



**Housing
Executive**

Irish Traveller Accommodation June 2025

Irish Traveller Accommodation types

NIHE & HAs

- **Emergency Halting Site**
 - a temporary (less than 28 days) place to park with appropriate facilities managed under Cooperation Policy principles.
- **Transit Site**
 - a permanently operational facility with similar facilities to serviced sites where Travellers may park their caravans on a temporary basis and where electricity, water and sewerage services are provided.
- **Serviced Site**
 - a range of managed accommodation where Traveller families have a permanent base to park their caravan or erect a structure where electricity, water and sewerage are provided and where other facilities such as communal or individual amenity buildings must be provided.
- **Grouped Housing**
 - Provided through the SHDP and managed as social housing with additional features to support Irish Traveller lifestyle
- **Social Housing**
 - Majority of Irish Travellers living in NI reside in social housing.

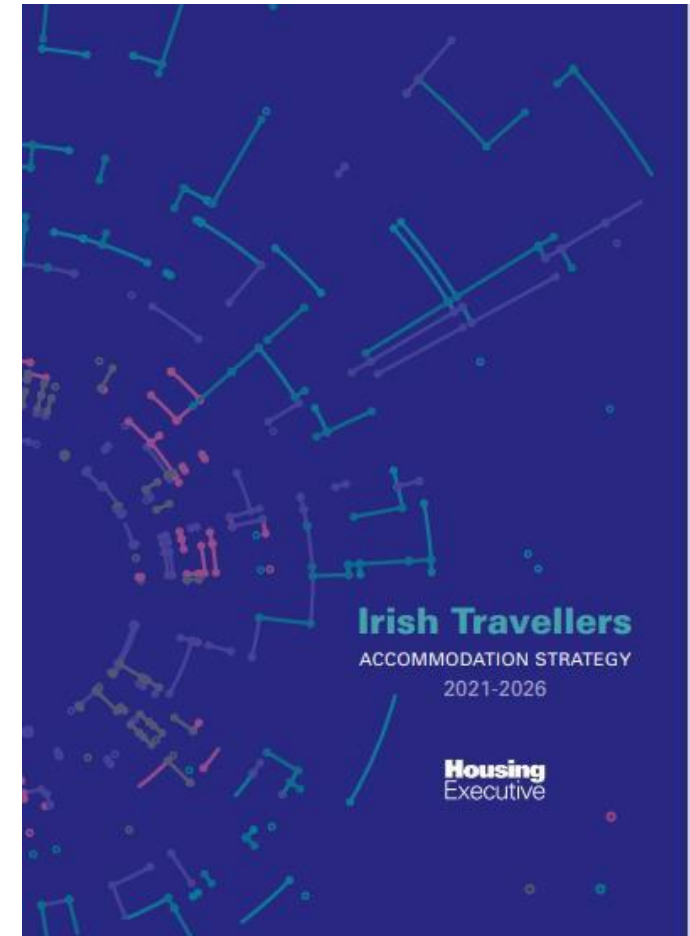
Irish Traveller Accommodation Strategy 2021-2026

The Strategy Vision:

“To provide safe and sustainable accommodation that meets the housing and cultural needs of the Irish Traveller community.”

Outcomes:

- **Irish Travellers have increased opportunities to support their housing and cultural needs;**
- **The cultural needs of Irish Travellers are respected and valued within our housing services;**
- **Social Inclusion for Irish Travellers both within and between communities, is enhanced.**



Irish Traveller Accommodation Strategy 2021-2026

The Strategy Aims to:

- Address the range of accommodation needs of Irish Travellers;
- Ensure the provision of adequate and suitable accommodation for Irish Travellers that meets their needs, promotes their equality of opportunity and promotes good relations among Traveller households and between Travellers and other members of the community.

Irish Traveller Accommodation Strategy 2021-2026

Strategy Objectives

- **To develop a Traveller Specific Accommodation Needs Assessment;**
- **To provide safe and culturally appropriate accommodation for Irish Travellers to reside and travel to;**
- **To support the Irish Traveller community to remain in their accommodation of choice through easily accessible housing services;**
- **To create mechanisms that foster good relations for the Irish Traveller community.**

12 strategy actions follow from these objectives to aid delivery

Irish Traveller Accommodation Survey

- 2025 survey under development
- 2018/19 survey
 - 540 households
 - 1628 individuals
 - Current & Future Accommodation preferences



Unauthorised Encampments/Co-Operation Policy

- Managed by NIHE
- Reactive provision that was originally an unauthorised encampment, but that has been agreed for very short-term use (up to a maximum of three months) and is established under the Housing Executive's Co-operation Policy. This allows for Travellers to camp on public land on a temporary basis and is considered only as a way of dealing with humane requirements.
- Subject to Landowner Co-operation and certain conditions

How can you assist?

- Raise awareness across organisation and forums
- Highlight our responsibilities
- Inform HE of any unauthorised encampments in your area
- Consider collaboration on Co-operation Policy
- Identify opportunities to collaborate for improved service provision and support
- Support for 2025 Accommodation survey – engagement opportunities?
- Who deals with Irish Traveller matters in your organization?
- Do you have land or assets that could assist the Housing Executive in meeting the need for Irish Traveller accommodation?

Potential Site Requirements

- 0.3 Ha or larger (potential to consider portion of a larger site)
- Many Irish Travellers express a preference to live in a rural location on the edge of, or closely located to a town or city
- Not in close proximity to other Irish Traveller sites
- DFC Design Guide for further information
- <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/design-guide-travellers-sites-northern-ireland>

Further Information/Contacts

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