The achieved sample of 128 interviews provides has a confidence interval of 95%  $\pm$  8.84% for the Sub-region.
- 2.8.8 The table below highlights the response levels achieved between the households on sites, and those in permanent housing. The survey data showed that households had an average of 1.3 caravans per household, the number of households is calculated from the Caravan Count on this basis (see also paragraph 5.1.3).

**Table 2-3 Response Levels**

Households	Caravans*	Households	Interviews	% achieved
Authorised	79	61	39	64.0%
Unauthorised	80	61	26	43.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>53.0%</b>
Housed	----	142	63	44.4%
<b>Total Population</b>	----	<b>256</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>50.0%</b>

*ODPM Caravan Count – July 2005*

- 2.8.9 The response rate on Authorised sites was 64%, a high rate even for households living in general housing, where 65% would be an average and 50% in London.
- 2.8.10 Interviews achieved on unauthorised sites were also high at almost half of all households. All households on sites were visited and given the opportunity to be interviewed but interviewers did not attempt to interview every household in housed accommodation, because the overall target of 120 interviews had already been achieved. This is normal practice in all interviews with the general population in permanent housing.
- 2.8.11 All responses, percentages and numbers are calculated from the actual response to the individual question, therefore numbers of responses by question vary.

## 2.9 Study Outputs

- 2.9.1 In line with latest draft guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (February 2006) data has been gathered and analysed at a sub regional level.
- 2.9.2 In line with latest draft guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (February 2006: paragraph 42) data tables will be provided to each local authority showing the findings broken down by local authority area. These will be provided both in SNAP / Excel and in PDF as a copy of the data tables. The data remains robust at a local level; however the statistical validity of the data broken down at a local level will depend on the response rate locally.
- 2.9.3 This report produces a global figure identifying the need for additional permanent authorised site pitches across the study area. Our recommendations also cover:-
- The apportioning of sites between local authorities based on our findings on current migration patterns and preferred locations;
  - Site search criteria developed from responses to questions on ideal sites and preferences and in line with the latest planning guidance (Circular 01/2006).
- 2.9.4 Decisions on the exact location of sites across the sub region will ultimately be a matter for local debate, supported by local and sub regional plans and strategies and our robust Accommodation Needs Assessment. It is our view that Local Development Schemes and Local Development Documents setting out local policies for site allocation will be more defensible if supported by a sub regional strategy for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs.

### 3 FINDINGS FOR RESPONDENTS LIVING ON SITE

#### 3.1 Current Accommodation

3.1.1 All responses, percentages and numbers are calculated from the actual response to the individual question, therefore numbers of responses by question vary.

3.1.2 65 respondents identified themselves as living on sites within the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove areas. This section looks at the current accommodation circumstances of Gypsies and Travellers living on sites within the study area. We found that 44.7% (29) of the group were living on sites in Brighton & Hove, 27.7% (18) in Wealden, 16.9% (11) in Lewes, 9.2% (6) in Rother, 1.5% (1) in Hastings. There were no respondents from Eastbourne.

**Table 3-1 Area**

	Authorised pitches	Unauthorised pitches	Total pitches	
	%	%	%	N <sup>OS</sup>
Wealden	88.9	11.1	27.7	18
Hastings	0.0	100.0	1.5	1
Rother	100.0	0.0	9.2	6
Brighton & Hove	11.5	58.6	44.7	29
Eastbourne	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Lewes	45.5	54.5	16.9	11
<b>Total</b>			<b>100.0</b>	<b>65</b>

**Table 3-2 Accommodation**

	Authorised sites	Unauthorised sites	Total sites	
	%	%	%	N <sup>OS</sup>
Temporary	21.9	96.2	60.0	39
Permanent	75.0	3.8	38.5	25
A care-of address	3.1	0.0	1.5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>65</b>

3.1.3 Of the 65 respondents living on sites 25 (38.5%) were living in permanent accommodation, 60% (39) in temporary accommodation. Of the 39 responses indicating “temporary” accommodation, one did not know their tenure and 5 indicated “other” tenure”

3.1.4 As would be expected the majority of unauthorised sites were temporary sites; 96.2% of unauthorised sites were temporary.

**Table 3-3 Type Of Gypsy / Traveller**

	Authorised sites	Unauthorised sites	Of those on sites		Of all respondents
	%	%	%	N <sup>os</sup>	%
Romany Gypsy or English Traveller	84.4	44.4	63.1	41	78.9
Irish Traveller	6.3	40.7	26.2	17	13.2
Welsh Gypsy or Traveller	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
Scottish Gypsy or Traveller	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
New Traveller	6.3	14.9	9.2	6	5.5
Horse Drawn Traveller	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
Fairground Traveller	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
Van Dweller	3.0	0.0	1.5	1	0.8
None	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.8
Don't Know	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100</b>

3.1.5 The largest group of respondents in the survey were Romany Gypsy or English Travellers (78.9%), 13.2% were Irish travellers. Among households living on a site only 63.1% (41) were Romany or English Travellers, 26.2% (17) were Irish Travellers and 9.2% (6) were new Travellers.

3.1.6 40.7% of occupants on un-authorised sites were Irish travellers, 14.9% were new travellers. Romany Gypsies and English Travellers were under represented on un authorised sites (44.4%).

3.1.7 Our findings are consistent with other local studies indicating an increasing trend towards Romany and English Gypsy and Traveller households settling in more permanent accommodation (“Assessment of the Accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in South and West Hertfordshire” CURS 2005). The “Cambridge sub regional Travellers needs Assessment” 2005 showed Irish travellers to be the fastest growing group of Gypsy and Traveller households.

**Table 3-4** Type / Number Living Units (%)  
Question 1a

	Existing site						Elsewhere					
	One %	(N <sup>os</sup> )	Two %	(N <sup>os</sup> )	Three or more %	(N <sup>os</sup> )	One %	(N <sup>os</sup> )	Two %	(N <sup>os</sup> )	Three or more %	(N <sup>os</sup> )
House / flat / bungalow / maisonette	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	100.0	3	0.0	0	0.0	0
Mobile home – permanent site	96.0	24	4.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Mobile home – transit sites	54.5	6	27.33	3	18.2	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Touring caravan / trailer – permanent site	50.0	3	33.3	2	0.0	0	16.7	1	0.0	0	0.0	0
Touring caravan / trailer – transit sites	100.0	20	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Vans	100.0	14	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Additional vehicles	93.1	27	6.9	2	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Work vehicles	40.0	2	60.0	3	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0

3.1.8 Respondents were asked what type of accommodation they had at this site or elsewhere. Only four households had any vehicles or living accommodation elsewhere, one had a touring caravan / trailer on a permanent site, three had a house / flat / bungalow or maisonette elsewhere). Of those living on a site 38.5% were in a mobile home on a permanent site (25 households).

3.1.9 Households with more than one mobile home were most likely to be living on Transit sites; of the 31 households living on transit sites 5 (16.1%) had two or more mobile homes. Of the 31 households living on a permanent site 3 had more than 1 touring caravan / trailer / mobile home. 44.6% of households (29 households) had additional vehicles on the site, 14 households had vans on the site, and 6 had work vehicles on the site.

**Table 3-5** Is This Your Main Accommodation / Home?

Question 1b

	Authorised sites	Un authorised sites		
Tenure	%	%	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	96.9	66.7	78.5	51
No	3.1	33.3	21.5	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65</b>

3.1.10 78.5% of respondents living on a site were living in their main accommodation. Only 14 people (21.5%) said they were not living in their main accommodation, the proportion rose to 33.3% amongst those living on an unauthorised site. Of those not currently living in their main accommodation 3 had a house / bungalow / flat / maisonette elsewhere.

- 3.1.11 Those who were not living in their main accommodation were asked where that was. 9 households responded.

**Table 3-6**            **Where Is Your Main Accommodation / Home?**

Question 1c

Area	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Wealden	0.0	0
Hastings	0.0	0
Rother	22.2	2
Brighton & Hove	11.1	1
Eastbourne	0.0	0
Lewes	0.0	0
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	0.0	0
Crawley	0.0	0
London	11.1	1
Mid-Sussex	0.0	0
Kent	0.0	0
Elsewhere in South East	33.4	3
Within the UK but outside the South East	0.0	0
Outside the UK	22.2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9</b>

- 3.1.12 All households were then asked if their accommodation was adequate for their needs. 22 households responded, 33.8% of the group, all of whom indicated that their accommodation was adequate.
- 3.1.13 Households living on a site or pitch were also asked a set of questions relating to their circumstances.

**Table 3-7 What Is The Tenure Of Your Current Site?**

Question 3a

<b>Tenure</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>N<sup>os</sup></b>
Family owned with planning permission	9.2	6
Family owned without planning permission	1.5	1
Owned by other Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission	0.0	0
Owned by other Gypsy / Traveller without planning permission	0.0	0
Council owned	40.0	26
RSL / HA owned	0.0	0
Owned by private landlord	0.0	0
Privately owned – unauthorised site	1.5	1
Council owned – unauthorised site	38.6	25
Other	7.7	5
Don't know	1.5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65</b>

- 3.1.14 All 65 households responded to the question on tenure of the site. 51 households (78.5%) live on a Council site, half of whom live on unauthorised sites. Stopping in unauthorised locations causes inconvenience and anger within the settled community (Select Committee of ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites 2004), although the police and local authorities have extensive powers to move people on from unauthorised sites, they are unable to do this unless they have first identified a legal place to move them on to.
- 3.1.15 Gypsy and Traveller families are statutory homeless under the 1996 Housing Act if they have accommodation but: "it consists of a movable structure, vehicle or vessel designed or adapted for human habitation and there is no legal place he is entitled or permitted both to place it and reside in it". 27 households are currently living on unauthorised sites, or sites without planning permission within the study area. On the basis of this definition a significant homelessness problem exists within the Gypsy and Traveller community within East Sussex and Brighton & Hove to which local authorities are obliged to respond.

**Table 3-8**                      **What Amenities Do You Currently Have Access To?**  
Question 3b

	% Sole use	N <sup>os</sup>	% Shared use <sup>s</sup>	N <sup>os</sup>
Water Supply	15.9	10	74.2	46
Electricity supply (mains)	20.6	13	24.2	15
Electricity supply (generator)	22.2	14	24.2	15
Gas (mains)	4.8	3	1.6	1
Gas (bottled)	92.1	58	6.5	4
Rubbish storage / collection (council supplied)	28.6	18	71.0	44
Rubbish storage / collection (privately supplied)	1.6	1	1.6	1
Shed / amenity building	14.3	9	30.6	19
WC	31.7	20	53.2	33
Bath	15.9	10	4.8	3
Shower	25.4	16	19.4	12
Kitchen facilities	63.5	40	8.1	5
Laundry facilities	17.5	11	25.8	16
Fire prevention	3.2	2	29.0	18
Space for eating or sitting	63.5	40	8.1	5
Play space	12.7	8	35.5	22
Space for animals	12.7	8	37.1	23
Space for visitors	12.7	8	37.1	23
Work space	9.5	6	22.6	14
Equipment storage	15.9	10	27.4	17
Parking	14.3	9	64.5	40
Other	1.6	1	0.0	0

3.1.16 Based on a response rate of 33.8% (22) all respondents felt their site to be basically adequate (question 2), however when questioned on their access to basic facilities, and based on a response rate of 96.8% (63), respondents revealed a low level of access to basic facilities. 74.2% (46) of respondents only had shared access to a water supply on the site. 53.2% (33) only had shared access to a WC. The most common facility available for sole use was bottled gas (92.1% of respondents – 58 cases). 42.8% (27) of respondents had sole access to an electricity supply, half of whom used a mains supply, half a generator, a further 48.4% (30) had shared access to electricity.



**Table 3-9**                      **How Would You Rate Your Current Site?**  
Question 4

	Authorised site	Unauthorised site	All sites	
	%	%	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Very satisfied	28.1	3.7	18.5	12
Satisfied	34.4	29.6	29.2	19
Neutral	6.3	14.9	9.2	6
Dissatisfied	9.4	25.9	15.4	10
Very dissatisfied	21.8	25.9	26.2	17
Don't know	0.0	0.0	1.5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65</b>

3.1.17 In spite of the low level of access to basic facilities 47.7% (31) of respondents living on a site were satisfied with the site. Levels of satisfaction were higher on authorised than unauthorised sites.

3.1.18 A cross tabulation looked at the tenure of the site compared to level of satisfaction, we found that 48.3% of those who were satisfied / very satisfied were living on authorised Council sites, 89.7% of all respondents living on authorised Council sites were satisfied or very satisfied, compared to 35.3% of those living on unauthorised Council sites. Local authorities need to develop plans and strategies to tackle problems on unauthorised sites.

**Table 3-10**                      **Do You Have Any Worries About Health And Safety At This Site?**  
Question 5

	Authorised sites	Un authorised sites	All sites	
	%	%	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	53.1	55.6	56.9	37
No	46.9	44.4	43.1	28
Don't know	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65</b>

3.1.19 56.9% (37) of households living on sites had worries about health and safety on their site. 41.7% of those with a health and safety worry lived on an authorised site owned by the Council, 44.4% lived on unauthorised Council sites. The following question asked what worries people had about health and safety, of those with a concern an average of 1.6 responses was made per household (of 37). The main single worry was being close to the road. 28 households made "other" responses. These included 12 cases saying there was a lack of amenities and 7 saying the drains get blocked or the sewers smell.

**Table 3-11 What Are Your Worries About Health And Safety?**  
Question 6

	Authorised sites	Un authorised sites	All sites	
			%	N <sup>os</sup>
Close to road	35.3	46.7	40.5	15
Close to pylons	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Close to rubbish tip / landfill	5.9	6.7	5.4	2
Far from doctors	5.9	33.3	16.2	6
Overcrowding	17.6	13.3	13.5	5
Lack of heating fuel	11.8	13.3	10.8	4
Other	76.5	66.7	75.7	28
<b>Total</b>				<b>60</b>

3.1.20 All households were asked how long they had lived in their current accommodation, 64 of the 65 households living on sites responded to the question. 23.4% (15) of the group had lived in their current accommodation for more than 5 years, compared to 34.4% of all respondents in the sample. 62.5% (40) had lived in their current home for less than a year, reflecting the transitory nature of the sample, in the sample as a whole 39% of respondents had lived in their current home for less than a year, indicating, as would be expected that those living in permanent housing were more settled than those living on sites.

3.1.21 Respondents from authorised sites had generally lived on their site longer than those from unauthorised sites. Only one household currently living on an unauthorised site had lived there for more than 5 years, this was a site owned by them selves or their family without planning permission.

**Table 3-12 How Long Have You Lived Here?**  
Question 7

	Authorised sites	Un authorised sites	All sites	
			%	N <sup>os</sup>
A day or two	0.0	3.7	4.7	3
Less than one week	9.7	44.4	29.7	19
Less than one month	3.2	29.6	14.1	9
Less than 3 months	3.2	14.9	7.8	5
Less than 6 months	3.2	3.7	3.1	2
6 months but less than 1 year	6.5	0.0	3.1	2
1 year but less than 5 years	29.0	0.0	14.1	9
5 years and over	45.2	3.7	23.4	15
Don't know / no answer	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64</b>

3.1.22 Respondents were asked about the good and bad things about where they lived. In terms of the good things, respondents living on sites made an average of 3.5 responses each compared to 4.4 responses for the sample as a whole. Access to family (61% - 36 cases) and location (55.9% - 33 cases) were the most positive aspects, based on a response rate of 90.8%.

- 3.1.23 There was a far lower response rate when considering the bad things about the area (58.5%), with respondents living on sites making an average of 2.4 responses each. The main concerns were location (39.5% - 15 cases), access to doctors (36.8% - 14 cases), and access to shops (36.8% - 14 cases).

**Table 3-13** *What Are The Good / Bad Things About Where You Live Now?*  
Question 8a

	% Good	N <sup>os</sup>	% Bad	N <sup>os</sup>
Accommodation	37.3	22	15.8	6
Neighbourhood	25.4	15	10.5	4
Neighbours / other people	27.1	16	13.2	5
Location	55.9	33	39.5	15
Access to shops	47.5	28	36.8	14
Access to doctors	35.6	21	36.8	14
Access to schools	30.5	18	18.4	7
Access to work	16.9	10	7.9	3
Access to family	61.0	36	10.5	4
Other	11.9	7	21.1	8
Temporary	0.0	0	31.6	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>206</b>		<b>92</b>

**Table 3-14** *Do You Have A Base / Site / Pitch / Regular Stopping Place / Home Somewhere Else?*  
Question 8b

	Authorised sites	Un authorised sites	All sites	
	%	%	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	0.0	18.5	10.9	7
No	100.0	81.5	89.1	57
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64</b>

- 3.1.24 Based on a response from 64 households 89.1% (57 cases) of respondents had no other base / site / pitch or regular stopping place / home elsewhere. Only 7 cases (10.9%) did have another such base, these cases were asked a series of questions about their other base.
- 3.1.25 Those responding had another base on only one site, all respondents were from Brighton & Hove, but had another base in locations as far a-field as Wealden, Crawley, London, in two cases in other locations outside the South East, and in two cases outside the UK.
- 3.1.26 Of the 7 households with a base in another area one was in a city location, four were in town locations, one in a village and one in the countryside.

- 3.1.27 Those with a base elsewhere were asked about the nature of the base. 3 had accommodation rented from a private landlord.

**Table 3-15**      **What Is The Nature Of Your Base Elsewhere?**  
Question 8e

Tenure	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Family owned with planning permission	0.0	0
Family owned without planning permission	14.3	1
Owned by other Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission	0.0	0
Owned by other Gypsy / Traveller without planning permission	0.0	0
Council owned	14.3	1
RSL / HA owned	0.0	0
Owned by private landlord	14.3	1
Privately owned – unauthorised site	0.0	0
Council owned – unauthorised site	0.0	0
Owner-occupied	0.0	0
Renting from private landlord	42.8	3
Council tenant	0.0	0
RSL / HA tenant	14.3	1
Other	0.0	0
Don't know	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7</b>

## 3.2 Travel Patterns

- 3.2.1 Travelling is an integral part of cultural identity for Gypsy and Traveller households. The ability to travel, as a way of life, defines the Gypsy and Traveller community. The study "Cambridge Sub Regional Travellers Needs Assessment" (2005) found that travelling had been restricted by the pressures of the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act, the Act removed the duty of Local Authorities to provide sites and expanded police and local authority powers to move unauthorised campers on. The effect of the Act has been to encourage more families to move in larger groups, stopping close to authorised sites, often on land owned by Gypsies, with the large numbers creating tensions with the settled community.

- 3.2.2 All households were asked if they were willing to answer questions about their travelling patterns. This section gives details of the travelling behaviour of Gypsies and Travellers currently living on sites in the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove sample.

**Table 3-16**      **How Much Travelling Have You Done In The Last 12 Months?**  
Question 9a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
None	33.8	22
Seasonal	12.3	8
Weekly	9.2	6
Monthly	3.1	2
When forced to move on	38.5	25
Other	3.1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>65</b>

- 3.2.3 33.8% of households currently living on a site have not travelled in the last 12 months (22 households), this compares to 74.2% (46) of those in permanent housing. 66.2% of the sample travel (43 households), of whom 58.1% travel when they are forced to move.

**Table 3-17 When You Travel How Many Households Travel?**

Question 9b

	% Households	N <sup>os</sup>
Own household	16.3	7
Two households	20.9	9
Three households	11.6	5
Four households	4.7	2
Five or more households	46.5	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>43</b>

**Table 3-18 When You Travel How Many Vehicles Travel?**

Question 9b

	Authorised sites	Unauthorised sites	All sites	
	%	%	% Vehicles	N <sup>os</sup>
One	25.0	4.3	9.8	4
Two	8.3	4.3	7.3	3
Three	25.0	26.2	22.0	9
Four	8.3	8.7	12.2	5
Five	8.3	13.0	14.6	6
Six	0.0	4.3	2.4	1
Seven	16.8	8.7	12.2	5
Eight	8.3	4.3	4.9	2
Nine or more	0.0	26.2	14.6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>41</b>

- 3.2.4 Based on 43 respondents when considering the number of households and 41 when considering the number of vehicles travelling, an average of 3.4 households are travelling together with 4.8 vehicles. Our findings confirm Government research (Select Committee of ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites 2004) emphasising the importance of the extended family context for Gypsy and Traveller families; and the findings of the Cambridge Sub Regional Travellers Needs Assessment showing that Gypsy and Traveller households tend to travel in large groups. Our survey found that 46.5% of households currently living on sites will travel in groups of 5 or more.

**Table 3-19 Do You Travel Regularly At This Time of Year or At Other Times?**

Question 9c

	This time of year (September)		Other times	
	%	N <sup>os</sup>	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	100.0	43	95.2	40
No	0.0	0	4.8	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>42</b>

- 3.2.5 All of those responding said that they travel regularly at this time of year (e.g. September); 95.2% (40) travel regularly at other times. Those who travel regularly were asked the main reason for their travelling.

**Table 3-20 What Is The Main Reason For Travelling?**

Question 9d

	This time of year (September)		Other times	
	%	N <sup>os</sup>	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Holiday	12.8	5	5.3	2
Family event	38.5	15	28.9	11
Community event	12.8	5	7.9	3
Festival	7.7	3	5.3	2
Work	15.4	6	15.8	6
School	0.0	0	2.6	1
Health care	0.0	0	0.0	0
Other	20.5	8	21.1	8
Way of life	30.8	12	34.2	13
Temporary site	12.8	5	21.1	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>59</b>		<b>54</b>

- 3.2.6 Those giving a reason for travelling at this time of year (e.g. September) gave an average of 1.5 reasons for travelling, those travelling at other times made an average of 1.4 choices. Family event was the single most popular reason for travelling at this time of year (e.g. September); way of life was the most significant reason for travelling at other times of the year.

- 3.2.7 Those travelling were asked when they travel; 40 people responded.

**Table 3-21 When Do You Travel?**

Question 9g

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
January	55.0	22
February	55.0	22
March	70.0	28
April	80.0	32
May	87.5	35
June	100.0	40
July	97.5	39
August	97.5	39
September	77.5	31
October	72.5	29
November	57.5	23
December	57.5	23
<b>Total</b>		<b>363</b>

- 3.2.8 Those who travelled at other times of the year were travelling on average during 9.1 months of the year. The most popular travelling times were during the summer months: June, July and August. As would be expected, those living on sites are travelling more than those living in permanent housing; on average those living on sites travel for 3 more months per year than those living in permanent housing.

**Table 3-22 How Often Would You Like To Travel In The Future?**

Question 9k

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Weekly	5.4	2
Monthly	2.7	1
Seasonally	54.1	20
Yearly	8.1	3
Do not want to continue to travel	29.7	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>37</b>

- 3.2.9 Households were asked how often they would like to travel in the future. Of those responding to the question 54.1% (20) of respondents currently living on a site would prefer to be travelling seasonally in the future. 29.7% (11) do not want to continue to travel.

### 3.3 Eviction

**Table 3-23 Have You Been Evicted From A Site / Pitch In The Last 12 Months?**

Question 9h

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	77.3	34
No	22.7	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>44</b>

- 3.3.1 77.3% (34) of those living on sites had been evicted from a site in the last 12 months (based on a response rate of 67.7%). Of those who had been evicted 79.4% (27) had left voluntarily, 20.5% (7) had been evicted by the police or bailiffs.

**Table 3-24 How Often Have You Been Evicted In The Last 12 Months?**

Question 9j

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Once	0.0	0
Twice	0.0	0
Three times	8.8	3
Four times	2.9	1
Five times or more	88.3	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>34</b>

- 3.3.2 Of those who had been evicted 88.3% (30) had been evicted five or more times in the last 12 months. Security of tenure has been identified by Government (Select Committee of ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites 2004) as an issue for Gypsy and Traveller families. Pitches let on a licence rather than a tenancy are less secure than a secure or assured tenancy, although Government recognises that a balance needs to be struck between the needs of well established families to maintain their tenancy and the needs of site managers to act quickly to resolve conflicts as necessary.

- 3.3.3 Our survey found an urgent need to balance the cultural needs of Gypsy and Traveller families to maintain a mobile life style, with their need to develop some measure of security in terms of their accommodation. To be able to travel, but to avoid a constant cycle of eviction.

### 3.4 Recent Accommodation

- 3.4.1 This section looks at where households living on sites lived before moving to their current accommodation. 59 households responded to a question asking what sort of accommodation they had previously occupied.

**Table 3-25 What Sort Of Accommodation Did You Have Before?**

Question 10a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
This is my first / only accommodation	16.9	10
House / Bungalow / Flat / Maisonette	15.3	9
Supported housing (Inc sheltered)	0.0	0
Mobile home (permanent site)	13.6	8
Mobile home (transit site)	6.8	4
Touring caravan / trailer (permanent site)	5.1	3
Touring caravan / trailer (transit site)	32.1	19
Van	5.1	3
Don't Know	5.1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>59</b>

- 3.4.2 15.3% (9) had previously lived in a house / bungalow / flat / maisonette. 32.1% (19) of those currently living on a site had previously lived in a touring caravan / trailer on a transit site. In response to the following question 70% of respondents (28) said they had never lived in a house / flat / maisonette or bungalow.
- 3.4.3 Those who had previously lived in a house / bungalow / flat / maisonette were asked the tenure of their previous accommodation. 20 people responded to this question, suggesting that in addition to the 9 who had previously living in a house / flat / bungalow or maisonette, 11 others had lived in permanent accommodation at some time in the past.

**Table 3-26 Did You Own Your House or Rent It?**

Question 10c

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Owner-occupied	10.0	2
Council tenant	35.0	7
RSL / HA tenant	20.0	4
Renting from private landlord	25.0	5
Rent from family / friend or employer	5.0	1
Don't know	5.0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20</b>



- 3.4.4 Of the 20 households indicating tenure, 85% had been tenants (17), 41.2% of tenants had previously been Council tenants (7 households).

**Table 3-27 Where Did You Live Before You Came Here?**

Question 11

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Wealden	22.4	11
Hastings	2.0	1
Rother	10.2	5
Brighton & Hove	24.6	12
Eastbourne	0.0	0
Lewes	4.1	2
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	0.0	0
Crawley	2.0	1
London	10.2	5
Mid-Sussex	2.0	1
Kent	8.2	4
Elsewhere in South East	4.1	2
Within the UK but outside the South East	8.2	4
Outside the UK	2.0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>49</b>

- 3.4.5 49 people responded to a question asking them where they used to live. As found in other local studies ("Assessment of the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers in South and West Hertfordshire" CURS 2005) the majority of respondents come from a previous location within or close to the study area, and can be defined as "local". The extent of migration from areas outside the study area is very limited (18 cases).
- 3.4.6 Based on responses from 49 households (75.4% of the group) 44.9% (22) had previously lived in the countryside; 16.3% (8) had previously lived in a village; 26.5% (13) in a town; and 12.2% (6) in a city.

**Table 3-28 How Long Did You Live There?**

Question 13

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Less than 1 week	4.1	2
Less than 1 month	10.2	5
Less than 3 months	2.0	1
Less than 6 months	14.3	7
6 months but less than 1 year	8.2	4
1 year but less than 5 years	32.6	16
5 years and over	24.5	12
Don't know / no answer	4.1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>49</b>

- 3.4.7 Of the 49 respondents 24.5% (12) of households had lived in their previous home for 5 years or more, compared to 30% in the sample as a whole. 38.8% (19) had lived in their previous home for less than a year, compared to 27.2% in the sample as a whole. As would be expected the data reflects the more transient nature of respondents currently living on sites compared to the sample as a whole.
- 3.4.8 Government research (Select Committee of ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites 2004) has found that the planning system tends to discriminate against Gypsy and Travellers, with 80% of applications refused compared to just 10% of applications from the settled community. We also found the level of refusal to be high.

**Table 3-29 Have You Ever Applied For Planning Permission?**

Question 14

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	12.5	6
No	87.5	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>48</b>

- 3.4.9 Of the 48 respondents 6 households had applied for planning for permissions, 1 had been successful, 4 had been refused, and 2 were current applications. Four of the applications had been made in Wealden, one in Brighton & Hove and one in Kent.

**Table 3-30 If Yes What Was The Outcome?**

Question 15

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Granted	14.3	1
Refused	57.1	4
Went to appeal and won	0.0	0
Went to appeal and lost	0.0	0
Current application	28.6	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7</b>

- 3.4.10 7 of the 49 (14.3%) respondents to the questions indicated that they had lost a pitch or site licence or lease as a result of parking fines or restrictions.

## 3.5 You and your Family

- 3.5.1 A lot of data was collected on the age and sex of individual household members. From the data collected we were able to build up a picture of the households in the sample. The findings are summarised in the table below.

**Table 3-31 Family Composition**

Family structure	%	N <sup>os</sup>	Group %
1 adult over 60	3.1	2	23.4
1 adult under 60	20.3	13	
1 adult and others	0.0	0	
Couple no children	21.9	14	68.8
Couple with children	46.9	30	
Couple and others	0.0	0	
Single parent	7.8	5	7.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0</b>

- 3.5.2 Compared to respondents living in permanent housing, a higher proportion of those living on sites were single person households: 23.4% (15) compared to 7.9% of those in permanent housing). 46.9% of households responding and living on sites (30) were couples with children, a further 7.8% (5) were single parents. National studies have shown natural population growth within the Gypsy and Traveller community to be high (an estimated 2 – 3% per year), as a result of the lower age of marriage and higher level of fertility (“Provision and Condition of local authority Gypsy and Traveller sites in England 2002”)
- 3.5.3 In terms of the age of head of household and other household members, based on responses from 58 heads of household, we found 36.2% (21) of heads of household living on sites to be aged between 20 – 29, compared to 14.5% (9) of those living in permanent accommodation. The proportion of under 16s living on sites was 38.4% (71 children) compared to 42.5% (108 children) among those living in permanent accommodation. These figures reflect the lower proportion families with children living in sites.

**Table 3-32 Age Of Household Members**

Question 18b

Age of household members	Head of household		All household members	
	%	N <sup>os</sup>	%	N <sup>os</sup>
0 – 10	0.0	0	29.2	54
11 – 15	0.0	0	9.2	17
16 – 19	3.4	2	8.6	16
20 – 29	36.2	21	21.1	39
30 – 44	36.2	21	20.0	37
45 – 59	13.8	8	7.6	14
60 – 74	8.6	5	3.8	7
75+	1.8	1	0.5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>185</b>

- 3.5.4 In our survey the average number of people per household was 3.2 amongst respondents living on sites, compared to 4.1 amongst those in permanent accommodation. This is far higher than the UK average of 2.4% for general settled households as endorsed by the 2001 Census.

### 3.6 Access to Services and Facilities

- 3.6.1 The following section presents data on access to schooling and medical facilities. Data is also presented on the incidence of disability within the household and access to adaptations.
- 3.6.2 A study of the “Health of Gypsies and Travellers in England” by the University of Sheffield School of Health and Related Research (2004) found a high level of health inequality between their Gypsy and Traveller study group and the general population; reported health problems were between 3 and 5 times more prevalent within the Gypsy and Traveller community. The same study found that accommodation was the over riding factor in terms of health effects: concern focused on living conditions, but also extended to security of tenure, access to services, ability to register with a GP, support from the extended family and the general living environment.
- 3.6.3 A study by CURS at Birmingham University (2002) “The Provision and Condition of Local Authority Gypsy / Traveller sites in England” also found, at a national level, that suitable accommodation is critical to improving the health and educational attainment within the Gypsy and Traveller community.

3.6.4 The first set of questions in this section focussed on access to education.

**Table 3-33 Do Your School Age Children Attend Local Schools?**

Question 18b

	Authorised sites	Un authorised sites	All sites	
	%	%	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	75.0	50.0	58.1	18
No	25.0	50.0	41.9	13
Some	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>31</b>

3.6.5 Based on a response rate of 47.6% (31 households), 18 households living on sites had school age children in school (58.1% of the group), 13 households (41.9%) had school age children who were not in school. The data suggested that households living on sites were more likely than those in permanent housing to have school age children who did not attend school; 13 out of the 17 households with school age children not in school were living on sites. The 2005 study "Cambridge Sub Regional Travellers Needs Assessment" also found that a high percentage of the survey population had experienced time out of education. Levels of adult literacy were found to be low.

3.6.6 9 households reported difficulties with schooling because of their accommodation / site. Of those experiencing a problem 7 had disrupted schooling due to their mobility, 1 had experienced difficulties getting a school place and 1 was afraid to send their children due to local hostility.

3.6.7 10 households had to move to access schooling in the last 12 months, of those 8 had to move 3 or more times to access schooling. Again the data showed that households currently living on sites were far more likely to have moved to access schooling than households currently living in permanent accommodation. Looking at all households in the sample, all those who had moved more than once were currently living on sites.

**Table 3-34 Have You Had To Move To Access Schooling In The Last 12 Months?**

Question 18d

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
No	80.0	40
Yes, once	2.0	1
Yes, twice	2.0	1
Yes, three or more times	16.0	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>50</b>

3.6.8 The following questions looked at access to medical services.

3.6.9 Based on 61 responses from people currently living on sites, the data also showed that households currently living on a site were less likely to be registered with a local doctor than all households in the sample. 45.3% (29) of households currently living on a site were registered with a local doctor, compared to 70.3% of all households in the sample. 35 households living on a site were not registered with a local doctor, although 22 households were registered with a doctor elsewhere.

- 3.6.10 83.9% of respondents living on authorised sites were registered with a doctor compared to just 11.1% of those on unauthorised sites.

**Table 3-35 Are You Registered With A Doctor In This Area?**

Question 18e

	Authorised sites	Un authorised sites	All sites	
	%	%	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	83.9	11.1	45.3	29
No	16.1	88.9	54.7	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>64</b>

**Table 3-36 Do You Consider Anyone In Your Household To Have A Disability or a Serious Long Term Illness?**

Question 19a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
No	71.8	46
Yes, One	25.0	16
Yes, Two	1.6	1
Yes, More than two	1.6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64</b>

- 3.6.11 Based on 64 responses, 18 households in the sample had a member with a disability or long term illness (27.7%). Levels of illness and disability were far higher than we would expect in a survey of the general population (15%). Households with a disabled member were asked further questions about the nature of the illness / disability and the adaptations available to support members of the household with a disability.
- 3.6.12 The data showed that in 77.8% (14) of cases the disability limited their activity. 13 cases indicated that a member with a disability needed regular medical treatment from a doctor or hospital, one needed adaptations to the home. The adaptations required included ramps outside, handrails, other alterations for access and bath / shower / toilet adaptations.
- 3.6.13 None of the respondents currently living on a site included a wheelchair user within their household.

### 3.7 Harassment

- 3.7.1 34.4% (22) of households currently living on a site had experienced harassment at their current site. The proportion rose to 48.1% amongst households living on unauthorised sites; and 50.7% (33) of those currently living on a site had left accommodation as a result of harassment, in all those cases the harassment had taken place at the site rather than at school or at work. 75% (48) of those currently living on a site said they would take harassment into consideration when deciding to move again.

### 3.8 Work

- 3.8.1 There was a low response rate to the questions related to work. This is line with other survey work undertaken by CURS in Hertfordshire.
- 3.8.2 This section deals with the working patterns of households currently living on a site, including problems with working and issues around travel to work.

**Table 3-37 Do You Live Here To Be Near Work?**

Question 22a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes, permanent work	11.1	5
Yes, temporary work	20.0	9
No	68.9	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45</b>

- 3.8.3 Based on a response rate of 69.2%, 14 respondents said they live at their current site to be close to work.

**Table 3-38 Are You?**

Question 22b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Self-employed	44.4	20
Employed	4.4	2
Unemployed	26.7	12
Retired	8.9	4
Housewife	15.6	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>45</b>

- 3.8.4 48.8% of respondents were employed or self-employed (22 households), of those who were in employment 20 (90.9%) were self-employed. Our findings on the importance of self employment are consistent with the CURS study "As Assessment of the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers in South and West Hertfordshire". Only 6 people indicated that where they live makes it difficult to get work. The following reasons were given.

**Table 3-39 What Is the Main Reasons Your Address Makes It Difficult To Get Work?**

Question 23b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Location	33.3	2
Lack of postal address	50.0	3
Lack of storage for work equipment	0.0	0
Lack of access to work	0.0	0
Other	16.7	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>

- 3.8.5 10 households had moved in the last 12 months due to difficulties getting work, 9 of whom had moved 3 or more times.
- 3.8.6 7 respondents (31.8% of those in employment) said they had to travel for work. The following locations were given. 7 households giving a location for work gave an average of 4.4 locations with 6 of the 7 respondents travelling nationally.

**Table 3-40** *Where Do You Travel To?*

Question 23e

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Anywhere in East Sussex	85.7	6
Wealden	0.0	0
Hastings	0.0	0
Rother	0.0	0
Brighton & Hove	14.3	1
Eastbourne	0.0	0
Lewes	0.0	0
Anywhere in West Sussex	85.7	6
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	0.0	0
Crawley	14.4	1
London	14.4	1
Mid-Sussex	14.4	1
Kent	71.4	5
Elsewhere in South East	57.1	4
Within the UK but outside the South East	85.7	6
Outside the UK	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>31</b>

**Table 3-41** *What Times Of Year Do You Travel To Work?*

Question 23f

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Spring	85.7	6
Summer	100.0	7
Autumn	85.7	6
Winter	14.3	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>

3.8.7 All of those who travel for work are travelling during the summer, with 6 of the 7 respondents also travelling in the spring and autumn. Only one respondent also travels during the winter.

**Table 3-42** *Do You Need Additional Space on Site for Work?*

Question 23g

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes, storage space	16.7	7
Yes, workshop space	0.0	0
Yes, space for vehicles	9.5	4
No	73.8	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>42</b>

- 3.8.8 11 households needed extra space at the site for work, 7 needed space for storage and 4 needed space for vehicles.

### 3.9 Income and Financial Support

- 3.9.1 The income of all household members was recorded to give a total annual income for the household before tax and other deductions. The response rate to the income question was 36.9% for households currently living on a site (24 cases). This is low in our survey experience, but in line with our expectations based on other studies of Gypsies and Travellers which have found the group generally reluctant to disclose financial information. The results should be treated with caution, as they do not represent a highly accurate profile of incomes within the sample.

**Table 3-43 Total Annual Income of Household**

Question 24k

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Below £10,000	75.0	18
£10,000 – £20,000	25.0	6
£20,001 - £30,000	0.0	0
£30,001 - £40,000	0.0	0
£40,001 - £50,000	0.0	0
£50,001 - £60,000	0.0	0
£60,001 - £70,000	0.0	0
£70,001 - £75,000	0.0	0
Above £75,000	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24</b>

- 3.9.2 75% (18) of respondents had incomes below £10,000. 17 people indicated that they received financial support, 26.2% of the sample. Respondents made an average of 1.4 choices each. Only 1 respondent indicated that they received housing benefit.

**Table 3-44 Does Your Household Receive Any Financial Support?**

Question 24l

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Housing Benefit	5.9	1
Income Support	76.5	13
Job Seekers Allowance	5.9	1
Working Family Tax Credit	0.0	0
Disability Allowance	29.4	5
Attendance Allowance	0.0	0
State Pension	17.6	3
Other	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>

### 3.10 Future Accommodation

- 3.10.1 Moving Intentions of Households Currently Living on a Site.
- 3.10.2 The moving intentions and future accommodation requirements of those currently living on sites were considered through a set of questions to help identify the need for future planning provision.



**Table 3-45 Are You Intending To Move From Your Current Site?**

Question 24a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
No	41.3	26
Never	0.0	0
Don't know	6.3	4
Within a month	39.7	25
Within 3 months	7.9	5
Within 6 months	3.2	2
Within a year	1.6	1
Within 3 years	0.0	0
Within 5 years	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>63</b>

- 3.10.3 Based on responses from 63 households, 58.7% of the sample (33 households) had plans to move from their current site, of whom 75.8% (25) wanted to move within a month. A slightly higher proportion of respondents currently living on a site plan to move, compared to the sample as a whole (41.4%). All those planning to move from a site all planned to do so within a year. 41.3% (26) have no plans to move. There is clearly a core of households living on sites who are settled and wish to remain settled, but who may want to travel to and from their site for social or cultural reasons.

**Table 3-46 Why Are You Intending To Move From Your Current Site / House?**

Question 24b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Accommodation	2.9	1
Neighbourhood / Estate	0.0	0
Neighbours / other people	2.9	1
Location	2.9	1
Far from shops	0.0	0
Far from doctors	0.0	0
Far from schools	0.0	0
Far from work	0.0	0
Far from family	0.0	0
Want to travel to a specific event	0.0	0
Always travel at this time of year (September)	2.9	1
Harassment	8.8	3
Do not like it here	2.9	1
Temporary	17.6	6
Don't want to be in a house	0.0	0
Eviction	76.5	26
Other	5.9	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>42</b>

- 3.10.4 Respondents intending to move gave an average of 1.2 reasons for moving, with eviction being the most common reason for moving. Looking at the data for the sample as a whole, 92.6% of all households moving because of eviction (26 cases), were currently living on a site rather than in permanent housing, as were all of those moving because they were in temporary housing. Those who are moving are in the main compelled to move, either because of eviction or because of the temporary nature of their accommodation / site.

**Table 3-47 What Area Are You Moving To When You Leave?**

Question 24c

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Wealden	12.5	3
Hastings	0.0	0
Rother	21.9	7
Brighton & Hove	59.4	19
Eastbourne	0.0	0
Lewes	3.1	1
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	0.0	0
Crawley	3.1	1
London	0.0	0
Mid-Sussex	0.0	0
Kent	0.0	0
Elsewhere in South East	0.0	0
Within the UK but outside the South East	0.0	0
Outside the UK	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>31</b>

- 3.10.5 All movers from Wealden wanted to remain in the District, as did 90% of those from Brighton and Hove.

**Table 3-48 Are You on Any Site / House Waiting Lists?**

Question 24d

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes – housing waiting list	5.9	2
Yes – site waiting list	20.6	7
No	73.5	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>34</b>

- 3.10.6 34 households responded to a question asking if they were on a waiting list. 2 (5.9%) households intending to move are on a housing waiting list, 7 (20.6%) are on a site waiting list. 27.3% (9) all of those intending to move are on a waiting list. The main reason given for choosing that waiting list was to be close to family.

**Table 3-49 What Are The Main Reasons For Choosing That Waiting List?**

Question 24e

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Accommodation	22.2	2
Neighbourhood / Estate	11.1	1
Neighbours / other people	22.2	2
Location	44.4	4
Close to shops	11.1	1
Close to doctors	11.1	1
Close to schools	11.1	1
Close to work	0.0	0
Close to family	55.6	5
Like it there	33.3	3
Other	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>

**Table 3-50 What Kind Of Location Will You Be Moving To When You Leave?**

Question 24f

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
City	0.0	0
Town	11.8	4
Village	20.6	7
Countryside	67.6	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>34</b>

- 3.10.7 Based on 34 responses 67.6% (23) of those intending to move intend to move to the countryside.

**Table 3-51 When You Leave Are You Planning To Move To?**

Question 24g

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Housing	2.9	1
Local authority site	0.0	0
Private site	0.0	0
Transit site	26.5	9
Roadside camp / car park	26.5	9
Unauthorised site – privately owned	14.7	5
Unauthorised site – council owned	23.5	8
Site owned by you / family with planning permission granted	0.0	0
Site owned by you / family with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission granted	2.9	1
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Other site	2.9	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>34</b>

- 3.10.8 26.5% of respondents to the question (9 out of 34) intend to move on to a transit site, 26.5% (9) to a roadside camp / car park. Only one household plans to move to permanent housing. The high level of use of roadside, transit sites and unauthorised sites (31 out of 34) suggests an overall shortage of permanent and authorised sites.

### 3.11 Site Accommodation

- 3.11.1 Of those who did not want permanent housing (33 cases) 9 wanted to keep travelling. Those planning on moving to another site were asked about their needs, 34 people actually responded to the question asking how long they would remain at their next site.

**Table 3-52 If Moving to a Site How Long Do You Plan To Stay There?**

Question 24i

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
1 – 2 weeks	8.8	3
2 weeks to a month	0.0	0
1 – 3 months	2.9	1
3 - 6 months	0.0	0
6 months – 1 year	0.0	0
1 – 2 years	2.9	1
Don't know	5.9	2
As long as possible before eviction	79.5	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>34</b>

- 3.11.2 79.5% (27) of those responding will remain at their next site as long as possible before they are evicted.
- 3.11.3 Respondents were asked what facilities they would need at their next site. A wide range of facilities were required either for sole or shared use. The most important facilities for sole use were bath and shower facilities.

**Table 3-53** *In Addition to Essentials What Facilities Will Be Needed At Your Next Site?*  
Question 24m

	% Sole use	% Shared use	N <sup>os</sup> all responses
Electricity supply (mains)	20.0	75.0	11
Electricity supply (generator)	0.0	8.3	1
Gas (mains)	0.0	0.0	0
Gas (bottle)	90.0	8.3	10
Rubbish Storage and collection (Council supplied)	0.0	100.0	12
Rubbish storage and collection (privately supplied)	0.0	8.3	1
Shed / amenity building	0.0	50.0	6
Bath	100.0	16.7	12
Shower	100.0	16.7	12
Kitchen facilities	60.0	50.0	12
Laundry facilities	0.0	91.7	11
Fire prevention	0.0	91.7	11
Play space	0.0	83.3	10
Space for animals	0.0	83.3	10
Space for visitors	0.0	91.7	11
Work space	0.0	25.0	3
Equipment storage	0.0	41.7	5
Parking	0.0	83.3	10
<b>Total</b>			<b>148</b>

**Table 3-54** *How Many Site Spaces Do You Need For Work / Living?*  
Question 24n

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
One	25.0	5
Two	20.0	4
Three	15.0	3
Four	0.0	0
Five	10.0	2
Six	10.0	2
Seven	0.0	0
Eight	10.0	2
Nine or more	10.0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20</b>

3.11.4 Those moving needed an average of 3.9 spaces per household on their next site, based on responses from 20 of the 33 (60.6%) households planning to move to a site.

## 3.12 Housing Accommodation

3.12.1 The following questions asked households if they would like to live in permanent housing in the future. Only 1 household in Table 3-50 said they would consider permanent housing, they would consider buying a bungalow.

- 3.12.2 Those who would consider housing accommodation were asked why they would stop travelling, 4 households responded, giving a range of reasons, with access to friends and support being the most popular reason.

**Table 3-55 Reasons for Looking For Permanent Housing**

Question 24n

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
More space	0.0	0
Warmer	0.0	0
Cheaper to heat	0.0	0
Safer	25.0	1
Better facilities	25.0	1
Access to healthcare	0.0	0
Access to schools	0.0	0
Access to shops	0.0	0
Close to family	50.0	2
Close to friends / support	50.0	2
Other	25.0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>7</b>

### 3.13 Needs of Concealed Households

- 3.13.1 6 households currently living on a site indicated that they had a family member who would be looking for independent accommodation in the next 3 years. In 4 cases there was one family member involved, in one case there were two family members looking for independent accommodation and in one case 3 or more family members looking for independent accommodation.
- 3.13.2 Those requiring independent accommodation were asked what type of accommodation they would be looking for and which area they wanted to move to. Preference on the type of accommodation was predominantly for a site (4 cases). 1 new household wanted a house / flat / bungalow.

**Table 3-56 Type Of Housing**

Question 25b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
House / Bungalow / Flat	20.0	1
Supported housing (inc sheltered)	0.0	0
Local authority site	20.0	1
Private site	20.0	1
Transit site	0.0	0
Roadside camp / car park	0.0	0
Unauthorised site – privately owned	0.0	0
Unauthorised site – council owned	0.0	0
Site owned by you / family with planning permission granted	20.0	1
Site owned by you/family with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission granted	20.0	1
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Other site	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5</b>

- 3.13.3 One new household wanted to remain in the same area, one wanted to move to Wealden, one to Crawley and two to Rother. 22 households actually responded to the question asking if new forming households would prefer to live in the town or countryside, the preference was predominantly for the countryside (15 cases), with 6 opting for a village and 1 for a town.

### 3.14 Ideal Sites

- 3.14.1 The following questions ask respondents currently living on a site for their ideas on what would make an ideal site.

**Table 3-57** *What Is The Maximum Number Of Pitches A Site Should Have?*  
Question 27

	% Transit	N <sup>os</sup>	% Permanent	N <sup>os</sup>
1 -5	10.4	5	25.8	16
6 - 10	58.3	28	58.1	36
11 – 15	16.7	8	9.7	6
16 – 20	10.4	5	3.2	2
21 - 25	0.0	0	0.0	0
26 – 30	2.1	1	1.6	1
Over 30	2.1	1	1.6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>62</b>

- 3.14.2 In line with other Government research (Select Committee of ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites 2004) respondents in our survey preferred smaller sites. Based on a response rate of 95.3% (62), 83.9% (52) of those expressing a view preferred permanent sites with 10 or less pitches. 68.7% (33) of those expressing a view on the size of transit sites would prefer sites of 10 pitches or less, based on a response rate of 73.8% (48).
- 3.14.3 Government research suggests that smaller sites had fewer health and safety risks, especially in winter when there is more pressure on sites as families are travelling less, in addition smaller sites are easier to integrate into existing communities and are easier to manage. In the view of the Select Committee (Select Committee of ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites 2004) *“permanent sites should have no more than 18 pitches... all sites should be small and not disproportionate to the size of the community in which they are placed ... a cap should be placed on the number of people who are resident on the site ... The number of long term visitors on a site should be controlled by planning powers and enforced by the site manager”*.

**Table 3-58** *What Would Be Your IDEAL Type Of Site?*  
Question 28

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Mobile home (permanent site)	68.9	42
Mobile home (transit site)	1.6	1
Touring caravan / trailer (permanent site)	24.6	15
Touring caravan / trailer (transit site)	0.0	0
Other	4.9	3
Don't Know	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>61</b>



- 3.14.4 Based on 61 responses the ideal site is a mobile home on a permanent site, 68.9% (42) of those expressing a view would prefer a mobile home on a permanent site. 24.6% (15) of those currently living on a site would prefer a touring caravan / trailer on a permanent site. Only one person expressed a preference for a transit site, transit sites are clearly not “ideal” in spite of the fact that 26.5% of households moving from a site plan to move to a transit site.

**Table 3-59**      **Where Would Be Your IDEAL Location?**

Question 29

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Wealden	32.3	20
Hastings	1.6	1
Rother	21.0	13
Brighton & Hove	29.0	18
Eastbourne	0.0	0
Lewes	6.5	4
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	0.0	0
Crawley	0.0	0
London	1.6	1
Mid-Sussex	0.0	0
Kent	4.8	3
Elsewhere in South East	3.2	2
Within the UK but outside the South East	0.0	0
Outside the UK	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>62</b>

- 3.14.5 62 households responded to a question on location, with the majority of respondents preferring to remain in the same area, 85% in the case of respondents from Wealden, 94.1% in the case of Brighton and Hove, 100% in the case of Hastings, Rother and Lewes.
- 3.14.6 The Government Select Committee recommendation (Select Committee of ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites 2004) is that all sites should be “located only in areas considered appropriate for general residential use”.
- 3.14.7 72.6% (45) of Gypsy and Traveller households would prefer to live in the countryside.

**Table 3-60**      **What Would Your Ideal Type Of Site?**  
Question 32

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Site owned by you / family with planning permission granted	50.0	32
Site owned by you / family with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission granted	1.6	1
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Site owned by Council	46.8	30
Site owned by RSL / HA	0.0	0
Site owned by private landlord	0.0	0
Unauthorised site – privately owned	0.0	0
Unauthorised site – council owned	0.0	0
Don't know	0.0	0
Other	1.6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>64</b>

- 3.14.8 Of those expressing a view (64 households) 50% would prefer to live on a site owned by them selves or their family, with planning permission. 46.8% (30) would prefer a Council owned site. The 2004 CURS study in Hertfordshire found a high level of preference for family owned sites; in East Sussex a high proportion of families would prefer a Council owned site.
- 3.14.9 Respondents were asked where across the County or beyond they felt would make a good location for future permanent and transit sites, the results are shown in the tables below.

**Table 3-61**

<b>Q30 – Do you know of any specific areas in Sussex or elsewhere that would make a good site?</b>	<b>Permanent Site –</b>	
	Normans Bay, Cowden	5
	Broadoak Brede	1
	Improve Hangleton Bottom	1
	Robertsbridge site - improve and enlarge this site	2
	Lewes	2
	Hastings	2
	Brighton	2
	Maresfield	2
	Burgess Hill, Smith's Lane	1
	Hangleton Botton could be improved	4
	Devils Dyke	1
	Polegate	5
	Hailsham	8
	Hellingly	2
	Heathfield	1
	Stone Cross	1
	Pevensey	2
	Chiddingley	1
	Lower Dicker	1
	Uckfield	2
	Horam	2
	Hancome	1
	Bebersham	1
	Rother	1
	Brighorn	1
	Eastbourne	1
	Bexhill Outskirts	1
	Pelbsham Nr Bexhill	2
	Isfield	1
	Kent	1
	East Sussex	1
	Barkham	1
	Mayfield	1

<b>Q30 – Do you know of any specific areas in Sussex or elsewhere that would make a good site?</b>	<b>Transit site</b>	
	Robertsbridge site – improve and enlarge this site and make it mixed	2
	Stommer Park	1
	Devils Dyke	1
	Improve Hangleton Botton	1
	Eastbourne	1
	Uckfield	1
	Halisham	1
	Rother	1
	Brighorn	1
	Eastbourne	1
	Golden Cross (Loughton Road)	1
	Barkham	1
	Mayfield	1

## 4 FINDINGS FOR RESPONDENTS LIVING IN PERMANENT ACCOMMODATION

### 4.1 Current Accommodation

4.1.1 All responses, percentages and numbers are calculated from the actual response to the individual question, therefore numbers of responses by question vary.

4.1.2 Many Gypsies and Travellers are living increasingly settled life styles. The CURS study (2005) "Assessment of the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers in South and West Hertfordshire" noted a trend towards settlement in permanent housing or on sites, with households travelling for short periods to retain their cultural identity. It is not clear if this is a matter of choice or not. The lack of authorised sites may push some Gypsy and Traveller households into permanent housing, while others may choose a permanent home in order to access better facilities and services; the CURS study found ill health to be a spur to settlement.

4.1.3 63 respondents identified them selves as Gypsies or Travellers living in permanent housing within the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove areas. This section considers the current accommodation circumstances of those Gypsies and Travellers in the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove areas living in permanent accommodation. Respondents were well spread sub-region with 34.9% (22) living in Wealden, 30.2% (19) in Eastbourne, 14.3% (9) in Hastings, 9.5% (6) in Rother, 9.5% (6) in Lewes and 1.6% (1) in Brighton & Hove.

**Table 4-1 Accommodation**

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Temporary	3.2	2
Permanent	96.8	60
A care-of address	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>62</b>

4.1.4 Of the 62 respondents 60 (96.8%) were living in permanent accommodation, 3.2% (2) in temporary accommodation.

**Table 4-2 Type Of Gypsy / Traveller**

	%	N <sup>os</sup>	% of all respondents
Romany Gypsy or English Traveller	95.2	60	78.9
Irish Traveller	0.0	0	13.2
Welsh Gypsy or Traveller	0.0	0	0.0
Scottish Gypsy or Traveller	0.0	0	0.0
New Traveller	1.6	1	5.5
Horse Drawn Traveller	0.0	0	0.0
Fairground Traveller	0.0	0	0.0
Van Dweller	0.0	0	0.8
None	1.6	1	0.8
Don't Know	0.0	0	0.0
Other	1.6	1	0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100.0</b>

- 4.1.5 95.2% (60) of respondents living in permanent housing were Romany Gypsy or English Travellers.

**Table 4-3 Type / Number Living Units (%)**

Question 1a

	This site			Elsewhere		
	One %	Two %	Three or more %	One %	Two %	Three or more %
House / Bungalow / Flat / Maisonette	96.8	0.0	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Touring caravan / trailer – transit sites	50.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
Vans	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Additional vehicles	82.6	17.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

- 4.1.6 Respondents were asked what type of accommodation they had in their current location or elsewhere. Few people had any vehicles or living accommodation elsewhere. Most were living in a house, flat, bungalow or maisonette (98.4% - 62) with no additional vehicles. 1 respondent had a house / flat / bungalow or maisonette in another area. 23 (36.5%) households also had additional vehicles at their current accommodation. 2 had a van at their current accommodation.

**Table 4-4 Is This Your Main Accommodation / Home?**

Question 1b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	96.8	61
No	3.2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>63</b>

- 4.1.7 96.8% (61) of respondents were living in their main accommodation. Those who were not living in their main accommodation (2 cases) were asked where that was. In both cases respondents indicated that their main accommodation was in the same area.
- 4.1.8 Respondents living in a house / flat / maisonette or bungalow were asked 3 questions about their accommodation.
- 4.1.9 Respondents were asked how many bedrooms they had in their accommodation. Based on a response rate of 95.2% (60) the average was 2.7.

**Table 4-5 How Many Bedrooms Does Your Accommodation Have?**

Question 1d

Number	%	N <sup>os</sup>
One	5.0	3
Two	31.7	19
Three	53.3	32
Four or more	10.0	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>60</b>

**Table 4-6 Type Of Accommodation**

Question 1e

Type	%	N <sup>os</sup>
House	80.0	48
Bungalow	10.0	6
Flat / Maisonette	8.3	5
Supported Housing (including sheltered)	1.7	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>60</b>

- 4.1.10 Based on responses from 60 households, 80.0% (48) said their main accommodation was a house.

**Table 4-7 Do You Own the Accommodation or Rent?**

Question 1f

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Owner-Occupied	8.3	5
Renting from private landlord	5.0	3
Council tenant	46.7	28
RSL / HA tenant	40.0	24
Rent from family / friend or employer	0.0	0
Don't know	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>60</b>

- 4.1.11 Based on responses from 60 households 8.3% (5) of the group were owner occupiers, 91.7% (55) were renting, of whom 94.5% (52) were renting in the social housing sector.
- 4.1.12 All households were then asked if their accommodation was adequate for their needs.
- 4.1.13 All those responding said their accommodation was adequate, a response was received from 66.7% (42) of households living in permanent accommodation.
- 4.1.14 All households were asked how long they had lived in their current accommodation, 62 households responded. 46.8% (29) of the group had lived in their home for more than 5 years. 16% (10) had lived in their current home for less than a year, a lower proportion of respondents currently living in permanent accommodation had been living at their current address for less than a year compared to those currently living on a site (62.5%).

**Table 4-8 How Long Have You Lived Here?**

Question 7

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
A day or two	0.0	0
Less than one week	1.6	1
Less than one month	4.8	3
Less than 3 months	4.8	3
Less than 6 months	1.6	1
6 months but less than 1 year	3.2	2
1 year but less than 5 years	37.1	23
5 years and over	46.9	29
Don't know / no answer	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>62</b>

- 4.1.15 Respondents were asked about the good and bad things about where they lived. In terms of the good things, respondents made an average of 5.5 responses each, with access to shops (85.7% - 54) and access to family (73.0% - 46) being the most positive aspects. There was a far lower response rate when considering the bad things about the area (42.9%), with respondents making an average of 1.6 responses each. The main concerns were problems with neighbours (44.4% - 12 cases), and neighbourhood (33.3% - 9 cases). The problems outlined by those in permanent accommodation were significantly different to those living on sites, where issues focused on location and access to doctors.

**Table 4-9** *What Are The Good / Bad Things About Where You Live Now?*  
Question 8a

	%Good	N <sup>os</sup>	%Bad	N <sup>os</sup>
Accommodation	63.5	40	22.2	6
Neighbourhood / Estate	34.9	23	33.3	9
Neighbours / other people	44.4	28	44.4	12
Location	65.1	41	0.0	0
Access to shops	85.7	54	7.4	2
Access to doctors	82.5	52	11.1	3
Access to schools	63.5	40	3.7	1
Access to work	28.6	18	3.7	1
Access to family	73.0	46	11.1	3
Other	11.1	7	22.2	6
Temporary	0.0	0	3.7	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>349</b>		<b>44</b>

**Table 4-10** *Do You Have A Base / Site / Pitch / Regular Stopping Place / Home Somewhere Else?*  
Question 8b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	3.4	2
No	96.6	57
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>59</b>

- 4.1.16 96.6% (57) of respondents had no other base / site / pitch or regular stopping place / home elsewhere. Only 2 cases did have another such base, these cases were asked a series of questions about their other base.
- 4.1.17 Those responding had another base on only one site, one respondent was from Brighton & Hove, and the other was from Eastbourne, in both cases the other base was in the same district as the current accommodation.
- 4.1.18 3 people responded to a following question asking if the other base was in a town or countryside location. In one case the other base was in a city, one was in a town and one was in a village.
- 4.1.19 Of the 2 households with a base in another area one was renting from a RSL / HA, 1 described the nature of their base as "other".



## 4.2 Travel

- 4.2.1 All households were asked if they were willing to answer questions about their travelling patterns. This section gives details of the travelling behaviour of gypsies and Travellers currently living in permanent accommodation in the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove sample.
- 4.2.2 The ability of Gypsy and Traveller households currently living in permanent accommodation to travel may be limited by terms of tenancy that restrict the keeping of caravans or other vehicles at their home; or make it difficult to maintain a tenancy when they are away from home for long periods.

**Table 4-11 How Much Travelling Have You Done In The Last 12 Months?**

Question 9a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
None	74.2	46
Seasonal	19.4	12
Weekly	0.0	0
Monthly	0.0	0
When forced to move on	0.0	0
Other	6.4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>62</b>

- 4.2.3 Based on 62 responses 74.2% (46) of households currently living in permanent accommodation have not travelled in the last 12 months, this compares to 33.8% of households currently living on a site. Of those who do travel (12 cases) 19.4% travel seasonally. Of the 4 households indicating “other” response, 2 said they travel when ever they want to and one said they travel fro holidays.
- 4.2.4 16 households responded to the following 2 questions asking how many households and how many vehicles travelled

**Table 4-12 When You Travel How Many Households Travel?**

Question 9b

	% Households	N <sup>os</sup>
Own household	43.8	7
Two households	25.0	4
Three households	12.5	2
Four households	0.0	0
Five or more households	18.7	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>16</b>

**Table 4-13** *When You Travel How Many Vehicles Travel?*

Question 9b

	%Vehicles	N <sup>os</sup>
Own	12.5	2
Two	43.6	7
Three	12.5	2
Four	0.0	0
Five	6.3	1
Six	6.3	1
Seven	6.3	1
Eight	0.0	0
Nine or more	12.5	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>16</b>

- 4.2.5 An average of 2.3 households are travelling together with 3.6 vehicles. Overall households living in permanent accommodation tend to travel in smaller groups than those currently living on sites where the average group travelling together is 3.4 with 4.8 vehicles.

**Table 4-14** *Do You Travel Regularly At This Time of Year or At Other Times?*

Question 9c

	This time of year (September)		Other times	
	%	N <sup>os</sup>	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	100.0	15	87.5	14
No	0.0	0	12.5	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>16</b>

- 4.2.6 15 households said they travel regularly at this time of year (e.g. September); 14 travel regularly at other times. Those who travel regularly were asked the main reason for their travelling.

**Table 4-15** *What Is The Main Reason For Travelling?*

Question 9d

	This time of year (September)		Other times	
	%	N <sup>os</sup>	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Holiday	33.3	5	50.0	7
Family event	40.0	6	28.6	4
Community event	13.3	2	14.3	2
Festival	13.3	2	14.3	2
Work	0.0	0	0.0	0
School	0.0	0	0.0	0
Health care	0.0	0	0.0	0
Other	66.7	10	64.3	9
Way of life	0.0	0	0.0	0
Temporary site	0.0	0	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>		<b>24</b>

4.2.7 Those giving a reason for travelling at this time of year (e.g. September) (15 cases) and at other times (14 cases) gave an average of 1.7 responses each. As with households living on sites family event was the single most popular reason for this group travelling at this time of year (e.g. September). Holiday was the single most important reason given for travelling at other times of the year.

4.2.8 Those travelling at other times of the year were asked when they travel.

**Table 4-16 What Times Of Year Do You Regularly Visit?**

Question 9e

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
January	0.0	0
February	0.0	0
March	46.7	7
April	60.0	9
May	86.7	13
June	80.0	12
July	100.0	15
August	100.0	15
September	73.3	11
October	60.0	9
November	6.7	1
December	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>92</b>

4.2.9 Those who travelled were travelling on average during 6.1 months of the year. Households living on sites tend to travel more often, on average travelling during 9.1 months of the year.

**Table 4-17 How Often Would You Like To Travel In The Future?**

Question 9k

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Weekly	0.0	0
Monthly	7.1	1
Seasonally	71.4	10
Yearly	7.1	1
Do not want to continue to travel	14.4	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14</b>

4.2.10 Of the 14 households responding to the question 71.4% (10) would prefer to be travelling seasonally in the future. 14.4% (2) do not want to continue to travel.

### 4.3 Eviction

**Table 4-18** *Have You Been Evicted From A Site / Pitch in the Last 12 Months?*

Question 9h

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	17.6	3
No	82.4	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>17</b>

- 4.3.1 3 households in the sample had been evicted from a site in the last 12 months. Of those who had been evicted all had left voluntarily.

**Table 4-19** *How Often Have You Been Evicted In The Last 12 Months?*

Question 9j

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Once	33.3	1
Twice	0.0	0
Three times	0.0	0
Four times	0.0	0
Five times or more	66.7	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3</b>

- 4.3.2 Of those responding 2 out of 3 had been evicted five or more times in the last 12 months.

### 4.4 Recent Accommodation

- 4.4.1 This section looks at where households currently living in permanent accommodation lived before moving to their current accommodation.

**Table 4-20** *What Sort Of Accommodation Did You Have Before?*

Question 10a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
This is my first / only accommodation	13.3	8
House / Bungalow / Flat / Maisonette	63.3	38
Supported housing (Inc sheltered)	0.0	0
Mobile home (permanent site)	10.0	6
Mobile home (transit site)	3.3	2
Touring caravan / trailer (permanent site)	3.3	2
Touring caravan / trailer (transit site)	6.8	4
Van	0.0	0
Don't Know	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>60</b>

- 4.4.2 Of the 60 respondents to the question, 63.3% (38) of those currently living in permanent accommodation previously lived in a house / bungalow / flat / maisonette, this compares to just 9 of those currently living on a site. In contrast 32.1% of those currently living on a site had previously lived in a touring caravan / trailer on a transit site, compared to just 6.8% (4) of those currently living in permanent accommodation.
- 4.4.3 Those who had ever lived in a house / flat / bungalow or maisonette were asked about the tenure of that accommodation, 53 households responded, of whom 48 (90.6% of respondents) had rented their previous home.

**Table 4-21 Tenure of Previous Accommodation?**

Question 10c

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Owner occupied	9.4	5
Council tenant	50.9	27
RSL / HA tenant	28.3	15
Rent from private landlord	11.4	6
Rent from family / friend / employer	0.0	0
Don't know	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>53</b>

- 4.4.4 All households, apart from those who had never lived anywhere else were then asked where they used to live. The survey found that the majority of respondents had previously lived in the same area; 81.8% in the case of respondents from Wealden, 66.7% from Hastings, 66.6% from Rother, 50% from Brighton and Hove, and 75% from Lewes, and could be classed as "local"

**Table 4-22 Where Did You Used To Live?**

Question 11

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Wealden	37.7	20
Hastings	11.3	6
Rother	3.8	2
Brighton & Hove	1.9	1
Eastbourne	26.3	14
Lewes	5.7	3
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	1.9	1
Crawley	0.0	0
London	1.9	1
Mid-Sussex	1.9	1
Kent	3.8	2
Elsewhere in South East	1.9	1
Within the UK but outside the South East	1.9	1
Outside the UK	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>53</b>

**Table 4-23 Did You Live In A Town or A Country Area?**

Question 12

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
City	1.9	1
Town	24.1	13
Village	37.0	20
Countryside	37.0	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>54</b>

- 4.4.5 37% (20) of respondents had previously lived in the Countryside, 37% (20) in a village and 24.1% (13) in a town.

**Table 4-24 How Long Did You Live There?**

Question 13

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Less than 1 week	0.0	0
Less than 1 month	0.0	0
Less than 3 months	5.6	3
Less than 6 months	3.7	2
6 months but less than 1 year	7.4	4
1 year but less than 5 years	46.3	25
5 years and over	35.1	19
Don't know / no answer	1.9	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>54</b>

- 4.4.6 35.1% (19) of households currently in permanent accommodation had lived in their previous home for 5 years or more, compared to 24.5% of respondents currently living on a site. 16.7% (9) had lived in their previous home for less than a year, compared to 38.8% for households currently living on a site.

**Table 4-25 Have You Ever Applied For Planning Permission?**

Question 14

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	7.4	4
No	92.6	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>54</b>

- 4.4.7 54 households responded to a question on planning permission. 4 households had applied for planning for permissions (7.4%), 2 had been successful, 1 had been refused and 1 was a current application. Three of the applications had been made in Wealden, one in Kent.
- 4.4.8 1 respondent had lost a pitch / site / Licence / Lease due to parking fines or restrictions; in this case it happened twice.

## 4.5 You and Your Family

- 4.5.1 A lot of data was collected on the age and sex of individual household members. From the data collected we were able to build up a picture of the households in the sample. The findings are summarised in the table below.

**Table 4-26 Family Composition**

Family structure	%	Nos	Group %
1 adult over 60	6.3	4	7.9
1 adult under 60	1.6	1	
1 adult and others	0	0	
Couple no children	19.0	12	76.2
Couple with children	57.2	36	
Couple and others	0	0	
Single parent	15.9	10	15.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100.0</b>

- 4.5.2 Compared to respondents living on a site, a higher proportion of those living in permanent accommodation were couples and couples with children: 76.2% compared to 68.8% of those on sites. There was also a far higher proportion of single parent households (15.9%) compared to those on sites (7.8%) and compared to the national average (9%).
- 4.5.3 In terms of the age of head of household and other household members, based on responses from 52 heads of household, we found 61.3% (38) of heads of household living in permanent housing to be aged between 20 – 44, compared to 72.4% of those living on a site. The proportion of under 16s living on sites was 38.4% (71 children) compared to 42.5% of those living in permanent accommodation, reflecting the higher proportion families with children living in permanent accommodation rather than on sites. A total of 108 children aged under 16 years were identified as living in permanent accommodation within the sample.

**Table 4-27 Age Of Household Members**

Question 18b

Age of household members	Head of household		All household members	
	%	N <sup>os</sup>	%	N <sup>os</sup>
0 – 10	0	0	28.7	73
11 – 15	0	0	13.8	35
16 – 19	0	0	8.3	21
20 – 29	14.5	9	11.4	29
30 – 44	46.8	29	20.1	51
45 – 59	16.1	10	8.3	21
60 – 74	14.5	9	6.7	17
75+	8.1	5	2.7	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>254</b>

- 4.5.4 The average number of people per household was 4.1 amongst those living in permanent accommodation, compared to 3.2 amongst respondents living on site. The average family size is higher amongst Gypsy and Traveller families than within the general population (2.4% in the Census).

## 4.6 Access to Services and Facilities

- 4.6.1 The following section presents data on access to schooling and medical facilities for households currently living in permanent accommodation. Data is also presented on the incidence of disability within the household and access to adaptations.
- 4.6.2 36 households indicated that they had school age children in local schools, 4 households said their children were not in school. 4 households said that their current accommodation affects their child's schooling. In 3 cases the household had difficulties getting a school place, in one case the household was afraid to send the children to school because of local hostility. 5 families had moved in the last 12 months in order to access schools.
- 4.6.3 96.8% (61) of respondents currently living in permanent accommodation were registered with a doctor in the area, 3 households were registered with a doctor elsewhere. Of respondents living on a site 45.3% were registered with a doctor in their current area.
- 4.6.4 Our findings are consistent with a study of the health of Gypsy and Traveller families by the University of Sheffield School of Health and Related Research (2004) which found access to health facilities to be lower within the Gypsy and Traveller community than within the general population.
- 4.6.5 Our findings are also consistent with the CURS study (2005) "An Assessment of the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers in South and West Hertfordshire" reporting that ill health is a spur to settlement for Gypsy and Traveller families.

**Table 4-28**      **Do You Consider Anyone In Your Household To Have A Disability or a Serious Long Term Illness?**  
Question 19a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
No	64.5	40
Yes, One	24.2	15
Yes, Two	9.7	6
Yes, More than two	1.6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>62</b>

- 4.6.6 22 households in the sample had a member with a disability or long term illness (35.5%), the incidence of disability was marginally higher amongst Gypsy and Traveller households in permanent accommodation than it was amongst those living on sites (27.7%). Households with a member with a disability were asked further questions about the nature of the illness / disability and the adaptations available to support members of the household with a disability.



**Table 4-29 Do You Consider the Disability Limits Activity?**

Question 19b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	95.7	22
No	4.3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>23</b>

- 4.6.7 In all 22 cases the disability / illness limited activity. The following question found that 22.7% of the 22 cases with a disability or long term illness (5 cases 21.7%) needed adaptations to the home. 12 (52.2%) households indicated that a member with a disability needed regular medical treatment by a doctor or hospital. 6 (26.1%) households needed both regular medical treatment and adaptations.

**Table 4-30 Does the illness or Disability Mean You / Family Need Special Provision Of?**

Question 19c

Housing Required	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Adaptations to your home	21.7	5
Regular medical treatment at doctor or hospital	52.2	12
Both	26.1	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>23</b>

- 4.6.8 The 5 households needing adaptations were asked what type of adaptations were required. 11 people responded (50% of those with a disability) making an average of 2.9 choices per household.

**Table 4-31 What Kind Of Adaptations Do You Need?**

Question 19d

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Ramps outside / inside	45.5	5
(Additional) handrails outside / inside	45.5	5
Better access / any other alteration	0.0	0
Stair lift / vertical lift	45.5	5
Stair rail	27.3	3
Kitchen specially designed / adapted	45.5	5
Bath / shower / toilet specially designed / adapted	45.5	5
Bath / shower / toilet relocated	36.4	4
Hoist (bath or bed)	0.0	0
Electrical modifications	0.0	0
Mobility scooter	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>

- 4.6.9 5 households had any adaptations done, with the local authority having done all of the work.

**Table 4-32 Are You or A Member of Your Family A Wheelchair User?**

Question 19f

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes	40.0	4
No	60.0	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>10</b>

- 4.6.10 Of the 22 households including a disabled member, 10 responded to a question asking if a member of the household was a wheelchair user. 4 of households currently living in permanent accommodation included a member of the household who was a wheelchair user (6% of those living in permanent housing), compared to a figure of around 8% typically found in our general household surveys.

## 4.7 Harassment

- 4.7.1 This section looks at the experiences of harassment amongst Gypsy and Traveller households currently living in permanent accommodation. 42.4% (28) of households had experienced harassment at their current home; and 24.6% (16) of the sample had left accommodation as a result of harassment, in all those cases the harassment had taken place at home rather than at school or at work. 70.8% (46) of the sample said they would take harassment into consideration when deciding to move again.

## 4.8 Work

- 4.8.1 This section deals with the working patterns of Gypsy and Traveller respondents currently living in permanent accommodation, including problems with working and issues around travel to work.

**Table 4-33 Do You Live Here To Be Near Work?**

Question 22a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes, permanent work	18.3	11
Yes, temporary work	5.0	3
No	76.7	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>60</b>

- 4.8.2 14 respondents (23.3%) said they live here to be close to work.

**Table 4-34 Are You?**

Question 22b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Self-employed	19.0	11
Employed	8.6	5
Unemployed	27.6	16
Retired	24.1	14
Housewife	20.7	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>58</b>

- 4.8.3 27.6% of respondents living in permanent accommodation were employed or self employed (16), compared to 48.8% of those living on sites, based on 61 responses.
- 4.8.4 5 respondents indicated that where they live makes it difficult to get work, 31.3% of those in work. The following reasons were given.

**Table 4-35** *What Are the Reasons Your Accommodation Makes It Difficult to Get Work?*  
Question 23b

	%	N <sup>OS</sup>
Location	20.0	1
Lack of postal address	20.0	1
Lack of storage for work equipment	0.0	0
Lack of access to work	40.0	2
Other	20.0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5</b>

**Table 4-36** *Have You Moved In The Last 12 Months Due To Difficulty In Getting Work?*  
Question 23c

	%	N <sup>OS</sup>
Yes, once	2.1	1
Yes, twice	2.1	1
Yes, three times or more	0.0	0
No	95.8	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>47</b>

4.8.5 2 households had moved in the last 12 months due to difficulties getting work.

4.8.6 9 respondents (56.3% of those in employment) said they had to travel for work. The following locations were given. 9 households giving a location for work gave an average of 5 locations each suggesting most are moving around for work. Few households living in permanent accommodation are travelling nationally for work, those living on sites are more likely to travel nationally to access work.

**Table 4-37** *Where Do You Travel To?*

Question 23e

	%	N <sup>OS</sup>
Anywhere in East Sussex	55.6	5
Wealden	22.2	2
Hastings	22.2	2
Rother	33.3	3
Brighton & Hove	44.4	4
Eastbourne	33.3	3
Lewes	22.2	2
Anywhere in West Sussex	44.4	4
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	0.0	0
Crawley	0.0	0
London	22.2	2
Mid-Sussex	11.1	1
Kent	55.6	5
Elsewhere in South East	66.7	6
Within the UK but outside the South East	55.6	5
Outside the UK	11.1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>45</b>

**Table 4-38 What Times Of Year Do You Travel To Work?**

Question 23f

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Spring	100.0	8
Summer	100.0	8
Autumn	100.0	8
Winter	75.0	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>

- 4.8.7 All of those who travel for work are travelling in the spring, summer, and autumn, 75% (6) also travel in the winter.

**Table 4-39 Do You Need Additional Space for Work?**

Question 23g

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes, storage space	0.0	0
Yes, workshop space	0.0	0
Yes, space for vehicles	2.2	1
No	97.8	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>46</b>

- 4.8.8 1 household needed extra space for work for vehicles.

## 4.9 Income and Financial Support

- 4.9.1 The income of all household members was recorded to give a total annual income for the household before tax and other deductions. The response rate to the income question was 30.2% (19), this is low in our survey experience, but in line with our expectation that Gypsy and Traveller households are generally reluctant to disclose income data. The results should be treated with caution as they do not represent a highly accurate profile of incomes within the sample.

**Table 4-40 Total Annual Income of Household**

Question 24k

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Below £10,000	57.9	11
£10,000 – £20,000	26.3	5
£20,001 - £30,000	10.5	2
£30,001 - £40,000	5.3	1
£40,001 - £50,000	0.0	0
£50,001 - £60,000	0.0	0
£60,001 - £70,000	0.0	0
£70,001 - £75,000	0.0	0
Above £75,000	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>19</b>

- 4.9.2 57.9% (11) of respondents living in permanent accommodation had incomes below £10,000, compared to 75% of respondents living on a site. 17 people indicated that they received financial support, 27% of those living in permanent accommodation. Respondents made an average of 2.1 choices each, compared to 1.4 for respondents living on sites, suggesting that households in permanent accommodation are better placed to access financial support.

**Table 4-41 Does Your Household Receive Any Financial Support?**  
Question 24l

	% (of 17)	N <sup>os</sup>
Housing Benefit	47.1	8
Income Support	70.6	12
Job Seekers Allowance	5.9	1
Working Family Tax Credit	5.9	1
Disability Allowance	11.8	2
Attendance Allowance	0.0	0
State Pension	5.9	1
Other	58.8	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>

## 4.10 Future Accommodation

### 4.10.1 Moving Intentions of Households Currently Living in Permanent Housing

- 4.10.2 The moving intentions and future accommodation requirements of the sample were considered through a set of questions to help identify the need for future planning site provision.

**Table 4-42 Are You Intending To Move from Your Current Site / House?**  
Question 24a

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
No	54.9	34
Never	0.0	0
Don't know	12.9	8
Within a month	6.5	4
Within 3 months	4.8	3
Within 6 months	1.6	1
Within a year	9.7	6
Within 3 years	4.8	3
Within 5 years	4.8	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>62</b>

- 4.10.3 32.2% of households responding (20 of 62 respondents) had plans to move from their current home, of whom 20% (4) wanted to move within a month, compared to 75.8% of those currently living on a site, reflecting the greater mobility and instability of housing circumstances amongst households living on sites.

**Table 4-43 Why Are You Intending To Move from Your Current Site / House?**  
Question 24b

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Accommodation	14.3	3
Neighbourhood / Estate	0.0	0
Neighbours / other people	9.5	2
Location	14.3	3
Far from shops	0.0	0
Far from doctors	9.5	2
Far from schools	4.8	1
Far from work	0.0	0
Far from family	4.8	1
Want to travel to a specific event	0.0	0
Always travel at this time of year (September)	9.5	2
Harassment	9.5	2
Do not like it here	28.6	6
Temporary	0.0	0
Don't want to be in a house	33.3	8
Eviction	4.8	1
Other	38.1	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>39</b>

4.10.4 Respondents intending to move gave an average of 1.9 reasons for moving; with don't want to be in a house being the most common reason for moving. Amongst households living on a site eviction was the most common reason for moving.

**Table 4-44 What Area Are You Moving To When You Leave?**  
Question 24c

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Wealden	29.1	7
Hastings	29.1	7
Rother	4.2	1
Brighton & Hove	4.2	1
Eastbourne	16.7	4
Lewes	0.0	0
Adur	0.0	0
Arun	0.0	0
Worthing	0.0	0
Crawley	0.0	0
London	0.0	0
Mid-Sussex	0.0	0
Kent	4.2	1
Elsewhere in South East	8.3	2
Within the UK but outside the South East	4.2	1
Outside the UK	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24</b>

- 4.10.5 Based on responses from 24 households we found that the majority wished to remain in the same area.

**Table 4-45 Are You on Any Site / House Waiting Lists?**

Question 24d

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Yes – housing waiting list	10.0	2
Yes – site waiting list	10.0	2
No	80.0	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>20</b>

- 4.10.6 Of 20 respondents 4 households intending to move are on a waiting list (20%), 2 (50%) are on a site waiting list and 2 (50%) are on a housing waiting list.
- 4.10.7 70% (14) of those intending to move hoped to move to the countryside, 15% (3) would prefer a village location, 15% (3) would like to move to a town.

**Table 4-46 When You Leave Are You Planning To Move To?**

Question 24g

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Housing	22.2	4
Local authority site	38.9	7
Private site	0.0	0
Transit site	0.0	0
Roadside camp / car park	5.6	1
Unauthorised site – privately owned	0.0	0
Unauthorised site – council owned	0.0	0
Site owned by you / family with planning permission granted	27.7	5
Site owned by you / family with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission granted	0.0	0
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Other site	5.6	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>18</b>

- 4.10.8 Of the 18 households responding to the question 13 (72.2%) intend to move to a site, 1 intends to move to a roadside camp and 4 intend to move to permanent housing.
- 4.10.9 There was a far higher expectation of accessing an authorised site amongst moving households currently living in permanent accommodation, compared to those currently living on sites. This may reflect the fact that those in permanent accommodation are able to wait for a site, while those moving on from a site were predominantly being forced on because of eviction or the temporary nature of their accommodation.

## 4.11 Site Accommodation

- 4.11.1 Of the 14 households planning to move to a site 7 (50%) intend to move to a local authority site, 1 to a roadside camp / car park, 5 to a family site and 1 to another site. Those moving to a site were asked how long they plan to stay there, 16 people responded of whom 5 indicated that they would remain at the site until they were evicted, 11 did not know how long they would stay.
- 4.11.2 Respondents were asked what facilities they would need at their next site. 4 households responded, indicating the following facilities for shared or sole use.

**Table 4-47 In Addition to Essentials What Facilities Will Be Needed At Your Next Site?**  
Question 24m

	% Sole use	% Shared use	N <sup>os</sup>
Electricity supply (mains)	25.0	100.0	5
Electricity supply (generator)	0	0.0	0
Gas (mains)	0	50.0	2
Gas (bottle)	50.0	0.0	2
Rubbish Storage and collection (Council supplied)	25.0	100.0	5
Rubbish storage and collection (privately supplied)	0	0.0	0
Shed / amenity building	25.0	75.0	4
Bath	100.0	0.0	4
Shower	100.0	0.0	4
Kitchen facilities	0	75.0	3
Laundry facilities	0	75.0	3
Fire prevention	0	100.0	4
Play space	25.0	75.0	4
Space for animals	0	25.0	1
Space for visitors	25.0	75.0	4
Work space	0	25.0	1
Equipment storage	25.0	0.0	1
Parking	0	100.0	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>51</b>

**Table 4-48 How Many Site Spaces Do You Need For Work / Living?**  
Question 24n

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
One	33.3	2
Two	50.0	3
Three	16.7	1
Four	0.0	0
Five	0.0	0
Six	0.0	0
Seven	0.0	0
Eight	0.0	0
Nine or more	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>



- 4.11.3 Based on 6 responses those currently living in permanent housing needed an average of 1 space per household on their next site, this compared to 3.9 spaces required by respondents planning to move who were currently living on a site.

## 4.12 Housing Accommodation

- 4.12.1 The following questions asked households if they would like to live in permanent housing in the future. Table 4-46 showed 4 households would consider permanent housing in the future.
- 4.12.2 Those who would consider permanent housing accommodation in the future were asked why they wanted permanent housing. 5 households gave a wide range of reasons with more space being the most popular reason.

**Table 4-49** *Reasons for Looking For Permanent Housing*

Question 24n

	%	N <sup>OS</sup>
More space	60.0	3
Warmer	20.0	1
Cheaper to heat	0.0	0
Safer	20.0	1
Better facilities	20.0	1
Access to healthcare	40.0	2
Access to schools	20.0	1
Access to shops	20.0	1
Close to family	20.0	1
Close to friends / support	40.0	2
Other	20.0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>

- 4.12.3 Two of those looking for housing accommodation want a house, 2 would prefer a bungalow.
- 4.12.4 14 households responded to the question asking if they would like to rent or buy their next home, 5 (35.7%) would rent, 7 (50%) would buy, 2 (14.3%) did not know if they would rent or buy.

## 4.13 Needs of Concealed Households

- 4.13.1 2 households currently living in permanent housing indicated that they had a family member who would be looking for independent accommodation in the next 3 years. In 1 case there was one family member involved, in 1 cases there were two family members looking for independent accommodation.
- 4.13.2 Those requiring independent accommodation were asked what type of accommodation they would be looking for and which area they wanted to move to. Preference on the type of accommodation was one household requiring permanent housing, one looking for a local authority site and one looking for a family site with planning permission.

- 4.13.3 Of those responding, one new household was looking for accommodation in the same area, one in Wealden. Preference was predominantly for a countryside location.

## 4.14 Ideal Sites

- 4.14.1 The following questions ask respondents currently living in permanent housing for their ideas on what would make an ideal site.

**Table 4-50** *What Is The Maximum Number Of Pitches A Site Should Have?*  
Question 27

	% Transit	N <sup>os</sup>	% Permanent	N <sup>os</sup>
1 -5	20.8	5	36.2	17
6 - 10	45.8	11	55.3	26
11 – 15	25.0	6	2.1	1
16 – 20	0.0	0	4.3	2
21 - 25	4.2	1	2.1	1
26 – 30	0.0	0	0.0	0
Over 30	4.2	1	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>		<b>100.0</b>	

- 4.14.2 As with those currently living on a site, generally respondents preferred smaller sites, with 91.5% (43) of respondents preferring permanent sites with 10 or less pitches. 66.6% (16) of those expressing a view on the size of transit sites would prefer sites of 10 pitches or less.

**Table 4-51** *What Would Be Your IDEAL Type Of Site?*  
Question 28

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Mobile home (permanent site)	80.8	42
Mobile home (transit site)	1.9	1
Touring caravan / trailer (permanent site)	7.7	4
Touring caravan / trailer (transit site)	1.9	1
Other	0.0	0
Don't Know	7.7	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>52</b>

- 4.14.3 As with those currently living on a site the ideal site is a mobile home on a permanent site, 80.8% (42) of respondents who expressed an opinion said this was their ideal, based on 53 responses.

**Table 4-52**      **Where Would Be Your IDEAL Location?**  
Question 29

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Wealden	47.2	25
Hastings	15.1	8
Rother	7.5	4
Brighton & Hove	7.5	4
Eastbourne	11.3	6
Lewes	5.7	3
Adur	0	0
Arun	0	0
Worthing	0	0
Crawley	0	0
London	0	0
Mid-Sussex	1.9	1
Kent	1.9	1
Elsewhere in South East	1.9	1
Within the UK but outside the South East	0	0
Outside the UK	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>53</b>

- 4.14.4 Based on 52 responses the majority of respondents wanted to remain in the same area. 90.9% of households from Wealden wanted to stay in the district, the proportion was 88.8% of those moving in Hastings, 100% for Rother, 80% for Brighton and Hove, 66.6% for Lewes and 46.2% for Eastbourne.

**Table 4-53**      **Ideally Would You Like To Live In A Town Or Country Area?**  
Question 31

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
City	0.0	0
Town	12.7	7
Village	12.7	7
Countryside	74.6	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>55</b>

- 4.14.5 Of those responding (55 households) 74.6% (41) would prefer to live in the countryside.

**Table 4-54**      **What Would Your Ideal Type Of Site?**

Question 32

	%	N <sup>os</sup>
Site owned by you / family with planning permission granted	51.9	27
Site owned by you / family with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission granted	0.0	0
Site owned by another Gypsy / Traveller with planning permission not granted	0.0	0
Site owned by Council	34.6	18
Site owned by RSL / HA	1.9	1
Site owned by private landlord	0.0	0
Unauthorised site – privately owned	0.0	0
Unauthorised site – council owned	0.0	0
Don't know	11.6	6
Other	0.0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>52</b>

4.14.6 As with those currently living on a site, of those expressing a view (52 households) 51.9% (27) would prefer to live on a site owned by them selves or their family, with planning permission. 34.6% (18) would prefer a Council owned site.

## 5 GYPSY AND TRAVELLER NEEDS ACCOMMODATION MODEL

	<b>Current Residential Supply</b>	
	Current supply of occupied local authority residential site pitches in the local authority / partnership area	73
	Current supply of occupied authorised privately owned site pitches in the local authority / partnership area	6
1	<b>Total permanent supply</b>	<b>79</b>
2	Number of existing pitches expected to become vacant on permanent sites within the next 12 months	6
3	Number of households in permanent site accommodation planning to move to permanent housing in the next 12 months	2
4	New local authority pitches already planned in year 1	0
5	Existing applications for private site development / extension likely to gain planning permission during year 1	1
	<b>Annual total pitches available</b>	<b>9</b>
6	<b>Available over 5 years</b>	<b>45</b>
	<b>Current Residential Backlog of Need</b>	
7	Households seeking permanent site accommodation in the area	14
8	Households on unauthorised encampments	54
9	Households on unauthorised developments for which planning permission is not expected	8
10	Households currently overcrowded	0
11	Back log of concealed / new family formation within existing households	12
12	<b>Total current residential demand backlog</b>	<b>88</b>
13	Less Number of unused local authority pitches, and vacancies on privately owned sites available in the local authority / partnership area	2
14	Less number of households on unauthorised development pitches likely to gain planning permission	8
	<b>Current shortfall</b>	<b>78</b>
	<b>Newly arising need</b>	
14	Family formation 2006 – 2011	17
15	Households moving from authorised to unauthorised sites 2006 - 2011	30

5.1.1 The Gypsy and Traveller needs model used in this report is based on latest Government Guidance (February 2006). Data used in the model is drawn both from the DCA survey of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs (September / October 2005) and from secondary data provided by the County and individual local authorities.

- 5.1.2 The starting point in any assessment of accommodation needs is to establish the base number of households we are working to within the study area. In this case we need to establish the total number of Gypsy and Traveller households within the study area.
- 5.1.3 The July 2005 Caravan Count is the most reliable source and provides a starting point for our calculation of the number of households. However, as caravans will not necessarily equate to households we looked at our survey data to determine the total number of caravans / household. Our survey data shows an average of 1.3 caravans per household. To reflect this we have adjusted the July 2005 Count total of 79 caravans on authorised sites to take account of households with more than one caravan. The total of 79 has been reduced to 61 to provide a reliable indicator of the number of Gypsy and Traveller households in the study area living on authorised sites.
- 5.1.4 There are 2 points to keep in mind when using this data:-
- An average of just 1.3 caravans per household is close to the average in national terms (1.3 – 1.6 has been recorded in other areas). Some permanent sites may restrict the total number of caravans allowed on sites.
  - It should be noted that in addition to caravans / tourers / mobile homes (living units) we also found that at least 41% of households living on authorised sites and in our sample had at least one other vehicle. This may be an additional vehicle for living or storage. We should conclude therefore that at least 41% have a need for pitches to accommodate more than one other vehicle, and pitch size should reflect this requirement.
- 5.1.5 Our raw survey data has been grossed to the total household figure of 61 (by a factor of 1.56) to give a total number of households implied by our survey findings.
- 5.1.6 In addition to identifying the number of households we also need to identify the total population within the Gypsy and Traveller community. This is used in the family formation calculation. Our survey identified an average of 2.9 people per household, this is applied to the total household figure of 61 to give a total population of 177 within the study area living on permanent authorised sites. In deriving the numbers implied, in population terms, we have again used a grossing factor of 1.56.
- 5.1.7 A summary of the Caravan Count data is provided in the table below. The data shows a growth of 37% in the number of caravans counted between July 2003 – July 2005. The most significant growth is found in Wealden, where an increase of 40% is recorded. Unauthorised camping has increased by 5 pitches between July 2003 – July 2005. Across East Sussex there is considerable variation in the Count. Wealden has seen the biggest growth in numbers with an increase of 16, from 24 caravans recorded in July 2003 to 40 in July 2005, there was a peak of 118 in July 2004. No unauthorised camping was recorded in Eastbourne or Rother in July 2005. Numbers in Hastings are just 4, and in Lewes 14.

**Table 5-1 Caravan Count Data (Total Authorised And Unauthorised)**

	July 2003	July 2004	July 2005
Brighton and Hove	39	54	86
Eastbourne	0	4	0
Hastings	4	3	4
Lewes	22	10	20
Rother	12	7	9
Wealden	24	118	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>159</b>

5.1.8 The sections below give details of how the accommodation needs model has been calculated in line with latest Government guidance.

## 5.2 Supply

5.2.1 The total permanent residential supply is taken from the Caravan Count July 2005 this is the Count closest to the survey fieldwork.

a. The July 2005 Caravan Count data for the study area showed a very low number of caravans on private authorised sites in the East Sussex and Brighton and Hove study area, the total of just 6 counted in July 2005 included no private sites in Brighton and Hove and an increase of just 1 pitch across East Sussex compared to July 2003, (this was in Wealden).

b. 73 caravans were recorded on public sites in Brighton and Hove and East Sussex. Supply has increased from 53 in July 2003, with growth being focused on Wealden (5 caravans) and Brighton and Hove (15).

5.2.2 Our survey identified just 4 household planning to move in the next 12 months from a permanent site to an unauthorised site / housing, creating a vacancy on a permanent site. Our data was then grossed to the total known number of Gypsy and Traveller households in the study area (61), giving an implied figure of 6 pitches expected to become vacant in the next 12 months. Local Authorities provided data on the number of vacancies on sites over the last 12 months. There have been 6 vacancies on authorised local authority sites across the study area in the last 12 months. Officers reported that this is an unusually high level of vacancies; the average has been just 1 over the last 5 years. The actual number of vacancies arising will depend on a number of factors, including the availability of housing and personal family circumstances, 6 vacancies per year may somewhat overstate the actual number of vacancies per year.

5.2.3 The survey identified 1 household currently living in authorised site accommodation but wishing to move to permanent housing, this was grossed to the total household figure of 61, giving a total number implied of 2 households planning to leave site accommodation for permanent housing.

5.2.4 There are no plans to provide additional local authority pitches in the next 12 months, but one private site pitch is expected to gain approval.

5.2.5 The model assumes that the level of supply identified for year one (9) will be sustained in future years, giving a total supply of 45 over 5 years. The following points should be kept in mind when considering this data:

c. The supply from households planning to move from authorised sites to permanent housing is assumed to be an annually occurring figure, the exact number of vacancies arising as a result will of course depend on the ability to access permanent accommodation. In the study area waiting lists for social housing are very long and private property prices are higher than the national average.

d. It is assumed that there will be a continued supply of 1 new pitch per year, this will depend on planning applications for new site licenses being granted.

### 5.3 Need:

- 5.3.1 From waiting list data provided by local authorities we identified 14 households seeking site accommodation in the area, it is not known whether these households are currently living on unauthorised encampments, bricks and mortar accommodation, or an authorised site within the study area, or if they are living in another district.
- 5.3.2 The July 2005 Caravan Count identified a total of 80 caravans on unauthorised sites within the study area, equating to 62 households. The figure for unauthorised encampments varies over time, in January 2005 there were just 13 unauthorised sites, 11 of which were Wealden, in July 2004 there were 131 unauthorised encampments, of which 94 were in Wealden. The average for July was 96 for the previous 2 years.
- 5.3.3 Of the 80 unauthorised caravans counted, we identified 70 caravans, equating to 54 households living on unauthorised encampments (UEs) on land not owned by Gypsies and travellers and unlikely to gain planning permission. 68.6% (48) were in Brighton and Hove, other areas had relatively low numbers: 4 in Hastings, 11 in Lewes, 7 in Wealden.
- 5.3.4 In addition to the 70 caravans on UEs we identified 10 caravans, equating to 8 households on unauthorised developments (UDs) on land owned by gypsies and travellers where the local authority reported that planning permission was not expected. 3 in Lewes and 7 in Wealden.
- 5.3.5 No respondents living on sites who answered the question indicated that their accommodation was inadequate for their needs because it was too small.
- 5.3.6 New family formation within existing households is identified as the number of concealed / new forming households currently living on a site and looking for their own site accommodation. 8 such households were identified through the survey (Wealdon), this has been grossed by 1.56 to give an implied figure of 12 households.
- 5.3.7 The total current residential demand (88) is the current back log of unmet need. We have then deducted 2 unused local authority pitches likely to be brought back into use in Brighton and Hove and 8 pitches on unauthorised encampments / developments on gypsy and traveller owned land in Wealden expected to gain planning permission. The adjusted shortfall is then calculated as 78 pitches.
- 5.3.8 New family formation is calculated from the survey data and projected forward between 2006 - 2011. We use the age data collected for "children" of each household within the typical household forming age groups (16 – 19 and 20 – 29 years). Our data showed that 35.7% of children currently aged 11 – 15 would have left home by the time they were aged 16 – 19, in addition 77.7% of those currently aged 16 – 19 will have left by the time they are aged 20 – 29. From the data we identified 11 individuals likely to be forming their own household within the next 5 years. This raw data figure was grossed to the total population (1.56) to give an implied figure of 17 new households over 5 years, or 3 annually.
- 5.3.9 The survey identified just 4 household planning to move from an authorised to an unauthorised site, grossed to 1.56 gives us 6 households per year, or 30 over 5 years. Moving from an authorised to an unauthorised site creates both a vacancy and a demand within the model.
- 5.3.10 In addition to the expectation that vacancies will continue to arise on sites as a result of turnover there is an assumption that development of new pitches will continue at the 2005 level (1 per year), the total extra pitches needed is calculated as follows:



45 pitches are available over the 5 year period (9 per year).

There is a back log of 88 pitches needed, less 2 that are currently vacant, and 8 UEs likely to gain planning permission: 78

Plus 17 new households likely to form in the next 5 years and 30 planning to move from authorised to unauthorised sites in the next 5 years, giving a total of 125 newly created need over the 5 year period.

Total need over 5 years = 125

Total supply over 5 years = 45

**Total extra pitches needed between 2006 – 2011 = 80 (16 per year)**

- 5.3.11 The distribution of any new sites across the study area will be a matter for local debate, the data gathered in the survey is robust at a sub regional level, but does provide some indication of need and preferences locally. In particular there are no authorised sites in Eastbourne and Hastings; Lewes appears to be starting from a very low base of authorised sites; Wealden and Brighton and Hove have a strong supply but none the less continue to have problems with unauthorised encampments. Our survey data found that the majority of households planning a move wished to remain in the same area, however, when considering ideal site location there was a good spread across the study area with 32% preferring Wealden, 29% Brighton & Hove, 21% Rother, and 6.5% Lewes.
- 5.3.12 Local site search criteria should be used to determine the exact location of sites (see section 5.4 below). Based on previous and intended moving patterns, travel to work and seasonal travel patterns our survey found a strong preference for sites within Wealden and Brighton and Hove. It should be noted that Table 5-2 is based on all survey respondents, regardless of their current accommodation arrangements. The table has not been weighted to take account of the relative accommodation needs of those on either authorised or unauthorised sites or those occupying permanent housing.
- 5.3.13 The data shows a clear preference for new sites in Wealden and Brighton and Hove but an emerging demand that needs to be addressed in Eastbourne, Rother and Hastings and Lewes. Cross district working will be essential to identify suitable sites to address the need across the district.

**Table 5-2 Indicative Distribution of New Permanent Sites Based Upon Survey Respondents Preferences**

	% Ideal location	Distribution of new site pitches 2006 – 2011
Wealden	42.5	34
Hastings	8.5	7
Rother	16.0	13
Brighton and Hove	20.8	17
Eastbourne	5.7	4
Lewes	6.5	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>80</b>

## 5.4 Transit Provision

5.4.1 In our experience transit provision is needed to accommodate families moving through the District, to accommodate families visiting the District, and to accommodate vulnerable families who have been moved on from authorised or unauthorised sites locally.

5.4.2 The survey data gave us a number of indications of the level of transit provision needed in East Sussex.

- Only one household was identified on unauthorised developments or encampments within the study area that were planning to move out of the study area.
- The level of demand from households who are visiting family locally is difficult to determine from the data. There will be some need to accommodate visitors for family events and festivals; the survey found that 14 households were not currently living in their main accommodation, of whom 9 were living on unauthorised encampments.
- In addition to those visiting family there will also be a need to accommodate households visiting the area for work. We found three households on unauthorised encampments who were living there to be close to temporary work.
- 34 households had left a site in the last 12 months as a result of enforcement action, seven as a result of forced eviction. Families who have been evicted but are considered vulnerable, for example because they have young children or a member with an illness or disability may need temporary transit provision within the study area while their welfare needs are assessed. We identified 10 households who had been evicted in the last 12 months with children aged under 11 and six with a member with a disability.

### 5.4.3 Summary:

- Moving through the area: 1
- Vulnerable families following eviction: 16
- Visiting the area for work: 3
- Visiting family: 9

5.4.4 There is a need for around 29 households to be accommodated on transit sites within the study area over a 12 month period. The level of need is likely to peak over the summer travelling months. The distribution of transit sites will be a matter for local debate, but should broadly follow the distribution of permanent authorised sites, reflecting overall need across the study area.

5.4.5 The distribution of permanent against transit site provision will also be a matter for local debate. There is currently no guidance on the assessment or allocation of transit need. We would assume that some of the transit need will be accommodated within the 80 permanent pitches recommended, reducing the need for permanent pitches. Our data showed for example that 13 of the households needing a transit pitch were currently living on an unauthorised encampment and have been counted in line 8 of the needs model above.

## 5.5 SITE SEARCH CRITERIA

- 5.5.1 The model in section 5 of this report shows a need for a continued annual supply of 45 authorised site pitches over the next 5 years, and an additional supply of 80 new pitches over 5 years. Decisions need to be made at a local level on how the need for permanent authorised site pitches is distributed across the study area.
- 5.5.2 ODPM Guidance in Circular 01/2006 “Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan sites” sets the context for new site provision within the Government commitment to provide the opportunity for everyone to live in a decent home. There is also a recognition that since the repeal of local authorities’ duty to provide gypsy and traveller sites although there has been a rise in the number of applications for sites this has not been matched by an increase in provision. Local evidence also suggests that Gypsy and Traveller planning applications often fail, or are only approved at appeal.
- 5.5.3 Our data suggests a significant shortfall in the provision of authorised permanent sites for Gypsy and Traveller households, and existing sites that often fail to meet the needs of families in terms of site facilities and amenities as well as access to health, education and other local services. National studies have found that Gypsy and Traveller households experience poorer health and lower educational attainment than other disadvantaged groups within the community. Research has consistently confirmed the link between lack of good quality sites for Gypsies and travellers and poor health and education.
- 5.5.4 The planning system also needs to address the need to create balanced and sustainable local communities. Government recognises the conflict and distress often associated with unauthorised encampments, both for the settled and travelling community. New sites should be planned sensitively to take account of the needs of both the travelling and settled communities, while Local Development Frameworks planned with community involvement must reflect the need for a growth in the number of gypsy and traveller sites in the district.
- 5.5.5 The identification of specific plots of land for development of Gypsy and Traveller sites is a priority for local Development Plan Documents. Where land for development is scarce competing claims for development will need to be weighed against the needs and demands of different communities. None the less local authorities should consider specific strategies to make land available for site development, including disposal of local authority land below market price, interrogating registers of unused land, use of compulsory purchase powers, cooperation with neighbouring authorities to identify suitable sites.
- 5.5.6 Once a potential site has been identified for development the local Council will have to consider an application for planning permission. Guidance warns against criteria that are too restrictive, however a positive set of criteria could help Gypsy and Traveller applicants to develop their plans in line with local In line with the Local Development Framework and so stand a better chance of gaining approval. The following criteria for sustainable site development could be adopted as local site search criteria:-
- Sites should be located in areas designated for general residential use.

- Sites should respect the scale of, and not dominate the nearest settled community or service infrastructure, consideration should be given to:-
  - Impact on local access roads;
  - Availability of public transport;
  - Access to local education;
  - Access to local health facilities;
  - Access to local shops;
  - Access to employment.
- 5.5.7 Sites should be developed with a respect for the local environment, of a size that does not swamp the existing environment, and of a nature that enables the site to blend in with the environment.
- 5.5.8 The environmental impact of new site development should include consideration of noise and other disturbance as a result of moving vehicles to and from the site, stationing of vehicles on the site, and on site business activity.
- 5.5.9 Planning authorities should consult with the Environment Agency about any possible flood risk for new developments.
- 5.5.10 It will generally be inappropriate to develop sites on Green Belt land (as defined in PPG2); or in areas with nationally recognised designations; however, local landscape and local nature conservation designations should not be used to refuse planning permission.
- 5.5.11 In general sites should not be located on significantly contaminated land, although this will not necessarily rule out all development near adjoining motorways, power lines, land fills or railways, any more than it does with conventional housing.
- 5.5.12 Brownfield site development, or development of untidy or derelict land for Gypsy and Traveller sites may provide a positive enhancement to the environment.
- 5.5.13 Consideration should be given to development of sites for mixed residential and business use, with space made available to facilitate this.
- 5.5.14 Sites should have good vehicular access from the public highway, and on site provision of parking, and space for turning and servicing of vehicles.
- 5.5.15 Consideration should be given to road safety both on site and in the surrounding area.
- 5.5.16 Priority for private site development should be given to Gypsy and Traveller applicants with a local connection, although lack of a local connection should not be an over riding reason for refusal.
- 5.5.17 Sites that are currently unauthorised but tolerated by the local authority should where possible be authorised, to enable regular inspection, improved standards and effective site management.

## 6 KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 6.1 Key Findings

- There is a need for a continued supply of 9 pitches per year, arising from vacancies and new planning approvals, and an additional supply of 80 pitches over 5 years (16 per year) to meet the backlog of demand from unauthorised encampment, and concealed households, and newly arising need from new family formation and newly created encampments over the next 5 years. In addition, the data suggests a need for transit pitches across the study area.
- The Gypsy and Traveller survey for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove found that the majority of respondents were Romany Gypsy or English Travellers (78.9%). 59.4% of the Romany Gypsy / English traveller community living in permanent accommodation.
- The survey identified some key issues facing the Gypsy and Traveller communities in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove, with problems focused on those living on sites:
  - In terms of the lack of access to basic facilities, 15.9% of households living on sites have sole access to a water supply and 74.2% have shared access. 31.7% have sole access to a WC and 53.2% have shared access;
  - Concerns over health and safety on sites, 56.9% of respondents living on sites had worries about health and safety on their site, with proximity to roads being the main problem;
  - Lower levels of access to schools and health facilities amongst households living on sites.
  - Higher than expected levels of disability and illness (31.7%), and a lower than expected level of adaptations provided across the sample as a whole. Households living on sites were less likely to have adaptations or to be registered with a doctor than those in permanent accommodation.
  - 63% of all respondents in the survey were either unemployed, retired or a housewife. 30% of all respondents were self employed, and just 6.7% were in general employment. Levels of general employment were especially low amongst households living on sites, just 4.4% although levels of general employment amongst those living in permanent housing were also low (8.6%).
  - Eviction is a recurrent problem, 77.3% of households living on a site had been evicted in the last 12 months, 88.2% of whom had been evicted 5 or more times. Of those planning to move from a site 76.5% gave eviction as a reason.
  - High levels of harassment, 34.4% of households living on a site and 42.9% of those in permanent accommodation had experienced harassment.
  - There is instability of housing circumstances, as would be expected within the Gypsy and Traveller community. This is exacerbated by the high level of eviction and lack of suitable sites. 19.2% of all movers intend to move on to a roadside camp / car park, a further 17.3% to a transit site. 64% of all movers intend to stay at their next location until they are evicted.
  - Over two thirds of households on sites and in housing have a preference for sites of 10 pitches or less. Of those currently living on a site 50.0% would prefer to live on a site owned by themselves or their family, with planning permission. 46.9% would prefer a Council owned site. Among households currently living in

permanent housing 51.9% prefer a site owned by themselves or their family, with planning permission, 34.6% would prefer a site owned by the Council.

## 6.2 Recommendations

- 6.2.1 Both the current and future accommodation circumstances of Gypsy and Travellers need to be addressed across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. Strategies and plans need to be developed in consultation with the Gypsy and Traveller community within the cross-district Forum.
- 6.2.2 Development of plans and strategies to meet the housing needs of Gypsy and Traveller households must be based on reliable and robust local data. Local Authorities should cooperate in developing common waiting lists, and consistent monitoring of site management information in order to provide comparable sub-regional data on housing needs.
- 6.2.3 There is a need to investigate further the use of unauthorised sites and the extent of homelessness within the Gypsy and Traveller communities. Where unauthorised sites are being regularly used there may be a case for developing them as authorised sites. Where this is not feasible site search criteria should be adopted to help identify alternative sites that can be developed and authorised for use by the Gypsy and Traveller community. Our survey invited respondents to identify such sites. Illegal sites are a symptom of the lack of legal places for Gypsies and Travellers to stop.
- 6.2.4 There is a need to introduce a procedure for regular inspection of sites, covering the provision of basic facilities including water and sanitation, as well as health and safety. A local code of standards could build on the basic legal requirement for site licence conditions on private sites and health and safety law on public sites. The code of standards should be developed in consultation with local Gypsy and Traveller communities to ensure that sites meet not only the basic legal requirements but the needs of Gypsy and Traveller families.
- 6.2.5 The educational needs of children on sites need to be addressed through the education department. Children living on sites are more likely to be missing school or having problems accessing education. New sites should be developed with access to local facilities in mind. Adults also need access to literacy and numeracy courses to make up for missed education in childhood. Recommendations for improving access to education should be developed by the Education Department in consultation with the community.
- 6.2.6 Households living on sites need to be encouraged to access health facilities, the health authority needs to promote services to the travelling community and encourage Gypsy and Traveller households living on sites to register with a doctor. The health services could consider commissioning dedicated health care workers to provide an outreach service to Gypsy and Traveller communities, and improving the cultural competence of existing staff.
- 6.2.7 The needs of disabled members of the Gypsy and Traveller community need to be addressed through liaison with social services and local doctors. In particular there is a need for strategies to enable families living on sites to access adaptations. A local code of guidance should be developed by Occupational Therapy to enable Gypsy and Traveller families to gain equal access to adaptations compared to the settled community.
- 6.2.8 Allegations of harassment appear to be significant and need to be addressed in partnership with the settled community and the police. There may be a need to

- develop confidence in the police to tackle issues of harassment; lack of confidence in the police may be a particular problem because of the experience of eviction within the community.
- 6.2.9 The provision of more authorised sites across the sub-region is a priority. Smaller sites (10 or fewer pitches) are preferred for both permanent and transit sites, with most Gypsy and Traveller families preferring to live in the Countryside on sites owned by the community or by the Council.
- 6.2.10 Our needs assessment model (see Section 5 of this report) identifies a need for 80 additional authorised site pitches across the study area over the next 5 years to cope with both the backlog of existing need expressed through unauthorised encampments, and new family formation. In addition the model assumes a continued supply of 9 pitches a year as a result of vacancies and new pitch development, in line with existing supply in 2005.
- 6.2.11 Analysis of travel patterns and levels of eviction suggests a need for transit pitches across the study area.
- 6.2.12 There is a need to expand the supply of authorised sites across the study area (including Eastbourne and Hastings). Wealden is a popular location for Gypsies and Travellers, when asked about their ideal location 42.5% said they would prefer Wealden. Brighton and Hove has a high proportion of unauthorised sites, the reasons why these sites can not be authorised should be investigated. Eastbourne and Hastings currently have no authorised sites. Smaller sites (10 or fewer pitches) are preferred for both permanent and transit sites, although larger transit sites should be considered to enable flexibility of movement during the travelling season. Most Gypsy and Traveller families prefer to live in the Countryside on private sites or sites owned by the Council.
- 6.2.13 A range of types of sites is appropriate, although Gypsy and Traveller respondents in the survey favoured sites owned by the community, we suggest that a range of options including community owned and managed sites as well as private and local authority sites should be developed.
- 6.2.14 New sites should be located in areas considered appropriate for general residential use, and with access to local services and facilities, within existing communities. Planning applications should be considered on their merits in the context of site size and location, and the population density of the surrounding area. Permissions should be used to restrict the size of sites and where appropriate to recommend a “cap” on the number of people allowed to live on the site on a permanent basis and for transit / visiting.
- 6.2.15 The high level of refusal of planning applications made by the Gypsy and Traveller community needs further investigation. Gypsy and Traveller communities should be supported in their applications. Local authorities need to find a balance between the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller communities and the needs of the settled communities.
- 6.2.16 All sites should be effectively managed. There is a need for a senior manager to coordinate the work of local site managers and ensure that temporary and transit sites are well managed and illegal encampments are responded to appropriately and effectively.
- 6.2.17 The accommodation needs and preferences of the travelling community need to be clearly understood. This report provides an indication of the overall need for site accommodation across the study area. We also set out some recommendations for site search criteria, based on our findings and latest Government recommendations (ODPM Circular 01/2006 “Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites”), to inform local debate on the exact location of new sites.

## 7 REFERENCES

- CURS (2002) "The Provision and Condition of Local Authority Gypsy / Traveller Sites in England"
  - ODPM (2004) "Select Committee of the ODPM report on Gypsy and Traveller Sites: Thirteenth Report"
  - The University of Sheffield School of Health and Related Research (2004) "The Health Status of Gypsies and Travellers in England"
  - Cambridge Sub Region Traveller Needs Assessment (2005)
  - CURS (2005) "An Assessment of the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers in South and West Hertfordshire"
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