

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY COMMITTEE SEMINAR ON SERVICE PROVISION FOR GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS - SUMMARY REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The National Assembly for Wales' Equality of Opportunity Committee is very grateful to everyone who took part in its seminar on service provision for Gypsy Travellers, which was held in Swansea on 11 October 2002.

The openness of delegates about the challenges to successful service provision, as well as the successes achieved so far, provided the Committee with a good deal of useful evidence for its review.

Following the seminar, the Committee has continued to take evidence from a range of people in the health, education and accommodation fields as well as meeting Gypsies and Travellers and visiting sites.

The Committee hopes to present its final report to the Assembly in spring 2003.

PURPOSE OF THE SEMINAR

During 2002/3 the National Assembly for Wales Equality of Opportunity Committee decided to conduct a review of service provision for Gypsy-Travellers in Wales. The terms of reference of the review are attached at Annex A.

To inform this review, a seminar was organised to find out more about the issues that arise in service provision in this area and to share information on good practice.

An outline of the seminar programme is attached at Annex B and a list of delegates is attached at Annex C.

In summary, the seminar opened with introductory presentations about the main themes in the review and this was followed by workshop sessions focused on the key areas of health, education and the provision of permanent and temporary accommodation. The seminar closed with a round up of the issues raised in the workshops.

This report summarises the issues raised at the seminar.

SPEAKERS

The seminar was addressed by four speakers, each giving an overview of some of the key issues:

- Gypsy Travellers rights as citizens - Dr Colin Clark, University of Newcastle upon Tyne
- Health - Sarah Cemlyn, Bristol University
- Education - Sandra Axinowe, Cardiff Traveller Education Service
- Accommodation - Tim Wilson, Cardiff Gypsy sites group

Copies of their presentations are attached at Annexes D-G – please contact the relevant person directly if you wish to use the material contained in the presentation. Copies of the first three presentations are available on request.

WORKSHOPS

Purpose of workshops

The workshops were intended to look at three key areas – health, education and accommodation – in depth and bring together a range of experiences.

The workshops were based around a range of activities, some conducted in smaller groups and some involving the workshop as a whole.

The intended output was:

- a clearer idea of the main challenges to successful service provision;
- how these challenges could be overcome;
- some examples of good practice; and
- what made these good practice projects work well.

Each of the workshops tackled its task slightly differently, so there is some variation in the way that the information gathered has been presented, but same broad areas of inquiry were considered in each.

HEALTH WORKSHOP

Barriers to successful service provision

A wide range of issues were identified as barriers to successful service provision. The most significant problems were:

- Lack of long term funding makes planning very difficult and severely hampers service provision
- Difficulty in registering with a GP
- Difficulty in accessing health records due to mobility
- Lack of communication between different agencies and subsequent lack of joint planning and working
- Lack of recognition as an ethnic group and of cultural boundaries
- Lack of culturally appropriate services
- Institutional racism and discrimination
- Securing access to sites to provide healthcare

Other problems included:

- Invisibility in local communities
- Lack of consideration of specific needs when drawing up policy and services
- Lack of cohesion between families
- Difficulty in finding appropriate mechanisms to engage Gypsies and Travellers in planning and delivering services
- Difficulty in building trust between Gypsy Travellers and service providers
- Lack of facilities for providing services
- Impact of evictions
- Particular difficulties in engaging men in health issues
- Impact of overcrowded accommodation
- Inability of service providers to provide services, particularly health education to non-literate customers
- The condition of sites can hamper service provision
- Moving into general housing stock is not necessarily appropriate for all Gypsy Travellers
- Handling gender roles in Gypsy and Traveller communities
- General difficulties in accessing education and health services

Ways to overcome problems and challenges

The ideas for overcoming barriers and providing a successful service were very varied: some targeted specific weaknesses in the current system, while others attempted to address general problems. Many of the solutions would be applicable to other areas of service provision and there is significant overlap with the suggestions that emerged from the other workshops. These possible solutions have been grouped by theme below:

Targets

- Base line targets to focus attention on areas of inequality and set a minimum standard - target worst performing authorities

Funding

- Funding must be on a long-term basis or it is impossible to plan services effectively
- Section 36 funding. GPs to apply for extra money for Travellers - need to increase awareness of this provision

Community development capacity building with Gypsy Traveller communities

- Need to work with Gypsy Travellers to design the services they need and want, in a form that is culturally appropriate
- Need to encourage Gypsy Travellers to become involved in providing health services themselves

Tackling racism, discrimination and raising awareness of Gypsy Travellers distinct, and varied, cultural and ethnic identity

- National awareness campaign to draw attention to Gypsy Travellers distinct ethnic identity
- Information and guidance for public authorities to ensure that they are not discriminatory in the services they provide, and that they are aware of specific cultural issues
- Need to develop mutual respect between health professionals and Gypsy Travellers

Building trust

- Having consistency in staffing helps to build trust
- Must acknowledge that it takes time to build trust and that you should not give up too soon

Developing policy and services

- Include Gypsy Travellers in devising policy at a local and national level - to ensure that the policy is relevant to the people it is intended for.
- Build capacity among Gypsy Travellers so that they can engage effectively in policy making and service planning and to ensure that their views are heard and taken into account.

Type of services

- Need services that can respond rapidly and are flexible to a range of needs - very important for mobile groups
- Need to target interventions for Gypsy Travellers on a one to one basis as group engagement is ineffective

Ensuring co-ordination between service providers

- Ensure that co-ordination mechanisms are in place and that all agencies work together.

How to, or who should, provide health services

- Appoint a specialist health worker to co-ordinate service provision for Gypsy Travellers. They could for example, identify GPs who are willing/trained to provide services to Gypsy Travellers
- Designated GP/Nurse practitioner to provide services to Gypsy Travellers in a given area (under different terms and conditions)
- Although there may be a designated health professional they need commitment from senior management to their work
- Mobile units to take services to sites
- Use a range of formats for health education material, for example videos and models, as these are accessible to non-literate people

Training for service providers

- Primary care staff, including reception and other non-health professionals, to be given diversity training, and training in specific issues relating to Gypsy Travellers
- Specific training for NHS Direct staff to improve their ability to provide an alternate source of help and support
- GPs and health workers should be selected on the basis of a genuine interest in working with Gypsy Travellers

Specific service provision should be a stepping stone to general services that can cater for all

Good practice examples and what makes them successful

Culturally appropriate health education and information material

- Several service providers reported the success of culturally appropriate health education material. In particular the use videos and models, rather than printed information.
- The availability of material in languages other than English, for example in Romani, also improved the accessibility of information. One service provider had also used an interpreter to communicate in Romani, and this had been very successful.

Wrexham

- Wrexham has just started a project, funded by the Assembly, to reduce health inequality. In particular the project is aimed at reducing heart disease in disadvantaged groups.
- The project is developing a multi-agency forum to bring all the key service providers together and a designated project leader is responsible for driving it forward.
- The project aims will provide services via:
 - Mobile facilities
 - Will use peer and culturally appropriate examples in health education material - this is seen as a key to success.

Patient-held health records for children

- Delegates referred to the success of Patient-held health records for children. These records are carefully looked after by parents and provide a very useful resource for medical staff when people arrive in a new area.
- It was suggested that these could be extended to adults.

Networks

- Gypsy Traveller service provider network - a multi-agency group in Cardiff which aims to ensure that the Gypsy Traveller perspective is reflected in policy development and to share best practice.
- Vulnerable groups network - based in Swansea and addresses the needs of asylum seekers, homeless people and Gypsy Travellers

Conclusions

At the end of the workshop, the delegates summarised the key actions that needed to be taken and prioritised them as shown below.

	Priority area	Impact
1	Better communication and co-ordination between key agencies. (Gypsy Travellers themselves)	Joined up service provision
2	Education and training to change attitudes towards Gypsy Travellers	Change in attitudes, greater awareness of Gypsy Travellers' cultural identity leading to services which reflect that separate identity
3	Commitment at political level to improving services and using mechanism like legislation to set out requirements	Greater chance of good quality services being delivered because its an acknowledged priority area
4	Engaging Gypsy Travellers in the development of services to ensure that their requirements and priorities shape the services made available to them	Empowerment of Gypsy Travellers and much greater likelihood that the services offered are the ones that people want
5	Improved financial support, establish service provision for Gypsy Travellers as a priority area for funding and reflect this in GP targets	Enable new services to be developed and ensure existing services are accessible to Gypsy Travellers
6	Improved GP targets to encourage registration. Coupled with education and training for GPs and improved information provision	Improved access to health care and higher quality of service as distinct needs and cultural practices are recognised

EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Barriers to successful service provision and how these might be overcome

A wide range of issues were identified as barriers to successful service provision. The following sections are organised according to the themes identified by the delegates. Each section sets out the barriers to successful service provision, and then suggestions for overcoming these barriers.

Education system

Problems	Solutions
Transition between primary and secondary education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extra-curricular activities should be made available as part of National Curriculum entitlement - Provide Out of School Hours clubs or support - Consult about the curriculum and how it could be made more relevant - Make the pre-14 curriculum more flexible - Encourage parental involvement through family literacy schemes - Change legislation relating to education other than at school to increase the responsibilities placed on Local Education Authorities - Provide more good practice guidance – update the relevant education circular - Set minimum standards for every Local Education Authority to meet - Revise Initial Teacher Education and Training to reflect needs of Gypsy Travellers - More ring-fenced funding and other resources (facilities, support staff etc) – to be based in school - Education Welfare Service – must ensure that children receive their entitlement whether or not they are in school
Recruitment and training of staff – teachers and community development officers	
Additional support services required to deal with a range of issues	
Difficulty in taking part in extra-curricular activities – lack of provision, lack of transport	
Curriculum is not always relevant and there is only really flexibility post- 14, which is too late for transition	
Lack of resources for training	
Bureaucratic burdens	
Personal negative experience of education system transferred to children	

The wider system

Problem	Solution
<p>Lack of communication between key agencies – police, education, highways etc</p> <p>Lack of practical support and infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Police, highways and other agencies should be required to contact education and health services when they become aware of Gypsy Travellers in the area - Local authorities should be required to establish an interagency forum to co-ordinate services to Gypsy Travellers - Police, social services and other agencies to receive equality training
Administration of the Section 488 Grant – annual awards mean that planning is difficult and there is often a delay in confirmation of funding.	3-5 year cycle for grant awards, with the flexibility to bid for more funding if necessary
Lack of resources and inequality in funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resolve discrepancy between the level of funding in England and Wales - Retain ring-fenced funding for Gypsy Travellers

Practical problems

Problem	Solution
Difficulty in accessing services	Provide a central, co-ordinated focal point to improve access to all types of services
Lack of mediation services	Dedicated Gypsy Traveller education teams should provide mediation service
Mobility – affects continuity and progression in education	Provide distance learning materials
Physical access – transport	Provide transport and other services to improve access
Lack of self-advocacy	Encourage capacity building

Attitudinal problems

Problem	Solutions
Prejudice/discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joined up services: lead officers, mediation, information and awareness, mentoring opportunities - Distance learning packages to help provide continuity while mobile - Resources: more funding, special parents evenings, availability of appropriate resources (i.e. culturally appropriate material that reflects Gypsy Travellers' culture and lives) - Teacher training - Lifelong learning: review of curriculum to assess whether it is relevant to Gypsy Traveller community, make sure there is awareness of alternative curriculum provision - Mentoring: provide positive role models and encourage self-advocacy by children and young people
Lack of trust on both sides	
Failure to consult Gypsy Travellers about policy development and services, compared to other members of the community	
Personal negative experience of education system transferred to children	
Mobility	
Lack of positive role models	
Different cultural expectations of education and the role it should play in the lives of different members of the Gypsy Traveller community	
Lower level of adult literacy	
Portrayal of these issues in the media	

Good practice examples and what makes them successful

Roots of Torfaen project

School in Torfaen carried out a local history project looking at the roots of the pupils. The project revealed a lot of information about history of local families, and Gypsy Traveller children were able to share their family history with other children.

The project generated a lot of enthusiasm and children recorded interviews with older relatives. It generated a range of other activities including school-organised visits for whole families to Big Pit to learn more about mining.

Conclusions

At the end of the workshop, the key actions that need to be taken were identified as shown overleaf.

Priority area

Resources:

- a) Money should be ring-fenced and long-term
- b) Need to invest in training and support for people, and work to change ingrained negative attitudes

Systems:

Each local authority required to establish an inter-agency mechanism to co-ordinate service provision

Access:

- a) **A**dvocacy services should be provided and self-advocacy developed and encouraged
- b) Take services to families
- c) Overcome physical barriers to access with better site locations and an improvement infrastructure. Provide transport in the short term.

Attitudes:

- a) Understand cultural differences and take them into account in designed services
- b) Also focus on shared values and culture

Education:

- a) Flexible, relevant curriculum
- b) Entitlement to full appropriate provision
- c) Equal access to extra-curricular activities
- d) Involve the whole family in education provision
- e) Full training and support package

Impact

Ability to plan services long term, develop expertise and begin process of mainstreaming Gypsy Travellers' education needs

Joined up service provision

Will ensure that services are targeted on what people actually want and will enable Gypsy Travellers to take a more active role in policy development more widely.
Will ensure that services are accessible.

Change in attitudes, greater awareness of Gypsy Travellers cultural identity leading to mainstreaming of their requirements in service provision
Help to build trust and mutual understanding
More likely that education will be pursued if it is relevant and useful.
Whole community, not just children, will benefit.

ACCOMMODATION WORKSHOP

Barriers to successful service provision

A broad range of issues was identified as barriers to successful service provision.

A lack of political will was identified as by far the greatest barrier to successful service provision.

Other significant problems were:

- Opposition from local communities to proposals for sites
- Prejudice, racism and stereo-typing
- Location and condition of existing sites – usually very poor locations, in a bad state of repair
- Lack of data to inform planning for new sites
- Lack of funding for refurbishment or establishing new sites
- Lack of a duty on local authorities to provide sites
- Lack of trust between the Gypsy Traveller community and local authorities/other service providers
- Lack of co-ordination and communication between different agencies

Other problems included:

- Lack of strategic planning for new sites – for example not included in the Unitary Development Plans
- Lack of incentives to establish private sites
- Clear-up costs for unauthorised site
- Planning system
- Variation in demand
- Size of site
- Internal dynamics amongst the community on a site
- Limited choice of provision
- How to manage sites where Gypsy Travellers wish to settle, rather than continue travelling
- Poor communication of intentions, rights and responsibilities
- Isolation of Gypsy Liaison Officers and other key workers

Ways to overcome problems and challenges

The ideas for overcoming barriers and providing a successful service were very varied: some targeted specific weaknesses in the current system, while others attempted to address general problems. Many of the solutions would be applicable to other areas of service provision and there is significant overlap with the suggestions that emerged from the other workshops. These possible solutions have been grouped by theme below:

The overall framework

- Regulatory imperatives will create political will
- Visible leaders/champions will encourage the development of appropriate services
- National framework for Wales, supported by local delivery
- Funding and resources also required

Site provision

- Make funds available
- Reinstate the legal obligation on local authorities to provide sites
- Consult Gypsy Travellers about what they want and then provide it
- Select better locations
- Try to build smaller sites
- Provide temporary and transit sites

Making Gypsy Travellers part of the decision-making process

- Capacity building
- Develop links between Gypsy Traveller families and decision-makers (encourage Gypsy Travellers to become decision-makers).

Making site management effective

- More, smaller sites
- Greater dialogue with groups representing Gypsy Travellers
- Site managers need to be trusted and respected by the community - self-management tends to be more successful
- Capacity building for self-advocacy
- Capacity building for site management
- Where Gypsy Travellers themselves do not manage sites, set up mechanisms to ensure they are involved in the running the site
- Where Gypsy Travellers themselves do not manage sites, remove badges of officialdom which are often barriers
- Engage with wider community – for example the local church
- Consider whether private companies or other operators could provide sites
- Consider whether conditional licenses for sites could help develop a framework services providers and residents to take responsibility for different aspects of running the site

Planning

- Look into the success rate of applications from Gypsy Travellers, and the reasons for applications failing
- Ensure that the planning system is not discriminating unfairly
- Provide support for making planning applications
- Consider applying positive discrimination – similar to the rules relating to agricultural workers in rural areas

Improving existing sites

- Reduce over-crowding by building new sites

- Refurbish sites and encourage good maintenance
- Need transparent and fair mechanisms for allocating pitches

Co-ordination between different agencies and support for key workers

- Gypsy Liaison Officers a good central contact point, but need support from within the local authorities and from other agencies
- Set up liaison mechanisms to bring key agencies together

Tackling prejudice/racism and re-educating the wider community

- Requires a national campaign
- Assembly needs to take the lead – draw on expertise of Commission for Racial Equality
- Place obligations to deliver improvements in this area
- Two-way exchange – communication and mutual respect are key
- Tackle issue of media reporting – again draw on expertise of Commission for Racial Equality
- Provide equality training and make it clear that discrimination will not be tolerated
- Ensure Gypsy Travellers are considered in the development of race equality schemes under the Race Relations Amendment Act

Good practice examples and what makes them successful

Residents' groups

- Help to facilitate open discussion about concerns
- Can be used to bring a range of services directly to sites
- Needs to be open and inclusive to encourage attendance – provide refreshments and ensure that children are welcome

Multi-agency forum

- Bodies of this type operate in Merthyr and in Cardiff
- Bring together all the key service providers
- Share information and good practice
- Can then provide a co-ordinated and integrated response

Engaging the community in highlighting what it wants

- One project, which was not used by Gypsy Travellers specifically but could be applicable, provided disposable cameras to local authorities residents to record the things they liked and disliked on their estate.
- This information was then used to help plan improvements and maintenance work.
- It was very effective at bringing home the reality of problems to service providers
- It was thought that this approach, rather than relying on questionnaires or surveys might work well with Gypsy Travellers.

Conclusions

The over-riding conclusions of the workshop were:

- that the system does not work at present;
- that moving on and eviction are not solutions;
- and that a concerted effort, at national level, was required to ensure proper services are provided.

Some of the key actions that need to be taken are shown below.

Priority area	Impact
Positive policy lead from Assembly or Central Government	Local authorities will then be obliged to provide sites and other services, and this will help balance the impact of local objections
Funding: for new sites and to improve/maintain existing ones	More sites available, in better condition
Establishment of co-ordination groups for key service providers	Joined up service provision
Increased involvement of Gypsy Travellers in site provision – both in terms of deciding the location of new sites and the facilities they should contain, and in the management of sites when they are established	Provision which meets the requirements of the people it is intended for, and which empowers people to take control of

SUMMING UP AND WAY FORWARD BY DR ELIZABTH JORDAN

Today has been an excellent opportunity to take a broad look at what the issues are from the perspective of service provision but taking into account the already identified needs of Travellers. Finite purses and generic services are the very real parameters within which we all have to work. However, the recognition of community diversity and the related diversity in needs within a pluralist Wales are prompting changes to many historical practices in service provision. The situation of Gypsy Travellers and their particular needs in accessing and using services have to be made known, become understood and accepted as legitimate, and then met. It is clear that many of the issues raised today apply not only to Gypsy Travellers; there are common problems shared by other minority groups and individuals. Changing the often inflexible standard practices will not be easy or cheap. The wealth of information we have brought together today will support the formation of a report and underpin some recommendations for action.

Dr Colin Clark highlighted the need for a better balance in the demand for Gypsy Traveller rights and their responsibilities as citizens. He clearly signalled the blatant racism which they face daily, the confrontational nature of most interactions between Gypsy Travellers and the local community, the inequalities in their treatment, the lack of adequate and appropriate services. These issues were all very much to the fore within the workshop discussions. It is evident that many here today are very well aware of the problems and want to do something to help make things better. This commitment has to be extended to all service providers. Information and training are required urgently.

Dr Sara Cemlyn catalogued the evidence on the reduced life chances which Gypsy Travellers face as a result of being marginalised from health services which all of us take for granted and demand. Lack of access to sources of information through mobility and low levels of literacy helps deny them their rights. Gypsy Travellers have found their own ways of coping with illness but are not included in preventative and positive health promotions as a matter of course. However, a national research project on cardiac health is now focusing on their situation. This was elaborated on within the Health workshop and provides evidence of developing good practice. Key areas for consideration are: the self reliance within the groups, absence from schools reflects in missed screening programmes and health promotion education, lack of proper statistics, lack of trust within Gypsy Traveller communities in a welcome from service providers, particularly base line service staff such as receptionists, lack of communication between services to support transfer of records, the need for basic hand-held health records, the lack of access to dentistry and services for the elderly.

Tim Wilson gave a brief overview of the key issues within accommodation. The need for more; greater diversity in type, management and ownership; better planned and maintained sites; targeted and ring-fenced funds to support improvements and ensure sustainability; the need to involve Gypsy Travellers at all stages of developments; the need to root out racism in

planning processes; respect for the cultural mores which prevent some families living in close approximation. These all have to be addressed before Gypsy Travellers can be assured of equality of opportunity in having their accommodation needs met. The issues reported back from the accommodation workshop did indeed reflect all his points and fleshed out the detail of the extent of the problems. They are simple. It is the complexity which often makes it difficult for authorities to take urgent action. But a key factor is the lack of political will, often a local level to support the Gypsy Travellers' cause. Councillors and other public servants must be made to realise their duty to support all their clients. The Race Relation Amendment Act is very clear on this and local authorities will increasingly have to demonstrate how they are meeting their duties; this will include Gypsy Travellers although not other Travellers who are not granted minority ethnic status.

Dr Sandra Axinowe raised all the issues which are seen to be preventing Gypsy Travellers from enjoying the benefits of a good state education. In particular she raised the inherent discrimination in the publication of attendance and attainment leagues. These were often the catalyst for schools refusing to enrol Gypsy Travellers. The lack of parental choice when it comes to gaining access. Schools which do show successful engagement with Gypsy Traveller pupils are made to look as if they are underachieving when in fact their achievements *in this area* are very significant. This was further reflected within the education workshop where evidence of good practice is ignored within public statistics. Key issues emerging were lack of ready access and inappropriate curricula, at all stages. These two continue to keep Gypsy Travellers out of schools and are used as an excuse for not sending children to school. Racism and bullying are key features of many Gypsy Traveller pupils' experiences of schools. The inflexible delivery of school education, the institutional discrimination, the need for staff training, at all levels, the need to support interrupted learning with distance education were all signalled.

It is evident from the feedback today that what is required is a national framework for taking forward equality and social justice for Travellers. This framework should include:

- Set targets on improved service provision which must be co-ordinated at a local level;
- Focussed funding to support developments over a set time-scale;
- A clear indication of the duties required of service providers towards Gypsy Travellers under the Race Relations Amendment Act;
- Staff training will be required at all levels;
- Accountability through monitoring processes;
- Information made available to Travellers through different media and languages where relevant;
- Developing self-advocacy and capacity building within Traveller communities;
- Travellers to be included in all consultation exercises and their opinions sought through a variety of ways.

Finally, I would caution you not to promote the notion that Gypsy Travellers are victims; they are not, although some will be victimised at different times in their lives. They have strengths to be envied, a sense of community and identity, associated values of care and support for their community, family responsibility, a strong sense of interdependence, self sufficiency as a prime goal, resilience and adaptability and the capacity to exploit changing niche markets. We should use their strengths to help develop better public services and ensure a better quality of life for all Travellers.

GYPSY TRAVELLER REVIEW - TERMS OF REFERENCE

The purpose of the review is to enable the Committee properly to audit the Assembly's arrangements for promoting in the exercise of its functions the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people.

For those purposes, the Committee on Equality of Opportunity will review the provision of services for Gypsy-Travellers in Wales, giving particular regard to:

- education, health, accommodation, employment, and the role of local authorities;
- whether the Assembly should have specific policies on services for Gypsy-Travellers in relation to education, social services, local government, housing, health, environment, planning and equality; and
- whether sufficient statistical information is available to facilitate service planning in this field.

Issues which will require particular consideration

- Gypsy-Travellers are not a homogeneous community. The Committee may wish to look at ways in which services are, or could be provided, for all Gypsy-Traveller communities. This will require information to be made available on the different groups which currently live in or spend significant periods of time in Wales. In 1996 OFSTED was able to report that almost 80% of Traveller children participated in primary school education but it is estimated that only around 20% go into Secondary Education. The Committee may wish to consider strategies for increasing the number of Gypsy-Traveller children receiving secondary education.
- The Committee may wish to examine the access to health provision(s) for Gypsy-Traveller communities especially in regard to access to General Practitioners and preventative medical treatment.
- The Committee may wish to consider adequate site provision for Gypsy-Travellers to have places to legally stop and to prevent conflicts with other users of land.
- The Committee may wish to explore options to encourage tolerance, equality and respect for difference to improve relations between the settled community and Gypsy-Traveller communities.

Methods for evidence gathering under SO 8.15

Public advertising and direct invitations for written submissions

- The Committee will consider the most appropriate means of advertising the inquiry.
- Written submissions will be invited from organisations identified in the Committee paper considered on 31 October 2001 (EOC-07-01-p.3a).

Public hearings

- Regional Committees will be invited to take evidence on specific questions on behalf of the Committee on Equality of Opportunity.

Evidence Sessions

The Committee may hear evidence by:

- inviting organisations to normal committee meetings and by holding committee meetings in locations around Wales;
- meeting in relevant locations and inviting local organisations and members of the local community/local residents to present to the Committee their ideas/concerns; and
- holding other events which are more accessible to important witnesses (eg, Scottish Committee's breakfast with Gypsy-Traveller children).

Site visits

- The Committee may wish to visit places of significance to discuss with members of the Gypsy-Traveller community and local residents' relevant issues.

Experience elsewhere

- Invite written submissions from interested European organisations.
- The Committee will consider services provided for Gypsy-Travellers in Wales at the UK Government level and may invite the Minister to pass on any recommendations to Whitehall departments as appropriate. The committee will liaise with the House of Commons Welsh Affairs Committee on issues relevant to its remit as appropriate.
- The Committee has already indicated its wish to hear from Niall Crowley, Chief Executive of the Irish Equality Authority. Other experts may be invited to speak to the Committee.

Expert Advisor

- The Committee has decided to appoint an expert advisor for the duration of the review.

PROGRAMME FOR THE DAY

11 October 2002 - Brangwyn Hall, Swansea

10:00 - 10:10	Welcome and introduction from Carwyn Jones AM, Chair of the Equality of Opportunity Committee
10:10 - 10:20	Presentation by Dr Colin Clark, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, about Gypsy-Travellers' rights as citizens
10:20 - 10:30	Presentation by Sarah Cemlyn, Bristol University, about health provision for Gypsy-Travellers
10:30 - 10:40	Presentation by Sandra Axinowe, Co-ordinator Cardiff Traveller Education Service, about education provision for Gypsy-Travellers
10:40 - 10:50	Presentation by Tim Wilson, Cardiff Gypsy Sites Group and liaison adviser to Committee, about accommodation issues
10:50 - 11:00	Delegates split up into workshops to consider either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health • Education • Accommodation
11:00 - 13:15	Discussion in workshops
13:15 - 14:15	Lunch
14:15 - 14:25	Report back from health workshop
14:25 - 14:35	Report back from education workshop
14:35 - 14:45	Report back from accommodation workshop
14:45 - 14:55	Round up and next steps from Dr Elizabeth Jordan
14:55 - 15:00	Closing thanks from Chair of the Equality of Opportunity Committee

DELEGATE LIST

- Sandra Axinowe – Cardiff Traveller Education Service
- Tyssul Burton - Friends, Families and Travellers
- Ian Bellshaw - Head of the Minority Support Unit
- Sarah Cemlyn - University of Bristol
- Dr Colin Clark - University of Newcastle
- Jo Collins - Careers Wales Gwent
- Meryl Davies - Head of Bynea School, Llanelli
- Pru Davis - Estyn
- Beverly Delacruz - National Assembly for Wales
- Carol Eden - Health Visitor
- Judith Evans - North Glamorgan Health Trust
- Peter Farley - National Assembly for Wales
- John Gorwill - Cardiff County Council
- June Griffiths - Ysgol Y Bynea, Llanelli
- Kathryn Griffiths - Vale of Glamorgan Council
- Sue Highfield – Swansea Traveller Education Service
- Sheryl Holmes - Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale
- Caroline Jones - Bro Taf Health Authority
- Carwyn Jones - Powys County Borough Council
- Nigel Jones - Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
- Rhian Jones - National Assembly For Wales
- Tony Jones - North West Wales NHS Trust
- Dr Betty Jordan - Expert Advisor/University of Edinburgh
- Jackie Keefe - North Glamorgan Health Trust
- John Killick - Torfaen County Borough Council
- Clive Lawrence - Careers West Wales
- Jenny Leaug - North Glamorgan NHS Trust 02.10.02
- Yvonne Lee - Vale of Glamorgan Council
- John Marks - Vale of Glamorgan Council
- Madge Meyrick - Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust
- Frank Milne - Carmarthenshire County Council
- Anna Mogie - Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
- Pam Morgan - Save the Children
- Mei Lin Ng - National Assembly For Wales u/d 03.09.02
- Mark Owen - Careers Wales Mid Glamorgan
- Neal Parry - Powys County Borough Council
- Chris Phillips - Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust
- Richard Powell - Save the Children
- Gwenith Price - Cyngor Sir Powys/Powys County Council
- Martin Price - National Assembly For Wales
- John Rees - National Assembly for Wales
- Angela Roberts - Inequalities in Health Project North East Wales NHS Trust
- Jeanne Roberts - Gwent Health Authority

- Lisa Roberts-Clarke - National Assembly For Wales
- Vicki Seddon - **Wrexham Traveller Education Service**
- Mike Shanahan - National Assembly for Wales
- Alan Stonehouse - Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
- Gwenda Thomas – Swansea Traveller Education Service
- Russell Thomas - Wrexhan County Borough Council
- Ruth Thomas - National Assembly For Wales u/d 03.09.02
- David Tutton - National Assembly For Wales
- Councillor Neil Waite - Torfaen County Borough Council
- Paula Walters - WLGA
- Jon Waters – ELWa
- P. Williams - Bryn Derwen Surgery
- Tim Wilson - Cardiff Gypsy Sites Group
- Mohammed Yakub - Vale of Glamorgan **Council**