

Introduction

Our ethos – ECTU was formed to address:-

- Recognised inequalities suffered by the Gypsy/Traveller communities with regards to health, education and general access to key services.
- Being a highly vulnerable, but difficult to access group with regards to Fire safety, and
- Inconsistencies/duplication of resource in the management of unauthorised encampments across Essex.

Whilst providing immediate and long term savings in terms of impact on services, costs, and future prosperity.

The team - ECTU operate with a specialist team of highly experienced Gypsy/Traveller professionals consisting of the unit manager, 5 outreach workers (4 FTE), a full time seconded Police officer and 2.2 FTE technical support officers. There is also considerable cross over with the site management team of 6 officers.

How we work – The outreach team, although fully trained across the full spectrum of the services offered, target key disciplines, with 2 officers leading on enforcement/unauthorised encampments and fire safety, and the remaining 3 leading on Health and Education outreach. The support/strategic team include the unit manager, and the necessary back up to administer and facilitate the front line work, and support/inform our partners. We also operate a weekend/bank holiday cover rota for unauthorised which utilises all outreach officers and members of the support team.

Census figures (extract from the GTAA completed on behalf of the EPOA by Opinion Research Services)

UK Census of Population 2011

The UK Census of Population 2011 included Gypsy and Travellers as a distinct ethnic category for the first time. Across the whole of England, around 55,000 people identified themselves as being Gypsies and Travellers, with a population of 2,621 Gypsy and Traveller persons in the whole of Essex. *The figure of 2,621 persons is likely to be an under-estimate of the total population due to some Gypsies and Travellers not declaring their ethnic status or completing the Census at all.*

Figure 1 Gypsy and Traveller Population by Local Authority (Source: UK Census of Population 2011)	Number of Persons	% of total population
Local Authority		
Basildon Borough	873	0.50%
Braintree District	132	0.09%
Brentwood Borough	121	0.16%
Castle Point Borough	17	0.02%
Chelmsford City	212	0.13%
Colchester Borough	79	0.05%
Epping Forest District	176	0.14%
Harlow District	117	0.14%
Maldon District	201	0.33%
Rochford District	49	0.06%
Southend-on-Sea Borough	162	0.09%
Tendring District	62	0.04%
Thurrock	308	0.20%
Uttlesford District	122	0.15%
Essex County	2,161	0.16%
Total in study area	2,621	0.16%

Priorities – ECTU continue to work to the 3 year priorities as agreed with the partners at launch covering the management of unauthorised encampments, health, education, adult social care, fire safety and Police outcome:-

- To improve the health outcomes of Gypsies and Travellers in Essex and raise awareness.
- To improve the educational attainment of young people from the Gypsy and Traveller community and improve attendance at school in line with the general population.
- To ensure that all services are delivered in a way that is accessible to members of the Gypsy and Traveller community
- To improve the engagement of the Gypsy and Traveller community with agencies and service providers
- Strengthen links/understanding between Gypsy and Travellers and “blue light/emergency services
- To improve fire safety awareness/practice
- Encourage reporting of hate crime
- Reduce impact of Unauthorised encampments through fair, consistent and firm approach

Joint Committee - The Partner Authorities agreed to form a Joint Committee to manage the ECTU in accordance with the provisions contained in sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972, section 20 of the Local Government Act 2000, the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions)(England) Regulations 2012; the Local Authorities (Committee System) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) and any other enabling legislation - **extract from the formal agreements signed by all partners**

Our Priorities

1.0 Management of Unauthorised Encampments



1.1 Reduce impact of unauthorised encampments by:

- Visiting all encampments within 1 day of receiving the report.
This visit will include:
 - A welfare check that assess whether there are any health or welfare issues that need to be accommodated
 - A record of all vehicles and licence plates on the site
 - A photographic record of the encampment
- Management according to the agreed code between partners (Appendix I), based on current and previous encampments.
- Where necessary, take through the court process, with an aim to complete within 7 days.
- Where necessary, organise and carry out evictions of unauthorised encampments with proportionate resources allocated according to the size of encampment.

Indicator	Sub Division	May 13	Oct 13	May 14	Oct 14	May 15	Total	Target for Oct 15
% of encampments where ECTU are involved		54%	66%	77%	50%	66%	n/a	n/a
% visited within 1 working day		100%	97%	96%	95%	92%	n/a	97%
Number of encampments	Partner land	7	44	50	78	73	259	n/a
	Non-partner land	2	15	10	45	18	83	n/a
	Private	4	5	5	32	23	69	n/a
Number of encampments resolved	Through negotiated departure	7	41	32	45	23	125	70%
	Through section 77 enforcement	0	3	16	33	34	86	30%
% s77's completed within 10 working days		n/a	n/a	87%*	94%*	99%	n/a	95%
Number of part 55's issued		0	0	0	0	0	0	

2.0 Fire



3.1 To prevent accidental fires and reduce deliberate fires on Gypsy and Traveller sites through site fire safety visits and home fire safety visits.

Indicator	Sub Division	May 13	Oct 13	May 14	Oct 14	May 15	Total	Target for Oct 15	Total known sites/homes
Home fire safety Visit	by ECTU	2	36	126	9	35	173	50	App 400 homes
	Referred to ECFRS	0	1	10	0	0	11	n/a	
Smoke alarms issued				174	17	72	263	60	72
Site Fire Safety Visits	by ECTU	24	16	39	6	39	124	30	174
Total known sites 174									
	Referred to ECFRS	n/a	24	0	0	0	24	n/a	
Note: Referrals are all concerns over location of/distance to nearest hydrant.									

3.0 Education



4.1 To improve access and take up of educational opportunities, including pre-school learning, compulsory education and adult community learning.

Indicator	May 13	Oct 13	May 14	Oct 14	May 15	Total	Target for Oct 15
Number of Children accessing pre-school /school 2 – 16	162	29	148	99	84	438	200
Number of children transferring from primary to secondary	n/a	33	n/a*	35	n/a*	68	40
Number of young adults accessing further education	9	5	13	18	9	45	40
Number/%of children referred to Home Education	0	76 (7%)	28 (6%)	53 (7%)	55 (7%)	157	Home Education is now self-monitoring. Travellers will be signposted to the ECC website and supported if required.

4.0 Health



Improve access to health services - To improve access to primary health care services through provision of a specialist outreach and referral service. Continued provision of outreach work and increased provision of health improvement outreach services. Provision of dental health education and advice.

To promote Healthy Lifestyle - To ensure health promotion and information and advice is delivered in a way that is accessible and acceptable to the G/T community

Support long term targets to improve life expectancy, reduce health inequalities; reduce obesity and increase physical activity; improve healthy life expectancy at age 65

Indicator	Sub Division	May 13	Oct 13	May 14	Oct 14	May 15	Total	Target for Oct 15
Facilitated to received primary Immunisation		50	130	38	53	34	305	60
	Through domiciliary team	11*	20	0	0	0	31	0
Facilitated to receive the flu jabs		291	n/a	73	38	1	403	150
Pregnant women facilitated to access Ante-Natal	Under 12 weeks	No report	0	1	0	0	1	*
	Over 12 weeks	No report	4	16	1	2	23	*
Identified as having Long Term Condition		8	45	33	3	22	110	25
LTC's receiving flu jab		5	n/a	n/a	0	0	5	n/a
Number assisted to register with GP	Permanent	13	3	32	9	6	63	30
	Temporary	1	0	2	0	1	4	n/a
Health checks facilitated		No report	26	0	0	0	26	25
Number referred to stop smoking		No report	6	14	63	21	104	50
	Pregnant		0	0	0	1	0	*
		* 11 referred to domiciliary, but were unable to fulfil due to lack of availability of domiciliary service						

* Antenatal care – dependent on number of pregnancies

5.0 Social Care



To facilitate access to appropriate health and social care services for Gypsy and Travellers. These are gathered from appointments with families often on other subjects ie Education or medical health. They are also dependent on families/individuals accepting support, hence we cannot put a target on the number of referrals.

Equally we respond to queries from ASC, and facilitate access to the community when required/ requested .

Indicator	Sub Division	Target for Oct 15
Public Health & Wellbeing	Mental health & wellbeing	100% referrals when support need identified
	Healthy eating	Continue/report as part of main health activity
	Health Choices – smoking alcohol, drugs	Continue/report as part of main health activity
	Healthy Child	Promotion of reduction in Childhood Accidents, and ongoing healthy eating promo etc.
	Getting Active	Ongoing promotion through our qualified Health Trainers
	Seasonal Health	Repeat Flu jab awareness campaigns – see Health
	Health Checks	Complete on select permanent sites dependent on available health resource
Care for Adults	At home	100% signposting of identified families to appropriate expert support
	Staying safe	Site and home fire safety checks to be completed – see fire. 100% signposting of identified families to appropriate support / benefit.
	Looking after someone	100% signposting of identified carers to appropriate support / benefit.
	Money and legal	100% signposting of identified families to appropriate support including support with ongoing comms.
	Work and learning	For statutory education and adult learning see 3 – Education plus support 100% of individuals requesting help to access work place.
	Going out	100% signposting of identified families to appropriate expert support
	Information for parents	100% signposting of identified families to appropriate information sources, plus additional support to overcome literacy issues.
Care for Children	Protecting vulnerable children	100% referral of identified vulnerable children through social care process. Ensure parents have access to necessary support
	Family support	100 % Provision of direct support where needed, or signposting to appropriate service.
	Children with disabilities or special needs	100% referral of identified vulnerable children through social care process. Ensure parents have access to necessary support

6.0 Police



- 2.1 Ensure consistency in enforcement and eviction in respect of unauthorised encampments
- 2.2 Increase the level of *reported* hate crime against Gypsies and Travellers by improving trust and confidence in Essex Police.
- 2.3 Increase current levels of community engagement to increase trust and confidence within Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- 2.4 Promote good relations between Gypsy and Traveller and local communities.
- 2.5 Improve organisational knowledge of Gypsy and Traveller communities and culture.

Indicator	Sub Division	October 13	May 14	Oct 14	May 15	Total	Target for Oct 15
Increased knowledge and understanding of Gypsy / Traveller Communities	N/A	Qualitative data previously reported. Plus 10 training sessions of cultural awareness have been held	No report	New officer to be reported next meeting	officer reported at meeting	n/a	Office in post for 12 months – is visiting permanent and unauthorised sites and building relationships/ knowledge.
	Number of hate crimes reported by Gypsy / Traveller community	1	23	9	0	24	Target is initially to show an increase as a sign increased confidence in the Police and appropriate action.
Number of UE's recorded	S61 applied	21	2	17*	4	23	This is a reported, as opposed to a target number. S61's issued will be proportionate the total number of UE's and based on appropriate criteria being met.