

Section 4 Integrated Impact Assessment

Summary Report Template

Each of the numbered sections below must be completed

Interim report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Final report	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Tick as appropriate)
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1. Title of proposal

The Management of Roadside Encampments

2. What will change as a result of this proposal?

The City of Edinburgh Council intends to up-date the current protocol for the management of roadside encampments. The current protocol is no longer fit for purpose due to several changes to social policy (CVD response) and operational/strategic roles within the Council. The new protocol will see Family and Household Support (FHS) take a lead in the coordination of assessment, support and services, thus creating a more streamlined approach for the individuals and families living in roadside encampments. The new protocol looks to enhance the relationship between the Council and those living in the encampment, to create a more comfortable experience for individuals with a direct link into services.

The protocol will outline the way in which the City of Edinburgh Council will balance the management of the roadside encampments with the identified needs of those residing in these encampments. All aspects of the resilience plan will consider the needs of Gypsy/Travellers, for example, in relation to support for people at risk of poverty and services for children and families as well as the provision of health and social care. Gypsy/Traveller communities are more likely to have pre-existing health conditions and be at increased risk of poverty, fuel poverty and food insecurity. As such it is imperative Gypsy /Traveller families and communities are supported to establish links into the cities wider support and service networks.

Partnership working is crucial in the management of roadside encampments and as such we have a team of staff from other parts of the Council who will provide relevant support and services to the roadside encampments. An example of this would cover enforcement/legal action resulting in forced eviction or the creation of non-access to land (bollards, barriers, blocks), in these such cases we would instruct our legal team to pursue any legal action or our colleagues from transport and environment to undertake their responsibility regarding access to land.

3. Briefly describe public involvement in this proposal to date and planned

We seek to involve as wide a representation from the membership of the Gypsy/Traveller steering group when developing the new protocol. This group meet on a regular basis to develop initiatives, policies and practices to meet the needs of the Gypsy Travellers in and across Edinburgh, including services to people (including non-Gypsy /Travellers) in roadside encampments set up within the City of Edinburgh boundaries. Through regular discussion at this forum we have been able to identify areas of partnership working with colleagues in Health and voluntary agencies to address certain aspects of support and advice; such as COVID vaccination programme, health screening and a resilience plan for severe weather warnings.

We are looking to reach out to the Gypsy/Traveller community and will work with MECOPP to look at how this consultation will take place. To date we have been unable to consult with the people living on the roadside encampments due to seasonal implications; we see a reduction in roadside encampments over the winter season, however we do plan to visit any new encampments to discuss out new protocol and seek views about certain aspects of the plan. We are looking to extend our consultation to Gypsy Travellers who live in our permanent Edinburgh site and those who are living in permanent housing.

4. Is the proposal considered strategic under the [Fairer Scotland Duty](#)?

Yes

5. Date of IIA

24 September 2021

6. Who was present at the IIA? Identify facilitator, Lead Officer, report writer and any partnership representative present and main stakeholder (e.g. NHS, Council)

Name	Job Title	Date of IIA training
Becky Cropper	Manager (FHS) CEC	27/10/2021
Nicky Maybury	Team Leader (FHS) CEC	N/A
Annemarie Proctor	Additional Support for Learning CEC	N/A
Steven Cuthill	Manager (Roads & Environment) CEC	N/A
Prince Durrant	Police Scotland	N/A
Mark Innes	Police Scotland	N/A
Mhairi Craig	MECOPP	N/A

7. Evidence available at the time of the IIA

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
Data on populations in need	<p>https://www.gov.scot/publications/gypsy-traveller-sites-scotland/documents/ -</p> <p>https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-supporting-gypsy-traveller-communities/</p> <p>https://www.amnesty.org.uk</p>	<p>This report presents findings from a study collating data on Gypsy/Traveller sites in Scotland.</p> <p>A framework to help local authorities and their partners, including the NHS and the third sector, in decision-making in their local response to COVID-19 in relation to Gypsy/Travellers</p> <p>Although there are no official figures on the number of Gypsy Travellers in Scotland, numbers are estimated at between 15- 20,000 people, or less than 0.5 per cent of the Scottish population. This estimate includes those living on Council/Registered Social Landlord Sites (RSL), private sites and unauthorised encampments as well as those who live in ordinary housing. Despite these relatively small numbers, there is significant coverage of this group of people in the media. A recent study by Amnesty International shows that a disproportionate amount of that coverage is negative.</p> <p>The size of the Gypsy/Traveller population in Scotland is contested. In the 2011 Census, 4,200 people in Scotland identified themselves as ‘White: Gypsy/Traveller’⁷. However, not all Gypsy/Travellers are willing to be identified as such. Organisations working with</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		the Gypsy/Traveller community in Scotland have estimated the true figure to be in the order of 15,000-20,000 people, which may itself be an underestimate.
Data on service uptake/access	https://www.gov.scot/publications/guidance-local-authorities-managing-unauthorised-camping-gypsy-travellers-scotland/	<p>Practical advice for local authorities on how to manage unauthorised camp sites.</p> <p>Local authority returns identify a total of 406 discreet locations across Scotland used for unauthorised Gypsy/Traveller encampments over the last 3 years.</p> <p>Unauthorised encampments appear to be more prevalent across some regions than others, most notably in Ayrshire, Fife, Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Moray and the area around and to the north of Inverness. These regions typically report an average of more than 30 unauthorised encampments per year, compared to averages of 15-20 across other parts of Scotland. Mapping of encampment locations also indicates that these are typically in and around small towns and urban areas, with few recorded in areas classified as ‘accessible rural’ or ‘remote rural’.</p>
Data on Socio-economic disadvantage e.g. low income, low wealth, material deprivation,	https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-lives-scotlands-gypsy-travellers-2019-2021/pages/1/ - Improving the lives of Gypsy/Travellers: 2019-2021, Joint action plan by the Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA).	Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people have the worst outcomes of any ethnic group across a huge range of areas, including education, health, employment, criminal justice and hate crime.

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
area deprivation.		<p>Life expectancy is 10 to 12 years less than that of the non-Traveller population</p> <p>One in five Gypsy Traveller mothers will experience the loss of a child, compared to one in a hundred in the non-Traveller community</p> <p>Gypsies and Travellers also have the lowest rate of economic activity of any ethnic group, at 47 per cent, compared with 63 per cent for England and Wales overall. Gypsy Travellers have high levels of ill-health and disability</p> <p>Gypsies/Travellers have significantly poorer health than other UK resident English-speaking ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged white UK residents. They are also more likely to suffer from miscarriages, still births, and the death of young babies and older children</p>
Data on equality outcomes	<p>https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-educational-outcomes-children-young-people-travelling-cultures/</p> <p>https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/gypsies-and-simple-solutions-living-together</p> <p>https://equalityhumanrights.com</p>	<p>A quarter of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children do not go into neither education nor employment.</p> <p>Levels of both temporary and permanent exclusions are high and almost half of</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
	<p>Equality Act 2010 – Gypsy/Travellers</p> <p>Tackling inequalities faced by gypsy, roma and traveller communities</p> <p>Inequalities experienced by Gypsy and Traveller communities</p> <p>https://www.equalityhumanrights.com</p> <p>https://www.pas.org.uk</p>	<p>Gypsy/Roma students are classed as persistent non-attenders</p> <p>Gypsy and Traveller children leave school at a much earlier age than children in other ethnic groups, they have worse attainment standards than any other ethnic group from early-years onwards and only a handful are recorded as attending university in any given year</p> <p>The lack of suitable, secure accommodation underpins many of the inequalities that Gypsy and Traveller communities experience</p> <p>Many Gypsies and Travellers are caught between an insufficient supply of suitable accommodation on the one hand, and the insecurity of unauthorised encampments and developments on the other: they then face a cycle of evictions, typically linked to violent and threatening behaviour from private bailiff companies. Roadside stopping places, with no facilities and continued instability and trauma, become part of the way of life. Health deteriorates, while severe disruptions occur to access to education for children, healthcare services and employment opportunities.</p> <p>Racism towards most ethnic minority groups is now hidden, less frequently</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<p>expressed in public, and widely seen as unacceptable. However, that towards Gypsies and Travellers is still common, frequently overt and seen as justified. Abusive media coverage and overtly racist statements from local and national politicians add to the ignorance and prejudice of many members of the settled population, while those in authority frequently fail to challenge them.</p> <p>Complaints from members of the communities include: Services not being welcoming or being refused services; employment offers being withdrawn; and people being harassed in or dismissed from employment.</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 expanded the race equality duty in section 71 of the Race Relations Act 1976 to include other ‘protected characteristics. These include age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation (referred to in the act as ‘protected characteristics’). It also introduced the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). This requires public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between people with a protected characteristic and</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		people without. This duty includes, amongst others, Local Authorities, the Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA) and SEPA.
Research/literature evidence	https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/202103/Unauthorised%20Encampment%20Policy%20V1.pdf https://scotland.shelter.org.uk https://scotborders.gov.uk https://www.mygov.scotland https://north.ayrshire.gov.uk	
Public/patient/client experience information	https://committee.parliament.uk https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk	<p>Written evidence submitted by Friends, Families and Travellers (MRS0213)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Government has not done enough to ensure families living on roadside camps have access water, sanitation and refuse collection. 2. The Government has failed to release guidance on how people living on roadside camps and on Traveller sites can self-isolate, given the communal and confined nature of nomadic living; such guidance is crucial 3. The Government has failed to identify how and where extremely vulnerable nomadic

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<p>individuals can shield, given the communal and confined nature of nomadic living; such guidance is crucial.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Support offered to individuals to shield is inaccessible to those with no fixed address and does not include essentials required for survival in nomadic households. 5. Local authorities still have powers to evict Gypsies and Travellers and some continue to utilise these. 6. Some local authorities are continuing to carry out Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments which will affect future delivery of sites, even though the assessments will be significantly flawed. 7. A significant number of parents are struggling to support their children's education at home; this will ultimately exacerbate educational inequalities. 8. Ofqual proposals on 'Exceptional arrangements for exam grading and assessment in 2020' are disadvantageous

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		<p>to Gypsy and Traveller children and young people.</p> <p>“I live in terrible conditions really. I live in a camp on the side of the road. It’s unofficial but they call it tolerated because we’ve been here 14 years. In a way we’re lucky to be here even though it’s a terrible place to be living. We live in between a quarry and a dump, and the lorries are going up and down the road....it’s very dangerous because there’s 23 children living here and the oldest is 16.....We have a tap outside, only Portaloos, so we don't have any proper electric or proper wash facilities or anything... we just have to get our own, temporary ones, and we go to leisure centres.” Irish Traveller Mother, 37, living on an unauthorised site with children, 2013</p> <p>To date, households living in unauthorised encampments have indicated that they would not generally make use of a Council site if it was available. There are a number of reasons for this ranging from intimidation to freedom of choice on where to stop. Most households indicated that their preference would be to stay on self-owned sites with a close network of family and friends, however, none of them indicated that this more permanent base would be in North Lanarkshire. The</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		unauthorised encampments so far in 2015 have all been on private sites with no Notices having been served.
Evidence of inclusive engagement of people who use the service and involvement findings	Consultation with Gypsy/Travellers	
Evidence of unmet need	https://northlanarkshire.gov.uk	North Lanarkshire Council has no Council or RSL sites, however, all social landlord sites are now under scrutiny by the Scottish Housing Regulator under the Scottish Social Housing Charter with the outcome monitoring site maintenance and management. The literature review highlighted that there are significant differences in site standards across Scotland particularly in relation to facilities and access to surrounding amenities. Drivers for satisfaction mainly relate to these being good combined with good relationships on site
Good practice guidelines	Code of Conduct for Unauthorised Gypsy/Traveller Sites (from East Ayrshire Council) – Gypsy Traveller Co-operation Policy (from Fife Council) Unauthorised Sites operating Guidance (from Fife Council) Good neighbourhood Code (from Scottish Borders Council)	

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
	St Boswell’s Fair - a large gathering (from Scottish Borders Council)	
Carbon emissions generated/reduced data	In order to reach its 2030 target, ECC has proposed to introduce a low-emission zone – similar to London’s Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) – to Edinburgh City Centre and, to further reduce transport emissions, to re-design the city centre in a way which focuses on pedestrians, cyclists and public transport rather than private vehicles.	
Environmental data		<p>Environmental health officers often receive complaints about Gypsy/Traveller accommodation, both from members of the public concerned about waste generated by unauthorised encampments and by Gypsy/ Travellers regarding waste disposal or unsatisfactory conditions on their sites. As a point of contact, they can often also receive queries or requests about other public services. Therefore, there needs to be strong channels of communication with the other relevant departments.</p> <p>Environmental health officers have the potential to make a positive difference to the living conditions of Gypsy/ Travellers and public perceptions of them through the provision of resources to deal with rubbish generated on sites, e.g. bin bags, skips, and through timely arrangement of clean-up services. Ensuring on-site access to clean water and adequate toilet facilities is also an important consideration, and one which it would be prudent to address through close cooperation with the</p>

Evidence	Available – detail source	Comments: what does the evidence tell you with regard to different groups who may be affected?
		planning department when sites are being allocated and when planning applications are submitted.
Risk from cumulative impacts		
Other (please specify)		
Additional evidence required		

8. In summary, what impacts were identified, and which groups will they affect?

Equality, Health and Wellbeing and Human Rights	Affected populations
<p>Positive</p> <p>A lack of suitable and secure accommodation underpins many of the inequalities Gypsy/Traveller communities experience. Many Gypsies/Travellers are caught between an insufficient supply of suitable accommodation on the one hand, and the insecurity of unauthorised encampments and developments on the other: they then face a cycle of evictions. Roadside encampments are often without facilities. The new Protocol for the management of roadside encampments will see Family and Household Support staff spending time on the encampments, building relationships with individuals and families to ensure that the needs of all the occupants are met and that their time spent on the encampment is a secure and safe base for them.</p> <p>In the case of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people, a poor start in education may be the catalyst for many other inequalities. The barriers for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children in education are severe. Tackling poor educational attainment is vital to tackling other inequalities facing the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. The new protocol includes a partnership between our additional support for learning colleagues. Through assessing the</p>	<p>Young people Men Women Older people Disabled people communities local Businesses staff</p>

needs of the people living on the encampment, family and household support staff will be able to identify any educational needs for children and young people and with agreement from parents make a direct referral to our additional support for learning colleagues.

Research shows that there is a lack of access to pre-school, out-of-school and leisure services for children and young people. The protocol refers to Family and Household Support staff, assessing and referring individuals and families into appropriate services, this will include support to children and young people to access appropriate extra-curricular activities.

Health outcomes for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities are very poor compared to other ethnic groups. Some problems seem to stem from the consequences of living on Traveller sites or actively travelling, but others stem from direct and indirect discrimination. Several of these issues are common to Gypsy, Traveller and Roma people, where they have problems accessing healthcare services, registering for services due to discrimination or language and literacy barriers, and problems associated with a lack of trust leading to a lack of engagement with public health campaigns. The protocol will include workers from Family and Household Support liaising with healthcare colleagues to look a supporting individuals and families to access GP services, immunisation services, screening services, maternity care and mental health provision.

Behaviour that amounts to either direct or indirect discrimination is widespread and is unacceptable in our society, however, this behaviour and the way it influences public services is one of the underlying causes of many of the inequalities faced by the Gypsy/Traveller communities. Show people and New (or New Age) Travellers. Roma are also an 'ethnic group' in terms of the law, and therefore protected by equality legislation. In addition to the Equality Act's prohibition of discrimination, section 149 of the Act provides that public authorities are, in the exercise of their functions, required to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons with protected characteristics and those that do not share them. The protocol demonstrates that the City of Edinburgh Council has taken this into consideration.

Several groups and household types show higher than average risk of poverty, including lone parents, households with a disabled adult or child, ethnic minority households, and tenants of social and private rented. This is an area of work that the City of Edinburgh has signed up to, looking to end poverty in Edinburgh. individuals and families may be missing out on benefits they are entitled to, due to low levels of adult literacy, lack of support and suspicion of benefits fraud. As part of the protocol we have invited our colleagues from

MECOPP to visit the encampments with a view to provide support with budgeting and finances. This will include working with individuals to ensure that they are claiming the right benefits to maximise their income.

The Christie Commission highlighted the need to ensure that in the current climate of fiscal restraint vulnerable groups and individuals are not left behind. This guidance takes account of the principles set out by the Christie Commission, encouraging different public bodies to work together and to consider approaches that focus on preventative spend by providing facilities at unauthorised sites (e.g. for recycling and waste disposal) The protocol includes our waste and disposal colleagues providing refuse bags and collection, thus preventing refuse from building up on the encampments, avoiding risk and injury and preventing animals and birds foraging. This will reduce complaints from local people regarding build-up of refuse.

We have looked at the affected populations and have noted the positive and negative impacts that have been identified in the new protocol.

Young People

- Education needs identified and links into local schools.
- Recreational needs discussed and support to access facilities offered.
- Assessment undertaken of the welfare and well-being of the young people.
- Support to access suitable health resources if health issues are identified.

Men

- Health needs discussed and support offered to access suitable health resources.
- Opportunity to meet with MECOPP to discuss finances and support with accessing benefit.
- Advocacy support from MECOPP regarding any legal proceedings.

Women

- Health needs discussed and support offered to access suitable health resources.
- Information regarding other supports deemed necessary to meet needs, such as social work, housing support, maternity care, etc.
- Opportunity to meet with MECOPP to discuss finances and support with accessing benefits.
- Advocacy support from MECOPP regarding any legal proceedings.

Older people

- Access to appropriate health and social care services.
- Support to access Pension

People with Disabilities

- Assessment of need undertaken, and support provided to access health and social care support.
- Visiting support offered.

Communities

- Family and Household Support Worker on site, to build relationship with encampment and provide waste and disposal services, reducing the complaints from local people regarding waste.
- Family and Household Support will work with individuals and families on the encampment to reduce any behaviours/actions that might be detrimental to local communities.
- Support to reduce dispute and disagreements between host community and the people living on the encampment.

Local Businesses

- Family and household Support a point of contact for information exchange regarding the encampment.

Staff

- Training will be provided to ensure that staff have a greater awareness of Gypsy/Travellers and the tools to undertake their role.
- Online training will be made available to staff regarding the importance of screening (bowel, breast, cervical) and diabetes information.

Negative

The proportion of Gypsies and Travellers living on roadside encampments in the UK who had no, or limited, access to clean water was found by Feder (1989) to be between 14 per cent and 30 per cent depending on location. Similarly, between 33 per cent and 58 per cent had no access to water or chemical toilets. Unfortunately, during the development of the protocol, we identified that the City of Edinburgh Council does not have a budget to provide sanitation facilities and this was an area we would like to capture on our action plan.

Whilst the protocol has been developed to meet the needs of the Gypsy/Traveller community, we have identified areas that we are unable to provide resources or where we may need to take legal action against the encampment, this may result in eviction. Eviction can have a detrimental effect on individuals and families, and they may not have the means to employ legal representation. The protocol has this in mind and as such we are working with MECOPP

who will offer an advocacy service to families involved in legal proceedings.

Young People

- Lack of Sanitation and wash facilities may have detrimental effect on health and well-being.
- Lack of suitable place for sanitation needs.
- Lack of fresh water may influence health.
- Eviction may have a negative psychological impact.
- Eviction may prevent young person from accessing education.

Men

- lack of sanitation and wash facilities may influence health and wellbeing.
- Lack of suitable place for sanitation needs.
- Lack of fresh water may influence health.
- Eviction may influence mental health and well-being

Women

- Lack of sanitation and wash facilities may influence health and well-being.
- Lack of suitable place for sanitation needs.
- Lack of fresh water may influence health.
- Eviction may influence mental health and well-being.

Older people

- Lack of sanitation and wash facilities may influence health and well-being.
- Lack of suitable place for sanitation needs.
- Lack of fresh water may influence health.
- Eviction may influence mental health and well-being.

People with Disabilities

- Lack of sanitation and wash facilities may influence health and well-being.
- Lack of suitable place for sanitation needs.
- Lack of fresh water may influence health.
- Eviction may influence mental health and well-being.

Communities

- Lack of sanitation facilities will have a health impact on the local community.

Local businesses

- May be affected by lack of sanitation resources and concern regarding use of land for sanitation needs.
- Customers and staff may be affected by above.

Staff

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ May be affected by volume of complaints regarding lack of sanitation and use of land for sanitation needs. □ May receive high volume of complaints from local people regarding the land being used as an encampment. 	
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<p>Environment and Sustainability including climate change emissions and impacts</p> <p>Positive</p> <p>Scotland has already embarked on the journey towards a more sustainable approach to waste and resources. Recycling rates continue to rise, volumes of waste being sent to landfill are declining, and as a society we are increasingly aware of the environmental impact of our activities. This vision describes a Scotland where resource use is minimised, valuable resources are not disposed of in landfills, and most waste is sorted into separate streams for reprocessing, leaving only limited amounts of waste to go to residual waste treatment, including energy from waste facilities.</p> <p>Edinburgh is Scotland’s capital city and economic centre, and as such it wants to make sure that a cleaner, greener and fairer future for everyone is at the heart of its plans. The protocol for the management of roadside encampments has considered and assessed the impact on the environment due to the resources available on the encampments.</p> <p>Research tells us that everyone can make a difference, particularly when smart environmental choices become a habit and begins to influence others into taking similar actions. Doing the right thing for the future of life on Earth can have immediate personal benefits. Whist undertaking the development of the protocol, consultation was sought with our colleagues from policy & insight to look at the effects that climate change could have on the Gypsy/Traveller community. Through regular visits to the encampments, Family and Household Support staff and colleagues from MECOPP can raise</p>	<p>Young people Men Women Older people Disabled people communities local Businesses staff</p>
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awareness of the effects of climate change and work with colleagues to improve resources.

Young people

- Awareness about climate change and effect on local environment.
- Access to educational and information resources about climate change.
- Have an understanding about how they can play their part in using resources efficiently

Men

- Awareness about climate change and effects on local environment.
- Have an understanding about how they can play their part in using resources efficiently.

Women

- Awareness about climate change and effect on local environment.
- Have an understanding about how they can play their part in using resources efficiently.

Older people

- Awareness about climate change and effects on local environment.
- Have an understanding about how they can play their part in using resources efficiently.

People with Disabilities

- Awareness about climate change and effect on local environment.
- Have an understanding about how they can play their part in using resources efficiently.

Communities

- The use of refuge bags to prevent rubbish building up and getting scattered across local land, thus preventing vermin.

Local Businesses

- The use of refuge bags to prevent rubbish building up and getting scattered across local land, thus preventing vermin.

Staff

- Awareness about climate change and effect on local environment.
- Opportunity to educate others about the effects of climate change.

- Staff can access information/training about climate change.

Negative

Whilst the protocol looks at working alongside our colleagues from waste and disposal services to provide refuge bags for the people living on the encampments, it does raise some issues. Plastic bags take hundreds of years to decompose and pose a threat to wildlife. Hundreds of thousands of marine mammals die every year after mistaking plastic bags, which are laced with chemicals, for food. Many animals get entangled in plastic bags and suffocate.

Whilst undertaking the IIA, concerns were raised about the lack of water facilities on roadside encampments, the lack of water facilities can result in the use of bottled water. Plastic bottles leak harmful chemicals into our environment as they decompose. It is estimated that 80 percent of plastic bottles end up in landfills. This is also linked to our concerns regarding our provision of refuge bags and the concerns to our environment. Evidence has shown us that plastic bottles are laced with harmful chemicals such as phthalates, which have been linked to cancer.

Around 3000 families living on unauthorised encampments and developments have historic issues with accessing water and sanitation. This has been exacerbated by events related to coronavirus, such as leisure centres and water points closing, making it harder or impossible in some cases to access. Lack of access to water, sanitation and showers makes it difficult to follow the Government guidance on handwashing and hygiene.

Young people

- Limited access to drinking water.
- Increase in use of plastic water bottles.
- Increased risk of infection.

Men

- Limited access to drinking water
- Increase in use of plastic bottles.
- Increased risk of infection.

Women

- Limited access to drinking water
- Increase in use of plastic bottles.
- Increased risk of infection.

Older people

- Limited access to drinking water
- Increase in use of plastic bottles.
- Increased risk of infection.

<p>People with Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Limited access to drinking water <input type="checkbox"/> Increase in use of plastic bottles. <input type="checkbox"/> Increased risk of infection. <p>Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Refuge bags provided may be ripped by vermin/animals creating waste to be scattered around local area. <p>Local Businesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Refuge bags provided may be ripped by vermin/animals creating waste to be scattered around local area. <p>Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> An increase in complaints due to waste scattered in local area. 	
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<p>Economic including socio-economic disadvantage</p> <p>Positive</p> <p>Being 'socio-economically disadvantaged' means living in a less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society. Features of socio-economic disadvantage can include low income and living in a deprived area. As part of the protocol, colleagues from MECOPP will provide support to the people living on the encampments regarding finance/debt/benefits, thus maximising income and reducing income inequality.</p> <p>Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people have the worst outcomes of any ethnic group across a huge range of areas, including education, health, employment, criminal justice and hate crime. Whilst developing the protocol, consideration was given to the education, health and hate crime. Access to health and education resources will be offered to the individuals and families living on the encampments.</p> <p>Racism towards most ethnic minority groups is now hidden, less frequently expressed in public, and widely seen as unacceptable. However, that towards Gypsies and Travellers is still common, frequently overt and seen as justified. The Family and Household Support will work closely with Police Scotland to eradicate any discrimination endured by the Gypsy/Travellers living on roadside encampments in Edinburgh.</p> <p>Gypsies/Travellers have significantly poorer health than other UK resident English-speaking ethnic minorities and economically</p>	<p>Young people Men Women Older people Disabled people communities local Businesses staff</p>
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disadvantaged white UK residents. They are also more likely to suffer from miscarriages, still births, and the death of young babies and older children. As part of the protocol our colleagues from Health will work closely with Family and Household Support Service to look at innovative ways of meeting the health needs of the people living in the encampments. An example of recent practice saw both services coming together to look at the COVID vaccination programme, ensuring that there was easy access to vaccinations.

The lack of suitable, secure accommodation underpins many of the inequalities that Gypsy and Traveller communities experience. There is high volume of evictions from roadside encampments and this can have detrimental effect on the health needs of all occupants, access to education for children and access to employment opportunities. Where eviction can result due to a number of reasons such as; impact on local environment, health and safety concerns, obstructions to public highway, Anti-social Behaviour, etc, we recognise the distress that this can cause to individual and families therefore MECOPP will offer an advocacy service during any legal action instigated by the City of Edinburgh Council. During any legal action taken by the Council, we will ensure that we treat everyone with dignity, respect and courtesy.

Young people

- Support to adults regarding income maximisation will have a direct positive impact on the child/young person.
- Support to access Education.
- Support to access Healthcare.
- Discrimination tackled and safety needs met.
- Any form of Anti-social behaviour will be dealt with.

Men

- Support regarding income maximisation to reduce impact of poverty.
- Support to access Healthcare.
- Employability support.
- Discrimination tackled and safety needs met.
- Advocacy service.
- Any form of Anti-social behaviour will be dealt with.

Women

- Support regarding income maximisation to reduce impact of poverty.
- Support to access Healthcare.
- Employability support.
- Discrimination tackled and safety needs met.
- Advocacy Service.
- Any form of Anti-social behaviour will be dealt with.

Older people

- Support regarding income maximisation to reduce impact of poverty.
- Support to access Health and Social care.
- Discrimination tackled and safety needs met.
- Advocacy Service.
- Any form of Anti-social behaviour will be dealt with.

Disabled people

- Support regarding income maximisation to reduce impact of poverty.
- Support to access Healthcare.
- Employability support.
- Discrimination tackled and safety needs met.
- Advocacy Service.
- Any form of Anti-social behaviour will be dealt with.

Communities

- Any form of Anti-social behaviour will be dealt with.
- Health and safety needs met.

Local Businesses

- Any form of Anti-social behaviour will be dealt with.
- Health and safety needs met.

Staff

- Support from colleagues from Police Scotland, Health, MECOPP and Education to ensure that all the needs of the people living on the encampments are fully met.

Negative

The high level of evictions from roadside encampments can have a substantial negative psychological impact on children who experience repeated evictions. Constantly moving around can have an impact on relationships between children and young people and settled communities, this can further isolate young Gypsy/Travellers within society and impact on wider good relations throughout their adult years. The development of the protocol recognised that there is a lack of appropriate land for Gypsy/Travellers in Edinburgh and as such the IIA has concluded that there is a need for short stay sites to be developed.

Evictions can cause family tension due to the insecure lifestyles and ongoing hostility from the wider population. MECOPP will offer support and advocacy to families affected by Eviction.

Young people

- Mental health and well-being impacted by repeated evictions
- Relationship problems due to constantly moving from area to area.

Men

- Mental health and well-being affected by Evictions.
- Impact on health due to hostility from hosting community.

Women

- Mental health and well-being affected by Evictions.
- Impact on health due to hostility from hosting community.

Older people

- Mental health and well-being affected by Evictions.
- Impact on health due to hostility from hosting community.

Disabled

- Mental health and well-being affected by Evictions.
- Impact on health due to hostility from hosting community.
- Care needs may be impacted.

Communities

- May be impacted by tension and hostility to and from Gypsy/Traveller community.

Local Businesses

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- May be impacted by tension and hostility to and from Gypsy/Traveller community.

Staff

- May see an increase in complaints from hosting community and local businesses.

9. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors and if so how will equality, human rights including children’s rights, environmental and sustainability issues be addressed?

None of the policy is to be carried out by contractors. However, some actions specific to this IIA may require for service to be carried out by contractors and if so, contractors are assessed on their commitment to adopting the five Fair Work First criteria for workers engaged in the delivery of the services, as part of the procurement process.

10. Consider how you will communicate information about this policy/ service change to children and young people and those affected by sensory impairment, speech impairment, low level literacy or numeracy, learning difficulties or English as a second language? Please provide a summary of the communications plan.

MECOPP will undertake Face to face consultation with the Gypsy/Traveller community living on roadside encampments within Edinburgh. We have considered implications around literacy and have factored this into our consultation

11. Is the policy likely to result in significant environmental effects, either positive or negative? If yes, it is likely that a [Strategic Environmental Assessment](#) (SEA) will be required and the impacts identified in the IIA should be included in this.

N/A

12. Additional Information and Evidence Required

If further evidence is required, please note how it will be gathered. If appropriate, mark this report as interim and submit updated final report once further evidence has been gathered.

13. Specific to this IIA only, what recommended actions have been, or will be, undertaken and by when? (these should be drawn from 7 – 11 above) Please complete:

Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)	Who will take them forward (name and job title)	Deadline for progressing	Review date
Provision of Sanitation facilities.	Becky Cropper	June 2022	April 2022

Specific actions (as a result of the IIA which may include financial implications, mitigating actions and risks of cumulative impacts)	Who will take them forward (name and job title)	Deadline for progressing	Review date
Discussion with Senior Managers regarding temporary stopping sites.	Becky Cropper	June 2022	April 2022

14. Are there any negative impacts in section 8 for which there are no identified mitigating actions?

15. How will you monitor how this proposal affects different groups, including people with protected characteristics?

- Bi-annual reviews via the Gypsy/Traveller steering group
- Yearly consultation with people living on Roadside Encampments in Edinburgh
- Quarterly review meetings with the City of Edinburgh Council Staff and Police Scotland staff involved in the management of the Roadside Encampments.

16. Sign off by Head of Service/ NHS Project Lead

Name Jackie Irvine

Date

17. Publication

Completed and signed IIAs should be sent to strategyandbusinessplanning@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published on the IIA directory on the Council website www.edinburgh.gov.uk/impactassessments

Edinburgh Integration Joint Board/Health and Social Care

sarah.bryson@edinburgh.gov.uk to be published on the www.edinburghhsc.scot/the-ijb/integrated-impact-assessments/