

Responses to the London Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment:

DECENT ACCOMODATION FOR GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER COMMUNITIES IN LONDON

“Decent homes are an essential part of creating thriving and sustainable communities and are vital for the health and well-being of those living in them”

Homes & Communities Agency

www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/decenthomes

Irish Traveller Movement in Britain & Planning Aid for London

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Planning Aid for London

Planning Aid for London is a registered Charity funded partly by London Councils and the Department of Communities and Local Government. Established in 1973, we have more than 35 years of experience in providing planning advice, and community planning. We cover the whole of London, and also work as part of a network of Planning Aid services across the country. We are committed to community empowerment, sustainable communities and active citizenship.



We provide free or affordable, independent, and professional advice and support on town planning matters. Depending on your case our support can range from a one-off conversation to many months of access to a volunteer and staff. We have over 100 volunteers most of whom are qualified town planners, architects and barristers.

Planning Aid for London can support Gypsies and Travellers to be involved in planning, whether this is in site improvement, extensions, identifying new sites, or planning policy. Previous work has included:

- Advising the London Borough of Sutton Traveller Forum to identify play spaces and assist with submission of a planning application for play spaces.
- Working with the London Gypsy Traveller Unit to assist the relocation of residents on the Clays Lane and Waterden Crescent site due to the Olympic Park development.
- Involving the GRT community in the London Borough of Merton in the development of their Local Development Framework Core Strategy.
- Work with residents at the Brickfield Road site in Merton regarding the future development of adjoining the former Wimbledon FC ground for a new development of flats, shops etc and how to minimise the construction impacts of the development.

Irish Traveller Movement in Britain

The Irish Travellers Movement in Britain is a registered charity funded in part by London Councils and a range of other funders. It seeks to raise the profile of Irish Travellers in Britain and increase their say in decision making processes and forums. The ITMB seeks to challenge discrimination and develop national policies that ensure the inclusion of Irish Travellers in all levels of society.



Irish Traveller Movement in Britain support Gypsies and Travellers to develop their capacity, understanding and involvement in the decision making processes affecting them. Current work includes:

- Taking a coordinating role nationally to deliver Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month.
- Engendering a truly coordinated and multi agency approach to responding to GRT need by developing new and existing Traveller Inter Agency Forums across the UK.
- Providing advice, information and training to organisations who work with and on behalf of GRT communities.
- Developing new and existing resident associations across the UK. That development can be through introducing good practice to existing groups; or by helping to build capacity amongst the community so that they are positioned to set p their own residents groups.
- Provide training, information, consultancy and advice to a local and national providers involved with GRT communities.