

Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

Baroness Janet Whitaker APPG for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma House of Commons London SW1A 0AA Lee Rowley MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

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Dear Baroness Whitaker.

Thank you for your letter of 20 September to Jacob Young MP about the funding for Gypsy and Traveller sites. I am replying as this matter falls within my ministerial responsibilities.

Thank you for getting in touch and letting me know your views on the recent Traveller Site funding which we awarded to local authorities last year. As you highlight, nine councils received funding from the £10 million Traveller Site Fund to support 16 different local authority projects to refurbish existing transit and permanent sites.

With regards to your specific question, there are no current plans to extend this particular Fund further at this time. The £11.5 billion Affordable Homes Programme will deliver thousands of affordable homes for both rent and to buy right across the country. To help meet the accommodation needs of traveller communities this funding can be used to develop new gypsy and traveller sites. and to add new pitches onto existing sites (https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/affordable-homes-programme-2021-to-2026).

Thank you for writing in on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

LEE ROWLEY MP