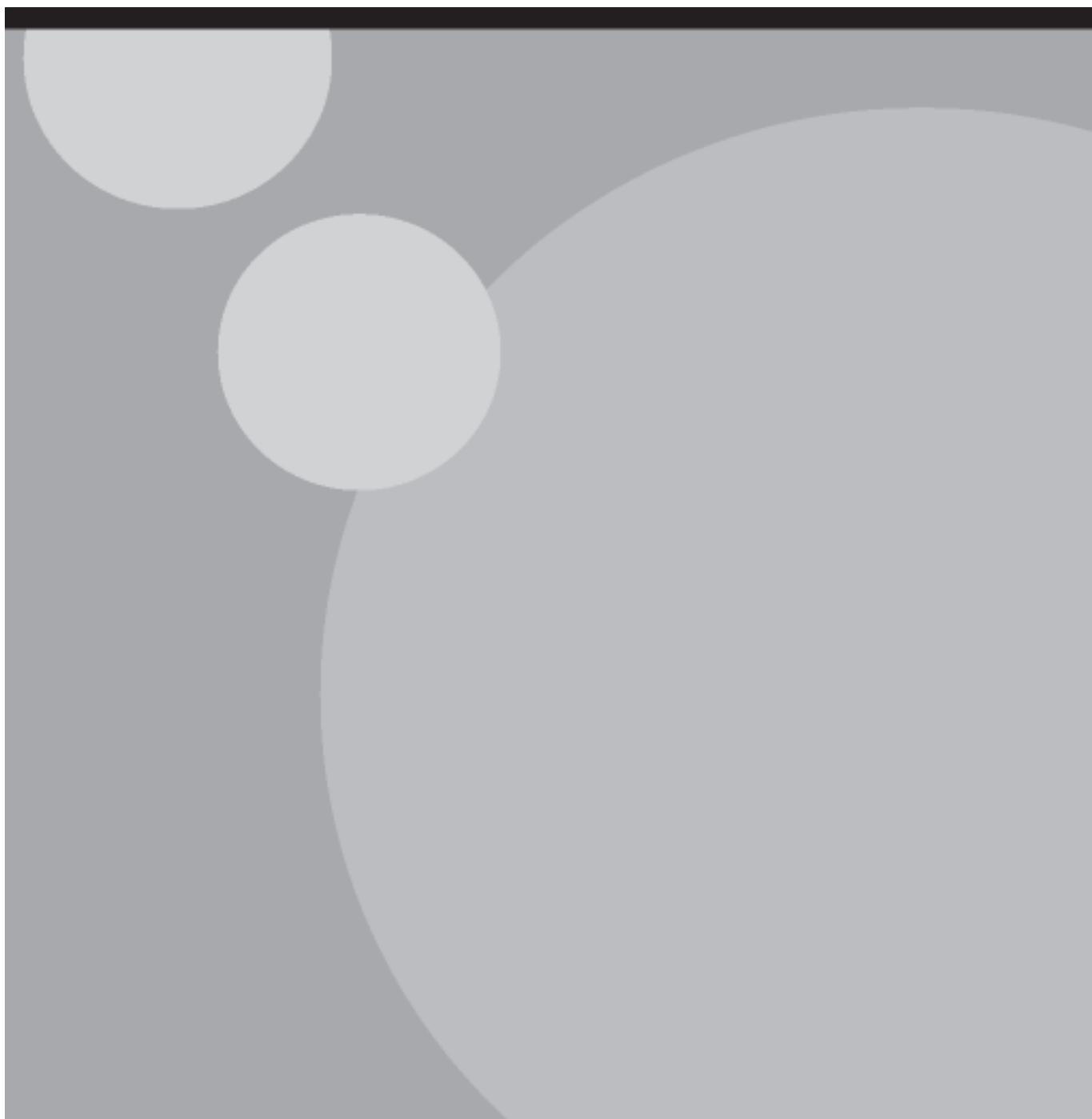




Planning policy for traveller sites

Summary of consultation responses





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March 2012

Department for Communities and Local Government

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Introduction

1. The Government wants to see fair play in the planning system, with everyone being treated equally and even-handedly. The new planning policy seeks to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers in a way that facilitates their traditional and nomadic way of life while respecting the interests of the settled community.
2. The new *Planning policy for traveller sites* replaces two previous traveller planning circulars (Circular 01/2006: *Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites* and Circular 04/2007: *Planning for Travelling Showpeople*). It forms part of a broader set of Government policy initiatives that will provide a fair deal for traveller communities and settled communities that play by the rules.
3. The Government's *Programme for Government* sets out its intention to radically reform the planning system by streamlining lengthy, cumbersome and complex policy and guidance and by decentralising the planning system to strengthen the role of local authorities and their communities. The new policy streamlines 54 pages of guidance in two documents into less than 10 pages in one and puts planning for traveller sites back in the hands of local councils, in consultation with their communities. It gives local councils the freedom and responsibility to determine the right level of traveller site provision in their area, in consultation with local communities.

About the consultation

Planning policy for traveller sites

4. Consultation on the Government's draft planning policy for traveller sites ran from 13 April 2011 to 3 August 2011. The draft policy set out the Government's intended replacement of Circular 01/2006 (*Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites*) and Circular 04/2007 (*Planning for Travelling Showpeople*).
5. There were 646 responses to the consultation. For the purposes of analysis, respondents have been grouped into broad categories. There were: 236 responses (37 per cent) from district or borough councils; 176 (27 per cent) from parish or town councils; 134 (20 per cent) from individuals; 36 responses (six per cent) from groups or individuals that represent travellers; 20 responses (three per cent) from residents' associations, and 44 (seven per cent) from other – a range of organisations and businesses including planning bodies and businesses and environmental organisations that did not fit into the above categories. The table below provides details of responses by types of respondent.

Table: Responses by type of respondent

Type of respondent	Number of Responses
District or borough councils	236 (37%)
Parish or town councils	176 (27%)
Individuals	134 (20%)
Other organisations	44 (7%)
Representatives of travellers	36 (6%)
Residents' associations	20 (3%)
Total	646 (100%)

6. Overall, across all types of respondents there was general support (defined by a clear yes to a particular question from more than 50 per cent of those responding to the consultation) for:
 - retaining the current definitions of “gypsies and travellers” and “traveller showpeople”
 - removing the reference to *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments* in the new policy
 - local authorities setting targets for site provision where need has been identified
 - aligning the wording of the traveller site policy on Green Belt with that in general planning policy guidance on Green Belt
 - the general principles of aligning planning policy on traveller sites more closely with that for other forms of housing
 - the new emphasis on local planning authorities consulting with settled as well as traveller communities

- not asking local planning authorities to consider favourably planning applications for the grant of a temporary permission if they cannot demonstrate an up-to-date five-year supply of deliverable sites
 - the fact that six months was not the right amount of time local planning authorities should have to put in place their land supply
7. There was, however, divergence in opinion between different groups. Overall the proposals generally were strongly supported by residents' groups. Traveller groups questioned some aspects. Local authorities were generally supportive, subject to some comments about the transitional arrangements and some of the detail of the policy.
8. In addition, nine hearings were held around England to enable people to give their views orally. Ninety-four people attended these. Hearings took place in: Brighton; Birmingham; Bristol; Bury; central London; Leeds; London Borough of Hackney; Matlock, and Newcastle.
9. Those taking part in the hearings included approximately: ten representatives from ten traveller groups; 85 Gypsies, Travellers, New Travellers or Travelling Showpeople; five representatives from one local residents' group; 13 local residents; three local councillors; three planners and two others. Not all attendees at each event spoke.
10. A campaign was also organised by the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit and 373 leaflets were received.

Analysis of consultation responses

11. This section summarises responses to the individual questions posed in the consultation document that were given in written and oral responses to the consultation.

Question 1: Do you agree that the current definitions of “gypsies and travellers” and “travelling showpeople” should be retained in the new policy?

12. Most specific comments addressed the definition of “gypsies and travellers” rather than “travelling showpeople”. Key comments included:
- “travelling showpeople” are a separate group with different land-use requirements
 - the definition of “gypsies and travellers” should be broadened to align with that for the purposes of needs assessment under the Housing Act (2004)
 - the terms “gypsies and travellers” should begin with capitals in planning policy
 - a full separate consultation on the definitions of “gypsies and travellers” should be held
 - there should be a wider definition of “gypsies and travellers” that encompasses all ethnic Gypsies and Travellers as well as New Travellers and Travelling Showpeople
 - a narrower definition of “gypsies and travellers” should be used to restrict status to ethnic Gypsies and Travellers or to increase emphasis on the need for travel to meet the definition
 - the definitions should be maintained given the amount of case history behind them
 - circus people should be included in the definition
13. The planning definition is limited to those who can demonstrate that they have specific land use requirements arising from their nomadic way of life. The planning definition is relevant to the application of planning policies and the determination of applications for planning permission. The definition of travellers for the purposes of housing authorities’ assessment of traveller accommodation needs as part of their wider housing needs assessment enables local housing authorities to understand the possible future accommodation needs of this group and plan strategically to meet those needs alongside the rest of the population. The Government remains of the view that it is appropriate to maintain the current definitions for the purposes of planning control.

Question 2: Do you support the proposal to remove specific reference to *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments* in the new policy and instead refer to a “robust evidence base”?

14. Key comments included:

- agreement that evidence bases should be robust and that local authorities should properly determine the needs of travellers
 - comment that the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment process does not always lead to accurate assessments
 - support for maintaining the reference to the accommodation assessments because when done well they provide the best evidence
 - that a more flexible approach to assessment would lead to more effective assessments tailored to local circumstances
 - comment that a new streamlined national guidance or a common definition of robust evidence was needed to avoid inconsistency in methodology between different local authorities, inadequate assessment, or decisions being overturned at appeal or in the courts
 - comment that needs assessments would not be carried out properly without the weight given to them by their reference in planning policy
 - desire to remove the reference to robust evidence to align with what was believed to be the situation for the settled community
15. The Government believes that it is important that needs are properly assessed. However, it wants to give local authorities the freedom to choose the method they use to assess needs for the purposes of planning policy because they are best placed to determine the type and level of evidence of need in their area.
16. There are adequate legislative requirements in place that will ensure that local authorities properly assess the accommodation needs of travellers. The statutory requirement for housing authorities to carry out a traveller needs assessment as part of their wider housing needs assessments remains. A council may choose to use this assessment as part of its robust evidence base. The established process of independent challenge, scrutiny and testing of local planning policies through consultation and examination in public will also play a central role in verifying the evidence of need.
17. The Government agrees that it is important to ensure that there is a common evidence base between local planning authorities where required but not at a national level. The final policy, therefore, places an additional emphasis on the importance of cross-boundary working between local planning authorities in planning for traveller sites. It also references local planning authorities' duty to cooperate on strategic planning under the Localism Act provisions.

Question 3: Do you agree that where need has been identified, local planning authorities should set targets for the provision of sites in their local planning policies?

18. Key comments included:
- agreement that targets should be set
 - support for targets being set at the local level

- comment that travellers or their representatives would not have the resource to engage effectively in examinations in public to challenge evidence bases that underestimated need
 - desire for local planning authorities to be able to take into account the targets and provision of neighbouring authorities
 - desire for central Government regulation to ensure local authorities planned for sites
 - that it was in everyone's interests for local authorities to plan for sites
19. There was general support for the Government's policy of target setting from travellers and councils. The Government believes that the ability of local planning authorities to set their own targets will have benefits in terms of better quality plan making. Rather than targets being imposed from above, the targets will be suited to local needs with local planning authorities working collaboratively with neighbouring authorities, where necessary.

Question 4: Do you think that local planning authorities should plan for “local need in the context of historical demand”?

20. Key comments included:
- comment that the emphasis should be on current and projected need
 - comment that the phrase “historical demand” was unclear and thus open to interpretation risking under provision or increased risk of burden on local authorities from challenge at appeal or in legal cases
 - comment that the emphasis on historical demand would lead to local authorities that had previously provided sites continuing to do so while those that had previously not provided continued to do so
21. The Government's policy will operate within the context of the duty to cooperate, as the key mechanism through which the strategic element of local planning will occur. However, the Government recognises that its proposal presented a risk that some local planning authorities would not plan for sites, which could have significant impacts for traveller communities and those local planning authorities that do plan. To emphasise the need for strategic working, the Government has amended the final policy which sets out that local planning authorities should plan for local need while working across boundaries, in line with the new duty to cooperate. The Government has also made reference to local authorities' duty to cooperate under the Localism Act.

Question 5: Do you agree with the proposal to require local planning authorities to plan for a five-year supply of traveller pitches/plots?

22. Key comments included:
- support for local planning authorities bringing forward land for sites where need has been identified
 - support for the requirement to have a five-year supply of sites

- comment about how this may operate in practice due to differences in the land market for traveller sites and the way in which they are brought forward for development compared to general housing
 - comment that local planning authorities would not plan effectively in practice for a five-year supply
 - desire for more flexibility in provision of sites than that seen to be given by the target and land supply system
 - support for a one-off five-year supply but no annual update because it was believed need would largely be met after five years
 - comment that the supply should be frontloaded in the first year to address previous under provision
 - comment that local authorities may try to have a joint land supply for housing and traveller sites, which would price travellers out of the market
23. The Government's final policy sets out that local authorities should identify land for traveller sites to meet needs for the next five years and to update this annually. This is in line with planning policy for general housing set out in the forthcoming National Planning Policy Framework. Where no need has been identified and thus a five-year land supply is not required, local authorities are asked to have criteria-based policies in their plans, to provide a basis for decisions in case applications nevertheless come forward. The policy has a clear definition of "deliverable" in relation to land supply. The final policy is also clear that specific targets for land supply for traveller sites (gypsy and traveller and travelling showpeople) should be put in place.

Question 6: Do you agree that the proposed wording of Policy E (in the draft policy) should be included to ensure consistency with Planning Policy Guidance 2: *Green Belts*?

24. Key comments included:
- comment that the change would make it harder to achieve planning permission for sites in Green Belt
 - comment that the wording change would make little difference because most parties in traveller site planning cases start from the view that sites are inappropriate development in Green Belt and then argue whether special circumstances outweigh this
 - support for the policy on the basis that policy should be equal for all and aligned
 - comment that planning permission for sites in Green Belt should not be given unless an application for planning permission for settled community housing would be granted permission
 - comment that Green Belt boundaries have been altered to accommodate new general housing but not to accommodate traveller sites
25. The Government's new policy is aligned with general policy on Green Belt in forthcoming the National Planning Policy Framework. It emphasises that traveller sites, whether a permanent or temporary permission is being

considered, are inappropriate development in Green Belt. The policy also clarifies that there is no presumption that a temporary permission, including those in Green Belt, should become a permanent one. This will help ensure that traveller sites are developed in appropriate places and not in Green Belt, ensure planning policy is clear and consistent, and reduce community tensions that can arise over perceptions that planning policy for traveller sites is more lenient than planning policy for housing for settled communities.

26. Comments about the policy to strictly limit new development in the countryside were also made. Key comments included:
 - comment that if Green Belt and countryside locations were restricted there would be nowhere for travellers to go or they would be pushed closer to settled communities that do not want them nearby
 - support for protection of the countryside from development
 - comment that the National Planning Policy Framework indicated a different direction of policy for general housing
 - comment that travellers were generally rural groups
27. The new planning policy for traveller sites clarifies that, on a similar basis to planning policy on housing in the countryside, local planning authorities should strictly limit new traveller site development in open countryside that is away from existing settlements or outside areas allocated in the development plan. The Government recognises that traveller sites are often in rural or semi-rural locations and that this reflects some cultural links between travellers and the countryside. However, there are examples of successful traveller sites in and on the edge of settlements. The Government believes that it is important that development should not take place at the expense of the environment.
28. In the countryside policy for housing in the National Planning Policy Framework, there are examples of special circumstances in which local planning authorities may allow new isolated development in the countryside. These have not been included in the traveller site policy because they relate to the nature of built housing and, therefore, do not have an equivalent and are not relevant in terms of traveller sites.

Question 7: Do you agree with the general principle of aligning planning policy on traveller sites more closely with that on other forms of housing?

29. Key comments included:
 - support for aligning traveller site policy where practical to reduce the perception that traveller sites are given special treatment
 - calls for there to be no separate policy for traveller sites to ensure everyone is treated equally
 - comment that there are differences to general housing that need to be taken into account including different land markets and historical undersupply of traveller sites

- calls for recognition that treating people the same if they come from an unequal position does not necessarily create fairness or equality
 - comment that travellers did not receive special treatment and were being blamed for the inaction of local authorities in providing sites
 - that homelessness rates for travellers were higher than those for the settled community and this and an aim to increase sites should be stated within the policy
 - support for keeping the existing traveller site planning circulars because they were felt to be just beginning to work
 - comment that because site provision is not politically popular, local planning authorities would not make provision for travellers' needs or would put sites in unsuitable places
 - comment about unauthorised development and its impacts
30. The Government is taking forward planning reforms to pass control to local communities and make the system simpler and more accessible. The circulars need to be replaced with an updated planning policy that will work effectively by being clear and telling local authorities what is expected of them in the decentralised system in terms of planning for traveller sites.
31. The Government has aligned the policy for traveller sites with that for general housing, where effective to do so. Ensuring consistency between policy for traveller and settled communities should help to address comments about unfairness in the planning system.

Question 8: Do you agree with the new emphasis on local planning authorities consulting with settled communities as well as traveller communities when formulating their plans and determining individual planning applications to help improve relations between the communities?

32. Key comments included:
- support for this policy because people wanted to be able to say what development there should or should not be in their local area
 - support for the policy on the basis that any arena that may open up dialogue was positive
 - comment that local authorities were generally good at consulting the settled community and that effective consultation of travellers by local planning authorities had to become more important
 - comment that local people may think they have a right to veto development, when they do not, which could increase tension
 - comment that travellers were not consulted about general housing
 - comment about the negative way in which some media gave a voice to what was seen as the settled community's lack of knowledge or prejudice about travellers
 - comment that some will always oppose development regardless of its type and that travellers will not get planning permission under localism

- comment that those with time and ability were more likely to be involved in consultation and these people were not necessarily representative of the whole settled community
 - comment that current requirements to consult are adequate
33. The Government recognises that travellers can experience antipathy from some members of the settled community through misunderstanding and stereotyping. On balance, the Government believes that the best way to try and reduce tension is to retain the emphasis on early and effective community engagement with settled as well as traveller communities. The Government wants to give communities a much greater say on what gets built in their areas but engagement does not mean communities have an automatic right to veto development.
34. However, the Government has considered the comments and has amended the final policy to stress the importance of effective consultation with traveller communities. The policy will emphasise that local authorities should obtain a balance of views to enable them to make their decisions and will reduce opposition to development based on misunderstanding and lack of information. The Government believes that the new policy promotes equality, good relations and knowledge about different groups of people and increases civic and democratic participation.

Question 9: Do you agree with the proposal in the transitional arrangements policy (paragraph 26 in the draft policy) for local planning authorities to “consider favourably” planning applications for the grant of temporary permission if they cannot demonstrate an up-to-date five-year supply of deliverable traveller sites, to ensure consistency with Planning Policy Statement 3: *Housing*?

35. Key comments included:
- support for this policy because it provides consequences for those local authorities that do not plan
 - comment that this is not a sufficient sanction to make local authorities plan for sites
 - some preference for the wording in the current circulars that asks instead that “substantial weight” to the unmet need be given
 - comment that the policy only applies to temporary permissions
 - some lack of support by those who did not agree with the five-year land supply policy
 - support because once a temporary permission is given and the reality of a site is seen local communities often stop objecting
 - comment that temporary permissions often become permanent ones
36. The final policy sets out that (after the implementation period), if a local planning authority does not have a five-year land supply then this should be given significant weight when the grant of a temporary permission is being considered. The precise wording of this policy has been amended from the draft policy in line with feedback during consultation, to be as clear as possible. The Government’s assessment is that the three different

phrases have the same effect in practice – that is, if local planning authorities cannot demonstrate an up to date five-year supply of deliverable sites, this is a matter of significant weight in favour of granting a temporary permission. Planning Policy Statement 3 will be cancelled and replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework, which will come into effect at the same time as the traveller site planning policy.

Question 10: Under the transitional arrangements, do you think that six months is the right time local planning authorities should be given to put in place their five-year land supply before the consequences of not having done so come into force?

37. Key comments included:

- that the period was not long enough to allow local authorities to set targets, bring forward land and go to examination in public unless local plans are well advanced, and that as much as 18 months or two years was required
- support for six months, shorter or no period because local authorities should already be planning for sites and bringing forward land under current policy
- support for six months, shorter or no period because this was seen to be more akin to that planned for the National Planning Policy Framework
- comment that no permissions would be granted during this six-month period

38. The new policy makes provision for an implementation period of 12 months to allow councils to put their five-year land supply in place. Five-year land supply is a new requirement for traveller sites. Having considered the consultation feedback, the Government has allowed 12 months to give councils a reasonable opportunity to put the new supply in place. This will promote a plan-led approach and the provision of traveller sites.

Question 11: Do you have any other comments on the transitional arrangements?

39. A range of comments were made and key issues have been captured under other questions.

Question 12: Are there any other ways in which the policy can be made clearer, shorter or more accessible?

40. Key comments included:

- comment that Travelling Showpeople's needs would be lost in a combined document
- calls for additions to the policy to ensure useful guidance was included

- that the important issue was whether the policy is effective, not its length
 - support for what was seen to be a clear, concise document
 - comment that the policy was difficult to understand
 - comment on the method of consultation itself, which was seen to be at a difficult time of the year for travellers
 - comment that parish councils were not specifically alerted to the consultation's publication
 - comment about the relationship between the draft planning policy for traveller sites and the draft National Planning Policy Framework
 - comment that the policy was being rushed through
 - that some travellers did not feel that they had been made properly made aware of the consultation exercise
41. The Government has decided to publish a separate traveller site policy that should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework. The traveller site policy has been published in a separate document to allow focus on this specific policy area, which causes a high degree of community stress. It will benefit those engaged in planning for traveller sites by clearly setting out specific traveller site policies in a separate document. The Government intends to review this policy when fair and representative practical results of its implementation are clear. It is intended to incorporate a version of this policy within the National Planning Policy Framework at that stage, having taken account of the results of its implementation.
42. The traveller site document itself follows a sparse and direct style that has been welcomed by local planning authorities and developers for its clarity and directness. Separate definitions of "gypsies and travellers" and "travelling showpeople" have been maintained and changes to the final policy have been made to clarify that targets for land supply for travelling showpeople sites should be separate to those for gypsy and traveller sites.
43. The Government wanted to hear the views from as wide a range of people as possible. The consultation complied with the Government's code of practice on consultation. In addition, the consultation ran for an extended period of 16 weeks and oral hearings were held. Consultation responses have been considered and taken into account in formulating the final policy.

Question 13: Do you think that the proposals in this draft statement will have a differential impact, either positive or negative, on people because of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation? If so, how in your view should we respond? We are particularly interested in any impacts on (Romany) Gypsies and (Irish) Travellers and welcome the views of organisations and individuals with specific relevant expertise.

44. Key comments included:

- comment from most travellers that the policy would have a negative impact on their respective communities because it was thought the policy would make it harder to gain planning permission for sites and lead to a decrease in provision with consequent impacts on health and education
 - belief that the alignment of policy with housing would make it fairer by removing what was seen as current favourable treatment for travellers
 - comment that policy was being changed partly on the basis of a perception of unfairness that it was thought should be challenged instead
 - comment that Travelling Showpeople did not collectively belong to an ethnic group
45. The circulars themselves have been highly contentious, creating a perception amongst many that the policy is unfair and treats traveller sites more favourably than housing for the settled community. This has created tension, undermined community cohesion and caused resentment against the overwhelming majority of law-abiding travellers who do not live on unauthorised sites. In recognition of this, in drafting the new traveller site policy due regard has been had to the need to foster good relations between traveller and settled communities.
46. The Government has carried out a full equality impact assessment screening and final assessment. In doing so the Government has had due regard to its equality duties under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations in formulating this policy. In addition, it believes that the policy will have a positive impact on Gypsies and Travellers and community relations between traveller and settled communities and that it will promote equality. The Government has also published an impact assessment alongside its policy, which analyses the costs and benefits of the policy, including those for Travelling Showpeople.

Annex A: Breakdown of questions by respondent type

47. The consultation paper posed 13 questions although not every respondent responded specifically to all the questions. Some respondents did not give specific “yes” or “no” answers. Those that ticked either “yes” or “no” in answers to a question, or where it was possible to easily classify any comments given as “yes” or “no” if a box was not ticked, have had their answer classified appropriately as either “yes” or “no”. Those that did not tick a box and did not have comments that made it easy to classify their view as “yes” or “no”, or did not answer the question, have had their answer classified as being “neither yes or no”.

Question 1. Definitions of travellers

Question 1: Do you agree that the current definitions of “gypsies and travellers” and “travelling showpeople” should be retained in the new policy?

TABLE 1: RESPONSES TO QUESTION 1 BY TYPE OF RESPONDENT

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	16 (44%)	15 (42%)	5 (14%)
District, county and borough councils	169 (72%)	27 (11%)	40 (17%)
Parish and town councils	114 (65%)	32 (18%)	30 (17%)
Residents' associations	11 (55%)	3 (15%)	6 (30%)
Individuals	44 (33%)	33 (25%)	57 (43%)
Others	23 (52%)	11 (25%)	10 (23%)
Total	377 (58%)	121 (19%)	148 (23%)

Question 2. Evidence base

Question 2: Do you support the proposal to remove specific reference to *Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments* in the new policy and instead refer to a “robust evidence base”?

TABLE 2: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 2 BY TYPE OF RESPONDENT

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	4 (11%)	27 (75%)	5 (14%)
District, county and borough councils	115 (49%)	72 (31%)	49 (21%)
Parish and town councils	122 (69%)	23 (13%)	31 (18%)
Residents' associations	13 (65%)	1 (5%)	6 (30%)
Individuals	65 (49%)	15 (11%)	54 (40%)
Others	14 (32%)	18 (41%)	12 (27%)
Total	333 (52%)	156 (24%)	157 (24%)

Question 3. Setting targets

Question 3: Do you agree that where need has been identified, local planning authorities should set targets for the provision of sites in their local planning policies?

TABLE 3: RESPONSES TO QUESTION 3

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	28 (78%)	2 (5%)	6 (16%)
District, county and borough councils	158 (67%)	35 (15%)	43 (18%)
Parish and town councils	119 (68%)	30 (17%)	27 (15%)
Residents' associations	12 (60%)	2 (10%)	6 (30%)
Individuals	49 (37%)	33 (25%)	52 (39%)
Others	29 (66%)	3 (7%)	12 (27%)
Total	395 (61%)	105 (16%)	146 (23%)

Question 4. Local need and historical demand

Question 4: Do you think that local planning authorities should plan for “local need in the context of historical demand”?

TABLE 4: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 4

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	11 (31%)	18 (50%)	7 (19%)
District, county and borough councils	77 (33%)	109 (46%)	50 (21%)
Parish and town councils	71 (40%)	73 (41%)	32 (18%)
Residents' associations	5 (25%)	7 (35%)	8 (40%)
Individuals	39 (29%)	44 (33%)	51 (38%)
Others	11 (25%)	20 (45%)	13 (30%)
Total	214 (33%)	271 (42%)	161 (25%)

Question 5. Five-year land supply

Question 5: Do you agree with the proposal to require local planning authorities to plan for a five-year supply of traveller pitches/plots?

TABLE 5: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 5

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	29 (81%)	3 (8%)	4 (11%)
District, county and borough councils	99 (42%)	98 (41%)	39 (16%)
Parish and town councils	99 (56%)	43 (24%)	34 (19%)
Residents' associations	6 (30%)	8 (40%)	6 (30%)
Individuals	52 (39%)	26 (19%)	56 (42%)
Others	26 (59%)	9 (20%)	9 (20%)
Total	311 (48%)	187 (29%)	148 (23%)

Question 6. Green Belt policy

Question 6: Do you agree that the proposed wording of Policy E (in the draft policy) should be included to ensure consistency with Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts?

TABLE 6: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 6

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	5 (14%)	26 (72%)	5 (14%)
District, county and borough councils	132 (56%)	29 (12%)	75 (32%)
Parish and town councils	131 (75%)	11 (6%)	34 (19%)
Residents' associations	13 (65%)	1 (5%)	6 (30%)
Individuals	69 (51%)	9 (7%)	56 (42%)
Others	17 (39%)	18 (41%)	9 (20%)
Total	367 (57%)	94 (14%)	185 (29%)

Question 7. Closer alignment of planning policies

Question 7: Do you agree with the general principle of aligning planning policy on traveller sites more closely with that on other forms of housing?

TABLE 7: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 7

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	18 (50%)	9 (25%)	9 (25%)
District, county and borough councils	153 (65%)	31 (13%)	52 (23%)
Parish and town councils	142 (75%)	6 (5%)	28 (20%)
Residents' associations	15 (75%)	1 (5%)	4 (20%)
Individuals	66 (49%)	16 (12%)	52 (39%)
Others	23 (52%)	9 (20%)	12 (27%)
Total	417 (65%)	72 (11%)	157 (24%)

Question 8. Consulting settled communities

Question 8: Do you agree with the new emphasis on local authorities consulting with settled communities as well as traveller communities when formulating their plans and determining individual planning applications to help improve relations between the communities?

TABLE 8: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 8

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	13 (36%)	15 (42%)	8 (22%)
District, county and borough councils	153 (65%)	23 (13%)	60 (22%)
Parish and town councils	136 (77%)	12 (7%)	28 (16%)
Residents' associations	13 (65%)	1 (5%)	6 (30%)
Individuals	69 (52%)	11 (8%)	54 (40%)
Others	24 (55%)	5 (11%)	15 (34%)
Total	408 (63%)	67 (10%)	171 (26%)

Question 9. Temporary permissions

Question 9: Do you agree with the proposal in the transitional arrangements policy (paragraph 26 in the draft policy) for local planning authorities to “consider favourably” planning applications for the grant of temporary permission if they cannot demonstrate an up-to-date five-year supply of deliverable traveller sites, to ensure consistency with Planning Policy Statement 3: *Housing*?

TABLE 9: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 9

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	17 (47%)	10 (28%)	19 (25%)
District, county and borough councils	62 (26%)	123 (52%)	51 (22%)
Parish and town councils	33 (19%)	111 (63%)	32 (18%)
Residents' associations	4 (20%)	14 (70%)	2 (10%)
Individuals	23 (18%)	58 (44%)	49 (38%)
Others	13 (30%)	19 (43%)	12 (27%)
Total	153 (24%)	336 (52%)	157 (24%)

Question 10. Six-month transition

Question 10: Under the transitional arrangements, do you think that six months is the right time local planning authorities should be given to put in place their five-year land supply before the consequences of not having done so come into force?

TABLE 10: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 10

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	14 (39%)	17 (47%)	5 (14%)
District, county and borough councils	4 (2%)	200 (85%)	32 (14%)
Parish and town councils	31 (18%)	109 (62%)	36 (20%)
Residents' associations	1 (5%)	15 (75%)	4 (20%)
Individuals	28 (21%)	53 (40%)	53 (40%)
Others	12 (27%)	19 (43%)	13 (30%)
Total	90 (14%)	413 (64%)	143 (22%)

Question 11. Other comments on transition

Question 11: Do you have any other comments on the transitional arrangements?
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TABLE 11: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 11

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	22 (61%)	9 (25%)	5 (14%)
District, county and borough councils	74 (31%)	117 (50%)	45 (19%)
Parish and town councils	65 (37%)	78 (44%)	33 (19%)
Residents' associations	11 (55%)	5 (25%)	4 (20%)
Individuals	43 (32%)	30 (22%)	61 (45%)
Others	19 (43%)	14 (32%)	11 (25%)
Total	234 (36%)	253 (39%)	159 (25%)

Question 12. Length, clarity and accessibility

Question 12: Are there any other ways in which the policy can be made clearer, shorter or more accessible?

TABLE 12: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 12

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	19 (52%)	5 (14%)	12 (33%)
District, county and borough councils	120 (51%)	36 (15%)	80 (34%)
Parish and town councils	54 (31%)	57 (32%)	65 (37%)
Residents' associations	13 (65%)	2 (10%)	5 (25%)
Individuals	38 (28%)	35 (26%)	61 (45%)
Others	20 (45%)	8 (18%)	16 (36%)
Total	264 (41%)	143 (22%)	239 (37%)

Question 13. Equalities

Question 13: Do you think that the proposals in this draft statement will have a differential impact, either positive or negative, on people because of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation? If so, how in your view should we respond? We are particularly interested in any impacts on (Romany) Gypsies and (Irish) Travellers and welcome the views of organisations and individuals with specific relevant expertise.

TABLE 13: RESPONSE TO QUESTION 13

Type of respondent	Yes	No	Neither yes or no or view not expressed
Representatives of travellers	29 (81%)	1 (3%)	6 (17%)
District, county and borough councils	74 (31%)	53 (22%)	109 (46%)
Parish and town councils	37 (21%)	64 (36%)	75 (43%)
Residents' associations	6 (30%)	8 (40%)	6 (30%)
Individuals	27 (20%)	40 (30%)	67 (50%)
Others	17 (39%)	8 (18%)	19 (43%)
Total	190 (29%)	174 (27%)	282 (44%)