

Vulnerable People Housing Assessment

Travellers

(Full reference should also be made to Derbyshire Supporting People Strategy 2005/10– pages 56 – 57 and Appendix C – pages 93 - 96)

Summary

*There appear to be few Gypsies or Travellers in Erewash. Unauthorised encampments are rare, and there have been no planning applications for permanent or transit sites.

Indications are that if site provision were required, it would be for only 1 or 2 caravans.

However, the Derbyshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment due to be completed by the end of 2007, should give us much more information on the housing and support needs of Gypsies and Travellers in Derbyshire, and for Erewash. Following this, we will need to work with partners decide how to best meet these needs.

There is currently no provision for Gypsies and Travellers in Erewash.

However, health, welfare and education needs of people on unauthorised encampments are assessed and referrals made to health, education and social services in accordance with the Derbyshire Response to unauthorised encampments.

The assessment of needs is of strategic importance in Erewash, as demonstrated by the commitment of funding to research.

Priorities for future development of sites, housing and support for Gypsies and Travellers will be assessed on completion of the research

****It should be noted that there may be Gypsies and Travellers who are now living in houses and flats. Their needs will also be assessed as part of the research.***

Traveller is a generic term used to describe groups of people whose lifestyle or culture is rooted in a nomadic way of life.

Gypsies of Romany origin (English, Welsh, Scottish and European Travellers) and Irish Travellers live in Derbyshire, or use many parts of Derbyshire as a traditional stopping place and have done so for hundreds of years. New Travellers are also found within the county.

Number of Gypsies and Travellers in Erewash homeless, in housing need or requiring housing support

Information	Number	Breakdown
Number of Gypsy and Traveller households in Nottinghamshire planning or wanting to move or stay in Erewash (per Nottinghamshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment)	Nil	
The RSS draft estimate of permanent pitches for Erewash	1 pitch.	
Number of unauthorised encampments in Erewash	Average 1 per year	Nil in 2000, 2003, 2006 1 in 2001, 2002, 2004. 3 in 2005. 1 in 2007
Number of permanent or transit sites in Erewash	Nil	
Number of planning applications received for permanent or transit sites or pitches for Gypsies or Travellers	Nil	
NOTE: The Derbyshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment is to be carried out from April 2007 and should be completed by the end of 2007. The findings from the study will include:-		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations on the number, type, size, tenure and broad location of sites likely to be required in each local authority area • The need for public, private, permanent and transit sites. • Recommendations on the likely type and level of housing related support required. 		

Housing and Support needs of Gypsies and Travellers, and how these are met in Erewash:

The Derbyshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment should provide us with information as above.

There is currently no provision for Gypsies and Travellers in Erewash. (There are 3 mobile home sites in Little Eaton and Breaston, but these are not particularly used by Gypsies or Travellers)

However, health, welfare and education needs of people on unauthorised encampments are assessed and referrals made to health, education and social services in accordance with the Derbyshire Response to unauthorised encampments.

Protocols/Forums etc

- Derbyshire Traveller Issues Working Group
- Derbyshire Response to unauthorised encampments July 2005
- Inter-Agency Guidance: Working together on Gypsy and Traveller issues

Relevant Strategies

Travellers Issues Working Group Strategy Document July 2005:

To assess the need for and promote solutions towards the shortage of appropriate sites and accommodation and support

Erewash Fit for Purpose Housing Strategy 2005 – 2008:

Action: Assess the housing and support needs of gypsies and travellers.

Commitment made by Erewash Council Members & staff to Young People's projects:-

- £5,870 EBC funding towards Derbyshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment
- Staff on Derbyshire Travellers Issues Working Group

Available Funding

- Regional Housing Board funding for research

Future Housing Needs and Housing-related support needs

This will be assessed following the completion of the Derbyshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment

Additional note on Travelling Show People

Show People park their vans on council land when authorised fairs at Ilkeston, Kirk Hallam and West Park take place. Normally encamped for three to seven days only. Many live locally, or at Show People site in Selston.