

Date: 6 April 2022

Subject: Consultation: inquiry into the provision of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers

Dear colleague,

### **Inquiry into the provision of sites for Gypsy, Roma and Travellers**

The Senedd's Local Government and Housing Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the provision of sites for the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities across Wales, with specific focus on the challenges that may be presented by the coming into force of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill. The Committee will explore how the statutory framework, established to promote planning and development of sites for the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities is working. It will be considering issues that will include the following:

1. Whether the current Welsh Government framework is ensuring sufficient culturally-appropriate Gypsy and Traveller residential and transit sites across Wales.
2. The extent to which local planning authorities and Gypsies and Travellers are succeeding in working together, as recommended in Welsh Government guidance, with the aim of identifying sustainable sites for Gypsies and Traveller communities.
3. The extent to which local authorities' Gypsies and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAAs) are being implemented, monitored and reviewed to ensure they meet the accommodation needs of the traveller community.
4. To explore the potential challenges for local authorities and the Welsh Government in providing suitable and sufficient accommodation sites for traveller communities.
5. To explore what the implications will be of the provisions in the UK Government's Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill.



## Invitation to contribute to the consultation

The Committee would like to invite you to submit written evidence to assist in its consideration of the inquiry. The Committee is looking in particular for your views on these questions:

1. Are Welsh local authorities and Gypsies, Roma and Travellers communities managing to work together successfully to:
  - a) identify sustainable residential and transit sites, and
  - b) discuss Gypsies, Roma and Travellers' accommodation needs?
2. Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAAAs) are intended to assess the accommodation needs of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community. In your view, are Welsh local authorities as a whole, implementing, monitoring and reviewing GTAAAs effectively?
3. Does the current statutory and policy framework ensure sufficient culturally-appropriate Gypsy, Roma and Traveller residential and transit sites across Wales and within individual local authorities?
4. What are the key challenges for Welsh local authorities, and the Welsh Government, in providing suitable and sufficient accommodation sites for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities?
5. Do you anticipate that when/if the UK Government's Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill comes into force there will be:
  - a) specific challenges to overcome, and/or
  - b) in certain locations in Wales, related to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller sites?
6. Do you have any additional comments or observations about the provision of accommodation sites in Wales for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities?

## Submitting evidence

If you wish to respond to the Committee's consultation, please email an electronic copy of your submission to [SeneddHousing@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddHousing@senedd.wales) or send by post to Local Government and Housing Committee, Welsh Parliament, Cardiff, CF99 1SN.

The Senedd has two official languages, Welsh and English. In line with the [Senedd's Official Languages Scheme](#), the Committee requests that documents or written responses to consultations intended for publication or use in Senedd proceedings are submitted bilingually. When documents or written responses are not submitted bilingually, we will publish in the language submitted, stating that it has been received in that language only.

We expect other organisations to implement their own standards or schemes and to comply with their statutory obligation.

Please see the [guidance for those providing evidence for committees](#) and the [Privacy Notice](#) that relates to contributing to the work of Senedd committees.

### **How we use your information**

We will usually publish correspondence or written evidence on our website. If you have responded in a personal capacity, your name will be published along with your contribution, unless you have asked for your contribution to be anonymised. If you have responded in a professional capacity, the published version of your response will include your name, your job title/role, if relevant, and the name of your organisation.

Before accepting contributions from individuals under 13 years old, we require authorisation from the young person's parent or guardian. This may be provided in the form of an email from the young person's parent or guardian. We will not publish the names of individuals under 18 years old alongside their contributions.

Submissions should arrive by **Friday 20 May 2022**. It may not be possible to take into account responses received after this date.

If you have any queries, please contact Manon George, Clerk on 0300 200 6219.

Yours sincerely,



John Griffiths MS

Chair