

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA090119-2625

21 January 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 8 January 2019. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Our response to your request is as follows:

1. *How many Gypsy and Traveller unauthorised encampments have you cleared from the local authority in: i) 2015 ii) 2016 iii) 2017 iv) 2018 (if possible please name them)*

Please see attached record

2. *In relation to the cleared encampments listed in question one, how many pitches were in each cleared encampment. (If you do not know, please state whether, to the best of your knowledge, there were any individuals or families living in the cleared encampments.)*

Exact numbers are not known but families and individuals were living in the caravans.

3. *How many NEW authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches were created by your local authority in: i) 2015 ii) 2016 iii) 2017 iv) 2018 (if possible please name them)*

The GLA operates as a strategic authority with no direct responsibilities for Gypsy and Traveller services and therefore does not, and has not, created any pitches.

In 2018 the GLA did, however, approve funding to remodel 37 pitches by local Boroughs. We welcome bids for new Gypsy and Traveller provision, and the refurbishment of current provision, through continuous bidding for the Mayor's Homes for Londoners Affordable Homes Programme.

4. *How many authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches are there currently in your local authority?*

There are no authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites on GLA land.

5. *What were the full evictions costs to your council for all cleared unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments in: i) 2015 ii) 2016 iii) 2017 iv) 2018 (These costs should include staff costs and resources, any contractor costs, court costs and legal fees, clear up costs as well as any other costs relating to evictions from unauthorised encampments.)*

Costs are recorded on the attached spreadsheet

6. *How much money was spent in the creation of authorised Gypsy and Traveller pitches and sites in: i) 2015 ii) 2016 iii) 2017 iv) 2018*

Please see response to question 3.

7. *Are you considering or are there any plans in place to seek a court injunction against unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments sites in your local authority? If you already have an injunction or already have an application in please state.*

The GLA does not have any injunctions against unauthorised encampments. Responsibility for seeking injunctions lies with local Boroughs in London.

8. *When was the last time you undertook a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Need Assessment?*

In 2008 the London Boroughs' Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment was carried out. The 2008 study was jointly commissioned and paid for by London Boroughs, with the GLA coordinating the procurement and playing an advisory role during the research.

9. *What was the need identified by your authority's most recent Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Need Assessment for new pitches, and what period does this GTANA cover?*

Please see response to question 8.

You may be interested to know that on 15 January 2015, the London Assembly published the findings of its investigation into gypsy and traveller site provision in London:
<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/london-assembly/london-assembly-publications/letter-mayor-gypsy-and-traveller-sites>

If you need more information about the role and work of the GLA on this subject matter, please go to our website: www.london.gov.uk/gypsy-traveller

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA090119-2625.

Yours sincerely

Paul Robinson
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:
<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>

Traveller Unauthorised Encampments 2014-18

Site No	Site	Date Occupied	No of days of Illegal Occupation	Legal Costs	Bailiff costs	Clean up costs	Defensive costs	Comments
2014-15								
1	Beam Reach 5, Consul Avenue, RM13 9UL	27/09/2014	14	£180	£2,500	£19,433	£2,350	See note 2 on clean up costs
2	Beam Park 2, Thames Ave, Dagenham, RM9 6DE	08/11/2014	21	£180	£2,825	£41,250	£1,030	See note 1 on clean up costs
		Sub Totals	35	£360	£5,325	£60,683	£3,380	
Average days of Occupation			17.5					

2015-16

3	Beam Reach 5, Consul Avenue, RM13 9UL	05/04/2015	7	£180	£4,000	£19,433	£7,053	See note 2 on clean up costs
4	London Sustainable Industries Park, Plot 10, Choats Road, Dagenham	02/04/2015	19	£180	£4,000	£0	£25,326	See note 4 on clean up costs
5	Beam Park 1, Thames Ave, Dagenham, RM9 6DE	23/09/2015	11	£180	£6,000	£41,520	£2,900	See note 1 on clean up costs
6	London Sustainable Industries Park, Plot 7b, Choats Road, Dagenham	09/10/2015	12	£355	£2,400	£32,388	£720	Estimated cost as fly tipped material is still on site but is of similar amount as was on site 17
7	Beam Park 1, Thames Ave, Dagenham, RM9 6DE	05/02/2016	7	£355	£100	£41,250	£21,050	See note 1 on clean up costs. Minor Bailiff costs as Travellers left before eviction
8	1-3 Salamons Way, Dagenham, London RM13 9UL	13/03/2016	9	£355	£6,000	£4,000	£6,671	Estimated cost as fly tipped material is still on site
		Sub Totals	65	£1,605.00	£22,500.00	£138,590.68	£63,719.90	

Average days of Occupation			9.66
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2016-17

9	Beam Park 1, Thames Ave, Dagenham, RM9 6DE	05/04/2016	2	£355	£100	£41,250	£17,609	See note 3 on defensive costs. Travellers move before eviction
10	Verge Choats Manor Way, Dagenham RM13	05/05/2016	7	£355	£2,400	£3,130	£17,609	See note 3 on defensive costs
11	LSIP Plot 10 Access Road & Closed Loop, Dagenham RM9 6LF	19/05/2016	13	£355	£4,000	£0	£17,609	See note 3 on defensive costs See note 4 on fly tip removal
12	London Sustainable Industries Park, Plot 8, Choats Road, Dagenham	31/05/2016	8	£355	£1,500	£75,000	£17,609	Estimated cost as fly tipped material is still on site but is of similar amount as was on site 18. See note 3 on defensive costs
13	Beam Reach 5 & 6, Consul Avenue, RM13 9UL	07/06/2016	11	£355	£7,000	£19,433	£17,609	See note 3 on defensive costs
14	LSIP Plot 10 Access Road & Closed Loop, Dagenham RM9 6LF	15/06/2016	2	£355	£100	£76,875	£17,609	See note 3 on defensive costs See note 4 on fly tip removal. Travellers moved on before eviction
15	Ferry Lane/Coldharbour Lane, Rainham, Essex	27/06/2016	4	£355	£100	£7,784	£17,609	See note 3 on defensive costs. Travellers moved on before eviction
16	Beam Reach 5, Consul Avenue, RM13 9UL	29/06/2016	13	£355	£7,500	£19,433	£17,609	See note 3 on defensive costs
17	Polar Ford, New Road, RM10 9NH,	30/06/2016	12	£480	£4,400	£76,875	£1,371	Clean up costs include bunding at certain points
18	Beam Reach 6, Consul Avenue, RM13 8EU	11/07/2016	9	£355	£1,350	£19,433	£0	Ford has parked lorry trailers along perimeter to prevent access at no cost to the GLA

19	Beam Park 2, Thames Ave, Dagenham, RM9 6DE	13/11/2016	4	£0	£600	£1,080	£1,250	Moved without court order
20	LSIP South, Halyard Street, Dagenham, London	16/11/2016	1	£0	£0	£0	£0	Road - Moved on by GLA Agent
21	Former Webbs Industrial Estate	02/12/2016	2	£0	£3,100	£10,000	£3,260	Moved without court order
22	Silvertown Quays, London E16	13/12/2016	1	£0	£0	£540	£750	Moved on by LB Newham Enforcement Team
		Sub Totals	89	£3,675	£32,150	£350,832	£147,499	
Average days of Occupation			6.35					

2017-18

24	Amarda 2, Atlantis Ave, London E16 2BF	28/05/2017	3	£0	£0	£4,724	£0	
25	Greenwich peninsula, Phase 3 Land, Bygsby Way, London SE10	11/07/2017	2	£0	£2,650	£1,928	£0	
26	Greenwich Peninsula, Showmans Ground, Ordanance Cresent, London SE10	01/07/2017	3	£0	£7,625	£30,638	£2,086	
27	Amarda Green, Atlantis Ave, London E16 2BF	16/02/2018	1	£0	£0	£220	£500	
			9	£0	£10,275	£37,510	£2,586	

2018-19

28	Greenwich peninsula, Phase 3 Land, Bygsby Way, London SE10	18/04/2018	1	£0	£2,993	£4,500	£500	
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Total Costs 2014 to 2018				£5,640	£73,243	£592,115	£217,685	£888,683
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- 1 Site 2, 5, 7 & 9 waste was left on site and removed 1 Nov 16. Total cost of clean up has been divided between the four sites
- 2 Site 1, 3, 13, 16 & 16 Waste was left on site and removed Nov 16. Total cost of clean up has been divided between 3 sites
- 3 The GLA carried out major review of the security of sites and increased its defensive measures to minimise incursions . A total cost of £140,868 was spent on eight sites at an average cost of £17608.50 per site
- 4 Sites 4, 11 & 14 LSIP Plot 10 Fly tipped material remains on site and the estimated cost of removal is £76,875 as per site 17