

CRHB Spotlight on Gypsies and Travellers

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Structure

- National Policy
- Overview – local work
- Recommendations and key points
 - Cambridgeshire Gypsy & Traveller Strategy 2011
 - Suffolk Gypsy & Traveller Strategy 2007 – 2009
 - Cambridgeshire Gypsy and Travellers JSNA 2010
 - Cambridge area GTANA 2011
- Bringing the work together

National policy

- Caravan Sites Act 1968
 - Local authority duty to 'provide adequate accommodation for Gypsies residing in their area'
- Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994
 - Abolished statutory duty
 - Specified where Gypsies/Travellers can legally park trailers and vehicles
- Housing Act 2004
 - Local housing authority duty to carry out an assessment of accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers 'residing in or resorting to their district'
- 2011 on...
 - Return to the idea of 'local' Gypsies and Traveller population
 - Basildon illegal sites: £1m legal costs; £2m forced eviction costs (Cambs Strategy 2011)
 - Cheaper to provide sites by whatever means and settle Travellers

Overview

- Suffolk – strategy to 2009
 - Strategic priorities and an action plan
 - Currently being updated
 - All councils, PCTs, Police; A Gypsy and Traveller Steering Group
- Cambridgeshire – strategy 2011
 - A new countywide strategic approach for Gypsies & Travellers
 - All councils, SP, PCT, Police, voluntary organisations, Go East
 - Cambridgeshire Travellers Strategic Co-ordination Group (CTSCG)
- Cambridgeshire JSNA 2010
 - Focus on broad health factors: ‘health’, accommodation, employment, education, etc
 - Cambs County and some district councils (TLOs), Travellers Education (CREDS), NHS, Ormiston Trust
- Cambridge area GTANA 2011
 - Modelling pitches needed by Gypsies, Travellers, Travelling Showpeople from existing local data sources
 - All Cambridge sub-region councils, plus Peterborough and King’s Lynn and West Norfolk

Suffolk – strategy to 2009

- Strategic priorities
 - Accommodation
 - Promoting community cohesion
 - Community safety
 - Children and young people
 - Health and wellbeing
- Background facts and key points
 - Around 534 – 603 people in Suffolk, *excluding* housed
 - 553 children of G&T background in 2005–06 *including* housed
 - Attempt to count the ‘local’ population: 461 people on authorised sites
 - Unauthorised encampments triggers the ‘Suffolk protocol for the management of unauthorised encampments’.

Cambridgeshire – strategy 2011



- Recommendations – a county-wide approach
 - Accommodation needs/delivery of sites
 - Site management/ownership
 - Unauthorised sites
 - Communications
 - Education and learning
 - Health
- Background facts and key points
 - Dealing with unauthorised encampments through means other than planning (p48)
 - The educational attainment gap is worse for Travellers than for any other ethnic group
 - (predicted closing of gap in KS2: Black Caribbean 2018; Travellers 2098)
 - Recommendations in Cambs Strategy and services in the SP Strategy 2010 - 2015 similar themes
 - Explores options for site delivery e.g. Community Land Trusts (CLT) or Social Impact Bonds (SIBs)
 - Presents a business case for collaboration including a new County Head of Service

Cambs Gypsy and Travellers JSNA 2010



- Recommendations
 - County-wide strategy/sharing good practice
 - Improve data collection and ethnic monitoring/community engagement
 - Improve communication of health information to Travellers
 - Strategies to promote integration – Travellers and settled community
 - Education
 - Accommodation – assessment and site management
 - Health - various
- Background facts and key points
 - Around 5,700 people in Cambridgeshire (2005 GTAA survey), *including* housed
 - 844 pupils of G&T background in Sept 2008 – July 2009 *including* housed
- Key health inequalities:
 - Mortality – life expectancy female 12 years less, male 10 years less
 - Neonatal and infant mortality – 17% Traveller women experienced child death (1% in general population)
 - 40% report long term illness (18% settled population)
 - Chest and respiratory illness and mental health problems frequently reported/identified

Cambridge area GTANA 2011

- A population-based model
- Recommendations
 - Transit sites – a co-ordinated approach to provision
 - Improving and standardising data collection
 - Annual updating (recommended in Cambs Strategy)
 - Travelling Showpeople – a small survey
- Figures for 'local Gypsies and Travellers' population
 - Permanent pitches – backlog and annual need as SHMA approach
 - Guide figures for 2016 – 2021 (backlog cleared)
 - Social rented to private need – a range given
 - Transit pitches – need per district, could be dealt with jointly
 - Repeated for Travelling Showpeople
- Background facts and key points
 - 1037 children & young people of reception class to KS4 age in Cambridgeshire in Sept 2008 – July 2009 *including housed*
- Timetable:
 - Draft final report for sign-off by CRHB early June

Bringing the work together

- Accommodation key in all work
- Relationship accommodation and health
 - Directly (respiratory conditions, mental health etc)
 - Broader determinants of health (education, employment etc)
- Accommodation need and provision should be monitored regularly
 - Annual update of GTANA population model once final version agreed
 - Improve data collection
 - Primary data through on-going communication with travelling communities
- A broad approach is needed. Not Everything can be solved by planning processes
 - e.g. Transit sites
 - 'The key point to good quality sites is not ownership, but management.' (Cambs Strategy)



About the Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group

The Research Group is the central research and information section of Cambridgeshire County Council. We use a variety of information about the people and economy of Cambridgeshire to help plan services for the county. The Research Group also supports a range of other partner agencies and partnerships.

- Subjects covered by the Research Group include:
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Employers database
- Consultations and Surveys
- Crime and Community Safety
- Current Staff Consultations
- Economy and The Labour Market
- Health
- Housing
- Mapping and GIS
- Population
- Pupil Forecasting

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