

GYPSY/TRAVELLER DELIVERY PLAN – TRACKER

A. More and Better Accommodation

The table below sets out the progress that has been made in delivering the accommodation actions in the Gypsy/Traveller Action Plan. The COVID 19 pandemic has resulted in delays in progressing some of the actions. We will therefore review the actions and extend the More and Better Accommodation Delivery Plan under the Gypsy/Traveller Action plan by 18 months to complete or consolidate action that has started.

Action	Activity	Progress
<p>1. Making an additional capital investment up to £2m between 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 in public sector Gypsy/Traveller sites, designed to improve quality of life.</p>	<p>To improve the quality of life on Gypsy/Traveller sites, the Scottish Government will make a one-off capital investment of up to £2 million in existing public sites up to March 2021. The funding will be for site improvements over and above the minimum standards for Gypsy/Traveller accommodation. COSLA and the Scottish Government are working together on the funding plans. The residents on sites will be involved in deciding how to spend the funding, for example using recognised tools such as participatory budgeting or the place standard.</p>	<p>March 2020 – SG and COSLA agreed principles and outcomes for this funding and it was allocated to local authorities in March 2020. Progression of funding distribution was delayed due to COVID.</p> <p>September 2020 – SG & COSLA wrote to local authorities setting out the arrangements for accessing the funding.</p> <p>October 2020 - COSLA hosted an event on 1st October to support local authorities to consider methods of working alongside Gypsy/Travellers to plan what would be best identified use of the capital fund to make immediate improvements to sites.</p> <p>An Impact Framework has been developed for LA reporting approach and outcomes from improvements to capture the impact for Gypsy/Travellers living conditions and quality of life.</p> <p>Local Authorities are either progressing or have completed plans for spending their allocation of funding with residents. Works</p>

		<p>completed to date include upgrading chalets and erecting boundary fencing. Engagement processes have included face to face consultation, digital and telephone based communication. Work underway is focused on supporting effective participation and engagement methods in light of social distancing and other Covid-19 restrictions. Areas identified as potential for spend include landscaping, Wi-Fi improvements and play areas.</p> <p>COSLA is working with participatory budgeting teams to support councils to deliver in line with the framework and learning is being captured and shared between local authorities.</p>
<p>2. Reviewing our housing and investment programmes to ensure the needs of Gypsy/Travellers are included and are appropriately and collectively resourced.</p>	<p>The Scottish Government and COSLA will review their housing and investment programmes to ensure that culturally appropriate needs of Gypsy/Travellers are included going forward.</p>	<p>SG commitment is reiterated in the 2020 Programme for Government.</p> <p>SG and COSLA have been working together to try to estimate the funding needs and options and how these can best be met in coming years.</p> <p>As a result of this work, in the Housing 2040 document, SG announced that we will make up to £20 million available over five years for more and better Gypsy/Traveller accommodation from 2021-22. Building on the £2 million of short term funding in 2020-21, this represents a sustained investment to support local authorities to improve and widen access to Gypsy/Traveller accommodation.</p>

<p>3. Working with Gypsy/Traveller communities so that we have a better understanding of their accommodation needs and preferences. Gypsy/Traveller accommodation will be considered as part of our approach to, and engagement on, housing to 2040. We are developing a vision for how we want our homes and communities to look and feel in 2040 and a route map to get there.</p>	<p>A. Research and Data</p> <p>Supplementary SG guidance on a Gypsy/Traveller Needs Assessment- the SG and COSLA will work with stakeholders and the community to develop supplementary guidance for a needs assessment which will inform the Housing Needs and Demands Assessment and as part of the Local Housing Strategy (LHS) and Development Plan process.</p> <p>Supporting local engagement - COSLA to work with local authorities and Gypsy/Traveller communities to develop tools for engagement on accommodation needs and demands, testing and developing new engagement approaches, for example using the Place Standard tool, and building relationships which can be used to support evidence-based policy making in Local Authorities.</p> <p>Local and National Data - The SG will work with COSLA and stakeholders to consider whether further quantitative/qualitative data would add value and impact to</p>	<p>Work on this action was delayed due to COVID, however we propose to undertake research during summer 2021, subject to Covid restrictions.</p> <p>SG has undertaken a literature review to gather evidence on culturally appropriate accommodation. This was published on 23 October 2020.</p> <p>As part of the development of the Design Guide, a survey is under way to seek the views of Gypsy/Travellers on what they need on Gypsy/Traveller sites (see below).</p> <p>SG has commissioned Planning Advice Scotland to undertake a survey with Gypsy/Travellers to inform policy in NPF4.</p> <p>COSLA has paused work on local engagement as a result of Covid 19. This work had intended to consist of face to face events between local authorities and the community with support from a commissioned third sector partner. We are working with our Participatory Budgeting teams in local government to understand how we can deliver participatory engagement on housing needs during the public health crisis and have provided opportunities for local authorities to consider participatory methods whilst this activity is re-designed through online meetings.</p>
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	<p>policy making and practice at a regional and/or a national level and how this can best be achieved.</p> <p>b. Housing 2040</p> <p>Culturally appropriate Gypsy/Traveller accommodation will be considered as part of our approach to and engagement on housing to 2040. We are developing a vision for how we want our homes and communities to look and feel in 2040 and a route map to get there and will ensure that Gypsy/Travellers are included in the process. The actions under the More and Better Accommodation Delivery Plan are the starting point for this work for Gypsy/ Travellers.</p>	<p>November/December 2019 – Housing 2040 Exhibition followed by public consultation. Gypsy/Travellers were represented in the travelling exhibition.</p> <p>Feb/March 2020 Opportunities to get directly involved in the Housing 2040 consultation were circulated. The More and Better Accommodation Stakeholder Group made a response to the Housing 2040 Consultation.</p> <p>March 2021 Housing to 2040, Scotland’s first ever long-term national housing strategy with a vision for what we want housing to look like and provide to the people of Scotland, covers the needs of Gypsy/Travellers, including the announcement of significant investment going forward and a commitment continue to work with Gypsy/Traveller communities to make sure their needs are embedded in housing and planning policy.</p>
<p>. Taking action to ensure that all public sector sites meet the minimum standards and work with</p>	<p>SHR will continue to monitor, assess and report on landlords’ achievement of and ongoing compliance with the Minimum Site Standards. SHR engages with</p>	<p>COVID has impacted on the ability of local authorities not meeting the standards to stick to previously agreed timescales to bring sites up to standard.</p> <p>February 2021</p>

<p>residents as part of this process.</p>	<p>those landlords whose sites do not comply with the standards.</p> <p>The SG, COSLA and SHR will work with Local Authorities who have not met the Minimum Standards to ensure that there are no avoidable delays to their plans.</p>	<p>3 landlords (4 sites) report that they do not yet meet the standards. In the case of one seasonal site, this is due to the occupancy agreement.</p> <p>SHR continue to engage with landlords not yet meeting the standards and is in the process of following up on the further delays as a result of Covid 19.</p> <p>COSLA is discussing with ALACHO the options for ensuring fire safety on sites. We will be considering as part of this the implications for site capacity, development and future design.</p>
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	<p>SG will work with stakeholders including the community, COSLA, ALACHO and SHR to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether selected short-term changes are required to the Minimum Standards; • Whether the minimum standards need further development in the longer term to provide equity with other forms of social housing, and/or should be supplemented with a guide for the quality of culturally appropriate accommodation in the future. 	<p>July 2020</p> <p>A sub group was established to consider this action and identified 4 areas of work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A design guide for significant refurbishment of existing sites or new public Gypsy/Travellers sites. • A model specification for site buildings. As part of this we will consider how modern methods of construction may be applied. • Community engagement on accommodation option preferences. • Future revised minimum standards for existing public sector sites. <p>February 2021</p> <p>Work on the design guide and community engagement has been prioritised. The sub-group considered a first draft of the guide in January 2021 and it is being further developed based on that discussion. An online survey to gather the views of the community on priorities for the guide was launched in December 2020, the responses to the survey are being used to inform the development of the guide, the survey remains open and we want as many Gypsy/Travellers as possible to complete it: Design Guide Survey. We are discussing further plans for engaging Community Members in the Design Guide with MECOPP.</p>
<p>5. Testing out positive approaches in five local areas that can strengthen</p>	<p>COSLA to work with local authorities to pilot the ‘negotiated stopping’ approach</p>	<p>Progress on this action was delayed due to COVID 19.</p> <p>COSLA launched a 12 month Negotiated Stopping Pilot in September 2020, the event was attended by representatives from</p>

<p>the way we support families who are travelling.</p>		<p>19 LAs and evidenced political support for the approach and recognition of Gypsy/Travellers right to travel. Terms of reference has been established giving focus to a public health and human rights-based approach in the context of the pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 LA's will formally pilot the approach with a further 4 intending active involvement as participatory authorities, to further develop their current policies. • An advisory group and a LA practice sharing group have been established to promote the opportunity of successful human rights and public health based delivery. • Research and evaluation is to be built into the pilot to inform future provision and increase quality of life and access to services for Gypsy/Travellers living roadside. <p>The work of local authorities involved in the pilot will be promoted and shared including through COSLA's political leadership for consideration of learning and the applicability of the model in other local areas.</p>
	<p>SG and COSLA to work with the Gypsy/Traveller Community to build a map of traditional stopping places and travelling routes with a view to reopening them if practical.</p>	<p>Progress has been delayed due to COVID 19</p> <p>Effort will focus on identifying short term safe stopping sites that can be currently used as part of negotiated stopping. Some of these may also be on traditional sites.</p> <p>We will use learning from the negotiated stopping pilot to understand if traditional stopping places have been identified</p>

		locally and if the approach has enabled any access to traditional stopping places.
<p>6. Through the review of national planning policy we will ensure that Gypsy/Travellers have a stronger voice, at both national and local level, in guiding the future development of their places.</p>	<p>Through the review of national planning policy (NPF4) we will ensure that Gypsy/Travellers have a stronger voice, at both national and local levels, in guiding the future development of their places.</p>	<p>NPF4 Position Statement – published November 2020 Draft NPF 4 delayed – submission to Parliament autumn 2021 Final NPF4 – Spring/Summer 2022.</p> <p>Mid 2021 - Local authorities have access to and are benefiting from partnerships with PAS to strengthen local planning processes and inclusion of Gypsy/Travellers.</p> <p>Spring/Summer 2022 - Effective community engagement guidance on local development plans prepared, including involvement with the Gypsy/Traveller community.</p>
	<p>COSLA to work with PAS to strengthen the way the planning process includes and supports Gypsy/Travellers locally.</p>	
<p>7. Holding a workshop with Gypsy/Travellers with lived experience of fuel poverty to understand how the Fuel Poverty Strategy and our programmes may need to be adapted to reflect the particular needs of the community.</p>	<p>We will hold a workshop with gypsy traveller representatives and members of the community with lived experience of fuel poverty to understand how the Fuel Poverty Strategy and our programmes may need to be adapted to reflect the particular needs of the community.</p>	<p>It was not possible to hold the planned workshop due to the pandemic. Support for Gypsy/Travellers experiencing fuel poverty during the pandemic has been provided – see separate annex.</p> <p>2021 – The Fuel Poverty Strategy (work on which was paused to focus on the Covid response) will be published later in 2021. Research on accommodation needs will include gathering evidence on lived experience of fuel poverty in the Gypsy/Traveller community.</p>