

Waiting, Waiting, Waiting..... Is the wait finally over?

As the Government announces New
National Gypsy Roma Traveller Strategy!!!

Public sector equality duty

Ministerial working group review

Equality act 2010

National Roma

integration strategy

Holocaust commemoration

Women and equalities select committee

Lammy review

Speakers including:

- **Lord James Younger:** Parliamentary Under Secretary of State MHCLG
- **Sue McAllister:** Prisons and Probation Ombudsman
- **Gypsy Roma Traveller Police Association**

Workshops including:

- *Economic Inclusion; From school to work;*
- *We are speaking up, who is listening? Mental Health in GRT Communities;*
- *Still invisible! The impact of data gaps in tackling inequalities;*
- *Still overlooked and overrepresented? Disproportionality in the criminal justice system;*

Please note: The keynote speakers and workshops may be subject to change

Lack of health care

Suicide and mental health

Lack of site provision

Disproportionality

Bullying

Poor housing

School exclusion

Hate crime



Overview

According to the Women and Equalities Committee recent [report](#) the Government has systematically failed Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller communities. After a lengthy inquiry revealed the extent of these failures the Government announced a new [cross-government strategy](#) to address Gypsy Roma and Irish Traveller inequalities. However little else has been shared and we are still waiting to hear what that strategy will look like or how it will be consulted upon.

A raft of evidence dating back decades highlights Gypsies, Roma and Irish Travellers experience some of the worst outcomes of any ethnic groups in the UK, across a wide range of social indicators. For example, the educational outcomes for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) pupils are particularly poor. According to the [Race Disparity Audit](#), GRT children have the highest rates of school exclusion and the lowest attainment of all ethnic groups. They are overrepresented within the criminal justice system, and have some of the poorest health outcomes of any ethnic groups in Britain.

Despite inclusion within the Census 2011, coding has not been aligned, and key data collection and ethnic monitoring across public bodies and statutory services has remained woefully inadequate.

Without consistent ethnic monitoring and data collection it is impossible to put in place meaningful and impactful policies and targeted interventions that will improve access to economic inclusion opportunities, good and impactful healthcare outcomes, effective youth at-risk intervention measures, access to education and progression to third level, or adequate accommodation. This conference is community-led and will act as a consultation opportunity to devise a draft strategy, putting in place key recommendations, targets and desired outcomes to inform and influence the strategy.

What needs to happen – a strategy must be devised with community input if it is to be meaningful, impactful and sensitive to GRT community needs. Therefore, with community input, and embracing the slogan of '*what gets measured gets done!*', this year's conference will provide a platform for community members, public institutions and supporters to write the blueprint for the new cross-government strategy to tackle GRT inequalities. It will discuss the impact of weak data monitoring, hear the voice of communities and produce a report to inform the strategy.

*******You don't want to miss this opportunity*******

Who Should Attend?

The conference will provide an ideal information sharing, gathering and networking opportunity for:

- ✓ Gypsy, Traveller, Roma community members
- ✓ Local Authority employees, planners etc.
- ✓ Elected members
- ✓ Community workers
- ✓ Prison and Parole staff
- ✓ Police
- ✓ Legal professionals
- ✓ Social services
- ✓ Health workers
- ✓ Teachers
- ✓ Youth workers
- ✓ Civil Servants
- ✓ Statutory service providers
- ✓ Media Professionals
- ✓ Voluntary sector

Provisional Agenda

09.30-10.00	Registration and networking	
10.00 – 10.10	Welcome from the Chair	Pauline Anderson , TM Trustee and Director of Learning Skills for Derby City Council
10.10 – 11.15	Are we committed to gathering GRT data and are we serious about using those insights to address the pervasive inequality and discrimination experience on a daily basis by these communities? (Including Q&A)	Jeremy Crook OBE , Chief Executive, BTEG & Race - External Liaison and Learning Lead, Equalities, Interventions & Operational Practice Group (HMPPS) Representative from Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government Sue McAllister CB , Prisons and Probation Ombudsman
11.15 – 11.30	Refreshments	
11.30 – 12.45	Nothing about us without us! Here's the template for the new GRT strategy. (Including Q&A)	Jim Davies , Formerly GRTPA and The TM Advisory Board Martin Gallagher , Community and Mental Health Activist, TM Advisory Board Christina Kerrigan , TM Partnerships & Community Development Officer Chelsea McDonagh , TM Education Policy & Campaigns Officer, TM Advisory Board
12.45-13.00	Key Note address: Lord James Younger	
13.00-14.00	Lunch and networking	
14.00-15.25	Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop 1: Economic Inclusion: From school to work • Workshop 2: We are speaking up, who is listening? Mental health in GRT communities. • Workshop 3: Still invisible! The impact of data gaps in tackling GRT inequalities. • Workshop 4: Still overlooked and overrepresented? Disproportionality in the criminal justice system
15.25-16.00	Plenary session	(Summing up from workshops and closing speech/call to action)
16.00	Conference ends	

Workshops

Economic Inclusion: From school to work: *Chair: Brian Foster (ACERT & TM Trustee); Josie O'Driscoll (Gate Hertfordshire); Sarah Reis (Women's Budget Group)*

Members of Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller communities experience some of the starkest inequalities of all ethnic groups in the UK. In education Travellers of Irish Heritage and Gypsy/Roma ethnic groups have the highest rates of both fixed period and permanent exclusions. According to the 2011 census Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) of all ages have the highest rates of economic inactivity – men 39% and women 60%; 14% of GRT young people (16-24) are unemployed, the highest for any ethnic group. At almost a third, Gypsy and Irish Travellers were also most likely to be inactive (and not a student) at 31%. Only 30% of GRT young people are students, the lowest proportion for any ethnic group. This workshop will consider the above statistics, explore the contexts from community perspectives and come up with recommendations for the cross-government strategy for tackling GRT inequalities.

We are speaking up, who is listening? Mental health in GRT communities: *Chair: Prof Margaret Greenfields (Bucks New University); Caroline Buckley & Mark Penfold ('One Call Away' suicide/mental health helpline for Travellers); Martin Gallagher (TM advisory board, Traveller mental health activist); Lisa Smith (Traveller's Times) Bridget McCarthy (TM Trustee)*

According to Equality and Human Rights Commission [report](#) "Gypsies, Travellers and Roma were found to suffer poorer mental health than the rest of the population in Britain and they were also more likely to suffer from anxiety and depression". The alarmingly high suicide rate within the Gypsy Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities is a clear indicator that not enough is being done to address these issues. With appropriate intervention and investment by the Government, the negative mental health outcomes for GRT are reversible and avoidable. This workshop will pull together recommendations for the Government National GRT Strategy on how to tackle the mental health crisis affecting Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

Still invisible! The impact of data gaps in tackling GRT inequalities: *Chair: Prof Colin Clark (University of West Scotland; TM Advisory Board); London Plus (speaker); Christine Browne (Student at Kings College London; TM Advisory Board); Race Disparity Unit (speaker)*

The Race Disparity Audit revealed the stark inequalities experienced by ethnic minority groups in the United Kingdom. However, of the 130 data sets examined by the audit, only 27 contained classifications relating to Gypsies, Roma and Irish Travellers (GRT). Despite ethnic monitoring in the 2011 census, too few public services, bodies and institutions have updated their monitoring systems to the 18+1 ethnic classification systems. How can we address the stark inequalities faced by GRT communities if we don't have the data? How do we embed good practice, and create data-informed policy responses if we don't have sufficient "proof" of these inequalities? This workshop will explore the evidence to hand, the insights gained from qualitative research, and how the Government can take forward data-driven responses in the new cross-government strategy.

Still overlooked and overrepresented? Disproportionality in the criminal justice system: *Chair: Jim Davies (formerly GRTPA and TM Advisory Board); Martin Campbell (Co-director GRTPA; TM Advisory Board); Mairead Healy (Amnesty International & Youth Justice Board)*

Prisoners of Gypsy, Romany and Traveller backgrounds are significantly overrepresented in the prison population. Traveller Movement research suggests that the proportion might be as high as 5% (the same proportion as women prisoners) and much higher than this in some establishments. TM research shows this proportion is even higher in secure training centres (STCs), which hold young people between 12 and 18 years old, with 12% considering themselves Gypsy, Romany or Traveller. In Medway STC in Kent, this figure was 22%. This research also indicates that the number of Gypsy, Romany and Traveller prisoners continues to be underestimated within the custodial estate. Furthermore, the distinct needs of this group are often not recognised and go unsupported. This workshop will examine the impact of poor data monitoring, the experience of GRT in prisons and suggestions for change to ensure effective support and rehabilitation.

Booking form

Photocopy and complete this booking form and return it to:

To book online, visit <http://travellermovement.datawareonline.co.uk/Event-Registration/EventId/55> **Booking lines NOW open**

The Traveller Movement, Resource for London, 356 Holloway Road, London N76PA Or email: officeadmin@travellermovement.org.uk

Tel: 020 7607 2002 Fax: 020 7607 2005

Conference venue: Resource for London, 356 Holloway Road, London N7 6PA

Places

1. Full name

Position

Email

Please choose ONE workshop: 1. 2. 3. 4.

2. Full name

Position

Email

Please choose ONE workshop: 1. 2. 3. 4.

Organisation

Address

Post code

Telephone

Is your organisation:

Organisation type:

Statutory Voluntary/Charitable/Community Commercial

Employee no: Less than 10 More than 10

Turnover: up to £300K up to £500K Over £500K

Making the booking

Please photocopy the booking form, complete it and forward it to us. On its receipt your place is confirmed (subject to availability). You can also book online (see above). We will send you a confirmation email, which will include details of the venue. Please inform us if you have not received confirmation within three weeks of submitting your booking form.

DATA PROTECTION

TM will use the information you provide on your booking form, and additional information you may provide in the future, for administrating our conference. We will not disclose this information to any other person or organisation, except in connection with the above purpose.

TM may send you invitations to future events and information on our work. Should you not wish to receive such communications, please tick here

Fees

Band A

Statutory/Commercial organisations and Voluntary/Community/Charitable organisations with a turnover of over £500,000

Standard ticket **£189**

Membership-rate ticket **£179**

Band B

Voluntary/Community/Charitable organisations with a turnover up to £500,000 including Traveller Education Services

Standard ticket **£129**

Membership-rate ticket **£119**

Band C

Voluntary/Community/Charitable organisations and groups with turnover up to £300,000

Standard ticket **£85**

Membership-rate ticket **£69**

Student Rate

Standard ticket **£28**

Membership-rate ticket **£24**

Limited number of free places available for Travellers (TM members). Please contact the office.

Method of payment

I enclose a cheque for £

(Payable to The Traveller Movement)

Please invoice my organisation for £

Payment by BACS

(Please refer to the FEES section to select appropriate fee)

TM is VAT exempt. VAT is not applicable

BOOKING CONDITIONS SUBSTITUTIONS AND CANCELLATIONS:

All cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations made more than 2 weeks before the event will receive a full refund minus a charge of 10% per ticket price per delegate. If cancellations are made after this time payment must be made in full. Substitutions can be made at any time without charge.

CHANGES TO THE PROGRAMME:

TM reserves the right to alter the programme, venue and the timing of the sessions without notice due to unforeseen circumstances.