

Matter 5 Gypsy pitch forecast 2008 – 2018

It is not contested that the forecast growth in pitches for the period 2008 to 2013 will be 67.

Looking at the forecast for 2013 – 2018, the Councils have considered if the sums in Table 14.4 are correct.

The Black Country GTAA report (para 12.42) refers to CLG guidance suggesting a family formation rate of "3.90%". The CLG guidance (Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments Guidance, Oct 2007) actually refers to a family formation rate of 3% (para 96). Fordhams have confirmed that they always use a standard family formation rate of 3% in their GTAA work, and that the 3.90% quoted in the Black Country GTAA report is a typographical error. Fordhams also confirmed that the 3% growth should be compounded over time.

If a family formation rate of 3% per annum is used, and this growth is compounded over time, the formula would be:

$$((1.03)^5 \times 184) - 184 = 29.3 \text{ (c29)}$$

It is not clear why Table 12.4 of the GTAA states that the family formation and total additional pitch requirement 2013-18 is 31, rather than 29. However, as the numbers involved are small, the Councils are content that the total pitch target should remain 98 (67+ 31).