



Report of	Meeting	Date
Central Lancashire Planning Local Plan Coordinator	Central Lancashire Strategic Planning Joint Advisory Committee	6.2.2023

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE GTAA UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. This report is for noting.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) (If the recommendations are accepted)

2. None, for information only.

Reasons for recommendations

3. This is a factual report presenting an updated position on need and presents options for how the Councils may seek to meet this requirement through the new Local Plan.

Other options considered and rejected

4. None. The Councils have a statutory requirement to understand what need for GTAA exists in the area and to develop policies in the local plan to address this line with the requirements set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Corporate priorities

5. The report relates to the following corporate priorities: (Please bold one)

Housing where residents can live well	A green and sustainable borough
An enterprising economy with vibrant local centres in urban and rural areas	Healthy, safe and engaged communities

Background to the report

6. The previous GTAA was completed in 2019 and identified the need required at that time. It was agreed that to ensure the most up to date position is reflected in the Local Plan that we would review and update this study in May 2022. Consultants Arc 4 had

completed the original report and where contracted to carry out this update on behalf of the three Councils.

GTAA Update 2022

7. The NPPF sets out, under para 61, that LPA's must determine the minimum number of homes needed, and in addition Para 62 states this must include the needs for travellers as set out in the Governments Planning Policy for traveller sites (PPTS). This study therefore addresses this requirement and has used the information in the PPTS to develop a methodology for assessing the needs of this community in Central Lancashire.
8. The Central Lancashire Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation Assessment 2022 (GTAA) provides the latest available evidence to identify the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the Central Lancashire area which comprises Preston City, Chorley Borough and South Ribble Borough council areas.
9. The GTAA has included:
 - A review of existing (secondary) data; and
 - A household survey and site/yard observation. A total of 26 Gypsy and Traveller households living on pitches were interviewed in 2022 out of a total of 26 households, a 100% response rate. In addition, two interviews were achieved from households living in bricks and mortar accommodation in Preston.

The data collected was analysed to provide a picture of current provision and activity across the district and an assessment of future need. The findings of the study provide an up-to-date, robust and defensible evidence base for policy development in the emerging Local Plan

10. The study has also looked at where a transit need is identified, what options the councils should consider in meeting this need.
11. Detailed findings from the study can be found in section 6 of the full report, see link here to access this. [Central Lancashire GTAA Final Report 30 Nov 22 FINAL.pdf](#)

Cultural and PPTS need

12. As set out above, NPPF and PPTS set out the requirement for meeting the accommodation needs of the gypsy and traveller community. This need is expressed in 2 ways, the cultural need and PPTS need. Need is defined in two ways
 - The need for those Gypsies and Travellers who continue to lead a nomadic life, even if they are temporarily not travelling, and
 - The need for those that Gypsy and Travellers that no longer lead a nomadic life
13. The total cultural need identified for the area considers all household types (including those currently on sites authorised and unauthorised and also from bricks and mortar). The PPTS requirements is based on those households who meet the PPTS definition of the nomadic life test., this is set out in Annex 1 of the PPTS. [Final planning and travellers policy.pdf](#)
14. The tables below present the need for Chorley and Preston respectively, there is no cultural/PPTS need identified in South Ribble.

Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2021/22 to 2035/36: Chorley Borough

	Cultural Need	Of which PPTs need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	10	10
Longer-term need		
Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (b)	0	0
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36 © (b)	0	0
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2037/38 (10 years) D=(B+C)	0	0
NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2035/36 (A+D) (15 years)	10	10
Annual net shortfall	0.7	0.7

Plan period Gypsy and Traveller pitch need 2021/22 to 2035/36: Preston City Council

	Cultural Need	Of which PPTs need
5yr Authorised Pitch Shortfall (2021/22 to 2025/26) (A)	24	22
Longer-term need		
Over period 2026/7 to 2030/31 (b)	3	3
Over period 2031/32 to 2035/36 © (b)	7	7
Longer-term need TOTAL to 2037/38 (10 years) D=(B+C)	10	10
NET SHORTFALL 2021/22 to 2035/36 (A+D) (15 years)	34	31
Annual net shortfall	2.3	2.1

15. The study also looks at the need for transit provision. This is the provision of temporary places where travellers can stop when passing through an area. These include transit sites, stop over areas and negotiated stopping. All three areas have data indicating unauthorised encampment activity and the need for transit provision.
16. The previous study recommended that the Local Plan look to provide transit provision through the allocation of a specific site/s to meet this need. However, since that work was completed a change of approach is proposed to a policy focused response of negotiated stopping. As such the Local plan will need to include a negotiated stopping policy for Central Lancashire.
17. Negotiated stopping involves the councils making an agreement with Gypsies and Travellers on unauthorised encampments. The terms of the agreement can vary but usually include the provision of portaloos, waste disposal, water; the length of the agreement can vary but tends to be around 28 days; and users agree to comply with rules for behaviour and use of the site.

Meeting future residential need

18. The overall need evidenced in this report indicate a total shortfall of 44 pitches (of which 41 is PPTS need and 3 is non-PPTS need) over the period 2021/22 to 2035/36). 34 Pitches are within Preston and 10 in Chorley.
19. The study identifies that the need for Chorley is proposed to be met through the delivery of the land allocated in the current Local Plan at Cowling Farm.
20. The need for Preston could be met through the potential to regularise unauthorised pitches in the area, however there will still be a shortfall beyond this, and existing sites do not have the space to expand. As such a new site would be needed for the area. There are 15 authorised pitches in the area, but an overall need for 39, resulting in a

need for 24 pitches. Discussions are already taking place with private site owners in the area where they have indicated the potential to provide up to 20 pitches.

21. The study also recommends that the Local Plan sets out policies to inform future planning applications for private sites and sets out detailed suggestions which should be taken into account when drafting policies on new residential pitch provision. The plan will also need to provide a policy on negotiated stopping to meet transit need.

22. It is also noted that the study should be reviewed every 5 years to ensure that the level of pitch and plot provision remains appropriate for the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople population across Central Lancashire.

Climate change and air quality

23. This report is presenting the findings of a factual study and it itself will not have any impacts. The delivery of any sites via the local plan will be fully assessed through that process in regards to impacts on Climate Change.

Equality and diversity

24. This study has a positive affect as it is seeking to provide sites to meet the needs of this sector of our community.

Risk

25. There are no risks with the report itself. The risks will come when seeking to deliver on its recommendations and delivering the land required to meet the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community.

Comments of the Statutory Finance Officer

26. There are no direct financial implications of this report.

Comments of the Monitoring Officer

27. There are no direct legal implications arising here as the report is for noting and consideration. Obviously the policy position will need to be firmed up in due course taking into account all relevant information.

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