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Bath & North East Somerset Council

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Dear Richard

B&NES GTAA Update August 2026 – Carrswood View Public Site

In response to the request from the Council for Opinion Research Services (ORS) to review the current occupancy and need arising from the public Gypsy and Traveller site in B&NES at Carrswood View I can provide the following.

1. ORS completed new interviews, or updated previous interviews, with residents living on all of the pitches at Carrswood View – including those living on the 2 transit pitches – in July 2026.
2. The site is occupied by a combination of New Travellers, Romany Gypsies, and Irish Travellers.
3. In addition to identifying levels of current and future need, ORS also asked residents if they would consider moving from Carrswood View to another site(s) in B&NES, and whether they would be willing to move to a new public site, a new private site, or to a new site on a wider strategic housing allocation.
4. The 2022 GTAA identified a current and future need for 16 pitches at Carrswood View – 9 current need and 7 future need – see table below. This included need of 11 pitches from households that met the 2015 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller (which was in place at the time of the GTAA) and also a modelled need of 5 pitches from undetermined households where it was not possible to complete an interview.
5. The 2026 review also identified a current and future need for 16 pitches at Carrswood View – 12 current need and 4 future need – see table below. This is all need from households that now meet the 2026 NPPF planning definition of a Traveller (Note: the B&NES Local Plan 2025-2043 is being prepared within the context of the December 2024 NPPF and the planning definition in the 2026 NPPF is the same as that in the 2024 version).
6. Overall, across B&NES the 2022 GTAA identified a current and future need for 16 pitches for households that met the 2015 PPTS planning definition of a Traveller that was in place at the time of the assessment (4 x concealed/doubled-up, 6 teenagers, and 6 from future household formation).

7. Following the updated interviews at Carrswood View, this overall B&NES figure has increased to 21 pitches for households that now meet the 2026 NPPF planning definition of a Traveller (8 concealed/doubled-up, 7 teenagers, and 6 from future household formation).

2022	Status	Pitches	Interviews Completed	Interviews Outstanding	Current Need	5 Year Need	Future Need	Notes
Gypsies and Travellers								
Meet Planning Definition								
Carrswood View, Bath	Public	11	5	6	4	5	7	2 x doubled-up, 1 x in-migration, 4 x teenagers, 4 x new household formation; modelled need 1 x doubled up, 1 x teenager, 3 x new household formation (excluding 2 transit pitches)
TOTAL - G&T		11	5	6	4	5	7	

2026	Status	Pitches	Interviews Completed	Interviews Outstanding	Current Need	5 Year Need	Future Need	Notes
Gypsies and Travellers								
Meet Planning Definition								
Carrswood View, Bath	Public	11	11	0	7	5	4	6 x doubled-up, 1 x in-migration, 5 x teenagers, 4 x new household formation (excluding 2 transit pitches)
TOTAL - G&T		11	11	0	7	5	4	

8. In July 2026 there were 2 extended Irish Traveller households living on 4 of the permanent pitches at Carrswood View. All stated that they would consider moving to another public or private site in B&NES – but not to a site on a wider strategic housing allocation.
9. In July 2026 there were 7 New Traveller/Romany Gypsy households living on 7 permanent pitches at Carrswood View. All stated that they would not consider moving to a new site.
10. The assessment of need from ORS has concluded that the majority of the current and 5-Year need (11) and future need (3) arising from households living on Carrswood View is from the 2 extended Irish Traveller Households.

Concealed	6
Teenagers	5
In-Migration	0
Formation	3
TOTAL	14

11. Following extensive investigations by the Council, and the previous conversion of 3 of the former 5 transit pitches to permanent pitches, it was concluded that there are no further opportunities to intensify, reconfigure, or expand the site at Carrswood View. The Council should retain the remaining 2 transit pitches to address the needs of transient households moving through B&NES.
12. As a result of the conclusions of these investigations, given that there are 2 extended Irish Traveller family groups (including the currently occupied pitches) it is the view of ORS that this need could be accommodated through the provision of 2 new sites – 1 for 7 pitches and 1 for 8 pitches.
13. If new site(s) were to be identified for all of the extended Irish Traveller households this could free up 4 pitches on Carrswood View to accommodate any current or future need as it is the

view of ORS that current need for 1 pitch from a New Traveller household could be met on an existing pitch.

14. If the Council are unable to find 2 new sites, but are able to identify 1 new site, the remaining 2 pitches that could be vacated could be used to meet all or some of the need from 1 of the groups of extended Irish Traveller households currently living on the site and in need of additional pitches.
15. Finally, interviews were also completed with a further extended Irish Traveller Household who were living on the 2 transit pitches at Carrswood View. Whilst they had only been residing on the transit pitches for a few weeks, they did suggest that they would like a permanent pitch on a site somewhere close to this area - but not a wider strategic housing site. It is the view of ORS that the Council are not under an obligation to seek to meet this need and that these households should be encouraged to join a waiting list in the local area for a pitch(s) on a public site.
16. In conclusion – the new interviews completed in July 2026 provide the Council with an up-to-date picture of current and future need arising from Carrswood View. The majority of this need is from 2 extended Irish Traveller households currently living across 4 permanent pitches. These households would be willing to move to alternative sites in B&NES if they could be identified but would like to live as 2 separate family groups across 2 sites, and none would currently consider moving to a new site on part of a wider strategic housing allocation.

Regards



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