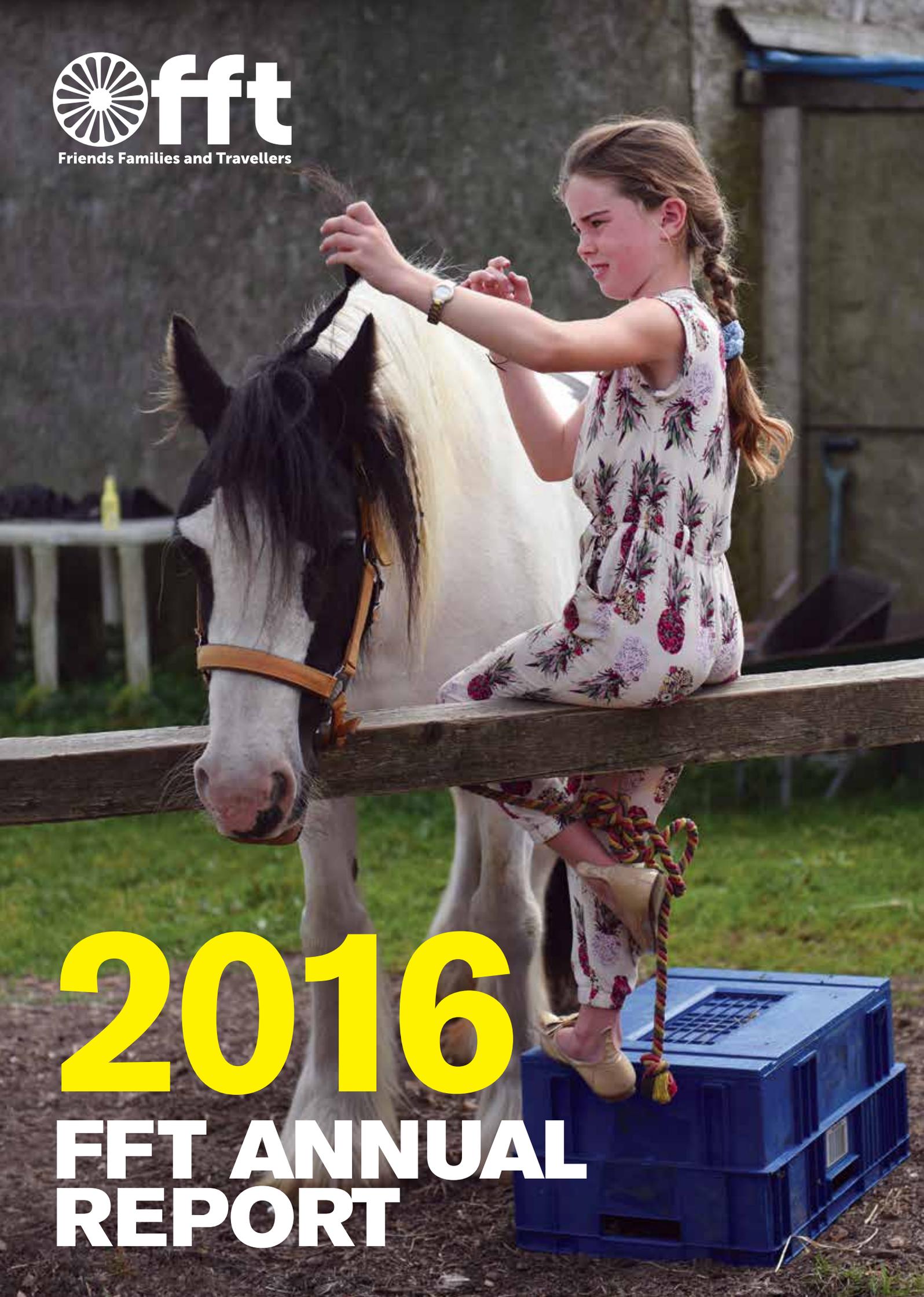




Friends Families and Travellers



# 2016

# FFT ANNUAL REPORT

# A BRIEF MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR, **NEIL ANSELL**

IN MY FIRST YEAR AS CHAIR OF FFT I AM DELIGHTED TO INTRODUCE THIS NEW FORMAT ANNUAL REPORT. I HOPE THAT YOU LIKE THE NEW STYLE AND FIND THE CONTENTS INTERESTING. THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT ONE IN MANY WAYS FOR GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS BUT WE CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE AND EQUALITY UNDAUNTED, HELPED BY OUR EVER GROWING NUMBER OF FRIENDS, ALLIES AND SUPPORTERS.



## OUR TEAM

Our team is made up of great people from all the Travelling Communities and the settled communities working together.

### TRUSTEES DURING 2015/16

**Neil Ansell**  
Chair

**Dominique Corbett**  
Treasurer

**Judy Pointing**

**Rob Torkington**

**Marc Willers**

**Tony Thompson**

**Chris Whitwell**  
Company Secretary

### STAFF

**Chris Whitwell**  
Director

**Emma Nuttall**  
Advice and Policy  
Manager (job-share)

**Abbie Kirkby**  
Advice and Policy  
Manager (job-share)

**Zoe Matthews**  
Strategic Health Manager

**Sarah Mann**  
Capacity Building  
Manager

**Avril Fuller**  
Youth Coordinator

**Michelle Gavin**  
Health Engagement  
& Caseworker

**Marya Sadouni,**  
Community Support  
Worker

**Gemma Challenger**  
Caseworker

**Liz MacPherson**  
Young People's Worker

**Charmaine Valler**  
Community Support  
Worker

**Suzanna King**  
Finance Officer

**Emma Bray**  
Health Improvement  
Worker

**Sarah Herlem**  
Well-being Worker

### VOLUNTEERS

**Elle Osborne**

**Carolyn Horrox**

**Avery Howell**

**Leyla Solomon**

**Cheney Matthais**

**Jessica von  
Kaenel-Flatt**

### INTERNS

**Samson Rattigan**

**Shannon Collins**

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am pleased to make a brief contribution to this annual report, my final one as Director. After ten years or so with FFT I believe it is time for me to move over and allow my incredibly talented colleagues to take the organisation to its next phase of development.

We are also strengthening our strategic partnerships, not just with other Gypsy/Traveller groups, but also with other organisations that share our common goal of helping to bring about a fairer, more just and equal society. For too long, Gypsy, Traveller and Roma issues have been seen as within a self-contained 'bubble' wholly disconnected with the wider issues of equality, justice and human rights that touch all of our lives. We want to change this perception and build strategic alliances with those potential allies with whom we can develop mutual and ongoing support.

It has been an enormous privilege and honour to work with my amazing colleagues at FFT over the past decade. They are a truly dedicated and incredible team, and I give my wholehearted thanks to all the staff, volunteers, interns and Trustees who have made FFT such a fantastic organisation.

I hope that it will continue to go from strength to strength.

**Chris Whitwell**



**1**

## **RSPH TRAINING CENTRE**

We are a Royal Society for Public Health registered training centre, up to Level 2 in Health Improvement.

Qualified Travellers become Health Champions.



**2**

## **PQASSO QUALITY MARK**

We were awarded the PQASSO Quality Mark at Level 2 and Charity Commission Endorsement which recognises us as an effectively managed and governed charity.



**3**

## **INFORMATION STANDARD**

We also hold the Information Standard award which recognises our Health information as high quality, evidence based, balanced, user-led, clear and accurate.



# CELEBRATING CULTURE

GYPSY STUDENTS AT ASH MANOR SCHOOL WERE AMAZED TO SEE PHOTOS OF ROMANI PEOPLE IN HISTORY ALL THE WAY BACK TO INDIA AND HEAR FFT'S MARYA TELL THEM ABOUT BEING THE GUEST OF HONOUR IN A TURKISH GYPSY VILLAGE. FFT'S CHARMAINE LED STUDENTS IN MAKING BACON PUDDINGS FROM SCRATCH TO TAKE HOME AND COOK FOR TEA.



## NEW HOMES

We supported two Traveller women to speak at the Planning Inquiry for a Brighton site, which got the site built! 12 families are now free from the constant stress of evictions and have a safe, secure place to call home after 25 years on the road.



# ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

Here are a few of the projects we have worked on this year that we feel particularly proud of and that we would like to share with you.

## NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS

### PLANNING

We campaigned vigorously against changes to the Planning definition of Gypsies & Travellers and proposals to scrap Local Authorities' requirement to assess the need for pitches (GTAAAs).

With partners, we reached over 250 of the House of Lords to tell them of the impact on Gypsies and Travellers. Despite losing the vote,

we heard Peers speak passionately against the scrapping of GTAAAs during the debates and almost 100 Peers voted with us.

The planning definition now excludes Gypsies and Travellers who have ceased travelling permanently, such as for ill-health or old age. The next step is judicial review to try to overturn this.

### HEALTH

We published our National Gypsy & Traveller Health Inclusion campaign report which showed decision makers how to commission and provide better health care for Gypsies & Travellers.

## RESEARCH THAT GIVES BACK

TRAVELLERS WHO TOOK PART IN OUR RESEARCH INTO BOWEL AND BLADDER PROBLEMS WERE GIVEN SUPPORT IN RETURN TO IMPROVE THEIR OWN HEALTH. THE REPORT ITSELF HELPS HEALTH AUTHORITIES ROUND THE COUNTRY TO IMPROVE SERVICES FOR TRAVELLERS.

**\*GEMMA IS A PROFOUNDLY DEAF CHILD WANTING TO STUDY DRAMA AND DANCE. WE HELPED HER GET A GRANT FOR A COMPUTER TO HELP HER ACHIEVE HER GCSES AND SUPPORTED MUM TO ACCESS CARERS SUPPORT. THEY HELPED MUM GET A PHONE TO FACE-TIME GEMMA, GIVING GEMMA MORE INDEPENDENCE AS THEY CAN LIP READ AND SIGN TOGETHER BY PHONE.**

## SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS

**\*MARY'S** home was vandalised with racist graffiti and 2 of her children were the victims of a racially motivated attack. We supported the family to report the race hate crimes to the police and the local authority and to get her moved to a safe home.

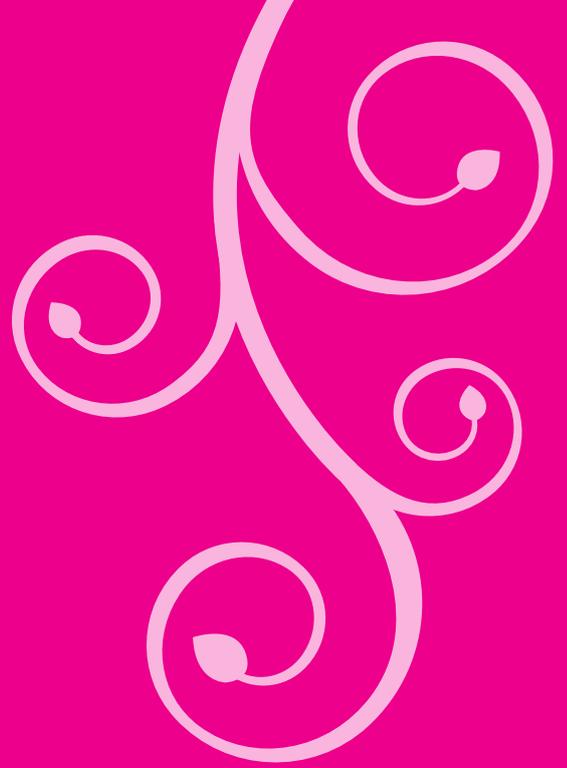
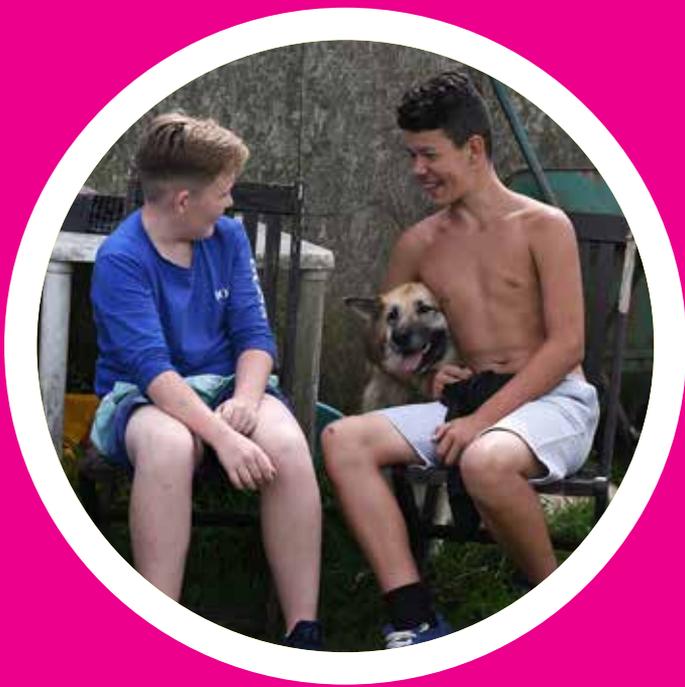
**\*PATRICK** is a disabled Traveller with learning difficulties who didn't have proper washing facilities on his site. The local authority had refused a Disabled Facilities Grant but intervention by FFT got the local authority to grant a walk in, accessible shower on the family's plot and secure disability benefits. **\*names have been changed**

## CRYSTAL'S VARDO

**NOW IN ITS 4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR, CRYSTAL'S VARDO CONTINUED ITS JOURNEY AROUND THE COUNTRY. THE DIVERSITY OF OUR AUDIENCES IS GROWING AND WHAT STARTED OUT AS A PLAY FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN HAS NOW FOUND ITS WAY TO HEALTH CONFERENCES, TRAINING EVENTS, PRISONS AND THEATRES WHERE IT CAN BE ENJOYED BY ALL.**

**“ The pupils were completely absorbed and listened very carefully. I hope now they can understand some of the challenges that our Traveller pupils endure’**  
Teacher, Bristol.





# OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

**OUR NATIONAL PHONE LINE IS AN ESSENTIAL LIFE-LINE FOR THOSE IN CRISIS AND WE REACH MANY FAMILIES AND CHILDREN THROUGH OUR PROJECTS AND HEALTH & COMMUNITY OUTREACH WORK IN SUSSEX AND SURREY.**

Nationally, we advocated for **223** clients on **407** different issues.

In Sussex & Surrey we supported **314 families** with **690 different issues**.

We worked at **18 different sites** and **11 encampments and families** in housing.

We helped **61 adults and children** get access to over **£247,000 of benefits** they were entitled to, many for disability and severe medical conditions.

**15 people** were helped to access training or education

**20 adults** were supported into paid employment, getting NI numbers and self-employment support with HMRC.

**14 people** gained RSPH Level II in Understanding Health

We delivered **21 sessions** of training or consultancy to over **50 agencies**.

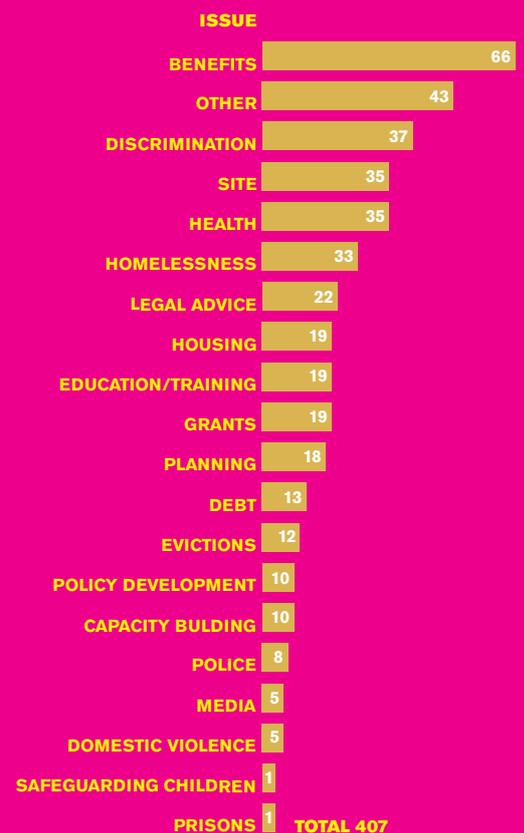
**34 people** took part in Health Research

**54 children** took part in music making activities making **19 recordings**.

Crystal's Vardo has now played to **58 times** to **8,000 people!**

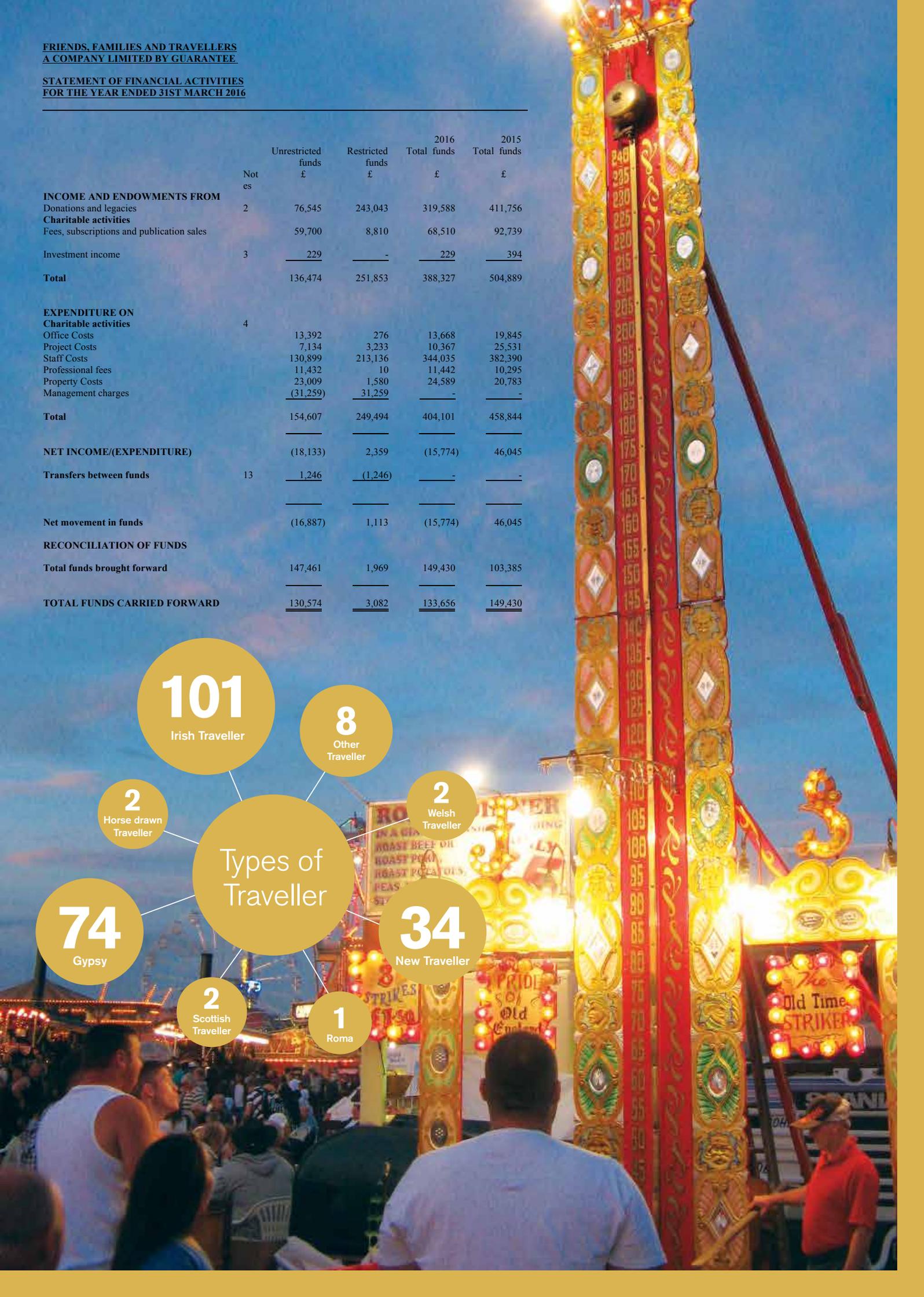
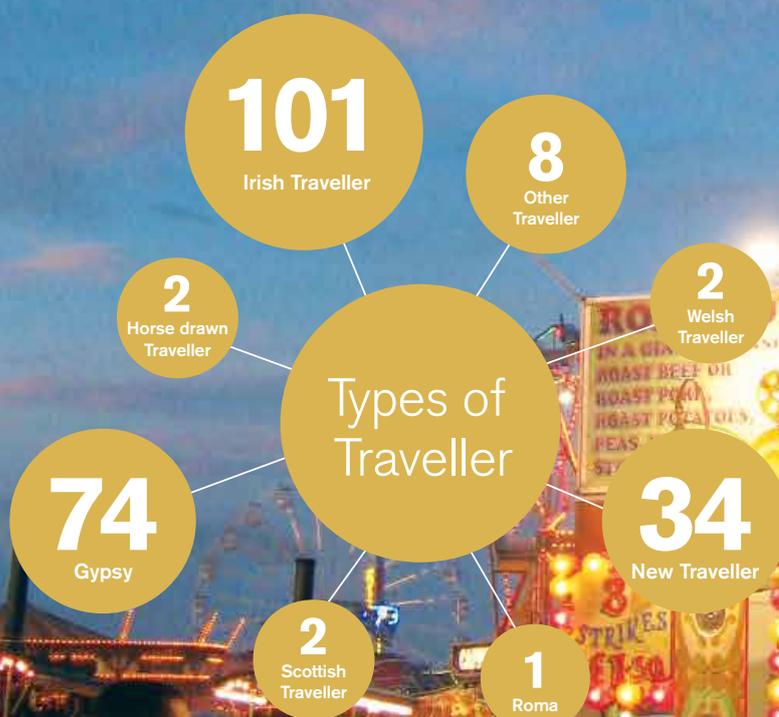
**36 people** attended **12 focus groups** and panels including health consultation groups on maternity, fairness commission, domestic violence and cancer.

We worked with **2 paid Traveller Interns** and supported **26 Young People** to speak out on behalf of young people.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2016

	Not es	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2016 Total funds £	2015 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	76,545	243,043	319,588	411,756
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Fees, subscriptions and publication sales		59,700	8,810	68,510	92,739
Investment income	3	229	-	229	394
<b>Total</b>		136,474	251,853	388,327	504,889
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Office Costs	4	13,392	276	13,668	19,845
Project Costs		7,134	3,233	10,367	25,531
Staff Costs		130,899	213,136	344,035	382,390
Professional fees		11,432	10	11,442	10,295
Property Costs		23,009	1,580	24,589	20,783
Management charges		(31,259)	31,259	-	-
<b>Total</b>		154,607	249,494	404,101	458,844
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(18,133)	2,359	(15,774)	46,045
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	13	1,246	(1,246)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(16,887)	1,113	(15,774)	46,045
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		147,461	1,969	149,430	103,385
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		130,574	3,082	133,656	149,430



Friends, Families & Travellers is a nationally recognised voluntary organisation which serves the whole spectrum of the Traveller community, both traditional and new, settled or on the road. FFT runs a national helpline covering evictions, harassment, planning, employment, benefits, education, health, civil rights, discrimination and legal representation. FFT is also active in community support, research, monitoring, mediation and policy development at local and national levels.



#### Contact details

FFT Community Base  
113 Queens Road Brighton  
East Sussex BN1 3XG  
Telephone **01273 234 777**  
Fax **01273 234 778**  
[fft@gypsy-traveller.org](mailto:fft@gypsy-traveller.org)  
[www.gypsy-traveller.org](http://www.gypsy-traveller.org)

#### Like us on Facebook

 /FriendsFamiliesandTravellers

#### Follow us on Twitter

 @GypsyTravellers



## WITH GRATEFUL THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS AND PARTNERS

#### Big Lottery Fund

Community support in Sussex and Surrey.

#### BBC Children in Need

Young Gypsies & Travellers support.

#### Youth Music, Eastbourne Borough Council, Irish Youth Foundation

Engagement with young people.

#### Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Internship and Youth Voice programme.

#### Henry Smith Charity, Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme

National advocacy with Gypsies and Irish Travellers.

#### Travellers Aid Trust

Work with Gypsies and Travellers in prisons.

#### The Arts Council and Brighton & Hove City Council

'Crystal's Vardo' performances & workshops

#### Tudor Trust and Lloyds Bank Foundation

Much needed core support.

#### Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner

Domestic violence peer support programme

#### Brighton & Hove Clinical, Commissioning Group, Brighton & Hove City Council, EastSussex County Council, West Sussex County Council

Health outreach, engagement & research.



## THE POWER OF PARTNERS

NHS England funded FFT to work with Clinical Commissioning Groups on Personal health Budgets (PHBs). Together we developed a ground-breaking PHB model for marginalised, vulnerable groups across England and helped Adrian get the support he needs.