

Wrexham Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment 2013 - 2018



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Introduction

- 1.1 Local authorities are required to carry out housing needs assessments of Gypsies and Travellers to obtain evidence of the housing need in their area. Welsh Government guidance¹ states that the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers should be identified, understood and addressed on the same basis as other sectors of the community.
- 1.2 The previous Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment was carried out in 2006 and so is due to be updated.
- 1.3 The aim of this study was to identify current accommodation needs and to forecast future pitch provision up until 2018. At the same time the study took the opportunity to gather information on housing aspirations, health support needs and future population growth. It is generally considered unwise to attempt to predict accommodation needs beyond five years due to the transient nature of this population.
- 1.4 Whilst complying with legislation in carrying out this study, Wrexham County Borough Council will use the information to inform the Local Development Plan.

Legislation Underpinning the Accommodation Assessment

- 1.5 Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are distinct ethnic groups, and are protected from discrimination under the Equality Act 2010. The Government is also under a duty through the Human Rights Act 1998 to 'facilitate the gypsy way of life' in relation to ethnic gypsies.
- 1.6 Sections 225 and 226 of the Housing Act 2004 specify that authorities have a duty to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers residing in their area. The Welsh Government Local Housing Market Assessment Guide (2006) further recommends that local authorities should carry out a separate survey within this community as the distinct culture and lifestyle of this community is likely to mean that their accommodation needs may be different from those living in the settled community, and any results obtained from a wider general housing need survey are unlikely to accurately reflect the needs of this group.
- 1.7 At present, local authorities have a duty to assess the accommodation need in their area but are not required to provide the identified accommodation. In the 2012 "Homes For Wales, A White Paper for Better Lives and Communities" the Welsh Government proposed to impose a statutory duty on local authorities to provide sites, where there is evidence of need. If this proposal is carried forward by the Welsh Government it may be included in the first Welsh Housing Bill in 2014.

¹ Welsh Government Local Housing Market Assessment Guide (2006)

Local Development Plan 2006 - 2021

- 1.8 Guidance ² requires that local planning authorities allocate sufficient sites in their Local Development Plans to ensure that identified pitch requirements for residential and transit use can be met.
- 1.9 This study will assist the Planning Department in policy formulation and the consideration of site allocations in the Wrexham new LDP. The results of the study will provide evidence of the number of pitches required over the next 5 years, and so will inform the Wrexham Local Development Plan 2, which is currently in the early stages of preparation.
- 1.10 A major consideration that needs accounting for in the preparation of the new LDP is the Inspector's Findings that concluded that:-

"The Plan fails to make reasonable provision to meet the identified needs of the gypsy and traveller community." (see www.wrexham.gov.uk/ldp)

North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment

- 1.11 During 2011/12 the above study was conducted on behalf of Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Gwynedd councils by Bangor University. Whilst the findings of that report are a matter for those local authorities, the recommendation about transit sites is one that Wrexham will need to consider.
- 1.12 With no current transit site provision in North Wales, the report recommends that relevant local authorities work together to consider providing three or four sites each accommodating seven pitches across the study area.

Definition of Gypsy and Traveller

- 1.13 In 2007 the National Assembly for Wales produced the following definition³, of a Gypsy and Traveller for the purposes of conducting accommodation needs assessments:-
- persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan; and
 - all other persons of a nomadic habit of life, whatever their race or origin, including:
 - a) such persons who, on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependant's educational or health needs or old age, have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently; and
 - b) members of an organized group of travelling show-people or circus people (whether or not travelling together as such).

² Circular 30/2007: 'Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites'

³ No. 3235 (W.285) HOUSING, WALES Housing (Assessment of Accommodation Needs) (Meaning of Gypsies and Travellers) (Wales) Regulations 2007

Definition of Need

- 1.14 The definition of 'need' for accommodation for this community is difficult and can be contentious. Guidance is available from both the UK Government and the Welsh Government, but there is always room for ambiguity in a process of this kind. Guidance from the Welsh Government as set out in the Local Housing Market Assessment Guide defines need as:

For caravan dwelling households:-

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

For bricks and mortar dwelling households:-

- whose existing accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable ('unsuitable' in this context can include unsuitability by virtue of proven psychological aversion to bricks and mortar accommodation);
 - that contain suppressed households who are unable to set up separate family units and who are unable to access suitable or appropriate accommodation.
- 1.15 Households in these circumstances are considered to be in need if they are unable to obtain their own accommodation either because of lack of availability or affordability.
- 1.16 This Accommodation Assessment has used a definition of need which encompasses all these circumstances. The assessment includes Gypsies' and Travellers' own perception of need and best practice from other accommodation assessments in analysing that information and translating it into a requirement for pitches.

Definition of Accommodation

- 1.17 Having Gypsy and Traveller status does not necessarily imply that the household would always require their accommodation needs to be met by living on a local authority provided site. Their needs could be met in a variety of ways, depending on household preferences, including:-
- owner-occupied bricks and mortar housing;
 - Social rented housing;
 - Private rented housing;
 - socially rented site;
 - privately rented site accommodation; and

- Gypsies' and Travellers' own provision of authorised sites.

Definition of a Pitch or Plot

- 1.18 Guidance⁴ states that an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity block, a large trailer or turning caravan, touring caravan, or two trailers/large caravans, drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, pushchairs or wheelchair storage etc), parking space for two vehicles and children's play area is also desirable.

Definition of Transit Sites and Stopping Places

- 1.19 A transit site is an authorised site intended for short stays and will usually have pitches and facilities. Such sites are usually permanent and tend to be close to main transport routes. The local authority would specify the length of time caravans can stay on the site, but 28 days would be considered reasonable.
- 1.20 In contrast a stopping area is an area of land (such as a field) identified for use by Gypsies and Travellers in transit and including basic facilities such as water, a skip for rubbish and portable toilets. The maximum stopping time would be much more limited than for a transit site and would typically be 5 – 7 days.



⁴ 'Good Practice Guide in Designing Gypsy Traveller Sites in Wales, Welsh Assembly Government, 2009

Population

- 2.1 The 2011 Census figures indicated that there were 104 members of the Gypsy and Traveller community living in Wrexham. This study, however, identified a significantly larger population living in the County Borough during the survey period.
- 2.2 There are 39 families known to be living in the Borough, of which 30 were surveyed as part of this exercise. Given that those 30 families comprised 161 household members, this means that the average household size is 5.36 people. From this, it is possible to estimate that the total Gypsy and Traveller population of 39 families in Wrexham is about 209 people.

Caravan Count Information

- 2.3 Caravan counts in Wales have taken place since 2006. The table below shows the caravan counts in Wrexham and Wales since 2006:-

Table 1: Caravan Count

Wrexham				Wales		
Date	Authorised	Unauthorised	Total	Authorised	Unauthorised	Total
Jul 06	Nil return	Nil return	Nil	581	141	722
Jan 07	39	0	39	703	133	836
Jul 07	35	0	35	681	174	855
Jan 08	35	0	35	655	133	788
Jul 08	26	11	37	597	201	798
Jan 09	30	9	39	702	148	850
Jul 09	20	9	29	597	170	767
Jan 10	21	10	31	614	80	694
Jul 10	21	6	27	683	119	802
Jan 11	28	4	32	627	98	725
Jul 11	24	8	32	673	120	793
Jan 12	27	10	37	670	104	774
Jul 12	24	3	27	710	185	895
Jan 13	29	2	31	803	121	924

Source: Welsh Government: Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count +

- 2.4 Whilst caravan count numbers in Wales have risen since 2006, numbers in Wrexham have appeared to have dropped during that period, with authorised caravans dropping from 39 to 29 and unauthorised encampments fluctuating with higher numbers found in the January count. (nb: All Wales numbers can be inconsistent due to gaps in data).
- 2.5 Although this information can be used to examine trends over a long period of time, it is not felt to be an accurate way of estimating the Gypsy and Traveller population.

Current Site Provision

2.6 The current site provision for Gypsies and Travellers in Wrexham County Borough is:

- 15 socially rented pitches on 1 Local Authority managed site;
- 2 private authorised sites with one pitch each;
- 2 tolerated sites;
- 2 unauthorised plots for which planning permission is not expected to be granted.

2.7 The total number of pitches in the County as at April 2013 was 21, of which two are unauthorised and so will be included in the calculations as a need.

Local Authority Site

2.8 The one local authority site in Wrexham is located off the A525 Ruthin Road. The site was originally developed in 1985 by the then Clwyd County Council, and comprised 10 pitches. The capacity increased to 19 pitches in 1999, when the site was extended as part of the strategy to address the occupation of land at Croesnewydd.

2.9 The provision was reduced to 15 pitches after refurbishment work was carried out in 2008 and 2009 to extend four of the existing pitches. The work was funded through a grant from Welsh Government, to address the issue of the caravans being parked too closely together. The amenity blocks were replaced on these four plots, providing improved kitchen, bathroom and living facilities.

The map at Appendix 1 shows the location of the Ruthin Road site, adjacent to the A483/A525 interchange.

Private Gypsy and Traveller Sites

2.10 There are six private Gypsy and Traveller sites in Wrexham County Borough. These are made up of two privately owned sites, two sites with planning consent, and two sites which do not have planning consent, but could be described as 'tolerated'. Of the four sites without planning consent, there is a long and complicated history involved.

2.11 The two privately owned sites with planning consent in Wrexham, each comprise a single pitch. In his 2012 LDP Preliminary Findings report, the Inspector commented that the:-

"Limitation of a single pitch on each site, preventing occupation by extended families would frustrate the desire of the gypsy and traveller community to provide support across the generations which is an important aspect of gypsy culture. Such an arbitrary limit runs counter to the specific advice in Annex B of Circular 30/2007⁵".

⁵ WAG Circular 30/2007- Planning For Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (2007)

- 2.12 In determining policies for inclusion in the LDP, consideration should be given to the Inspector's Findings in relation to the appropriateness or otherwise of a policy for private sites being limited to just one pitch.
- 2.13 There are two sites which do not have planning consent, but can be described as 'tolerated' for which no enforcement action is currently planned.
- 2.14 There are two unauthorised sites for which enforcement action may still be an option.

Gypsies and Travellers in Bricks and Mortar

- 2.15 The data available at the start of the survey indicated that approximately half of all Gypsy and Traveller households in Wrexham currently live in bricks and mortar accommodation. The total number could be even higher than this, as we know anecdotally, that some members of the community living in this type of accommodation are reluctant to identify themselves. One of the aims of the survey is to identify those who are, but prefer not to be, in this kind of accommodation.
- 2.16 Of the families in bricks and mortar, some are in social rented housing, some in private rented housing and some are owner occupiers.

Travelling Showpeople

- 2.17 There is a community of Travelling Showpeople in Wrexham, which were intended to be included in the study, but were unable to be contacted during the survey period. It is good practice to survey this group alongside a Gypsy and Travelling Accommodation Assessment, but in this case a separate study will need to be carried out to ascertain their accommodation needs. Their encampment comprises eight caravans, but insufficient is known about their pattern of travelling and whether they spend just the winter in Wrexham or occupy the site all year round.

Unauthorised Encampments

- 2.18 Management of unauthorised encampments is an important strand of national policy in England and Wales. Site provision is closely linked as an issue, but strong enforcement in appropriate circumstances is also seen as desirable in reducing sources of friction between the travelling and settled communities.
- 2.19 There is also recognition that amenity and service provision for Gypsies and Travellers is poorest on unauthorised encampments and that these sites reinforce social exclusion.
- 2.20 At the time of the survey there were no unauthorised encampments in the County Borough, therefore, no households living on such a site were surveyed.

- 2.21 Between 2008 and 2013 the Council were made aware of 22 unauthorised encampments in the County Borough. Of those 22, three were on council land and the remainder on private land. Where unauthorised encampments do occur, Wrexham Industrial Estate is sometimes used, as is the Llay Industrial Estate. Also, visiting families will stay for short periods on the vacant pitches on the Ruthin Road site. There are two such households on the site during the preparation of this report.
- 2.22 At the time of writing the report (September 2013), there was an unauthorised encampment of 16 caravans on the football pitch at Alyn Waters, which is now subject to enforcement.
- 2.23 For some years there was an unauthorised site at Rossett, which held five caravans. All of the residents have now moved on following enforcement action; some out of the County, and one family to a house in the County.
- 2.24 The Welsh Government is currently consulting on a revised version of its 'Managing Unauthorised Camping' guidance. The new guidance will:-
- Provide clear recommendations about how local authorities could respond to incidents of unauthorised camping;
 - Introduce universal templates for local authorities to record initial site visits and welfare assessments;
 - Introduce a code of conduct to be agreed between local authorities and encampment occupiers, where encampments are tolerated;
 - Outline the legal responsibilities of local authorities;
 - Share Good Practice examples of dealing with encampments.
- 2.25 Wrexham CBC does not currently have a policy for dealing with unauthorised encampments, but plans to adopt the recommendations of the new Welsh Government guidance once they are published.



Background to the Accommodation Assessment

- 3.1 An earlier assessment of the accommodation needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community in Wrexham was carried out in 2006 by Fordham Research, who were commissioned to undertake the study on behalf of Wrexham Council.
- 3.2 The Fordham's assessment identified a need for 18 additional pitches between 2006 - 11; however, during the intervening time period the number of actual pitches has been reduced on the Ruthin Road site in order to increase the size of four of the pitches. This has put more pressure on the existing resources.
- 3.3 It is good practice to regularly review the accommodation needs of this section of the community and the Fordham's study would be considered as being out of date.

The Study Methodology

- 3.4 The methodology for the study, including data collection and analysis, was developed in accordance with annex F of the 2006 Welsh Assembly Government guidance on Local Housing Market Assessment Guide.
- 3.5 This accommodation assessment has also been informed by the methodology for assessing future household formation adopted by Pat Niner and others, including the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, University Of Birmingham (CURS) and other accommodation assessments including the study for Shropshire, Herefordshire, Telford & Wrekin and Powys in 2008.
- 3.6 The approach to the study was formulated through partnership working with the key individuals and groups who work with Gypsies and Travellers and in particular, the community in Wrexham.
- 3.7 The study was managed in-house and co-ordinated by the Council's Gypsy and Traveller Multi Agency Forum. Wrexham Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) was commissioned to undertake the survey work and their Gypsy and Traveller Engagement Officer carried out a series of face-to-face interviews with Gypsies and Travellers both living on sites, and in bricks and mortar accommodation.
- 3.8 A steering group comprising of representatives from Wrexham County Borough Council Landlord Services, Housing Strategy, Community Cohesion, Planning, and the CAB designed the questionnaire in accordance with Welsh Government guidance. Consultation was carried out with the Gypsy and Traveller Multi Agency Forum before the questionnaires were finalised.
- 3.9 Separate questionnaires were designed for households on sites, and those in bricks and mortar accommodation in order to distinguish between the two groups when analysing the data. Questions were principally the same for both groups, so that comparisons could be drawn, but were adapted slightly to take into

account issues such as the relationship between households and pitches. Guidance stresses the importance of including the views of families living in bricks and mortar housing, as they may be living in this accommodation through necessity and not through choice.

- 3.10 Other information was gathered through interviews and discussions with Council staff, scrutiny of existing minutes, reports and documents and the bi-annual caravan count. Also visits were made to the Ruthin Road site, and discussions held with residents and staff.

Planning the Survey

- 3.11 A mapping exercise was carried out to identify the total number of Gypsy and Traveller households currently living in the Wrexham County Borough. The initial mapping identified 44 households; this figure was arrived at by examining existing records held by organisations working with the community and using local knowledge.
- 3.12 Three of the 44 households identified no longer live in the local authority area, and two households did not wish to identify themselves as members of the community, therefore, the total survey population figure was revised to 39.
- 3.13 The study aimed to cover 100% of the community living in Wrexham. As the Gypsy and Traveller community forms a relatively small proportion of the total population in Wrexham, sampling was not considered to be appropriate. However, in the event 30 out of 39 households were surveyed. The remaining nine households were not surveyed either because they were unavailable at that time or did not wish to take part in the survey process.
- 3.14 The questionnaire was piloted with members of the Gypsy and Traveller community, before fieldwork commenced. Surveys were carried out over a 10 week period between 18 February 2013 and 26 April 2013. Seasonal factors were taken into account when selecting the study period, and so the surveys were completed outside the summer period, which is traditionally the time when households may be away travelling.
- 3.15 The questionnaires are attached at **Appendix 2**.

Overview

- 4.1 The overall response rate to the survey was 77%, (30 families out of 39). 14 of the 16 families living on sites responded and 16 of 23 families living in bricks and mortar took part in the survey.
- 4.2 The highest response rate was from the 50-59 age group.

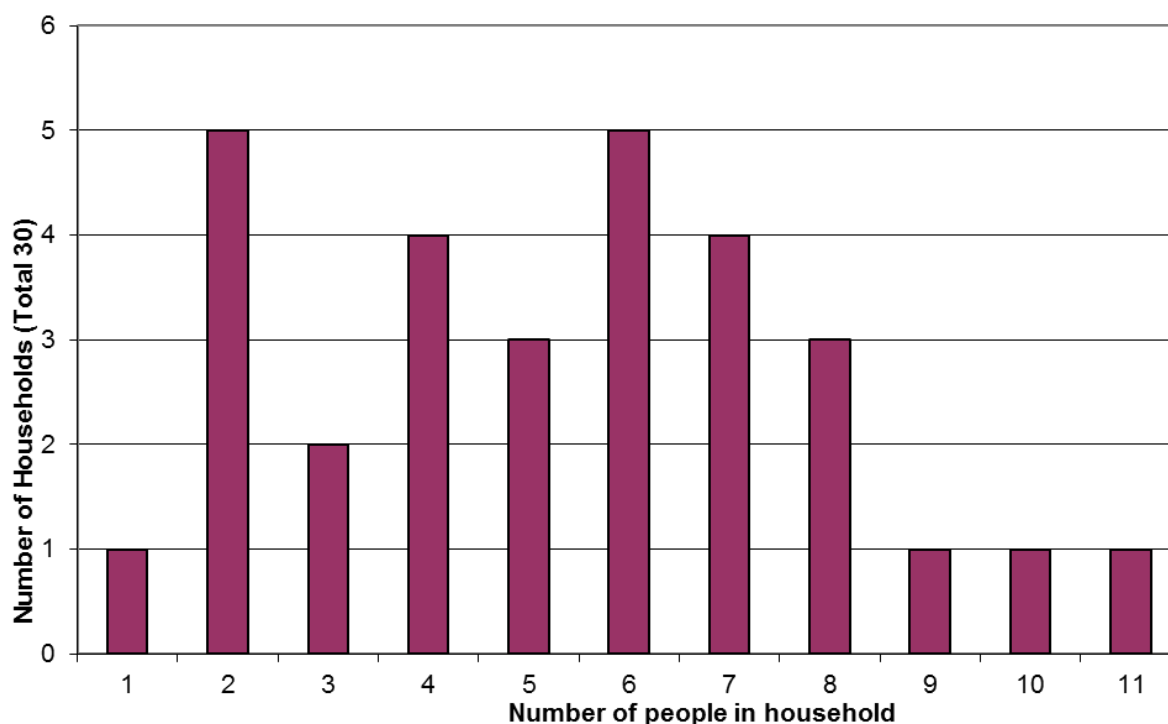
Ethnicity

- 4.3 The majority of people surveyed who stated their ethnicity (47%) were of Irish Traveller origin. The remainder either identified themselves as Gypsy or did not respond.

Household Information

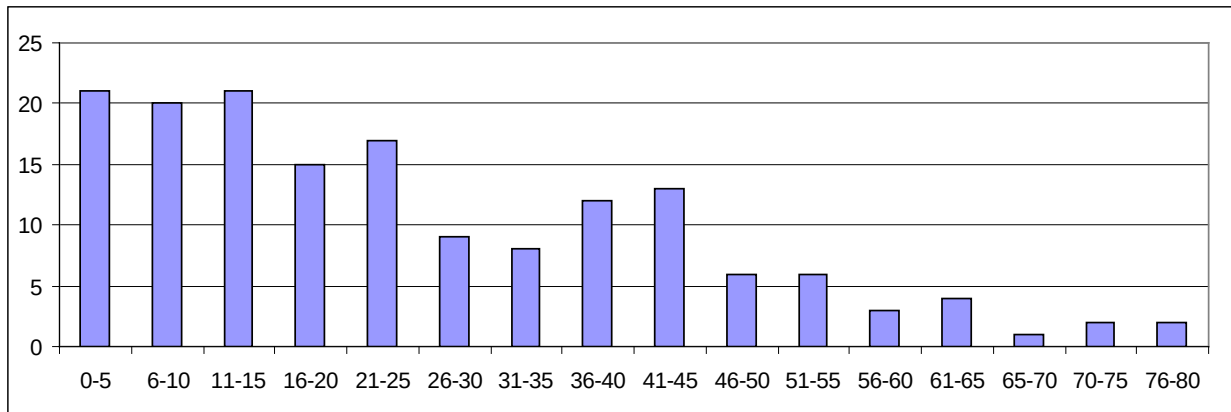
- 4.4 The household size is shown in Chart 1. The average household size of the respondents is 5.36. The average for respondents living in Bricks and Mortar was 5.12 compared to 5.64 for households living on sites. The average household size in the general Wrexham population is 2.26 persons, however, this would not be a direct comparison as the Gypsy and Traveller households contain extended family members. It is an issue to take account of though, when considering numbers of pitches and possible overcrowding.

Chart 1: Size of Household



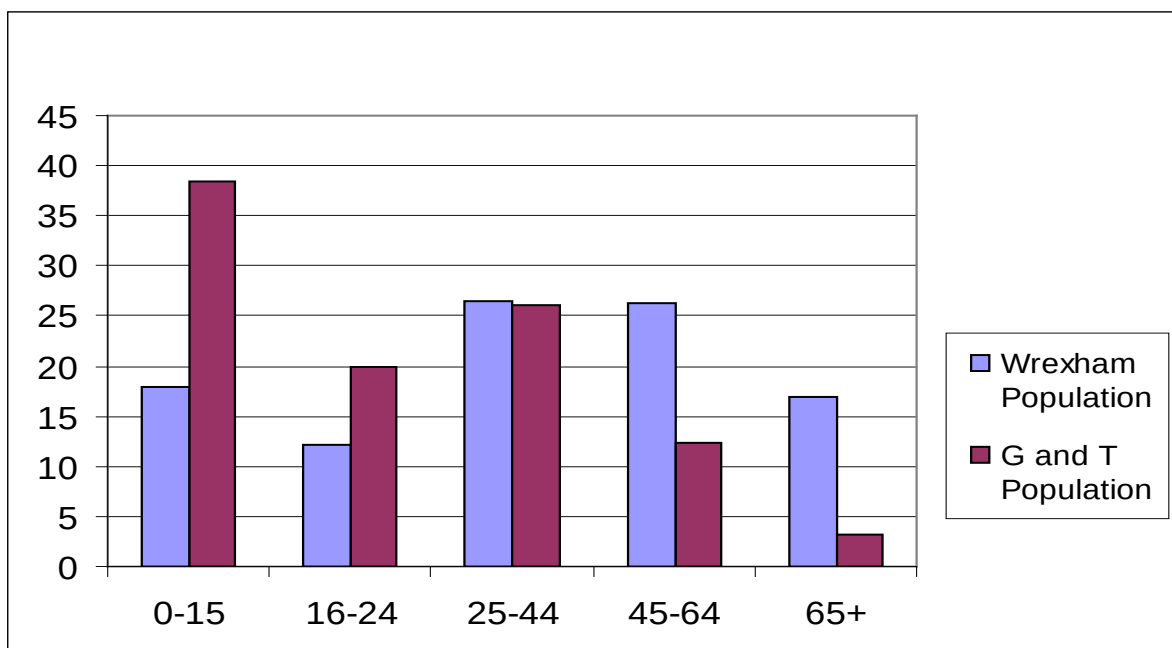
- 4.5 Chart 2 shows the age profile of the Gypsy and Traveller population. There is a high proportion of young people and children in this group, with fewer older people. This is in contrast to the general population which has fewer children and a larger proportion of older people, in line with the characteristics of an aging population as shown in Chart 3 below.

Chart 2: Age profile of the population



- 4.6 Chart 3 below demonstrates the difference in the age profile of the general population and the Gypsy and Traveller population. The profile for the general population is typical of an aging population, with the largest segment of the population aged over 45. The reverse is true for the Gypsy and Traveller population which has a growing population of which the largest segment is aged under 25.

Chart 3: Age range of general population and Gypsy and Traveller Population



Current Accommodation

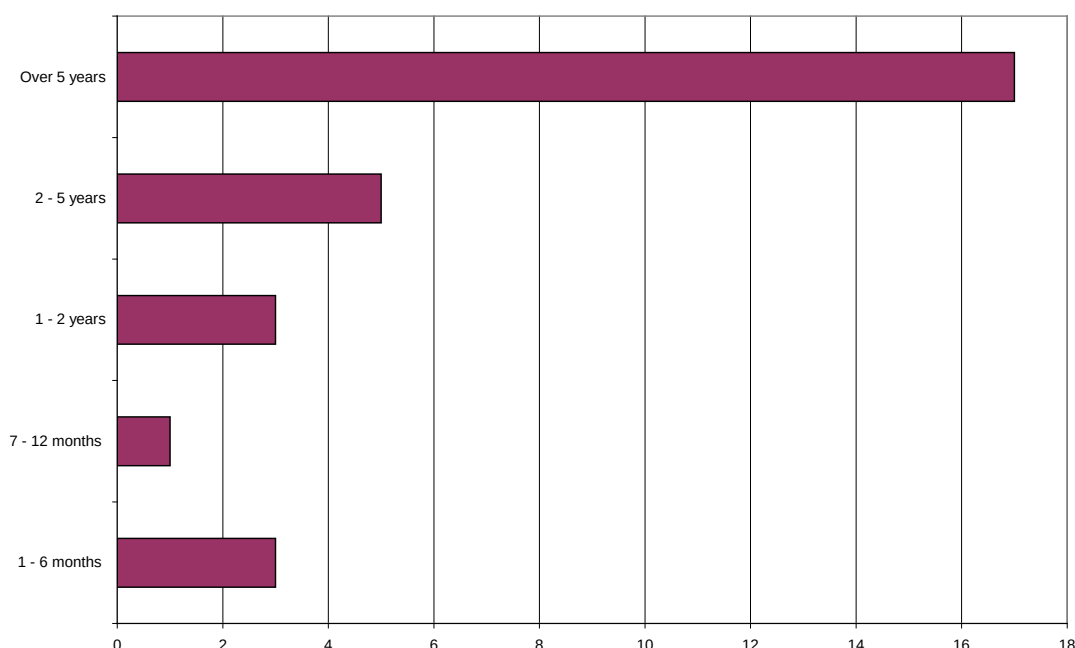
- 4.7 Table 2 shows the type of accommodation the respondents currently live in and the number of people living there.

Table 2: Current accommodation type

Current Accommodation - Total Responses from Survey				
	Total Households	Total Population	Number of Adults	Number of Children
Bricks and Mortar Socially Rented	12	59	35	24
Bricks and Mortar Owner Occupied	2	14	4	10
Bricks and Mortar Private Rented	2	9	4	5
Local Authority Site	11	53	35	18
Private Site with Planning Permission	2	14	7	7
Private Site currently without Planning Permission	1	12	7	5
	30	161	92	69

- 4.8 Of the population not surveyed, we know that a further two families live on a site and a further seven families live in bricks and mortar. These were not surveyed either because they were unavailable or unwilling to participate. There may also be families we are not aware of who live in bricks and mortar housing in the County Borough.
- 4.9 The respondents were asked if they were living in their current accommodation through choice. 50% respondents said no, 47% said yes and 3% preferred not to say.
- 4.10 Chart 4 shows that over 57% have lived in their accommodation for over five Years.

Chart 4: Length of time that all respondents had lived in their present accommodation



- 4.11 The respondents were asked how long they thought they would stay in their current accommodation, and 57% said that they do not intend to move. To be clear, this figure of 57% relates only to the respondent, it does not include other members of the household who plan to move or to form their own household.

Accommodation and Site Provision

- 4.12 Respondents were asked whether they were looking for land to buy and live on in Wrexham. Five respondents indicated that this was the case. The five respondents were from five different households, so that does indicate a need for land for private sites, and also shows that some of the overall need can be met privately.
- 4.13 When asked whether they were thinking of moving, 30% of respondents said yes. Of the households currently living in Bricks and Mortar accommodation, seven households stated that they wished to move to a site, illustrating that 43% of those living in Bricks and Mortar who took part in the survey did not live in this type of accommodation through choice.
- 4.14 Their reasons for living in Bricks and Mortar included; having been previously evicted from land; having moved from the Croesnewydd site when it closed down; no suitable site available; other/different families living on site; being homeless.
- 4.15 The respondents were asked about where they planned to move in the future. Seven respondents said within Wrexham County Borough, two families within North Wales and one family stated they wanted to live elsewhere in Wales.

- 4.16 Respondents were asked about the importance of being located in close proximity to various facilities and services. The results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Amenities and facilities

	Number of Responses			
	Very Important	Fairly Important	Not Important	Did not answer
Shops/Post Office	26	0	3	1
Health Centre/GP	27	1	1	1
Primary School	19	3	7	1
Secondary School	17	2	7	1
Road Network	16	5	8	1
Public Transport	21	2	12	2
Employment	12	1	15	2
Places of Worship	21	2	6	1

- 4.17 Other factors which the respondents considered to be important were being close to family, playground, provision of a safe area for children to play, and good site access. Being close to public transport was not considered especially important.

Disability and Health Needs

- 4.18 Research carried out by the Equality and Human Rights Commission in 2009⁶ showed that lack of adequate and suitable accommodation is one of the areas where Gypsies and Travellers continue to suffer inequalities. This can also have a negative impact on other aspects of their life, such as health and education.
- 4.19 Statistics show that Gypsies and Travellers have a life expectancy which can be up to 12 years less than the settled population. They are more likely to suffer from long-term illnesses which limit their daily activities than people from other socially deprived or excluded groups. They report problems with accessing vital services such as health, accommodation and education.
- 4.20 In the survey, 44% of respondents indicated that they had a family member with a health or social care need with a further 3% suggesting they would have in the future. Seven respondents reported that they had difficulty walking or getting up stairs.
- 4.21 Adaptations can be made by the Council to the amenity blocks to help with mobility issues, but would not normally be made to caravans or trailers.

⁶ *Inequalities Experienced by Gypsy and Traveller Communities: A Review* Research Report 12.

Housing related support services

- 4.22 Gypsies and travellers are eligible for Supporting People services within the generic category of Supporting People service user groups, and are included in the ethnic monitoring categories used for needs mapping.
- 4.23 Cymdeithas Tai Clwyd provides floating tenancy support for people from the travelling community who wish to settle in Wrexham. The scheme currently supports four tenancies, helping tenants to maintain their tenancies with assistance such as housing and benefits advice, contact with outside agencies, form filling and dealing with neighbour disputes.
- 4.24 At present, all Supporting People provision in Wrexham is under review in light of significant cuts to the national Supporting People budgets from April 2014 onwards.

Household Future Needs

- 4.25 An important part of the accommodation needs process is to identify new family formations expected to arise from within existing households. Respondents were asked whether anyone in their household was likely to want to move in the next 5 years, and 53% of respondents said yes. Of those who answered yes, 93% indicated that this would be in Wrexham County Borough (amongst other preferences expressed).
- 4.26 Participants were asked about the type of site they would like to live on, and while 38% had a preference for a socially rented site, 62% expressed a preference for a private site, 31% wanting this to be a site owned by themselves, and the other 31% selecting the option for a private site owned by a Gypsy or Traveller, or other.
- 4.27 As with any other housing needs survey, to express a preference for a certain type of accommodation does not necessarily mean that the respondent has the means or ability to take up that accommodation and so these figures must be treated as a guide to aspiration.
- 4.28 Due to the nomadic lifestyle of the Gypsy and Traveller community, it is important to take into account the needs of people who may wish to move to the Wrexham area from elsewhere. Respondents were asked whether they have family members who are considering moving back to the Wrexham area. The responses indicated that there were 13 households who may wish to return, translating into 33 pitches and 108 people.
- 4.29 However, in many cases the desire to move back to Wrexham is considered to be aspirational and so that figure has not been included in the pitch provision calculations. As commented earlier, these figures can only be used as an indication of possible family members moving to Wrexham.

Transit Sites and Authorised Stopping Places

- 4.30 Travelling remains an important part of the Gypsy and Traveller lifestyle. In order to facilitate this way of life, members of the community need places to stop. Although there are currently no designated transit sites in Wrexham, the need to have regard for transit provision has been recognised in the wider North Wales area.
- 4.31 Respondents were asked a series of questions relating to their travelling within the last 12 months. Five of the respondents stated that they had travelled during this period.
- 4.32 Where participants said that they had not travelled, they were asked what issues had prevented them from doing so. They gave a variety of reasons, including:-
- nowhere to stop,
 - lack of transit sites
 - ill health
 - no transport and
 - too much comfort in their own home.
- 4.33 Three respondents stated that they had camped by the roadside or set up their own unauthorised encampment whilst travelling in the last year, and that they had been asked to leave a site whilst travelling.
- 4.34 Respondents were asked whether they considered there was a need for a transit site. This question was included to collect data which could be compared with information gathered by neighbouring authorities, as transit provision would usually be determined at a cross-authority level.
- 4.35 Some respondents felt that their travelling had changed in the last few years due to a variety of reasons including moving into bricks and mortar accommodation, the need to remain within the local area and the need to settle.
- 4.36 The respondents were asked if they thought there was a need for more transit sites in North Wales. 73% of the respondents said yes, 17% said no and 10% did not answer.
- 4.37 The majority of unauthorised encampments are of short duration, as families stop off on their way through the county or visiting family.

Future Household Growth

- 5.1 As well as considering current need, an important group for future pitch provision will be older children and young adults who form their own households and it is inevitable that, in a population where nearly 50% are under 25, there will be future household formations.
- 5.2 This study found that 20% of household members were aged between 16 and 24 years. This amounted to 32 people in the respondent population alone. This group would be the most obvious to form their own households over the next few years. Some members of this group are already the senior members of their

own households and some may never form their own household, but potentially more members from this age group could want to form their own households soon.

- 5.3 Another important group are those aged 12-16 years, who comprised 14% of the household members in the sample. All of this group will be old enough to form their own households in the next 5 years. It is unlikely that all will do so, but it can be predicted that some current 12-16 year olds will want to form their own households in the next five years.
- 5.4 Therefore, an assessment is required as to how many extra pitches will be required for this group. To understand how the Gypsy and Traveller population is likely to grow in the future, the clearest way to view this issue is to note that nearly 50% of the entire sample were under 25, which implies there is a high rate of growth in the population.
- 5.5 Therefore, as a very rough estimate, it can be forecast that the Gypsy and Traveller population of Wrexham is likely to double in the next 20–25 years, if current population trends continue.
- 5.6 Research shows that Gypsy and Travellers have a higher mortality rate than the general population and that is often related to the amount of time on the road and their experiences of the travelling life. It has not been possible to calculate the affect of mortality rates on this small sample.

Assumptions

- 5.7 As stated earlier, ascertaining levels of need for new accommodation can be difficult and contentious. Assumptions have to be made about the meaning of the responses and the future intentions of the respondents in order to translate the information into numbers of pitches.
- 5.8 The high rate of growth in the population is clear but in terms of new households forming, assumptions have to be made about where these households will live, whether they will share a pitch with other family members and the rate of inter-marriage in the community.
- 5.9 Due to the ambiguity of some of the responses (and family numbers that were unclear) assumptions have been made about the immediate requirement for additional sites and future family formation. In terms of immediate requirement, where clear overcrowding is implied then a pitch has been allocated for immediate need and the remainder for new households forming.
- 5.10 For the families living in bricks and mortar, where the need has been expressed as a need to move from bricks and mortar to a site now, one pitch has been allocated for the existing family, and any additional pitches requested allocated to future household formation. Where the need has been expressed for a pitch in a 2–5 year period for a single person, then the need has been allocated to future family formation.

- 5.11 For the purpose of analysing the accommodation assessment data, we have been informed by the methodology used by Pat Niner (at CURS) for the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Shropshire, Herefordshire, Telford & Wrekin and Powys in 2008 to assess new household formation.
- 5.12 However, average household sizes are larger than appears to be the case in the Pat Niner study and so this has been considered in the formula.
- 5.13 Table 4 below shows the supply and demand of pitches in Wrexham County Borough over the next five years.

Table 4: Supply and Demand

Supply and Demand for Pitches in Wrexham County Borough		
Current Residential Supply		
a	Local authority rented pitches	12
b	Private authorised pitches/tolerated pitches	4
c	Vacant pitches	3
d	Current authorised residential supply (a+b+c)	19
Residential Pitch Need 2013		
e	Concealed households/overcrowding on site	3
f	Unauthorised sites (1 pitch each)	2
g	Household requiring move from Bricks and Mortar now	7
h	Residential Need 2013 (e+f+g)	12
i	Additional Residential Need 2013 (h-c)	9
Additional residential need 2014 - 2018		
j	Vacancies expected from households wishing to move off site into bricks and mortar	-1
k	Family growth from sites 2013 - 2018	5
l	Family growth from Bricks and Mortar 2013 - 2018 who require a pitch	8
m	Additional residential need 2014 - 2018 (k+l-j)	12
n	Total Additional residential need 2013 - 2018 (m+i)	21

- 5.14 The calculations have been carried out using the figures of 16 households on sites and 23 in bricks and mortar.

Provision of Pitches

- 5.15 Five households have indicated that they wish to develop their own family site, and the survey responses and family circumstances show that this would be a reasonable expectation.
- 5.16 Looking at the family composition of these families, but taking into account the need to obtain planning permission, we can conservatively estimate that of the 12 pitches required from 2014 – 18, at least six could be provided privately.
- 5.17 Of the nine pitches required now, there is no indication that they could be provided privately as there are no current outstanding planning applications. However, the situation could change and this report recognises that a planning application could be submitted at any time.
- 5.18 In summary, of the 21 pitches identified over the next five years:-
- 9 pitches are required now, which, in the absence of private applications may need to be social rented.
 - A further 12 pitches are required between 2014 and 2018 which may be provided through a mix of public or private provision and at this moment the report suggests 6 of each. This is not to suggest that private sites should be limited to 6 new pitches, it would depend on the resources of the community to provide their own sites and the ability to gain planning consent.
- 5.19 The Accommodation Assessment has focussed primarily on the supply and demand of pitches. Where the accommodation need is for bricks and mortar the assumption is that this accommodation need can be met through the range of public and private options set out in paragraph 1.17 and so has not been included in the calculations.



Transit Site/Stopping Place

- 6.1 The research identified 22 unauthorised encampments over the past five years as well as a number of visiting families using the vacant pitches on the Ruthin Road site. This points clearly to a need for Gypsies and Travellers to have a place to stay when travelling to or through Wrexham. The issue of a transit site is one for all of the North Wales local authorities to consider jointly, but it is recommended that a basic stopping place be established in Wrexham rather than a transit site.
- 6.2 Transit sites are a legal concept established in the Mobile Homes Act 1983 and must adhere to a set of standards. Stopping places are, by contrast spaces which may have some basic facilities and are meant to be used for short periods to overcome the issue of unauthorised encampments. Establishing a stopping place would also enable Wrexham to comply with the Human Rights Act 1998 requirement to 'facilitate the Gypsy way of life' in relation to ethnic Gypsies.
- 6.3 A stopping place in this instance would normally be a local authority site or a piece of land where short term (usually 5 days or less) encampments are 'tolerated', and which would have facilities such as water, sanitation and refuse collection to minimise disruption. It would not be a constructed site with pitches. Charges could be made by the local authority for the facilities.

Recommendation 1 – Establish A Basic Stopping Place in the County Borough

Travelling Showpeople

- 6.4 It is good practice to consider the accommodation needs of any travelling show people in the area at the same time as the Gypsy and Traveller population and so it is recommended that a separate survey is carried out within the next 12 months.

Recommendation 2 – Carry out a survey of the accommodation needs of the Travelling Showpeople within the next 12 months

New Pitches

- 6.5 The survey has highlighted a shortage of site accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers living in Wrexham both now and over the next five years. This shortage equates to nine new pitches needed now and a further 12 over the next five years. Some of the shortfall relates to families living in bricks and mortar housing where living on a site would be their preference and some of it relates to overcrowding or concealed households on the Ruthin Road site.
- 6.6 There is the potential for new private sites to meet some of the identified accommodation need. However, there will still be a need for the local authority to increase the social provision to meet the needs of those households unable to buy and develop their own sites.

- 6.7 Of these new pitches, the evidence suggests that the initial nine should be social rented pitches if no private applications come forward and, of the remaining 12, six could be socially provided.

Social Rented New Pitches Needed Now

Recommendation 3 - Wrexham Council should identify land suitable for nine socially rented pitches and should identify funds to develop that site

Social Rented New Pitches Needed 2014 - 2018

Recommendation 4 - Between 2014 and 2018 Wrexham Council should identify land suitable for six 6 socially rented pitches and should identify funds to develop that site

Private Sites

- 6.8 A number of respondents indicated that they may wish to purchase land and develop their own small family sites. Taking this approach would enable a number of small sites to be developed around the County Borough where the families themselves want to live and would also lessen the number of pitches that the local authority would need to provide.
- 6.9 Five households have indicated that they wish to develop their own family site and the evidence suggests they can reasonably expect to be in a position to do so. Considering the difficulties of finding land and gaining planning consent, this report suggests that out of the 12 new pitches required between 2014 and 2018 **six** could reasonably be provided through private development, although that would not be a maximum number. The LDP would be expected to set out criteria relating to new sites.
- 6.10 The survey responses also showed that for families in bricks and mortar wishing to move to a site, there was no real preference for a council owned site. The majority of responses suggested they could move to a either a council or private site.
- 6.11 Where sites are provided privately, this reduces the requirement on the local authority to fund and develop sites and private development should be encouraged. One of the main barriers to developing even small sites is gaining planning consent and there is a role for the WCBC Planning Department to provide advice and support for those members of the community who wish to buy their own land to develop small family sites.
- 6.12 The report also notes that there are two single pitch sites in the County Borough which are not in line with current guidelines.

Recommendation 5 - Between 2014 and 2018 Wrexham Council should work with the Gypsy and Traveller community to identify land suitable for at least six private pitches.

Recommendation 6 - Wrexham CBC Planning Department should encourage Gypsies and Travellers, through the provision of advice and support to develop their own sites.

Recommendation 7 – Wrexham Planning Department consider the issue of single plot sites in the light of the Local Development Plan Inspectors Findings.

Site Location

- 6.13 One of the identified issues with the Ruthin Road site is its location, which is not in line with current guidance on the development of Gypsy and Traveller sites. To prevent this situation arising again, this report recommends that the local authority should work closely with members of the Gypsy and Traveller community to identify suitable locations for sites, both public and private.

Recommendation 8 - The Housing and Public Protection and Planning Departments of Wrexham Council should work together with the Gypsy and Traveller community to identify suitable locations for new sites whether social or private

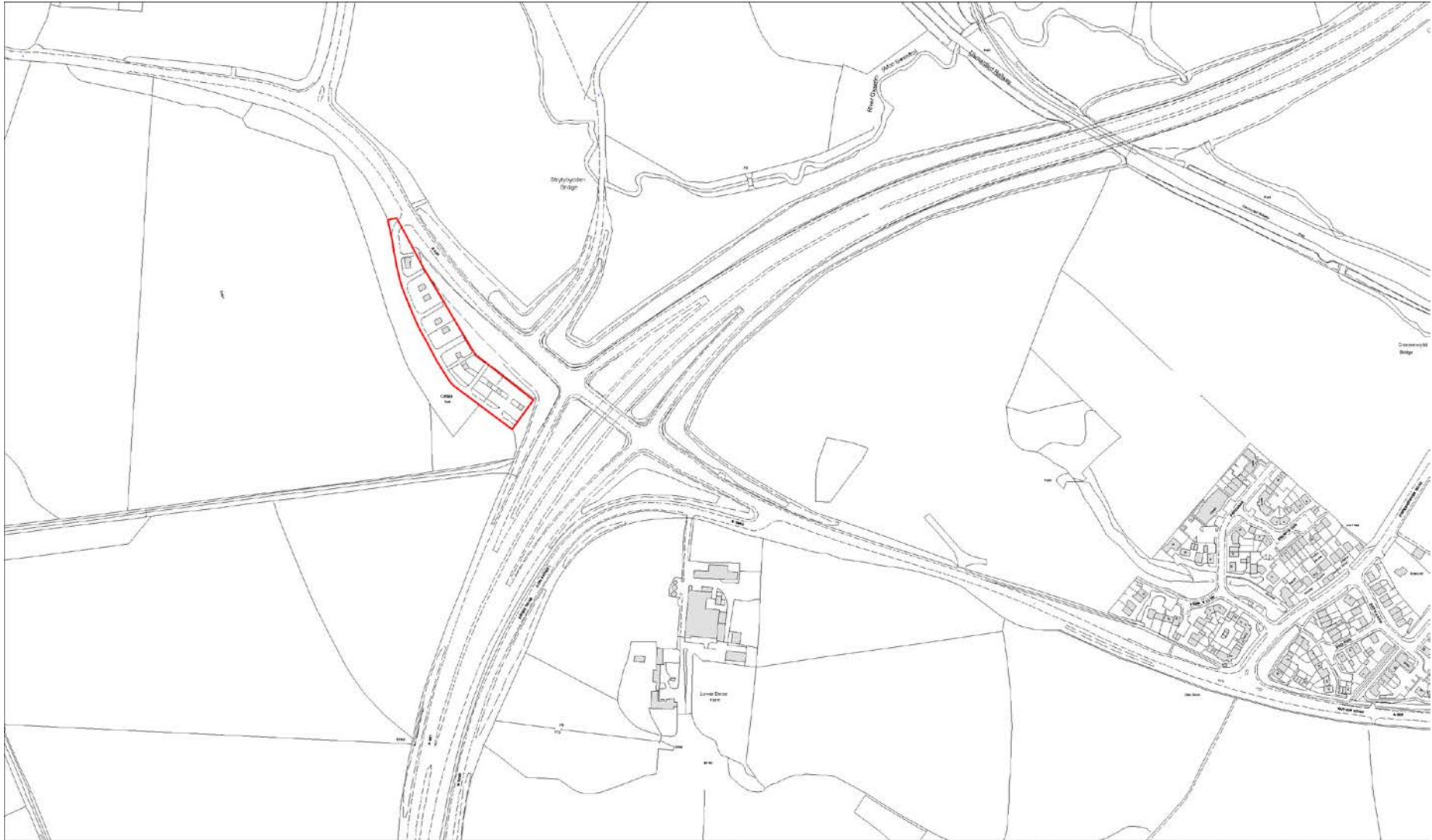
Future Population Growth

- 6.14 Although it falls outside of the timescale of this report, it is clear that the family growth rate of Gypsies and Travellers means that the population could be much larger in the next 10 to 20 years. Wrexham Council is recommended to consider how best to meet the challenges in the accommodation needs that a larger population would bring.

Recommendation 9 – It is recommended that Wrexham Council continually review the future accommodation needs of the Gypsy and Traveller population through monitoring and another accommodation assessment be carried out within 5 years. The results should then be accounted for in the production of the LDP or any revisions that may be required following its adoption.

- 6.15 The report has highlighted the health and cultural issues that affect the mortality rates in the Gypsy and Traveller population. This report urges Wrexham Council to consider what measure can be put in place to support Gypsies and Travellers and redress the inequalities in life expectancy amongst this group.

Recommendation 10 - Wrexham Council should review the services available to the Gypsy and Traveller community to address the inequality that this community faces through the Gypsy and Traveller Multi-Agency Forum.



Wrexham Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Questionnaire

Households Living On Sites

Contents

- ❖ Section A - Current Accommodation
- ❖ Section B - Household information
- ❖ Section C - Accommodation and Site Provision
- ❖ Section D - Household Future Needs
- ❖ Section E - Transit Provision
- ❖ Section F - Diversity Monitoring

SECTION A: CURRENT ACCOMMODATION

A1) Where do you live now?

Local Authority Site	☐
Private Site with Planning Permission	☐
Private Site currently without Planning Permission	☐
Unauthorised encampment	☐

A2) What type of accommodation are you living in?

Type	Number
Mobile Homes (Static)	
Chalets	
Touring Caravans	
Trailers (Caravans)	
Buses or other adapted vehicles	

A3) Are you living in your current accommodation through choice?

YES ☐ **(Go to C2)**

NO ☐ **(Go to C3)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to C3)**

A4) How many berths do you have?

SECTION A: CURRENT ACCOMMODATION

A5) How long have you lived here?

Less than 1 month	1 – 6 months	7 – 12 months	1-2 years	2-5 years	Over 5 years
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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

Less than 1 month	1 – 6 months	7 – 12 months	1 – 2 years	2 – 5 years	Over 5 years	Don't intend to move	Don't know
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

A7) In the amenity block, do you have the following?:

Hot and cold water	YES ☐ NO ☐
Electricity supply	YES ☐ NO ☐
Separate WC	YES ☐ NO ☐
Bath/shower room	YES ☐ NO ☐
Space for cooker, fridge/freezer and washing machine	YES ☐ NO ☐
Kitchen and space to sit and eat	YES ☐ NO ☐
Enclosed storage for food, washing and cleaning items etc	YES ☐ NO ☐
Somewhere to dry clothes	YES ☐ NO ☐

SECTION A: CURRENT ACCOMMODATION

A8) In terms of location, how important is it to be close to the following?

	Very important	Fairly important	Not important
Shops/Post Office	☐	☐	☐
Health centre/GP	☐	☐	☐
Primary school	☐	☐	☐
Secondary school	☐	☐	☐
Road network	☐	☐	☐
Public transport	☐	☐	☐
Employment	☐	☐	☐
Places of Worship	☐	☐	☐

A9) Is it important for you to be close to anything else?

YES ☐ / **NO** ☐

If Yes, Please give details below:

SECTION B: HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

B1) Please give the age, gender and relationship to you, of all the people in your family living with you.

	Relationship respondent	to	Age	Gender	Additional needs e.g. disability	How does the additional needs affect your accommodation needs
Respondent	N/A					
Person 2						
Person 3						
Person 4						
Person 5						
Person 6						
Person 7						
Person 8						
Person 9						
Person 10						
Person 11						
Person 12						

SECTION B: HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

B2) How many couples are there?

SECTION C: ACCOMMODATION AND SITE PROVISION

- C1) Wrexham Council is preparing its Local Development Plan which may outline where future sites should be. Do you own land in Wrexham which you would like to live on, and to be considered as a possible future site?**

(Interviewer to explain that there is no guarantee that the site will be allocated or developed)

YES ☐ **(Go to C2)**

NO ☐ **(Go to C3)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to C3)**

- C2) Where in Wrexham is it?**

- C3) Are you looking for land to buy and live on in Wrexham County Borough at the moment?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

- C4) Are you thinking of moving?**

YES ☐ **(Go to C5)**

NO ☐ **(Go to D1)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to D1)**

- C5) Where are you thinking of moving to?**

Within WCBC	☐	Scotland	☐
Within North Wales	☐	Ireland (North or South)	☐
Rest of Wales	☐	Somewhere else in Europe	☐
Northern England	☐	Prefer not to say/No response	☐
Southern England	☐		

SECTION C: ACCOMMODATION AND SITE PROVISION

C6) Why are you thinking of moving?

(Prompt – close to family, nearer to services)

More suitable location	☐
Need More space	☐
Need different facilities	☐
Need to be nearer to family	☐
Need to be closer to services – schools etc (Please specify below)	☐
Employment opportunities	☐
Other (Please specify below)	☐

Services

Other

C7) What type of accommodation are you thinking of moving to?

1. Site	
Council/Social rented	☐
Private site owned by self	☐
Private site owned by a Gypsy/Traveller/other	☐

2. Bricks and Mortar	
Owner/occupied	☐
Rent from Council/Housing Association	☐
Rent from private landlord	☐
Other	☐

SECTION D: HOUSEHOLD FUTURE NEEDS

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

YES ☐ (Go to D2)

NO ☐ (Go to D5)

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ (Go to D5)

D2) Will this be in Wrexham County Borough?

YES ☐ (Go to D3)

NO ☐ (Go to D5)

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ (Go to D5)

D3) What type of accommodation will they be likely to need?

1. Site	
Council/Social rented	☐
Private site owned by self	☐
Private site owned by a Gypsy/Traveller/other	☐

2. Bricks and Mortar	
Owner/occupied	☐
Rent from Council/Housing Association	☐
Rent from private landlord	☐
Other	☐

D4) How many people are there likely to be in each of the required separate homes, and when will these be needed?

	No. of people	Now	Within a year	1-2 years	2-5 years
New home 1					
New home 2					
New home 3					
New home 4					

SECTION D: HOUSEHOLD FUTURE NEEDS

D5) Do you have family living outside Wrexham area, who are likely to need/want to move back here?

YES ☐ **(Go to D6)**

NO ☐ **(Go to E)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to E)**

D6) What type of accommodation will they be likely to need?

1. Site	
Council/Social rented	☐
Private site owned by self	☐
Private site owned by a Gypsy/Traveller/other	☐

2. Bricks and Mortar	
Owner/occupied	☐
Rent from Council/Housing Association	☐
Rent from private landlord	☐
Other	☐

Details of other

D7) How many of the following do they have?

Type	Number
Mobile Homes (Static)	
Chalets	
Touring Caravans	
Trailers (Caravans)	
Buses or other adapted vehicles	
Other (Please give details)	

SECTION D: HOUSEHOLD FUTURE NEEDS

Details of other

D8) How many people are there likely to be in each of the required separate homes, and when will these be needed?

	No. of people	Now	Within a year	1-2 years	2-5 years
New home 1					
New home 2					
New home 3					
New home 4					

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

Travellers Needs

E1) Have you travelled [in caravan or trailer] away from home in the last twelve months?

YES ☐ **(Go to E3)**

NO ☐ **(Go to E2)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to E12)**

E2) Are there any particular reasons why you haven't travelled in the last twelve months?

(Prompt: difficult finding a site, afraid of trouble on road)

Enter Reasons	
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E3) When do you travel? – Tick all that apply

Spring	☐
Summer	☐
Autumn	☐
Winter	☐
All year round	☐
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E4) For how long were you away in the last year?

Number of weeks:	
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

E5) Where do you travel? Tick any that apply

- Within North Wales ☐
- Rest of Wales ☐
- Prefer not to say/No response ☐

**E6) What type of sites did you stay on when travelling last year?
Tick all that apply**

Authorised transit sites or stopping places	☐
Holiday Camp sites	☐
Roadside/waste ground	☐
Sites owned by other Gypsy or Traveller families	☐
Farmers fields	☐
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E7) Have you ever had to leave a site while travelling in the last year?

YES ☐ NO ☐ Prefer not to say/No response ☐

E8) Why was that?

(Probe - what kind of site?)

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

E9) Have you ever camped by the roadside or set up your own unauthorised encampment while travelling in the past year?

YES ☐ NO ☐ Prefer not to say/No response ☐

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

E10) If so in which area?

Area	
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E11) What kind(s) of encampment did you establish?
Tick all that apply in Wrexham/not in Wrexham

On Roadside	☐
In Lay-by	☐
Playing fields/Public spaces	☐
Farmers fields	☐
Private land –hard surface	☐
Public land – hard surface	☐
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E12) Have your travelling patterns changed in the last few years?

YES ☐ **(Go to E13)**

NO ☐ **(Go to E14)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

E13) Why have they changed?

(Probe for details)

Prefer not to say/No response	☐

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

E14) Do you think there is a need for more transit sites in North Wales?

YES ☐ **(Go to E15)**

NO ☐ **(Go to Diversity Monitoring Form)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to Diversity Monitoring Form)**

E15) Where are they needed?

(Probe for towns or villages)

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

E16) If you were travelling, (and had previously camped as in E11), would you have used authorised sites if they were provided?

YES ☐

NO ☐

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

SECTION E: DIVERSITY MONITORING FORM

Equality laws protect people from discrimination on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and marriage and civil partnership. Wrexham County Borough Council works hard to deliver services fairly and in ways that meet the needs of our communities. Gathering equality monitoring data from our customers helps us understand of the needs and experiences of our customers so that we can continually improve the way deliver services.

Simply tick the boxes that best describe you;

Your age

Under 18 ☐	18 – 21 ☐	22-29 ☐	30-39 ☐
40-49 ☐	50-59 ☐	60-65 ☐	65+ ☐
Prefer not to say ☐			

Your ethnic group

<u>White</u> ☐ British ☐ White Other 	<u>Asian</u> ☐ Asian British ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Asian Pakistani ☐ Any other Asian background
<u>Black</u> ☐ Black British ☐ Any other Black background 	<u>Chinese</u> ☐ Chinese British ☐ Chinese ☐ Any other Chinese background
<u>Mixed</u> ☐ Any other mixed background 	<u>Other Backgrounds</u> ☐ Gypsy ☐ Irish Traveller ☐ Any other background
☐ Prefer not to say	

SECTION E: DIVERSITY MONITORING FORM

Your gender: Male ☐ Female ☐

Is this the gender assigned to you at birth?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say ☐

What is your religion?

--

Your sexual orientation

☐ Bisexual	☐ Gay man
☐ Gay woman / lesbian	☐ Heterosexual / straight
☐ Other (please specify) _____	☐ Prefer not to say

Your preferred language

English ☐	Welsh ☐	British Sign Language ☐	Prefer not to say ☐
Any other language (please write in)			

Do you provide care on a substantial and regular basis for a family member or friend who needs care / help / support/ because of sickness, frailty or disability?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say ☐

Wrexham Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment Questionnaire

Bricks and Mortar Households

Contents

- ❖ Section A - Current Accommodation
- ❖ Section B - Household information
- ❖ Section C - Accommodation and Site Provision
- ❖ Section D - Household Future Needs
- ❖ Section E - Transit Provision
- ❖ Section F - Diversity Monitoring

SECTION A: CURRENT ACCOMMODATION

A1) What type of accommodation do you live in now?

Bricks and Mortar

Socially

Rented ☐

Privately

Rented ☐

Owner

Occupied ☐

Other

give details below ☐

A2) Are you living in your current accommodation through choice?

Yes ☐

No ☐

prefer not to say/No response ☐

A3) Can you tell me why you moved here?

(Ask about why Bricks and Mortar – no alternative, health reasons, etc. If moving from somewhere else, ask why – to be near family, etc.)

A4) How long have you lived here?

Less than 1 month	1 – 6 months	7 – 12 months	1-2 years	2-5 years	Over 5 years
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

SECTION A: CURRENT ACCOMMODATION

A5) How long do you think you'll stay here?

Less than 1 month ☐	1 – 6 months ☐	7 – 12 months ☐	1 – 2 years ☐	2 – 5 years ☐	Over 5 years ☐	Don't intend to move ☐	Don't know ☐
---	--	---	---	---	--	--	--

A6) How many bedrooms do you have?

1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 or more ☐

A7) In terms of location, how important is it to be close to the following?

	Very important	Fairly important	Not important
Shops/Post Office	☐	☐	☐
Health centre/GP	☐	☐	☐
Primary school	☐	☐	☐
Secondary school	☐	☐	☐
Road network	☐	☐	☐
Public transport	☐	☐	☐
Employment	☐	☐	☐
Places of Worship	☐	☐	☐

A8) Is it important for you to be close to anything else?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes, Please give details below:

SECTION B: HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

B1) Please give the age, gender and relationship to you, of all the people in your family living with you.

	Relationship respondent	to	Age	Gender	Additional needs e.g. disability	How does the additional needs affect your accommodation needs
Respondent	N/A					
Person 2						
Person 3						
Person 4						
Person 5						
Person 6						
Person 7						
Person 8						
Person 9						
Person 10						
Person 11						
Person 12						

SECTION B: HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

B2) How many couples are there?

SECTION C: ACCOMMODATION AND SITE PROVISION

- C1) Wrexham Council is preparing its Local Development Plan which may outline where future sites should be. Do you own land in Wrexham which you would like to live on, and to be considered as a possible future site?**

(Interviewer to explain that there is no guarantee that the site will be allocated or developed)

YES ☐ **(Go to C2)**

NO ☐ **(Go to C3)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to C3)**

- C2) Where in Wrexham is it?**

- C3) Are you looking for land to buy and live on in Wrexham County Borough at the moment?**

Yes ☐

No ☐

- C4) Are you thinking of moving?**

YES ☐ **(Go to C5)**

NO ☐ **(Go to D1)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to D1)**

- C5) Where are you thinking of moving to?**

Within WCBC ☐

Scotland ☐

Within North Wales ☐

Ireland (North or South) ☐

Rest of Wales ☐

Somewhere else in Europe ☐

Northern England ☐

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

Southern England ☐

SECTION C: ACCOMMODATION AND SITE PROVISION

C6) Why are you thinking of moving?

(Prompt – close to family, nearer to services)

More suitable location	☐
Need More space	☐
Need different facilities	☐
Need to be nearer to family	☐
Need to be closer to services – schools etc (Please specify below)	☐
Employment opportunities	☐
Other (Please specify below)	☐

Services

Other

C7) What type of accommodation are you thinking of moving to?

1. Site	
Council/Social rented	☐
Private site owned by self	☐
Private site owned by a Gypsy/Traveller/other	☐

2. Bricks and Mortar	
Owner/occupied	☐
Rent from Council/Housing Association	☐
Rent from private landlord	☐
Other	☐

SECTION D: HOUSEHOLD FUTURE NEEDS

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

YES ☐ (Go to D2)

NO ☐ (Go to D5)

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ (Go to D5)

D2) Will this be in Wrexham County Borough?

YES ☐ (Go to D3)

NO ☐ (Go to D5)

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ (Go to D5)

D3) What type of accommodation will they be likely to need?

1. Site	
Council/Social rented	☐
Private site owned by self	☐
Private site owned by a Gypsy/Traveller/other	☐

2. Bricks and Mortar	
Owner/occupied	☐
Rent from Council/Housing Association	☐
Rent from private landlord	☐
Other	☐

Details of other

SECTION D: HOUSEHOLD FUTURE NEEDS

D4) How many people are there likely to be in each of the required separate homes, and when will these be needed?

	No. of people	Now	Within a year	1-2 years	2-5 years
New home 1					
New home 2					
New home 3					
New home 4					

D5) Do you have family living outside Wrexham area, who are likely to need/want to move back here?

YES ☐ (Go to D6)

NO ☐ (Go to E)

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ (Go to E)

D6) What type of accommodation will they be likely to need?

1. Site	
Council/Social rented	☐
Private site owned by self	☐
Private site owned by a Gypsy/Traveller/other	☐

2. Bricks and Mortar	
Owner/occupied	☐
Rent from Council/Housing Association	☐
Rent from private landlord	☐
Other	☐

Details of other

SECTION D: HOUSEHOLD FUTURE NEEDS

D7) How many of the following do they have?

Type	Number
Mobile Homes (Static)	
Chalets	
Touring Caravans	
Trailers (Caravans)	
Buses or other adapted vehicles	
Other (Please give details)	

D8) How many people are there likely to be in each of the required separate homes, and when will these be needed?

	No. of people	Now	Within a year	1-2 years	2-5 years
New home 1					
New home 2					
New home 3					
New home 4					

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

Travellers Needs

E1) Have you travelled [in caravan or trailer] away from home in the last twelve months?

YES ☐ **(Go to E3)**

NO ☐ **(Go to E2)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ **(Go to E12)**

E2) Are there any particular reasons why you haven't travelled in the last twelve months?

(Prompt - difficult finding a site, afraid of trouble on road)

Enter Reasons	
Prefer not to say/No response	

E3) When do you travel? – Tick all that apply

Spring	☐
Summer	☐
Autumn	☐
Winter	☐
All year round	☐
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E4) For how long were you away in the last year?

Number of weeks:	
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

E5) Where do you travel? Tick any that apply

- Within North Wales ☐
- Rest of Wales ☐
- Prefer not to say/No response ☐

**E6) What type of sites did you stay on when travelling last year?
Tick all that apply**

Authorised transit sites or stopping places	☐
Holiday Camp sites	☐
Roadside/waste ground	☐
Sites owned by other Gypsy or Traveller families	☐
Farmers fields	☐
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E7) Have you ever had to leave a site while travelling in the last year?

- YES ☐
- NO ☐
- Prefer not to say/No response ☐

E8) Why was that?

(Probe - what kind of site?)

Prefer not to say/No response	

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

E9) Have you ever camped by the roadside or set up your own unauthorised encampment while travelling in the past year?

YES ☐

NO ☐

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

E10) If so in which area?

Area	
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E11) What kind(s) of encampment did you establish? Tick all that apply in Wrexham/Not in Wrexham

On Roadside	☐
In Lay-by	☐
Playing fields/Public spaces	☐
Farmers fields	☐
Private land –hard surface	☐
Public land – hard surface	☐
Prefer not to say/No response	☐

E12) Have your travelling patterns changed in the last few years?

YES ☐ **(Go to E13)**

NO ☐ **(Go to E14)**

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

SECTION E: TRANSIT PROVISION

E13) Why have they changed?

(Probe for details)

Prefer not to say/No response	

E14) Do you think there is a need for more transit sites in North Wales?

YES ☐ *(Go to E17)*

NO ☐ *(Go to Diversity Monitoring Form)*

Prefer not to say/No response ☐ *(Go to Diversity Monitoring Form)*

E15) Where are they needed?

(Probe for towns or villages)

Prefer not to say/No response	

E16) If you were travelling, (and had previously camped as in E11), would you have used authorised sites if they were provided?

YES ☐

NO ☐

Prefer not to say/No response ☐

SECTION F: DIVERSITY MONITORING FORM

Equality laws protect people from discrimination on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and marriage and civil partnership. Wrexham County Borough Council works hard to deliver services fairly and in ways that meet the needs of our communities. Gathering equality monitoring data from our customers helps us understand of the needs and experiences of our customers so that we can continually improve the way deliver services.

Simply tick the boxes that best describe you;

Your age

Under 18 ☐	18 – 21 ☐	22-29 ☐	30-39 ☐
40-49 ☐	50-59 ☐	60-65 ☐	65+ ☐
Prefer not to say ☐			

Your ethnic group

<u>White</u> ☐ British ☐ White Other 	<u>Asian</u> ☐ Asian British ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Asian Pakistani ☐ Any other Asian background
<u>Black</u> ☐ Black British ☐ Any other Black background 	<u>Chinese</u> ☐ Chinese British ☐ Chinese ☐ Any other Chinese background
<u>Mixed</u> ☐ Any other mixed background 	<u>Other Backgrounds</u> ☐ Gypsy ☐ Irish Traveller ☐ Any other background
☐ Prefer not to say	

SECTION F: DIVERSITY MONITORING FORM

Your gender: Male ☐ Female ☐

Is this the gender assigned to you at birth?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say ☐

What is your religion?

Your sexual orientation

☐ Bisexual	☐ Gay man
☐ Gay woman / lesbian	☐ Heterosexual / straight
☐ Other (please specify) _____	☐ Prefer not to say

Your preferred language

English ☐	Welsh ☐	British Sign Language ☐	Prefer not to say ☐
Any other language (please write in)			

Do you provide care on a substantial and regular basis for a family member or friend who needs care / help / support/ because of sickness, frailty or disability?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Prefer not to say ☐

Glossary	Definition
Amenity block/shed	Buildings which provide kitchen and bathroom facilities (one per pitch/plot is generally provided)
Bricks and mortar housing	Built housing
Caravans	Mobile living vehicles used by Gypsies and Travellers, also referred to as trailers.
Local authority site	An authorised site managed by the local authority
Pitch/plot	Area of land on a site on a site/development which is generally home to one household, usually finished in tarmac, often fenced.
Local Development Plan	Document produced by local authorities in Wales which describes their strategy for development and use of land in their area.
Private site	A site owned by a private individual
Trailers	Mobile living vehicles used by Gypsies and Travellers, also referred to as caravans.
Housing White Paper	A document which sets out the Welsh Government proposals for new legislation to be introduced in the first Housing Bill for Wales
Household	In this report, household is usually used to denote a group of related people who live and/or travel together. It is assumed to be the basic unit when assessing accommodation requirements.
Gypsy	
Travelling Showpeople	People who move (or have moved) from place to place with living vehicles to provide travelling fairs or circuses and associated services. Most Travelling Showpeople are members of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain.
Unauthorised encampment	A piece of land where Gypsies and Travellers reside in vehicles or tents without permission. The land is not owned by those involved in the encampment. Unauthorised encampment may involve trespass.