

GUIDANCE FOR SOCIAL PRESCRIBING LINK WORKERS ON ENGAGING WITH GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER COMMUNITIES SHORT VERSION



Acknowledgements

The work undertaken to develop this guidance included around 130 people from Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities as well as over 50 professionals from social prescribing services. We are grateful to everyone for their time and support which made this work possible. We would like to thank the Department for Health and Social Care and the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Health and Wellbeing Alliance (HWA) for funding and supporting this work and to Michelle Pilling at NHS England for her support throughout.



Image by Augusto Ordóñez from Pixabay

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Prepared by

Roma Support Group

Contact Information

Email: Info@romasupportgroup.org.uk

Website: www.romasupportgroup.org.uk

Authors

Mihai Calin Bica

Simina Neagu

Introduction

This is the short version of guidance produced through work conducted by Roma Support Group and Friends, Families and Travellers as part of the HWA, which is supported by the Department of Health and Social Care and UK Health Security Agency. The full version is available [here](#).

Roma Support Group (RSG) is a Roma-led charity based in East London, working to improve the quality of life for Roma refugees and migrants by helping them to overcome prejudice, isolation, and vulnerability.

Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT) are based in Brighton, working to end racism and discrimination against Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller people and to protect the right to pursue a nomadic way of life.



This guidance reflects on the NHS Long Term Plan, published in 2019, which states the aim to develop existing infrastructure, enabling at least 900,000 people to be referred into social prescribing by 2023/2024.¹

It also reflects on the Universal Personalised Care plans which identifies social prescribing as a key component in supporting people to take control over their health and wellbeing.

It also reflects the NHS England's Core20Plus5 approach. The approach defines a target population – the 'Core20PLUS' – and identifies '5' focus clinical areas requiring accelerated improvement. PLUS population groups include: ethnic minority communities; people with a learning disability and autistic people; people with multiple long-term health conditions; other groups that share protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010 and inclusion health groups.²

¹ NHS England, *The NHS Long Term Plan* (London: NHS England, 2019), p. 25.

² NHS England, 2021 [Core20PLUS5 \(adults\) – an approach to reducing healthcare inequalities](#)

1. Introduction to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities



The term Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) encompasses various communities, including Romany Gypsies (English Gypsies, Scottish Gypsy Travellers, Welsh Gypsies, and Romany people more widely), Irish Travellers, New Travellers, Boaters, Showmen and Roma.

Use of the ‘GRT’ acronym presents the same issues as the use of [‘BAME’](#), as it arguably fails to reflect the true diversity of the communities referenced.

For the purposes of this guide we have avoided the use of the acronym, however you may find the term used in other policy documents.

There are many rich histories and diverse cultures within Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. This diversity includes some groups, families or individuals being more traditional with their cultural practices and way of life, while others being less traditional. It is therefore important to note that not all issues or health inequalities discussed may be relevant or applicable to all Gypsy, Roma and Travellers. The barriers and issues identified in this guide are relevant to the most disadvantaged individuals and groups.

Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities have traditionally lived nomadic lives, although members of these communities have increasingly moved into bricks and mortar housing. While some Gypsy and Traveller communities still retain a travelling lifestyle, the vast majority of Roma are settled.

There is a lack of accurate information to reflect the size of all communities under the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller umbrella. Current estimates indicate around 300,000 Gypsy/Travellers and a similar number of Roma. It is likely that the official census record is an underestimate of the true population size. Other sources estimate the UK’s Gypsy, Roma and Traveller population to be in the region of 150,000 to 300,000, or as high as 500,000.¹

The 2021 Census was the first in UK’s history to collect data using a new ethnic category for Roma communities alongside those from the Gypsy/Irish Traveller communities, who continue to be grouped together. There is no data collected on the other groups under the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller umbrella.

¹ GOV.UK (2022), [Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller ethnicity summary](#)

The 2021 Census results confirmed the presence of at least 103,020 Roma people living in England and Wales alongside 71,740 identified as Gypsy/Irish Traveller.^{2,3}

At the same time, there is significant variation in how much attention local authorities across England pay to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. In a study conducted in 2015, FFT found that less than half Joint Strategic Needs Assessments included a chapter on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller needs and, of those, less than a third included the needs of Roma people. While it is possible that areas that have not included Roma do not have significant Roma populations, 91% of English local authorities have Gypsy, Roma and Traveller populations of some form.⁴

The Office for National Statistics has published this [interactive map tool](#) to help identify local or regional Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

Most Roma people have migrated to the UK. Currently, the vast majority have secured their immigration status through the EU Settlement Scheme. According to the 2021 Census, 13.8% of Roma confirmed their nationality as British.

It is important to mention that other people under the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller umbrella are British nationals.

This table was developed to help readers gain an understanding on practical differences between the communities included under the wider Gypsy, Roma and Traveller umbrella:

	Ethnicity	Arrival in England	Language	Accommodation type
Romany Gypsies	Historically originating in northern India, Romany Gypsies have been in the UK for many generations.	Before the 16th Century.	Romany Gypsies speak English and many also speak a Romani dialect to varying levels of fluency.	Around 75% of Romany Gypsies live in houses, and 25% live on Traveller sites, in caravans or chalets or roadside.
Roma	Historically, Roma originated in Northern India and settled in Europe (including Romania, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Bulgaria and other countries) before migrating to the UK more recently.	From 1945 small numbers arrived, with some Roma seeking asylum in the 1990s, and early 2000s, then a growth in population following EU expansion in 2004 and 2007.	The majority of Roma speak one of many Romani dialects as a first language and the language of their European country of origin as a second language. However, fluency in second languages varies greatly, as well as	The vast majority of Roma people live in houses, although there are disproportionate levels of homelessness and overcrowding.

² Office for National Statistics (2023), [Roma populations. England and Wales: Census 2021](#)

³ Office for National Statistics (2023), [Gypsy or Irish Traveller populations. England and Wales: Census 2021](#)

⁴ UK Parliament (2019), [Tackling inequalities faced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities](#)

			varying levels of fluency in English.	
Irish Travellers	Irish Travellers originated in Ireland as a distinct ethnic group, separate from the general Irish population, and have been recorded since the 12th century.	Recorded from the 18th century.	Irish Travellers speak English and some speak Gaelic/Irish. Many Irish Travellers also speak Gaelic derived Gammon or Cant.	Around 75% live in housing and 25% on Traveller sites in caravans or chalets. Of these, a small proportion live roadside or in public spaces.
Travelling Showpeople	Anyone who travels to hold shows, circuses and fairs can be a Showperson. Many families have led this way of life for generations and many have Romany heritage.	According to the National Fairground Archive, the first recorded charter was granted to King's Lynn in 1204.	Showpeople primarily speak English.	Most Showpeople live on yards in the winter months and travel during the summer months.
New Travellers	'New Traveller' can describe people from any background who choose to lead a nomadic way of life.	The New Traveller movement finds its roots in the free festivals of the 1960s, but people of all backgrounds have practised nomadism throughout history.	New Travellers primarily speak English.	New Travellers lead a nomadic way of life – in vans, mobile homes, caravans and a small proportion are horse drawn.
Liveaboard Boaters	Anyone who lives on a boat, from all walks of life and backgrounds.	People have been living and working on boats since canals were built in England in the 18th Century.	Liveaboard Boaters primarily speak English.	Boaters live on narrowboats, barges or river cruisers, whether on a home mooring, a winter mooring or continuously cruising on a canal, or in a marina.

We also recommend these resources for more information on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities:

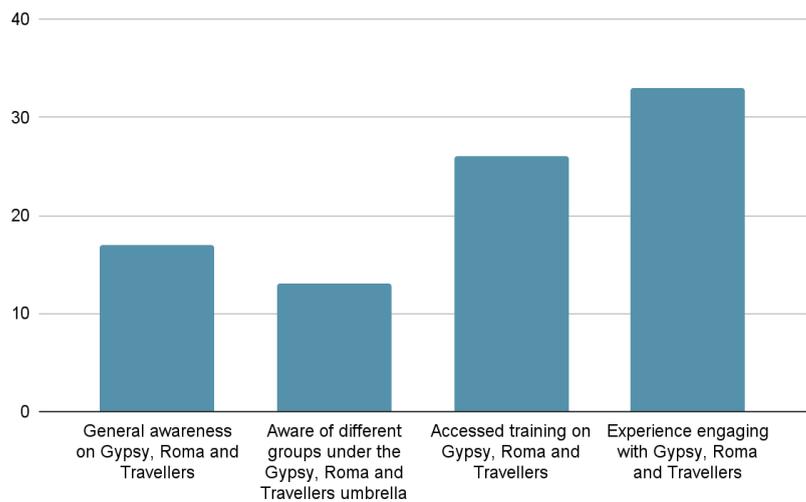
- Roma communities: '[7 things to know about Roma](#)' - video developed by the European Roma Rights Centre;
- Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities: '[Roads from the past](#)' - video developed by Travellers Times.

2. What do social prescribing professionals know about Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities?

“Make efforts to engage. Generally, if you make the effort to build rapport with communities they will eventually open up. These communities have been discriminated against for generations.”
(social prescribing professional, responding to our survey August - September 2023)

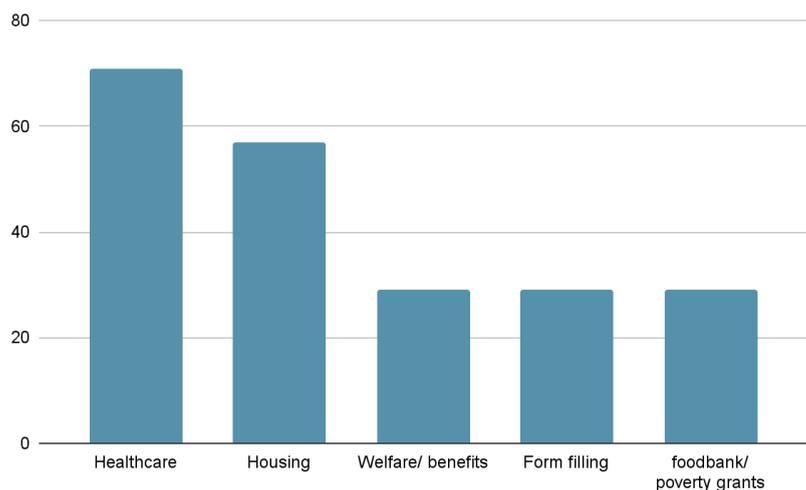
The data gathered throughout our engagement with social prescribing professionals confirms a generally low awareness of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

Chart 1. Awareness of and engagement with Roma



Where engagement with those from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities exists, it tends to be more around accessing healthcare, housing, welfare, food banks or third party appointments.

Chart 2. Support offered to people from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities

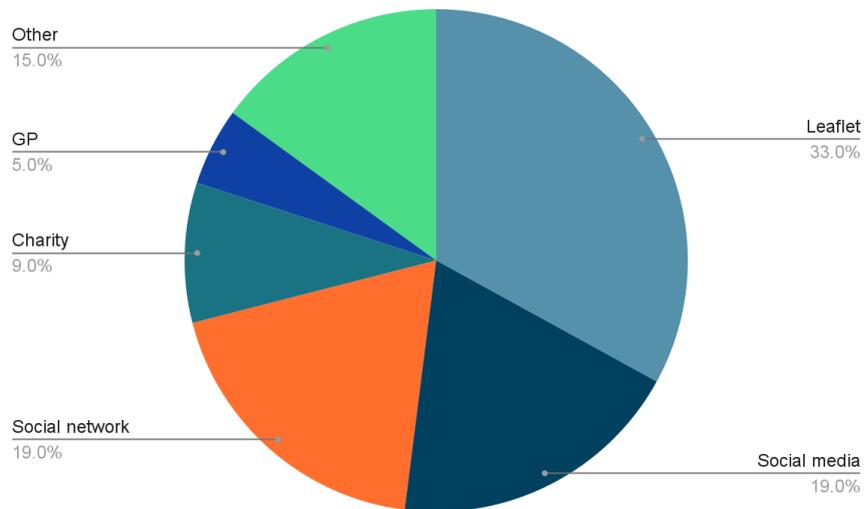


3. What Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities think and know about social prescribing?

“I have heard of the term [social prescribing] but never really understand what it is” (Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community member, responding to our survey August - September 2023)

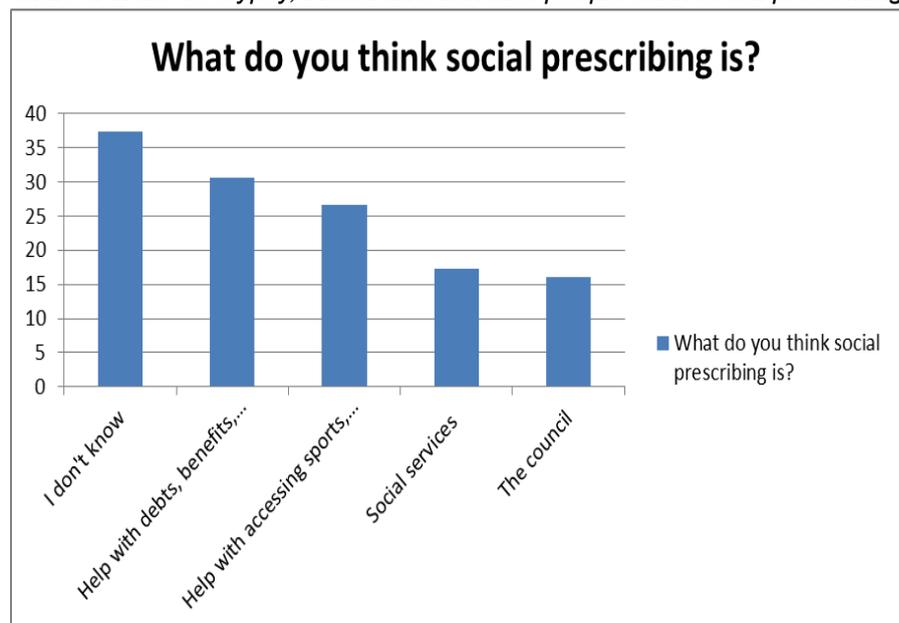
According to the survey we conducted, 74% of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community members don't know what social prescribing is. Only 16% of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller respondents heard of social prescribing services before and this chart provides a breakdown of the relevant source of information.

Chart 3. How do Gypsy, Roma and Travellers find out about social prescribing?

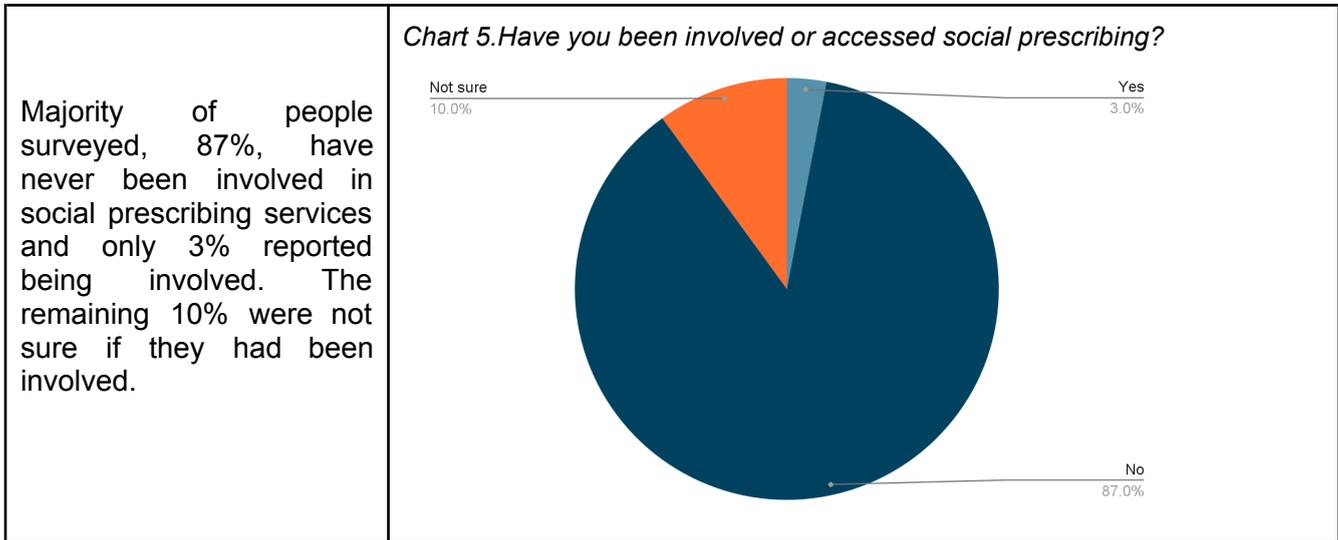


We asked survey participants to say what they think social prescribing is by choosing from a drop down list. As we presumed, most of the respondents, 38%, did not have any association with the term “social prescribing”. This chart gives further information reflecting the answers received.

Chart 4. What do Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people think social prescribing is?



4. What experience do Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities have in relation to social prescribing?



5. What barriers did Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people encounter in accessing social prescribing?

<p>Awareness and access to information: <i>“When people have multiple issues, people need information”</i> (Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community member)</p>	<p>Given the levels of social exclusion experienced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people, access to information is generally limited. The main factors influencing this are: low levels of literacy (and/or English language for Roma), high levels of digital exclusion and lack of culturally appropriate outreach/communication strategies by external services.</p>
<p>Communication with GPs during appointments <i>“There’s no time to speak about social prescribing services.”</i> (Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community member)</p>	<p>Several community members mentioned that one of the main barriers to accessing social prescribing services could be lack of time during GP appointments and the fact that they have to focus on a single problem during the appointment, which is not conducive to a holistic view of their care needs.</p>
<p>Language and literacy <i>“In most cases, when we get sick and we have to go to the hospital or GP, we are</i></p>	<p>Another barrier that was identified was around language, literacy and low level of English. Data to reflect an accurate picture of the extent of this issue is missing.</p>

<p><i>rejected because we don't understand what they're saying."</i> (Roma community member)</p>	<p>As reported by Friends, Families and Travellers, 45% of their Gypsy, Roma and Traveller services users have low or no literacy skills.⁵ Across Europe 10% of Roma are completely illiterate⁶ and between 40%-60% of adult Roma in the EU are functionally illiterate (able to read but unable to understand content of written text).⁷ Current experiences of young Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children are reflecting a similar image: in the 2018 to 2019 school year, 19% of White Gypsy or Roma pupils, and 26% of Irish Traveller pupils met the expected standard in key stage 2 reading, writing and maths.⁸ The 2021 Census data indicates that 27.5% of Roma in England had English as their main language. Further details on languages spoken by Roma in England and English proficiency are available here.⁹ Majority of all others from communities under the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller umbrella are native English speakers.</p>
<p>Interpreting services</p>	<p><i>"When I go to the GP, I don't have an interpreter so I can't even say "social prescribing". How could I access this?"</i> (Roma community member)</p> <p>The 2021 Census Roma analysis confirms that 72.5% of Roma have a language other than English as their main language. For more details regarding main language spoken by Roma people in England and Wales please check the 2021 Census Roma analysis here.¹⁰</p>
<p>Limited community services available <i>"We should have a link person to represent our community."</i> (Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community member)</p>	<p>Throughout our discussions and engagement with SP professionals, we have identified only one Gypsy, Roma and Traveller dedicated social prescribing service. Reflecting on the need for more such services to exist, community members have suggested employing more people from the community.</p>
<p>Digital Exclusion</p>	<p>Gypsies and Travellers experience high levels of digital exclusion, with over half of them feeling unconfident when using the internet.¹¹ Many Gypsies and Travellers indicate that low literacy levels are the main barriers preventing access to the internet, in addition to cost, running out of data and signal.¹² Roma people experience digital poverty, and lack adequate technology and equipment such as smartphones and laptops.¹³ A lack of digital skills to engage with the internet and other</p>

⁵ Friends, Families and Travellers (2020) [How to Tackle Health Inequalities in Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities. A Guide for Health and Care Services](#)

⁶ Ballard Brief (2020), [Lack of Educational Opportunities for the Roma People in Eastern Europe](#)

⁷ Fatma Bajram Azemovska (2020) [Basic literacy of Roma - challenges of adult education](#)

⁸ UK Gov. (2022) Ethnicity, Facts and Figures, [Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller ethnicity summary](#)

⁹ Office for National Statistics (2023), [Roma populations, England and Wales: Census 2021](#)

¹⁰ Office for National Statistics (2023), [Roma populations, England and Wales: Census 2021](#)

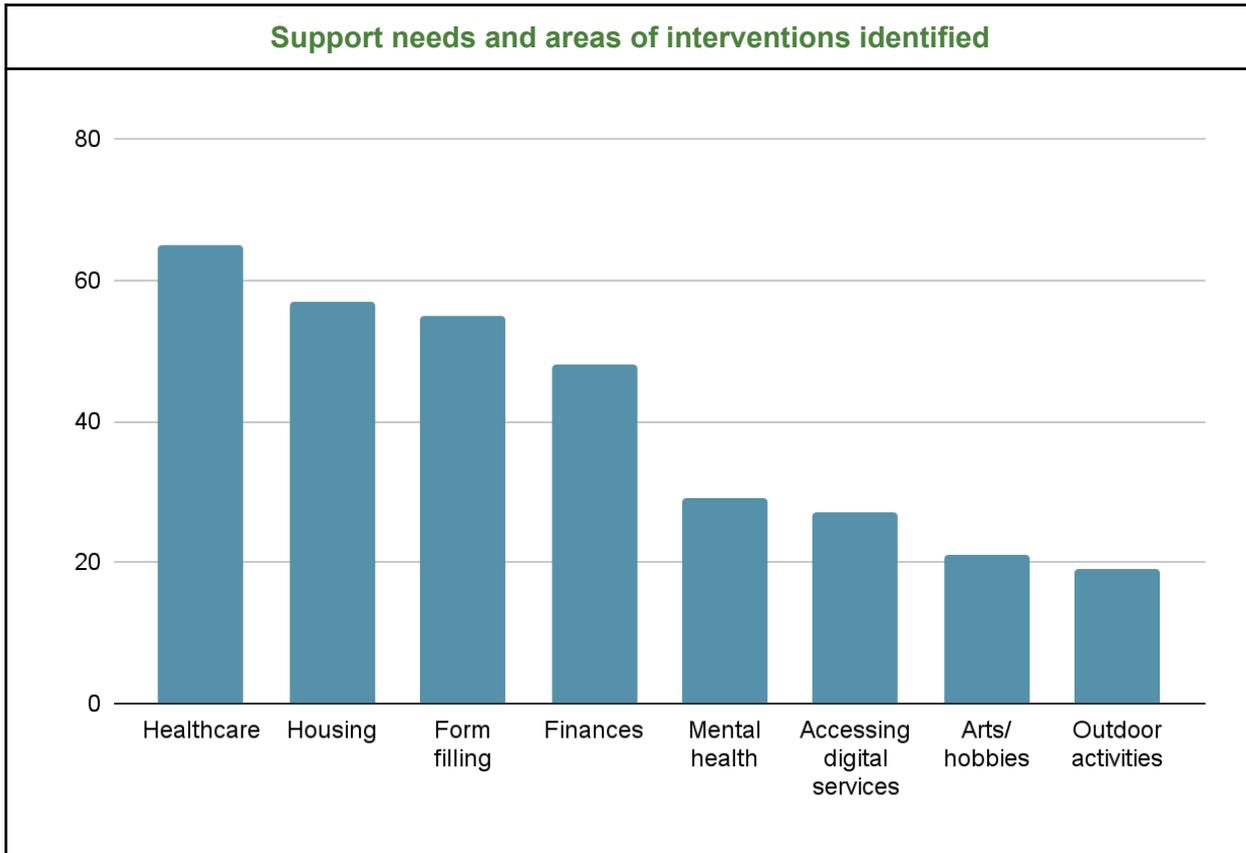
¹¹ Friends, Families and Travellers (2018) [New report reveals significant digital exclusion in Gypsy and Traveller communities in the UK](#)

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Law for Life (2021) [Digital exclusion and Roma communities in the context of child protection](#)

digitised platforms also prevents Roma from engaging in a meaningful way.¹⁴

6. How to engage with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities in social prescribing?



7. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller outreach, communication and increasing awareness

According to the community survey, the best way to tell Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities about social prescribing services would be primarily through:

- 50% through social media;
- 47% through their GP;
- 41% through community organisations;
- 40% through leaflets;
- 40% through schools;
- 31% through local councils;
- 13% through churches.

Other suggestions included face to face meetings, poster and notice points at, for instance, service points on canals, and via trusted support and advocacy charities.

¹⁴ Ibid.

Community members reiterated the importance of face to face communication, as not all members will have phones or constant access to phones and emails.

Cultural background

As suggested in the sections above, the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller term is a catch-all umbrella term referring to several communities as described in the table available at section 2. It is important to know that these communities have different and diverse cultural practices, different approaches to lifestyle, speak different languages and have different nationalities.

It is also very important to note that some people under each Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community may be more or less traditional. At the same time they might have a higher or lower level of education.

Therefore it is possible professionals might come across a very culturally traditional Gypsy, Roma and Traveller person or a less traditional Gypsy, Roma and Traveller person, or a highly educated individual or family as well as a more vulnerable member of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

Accommodation

It is generally believed that Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities have a travelling lifestyle and life on caravan sites. But there are very significant differences between accommodation types with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities as described in the table above. When engaging with people from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities social prescribing professionals should make sure they are fully aware of which community under the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller umbrella they are working with and what type of accommodation they live in. For example it is known that 75% of Gypsy people live in bricks and mortar and the vast majority of Roma people in the UK are settled.

It is also known that some of those living on sites or roadside do not have full access to electricity or have limited access to the internet, or no documents to confirm address. Some of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people still living nomadically do not have access to a registered site and are living on roadside or unauthorised sites. In some cases locations of these settings are away from public transport.

Those most vulnerable from the Roma communities might live in overcrowded situations, may not have access to documents proving address.

Language

There is a huge diversity of languages spoken by people from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. Most Gypsy and Traveller people speak English as their main language. Many Roma people speak Romanes as their main language. Romanes is the native language of Roma all across the world. It has over 40 dialects spoken by various groups or tribes of Roma. Roma also speak to various extent the language from their countries of origin (Romanian, Czech, Spanish, Polish, etc.) But younger generations of Roma, educated in the UK, have a limited fluency in the language of their country of origin and they will mainly speak Romanes and/or English. Some people from Romany Gypsy or Gypsy communities also speak to some extent a degree of Romanes language.

More details on languages spoken by all communities under the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller umbrella are available above.

When working with those most vulnerable Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people it is best practice to pass on messages through videos or voice notes through relevant language/dialect. When having to work with interpreters it is best practice to work with bi-lingual community advocates. When working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people including Roma who do speak English it

is important to use plain English, avoid professional jargon and ask Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people to confirm they got your information clearly. This may involve asking them to repeat what message was communicated to them.

Culturally sensitive approach - terminology, gender, age

Appropriate terminology: appropriate ways to refer to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities

Building trust is crucial in order to establish a positive and efficient engagement with people from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. This can be achieved by generally having a positive approach to work when working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people, aiming for positive dialogue but also by being aware of more sensitive cultural aspects such as knowing how to refer to the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. For the Roma communities this is more complex. Roma people are using the word "Roma" to refer to themselves as this is a word coming from their native language, Romanes. Across the world, non-Roma people are also using the word "Gypsy" to refer to Roma people. Historically and culturally, this is an offensive word for the Roma people. Some Roma might not be aware of its negative connotations and they might use it themselves. For Britain's native Romani Gypsy communities, also known culturally as Romanichal, the word "Gypsy" may not represent a slur and it is generally accepted. Information on the different ways of how professionals can refer to the different Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities is available in the table above.

Terminology: sensitive topics/words

It may also be relevant for professionals to be aware some of those more traditional Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people might find it difficult to engage in conversations which would require use of words indicating intimate parts of the body, or intimate activities. In such cases, usually an apology for having to use the words before doing it is a culturally appropriate and accepted way of speaking about sensitive topics.

Terminology: mental health

Another area where terminology plays an important role is mental health. Although experiences of mental ill-health are at high levels, general awareness of it is low. For this reason Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people might lack relevant mental health vocabulary. Use of words such as "bad nerves", "pain in my heart" or stress might indicate experiences of mental health concerns.

Gender

Generally, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people still have a conservative approach to gender related issues. But social prescribing professionals should be aware of culturally specific gender approaches when planning activities, making referrals, etc. For those more traditional Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people it may be considered culturally inappropriate for a man to be present during a pregnancy or specific health related appointment for women. This includes partners. The same might apply to group activities involving sensitive topics such as pregnancy, sexual health or health related to the lower part of the body where men and women might find it inappropriate to be in the same room while those topics are discussed.

Age

Intergenerational interactions within the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities are strongly based on rules of respect mutually established and followed by community members. These rules also apply when Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people are expected to take group activities that would involve sensitive topics such as the one mentioned in the gender section above. Some of those more traditional Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community members might feel it is disrespectful to speak about sensitive topics in front of elderly people even if they are of the same gender.

Making referrals/signposting

When making referrals involving members from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities it is very important for social prescribing professionals to:

- Ensure the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller person has all the details needed for the referral: name of the agency, address, contact person, date and time for the appointment. If the person is in a more vulnerable situation, efforts should be made to ensure the person has a reminder system in place so they don't miss the appointment.
- Ensure that any communication needs are met (literacy, interpreting, etc.).
- Ensure that the agency receiving the referral is aware of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities and if not provide relevant information (such as information included in the "Useful resources" section below).

Working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community groups

There is a low representation of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community groups across the UK. Generally there are few established Gypsy, Roma and Traveller charities providing support to their communities. Details of existing such community groups or charities are available in the "Useful resources" section below. We have identified only one Gypsy, Roma and Traveller organisation specifically commissioned to provide social prescribing services to those from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.

In general, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community groups and charities have very little resources available and sometimes they lack the knowledge and skills to enable them efficiently respond to external queries from other charities or public services.

For this reasons when engaging or making referrals to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community groups social prescribing services should:

- Make efforts to engage with the community groups before making the referral and aim to build trust and assess the resources and skills the group has;
- Whenever possible, provide resources, including financial support to ensure the community group is able to follow up on the referral or engage in further activities planned;
- Wherever possible, support the community group by providing relevant training or facilitating access to it;
- Use a community development approach aiming to support the group's development.

Providing support to migrant Roma communities

The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) has developed guidance to support healthcare practitioners providing services to migrant communities. The guidance includes a specific set of recommendations social prescribing link workers working with migrant communities. As majority of Roma living in the UK are EU migrants the following information, as set out by OHID, should be considered when working with members of the Roma communities:

- [Migrants' entitlements to healthcare](#) and other public services.
- How to [support migrants to access mainstream healthcare services](#) and preventative care.
- How to [identify the health needs of migrants](#) and when they require referral to specialist health services.
- [Wider determinants of migrant health](#).
- [Trauma-informed approaches](#) to service provision.
- How risk of [communicable diseases](#) and [non-communicable diseases](#) in migrants' [country of origin](#) affect their health and wellbeing.¹⁵

¹⁵ OHID (2021) [Social prescribing: migrant health guide](#)

Further information to support work with Roma communities is available from OHID's [Roma Health Guide](#), developed by Roma Support Group.

8. Positive social prescribing interventions to improve health outcomes in the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities

There is across the board, limited engagement of social prescribing services with people from the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. We have seen 17% of social prescribing professionals mentioning they have no previous engagement with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people, while 50% mentioned they are not sure if they did so.

The positive interventions we identified through this work included two cases.

Case study 1 - working with a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller charity organisation

[Together Co](#),¹⁶ a loneliness charity based in Brighton that “creates connections to change lives”, is commissioned by the NHS to lead a citywide social prescribing provision. To deliver the work, Together Co has established a partnership involving 5 other organisations each with expertise in supporting people from the LGBTQIA+ communities, ethnically diverse communities, people with language needs, including no English, asylum seekers, refugees and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. By working with partners with expertise in their fields and their communities, the partnership enabled social prescribing service delivery tailored to the needs of each group. Furthermore, this also enabled the partnership to build trust with each community and deliver support in a culturally pertinent way.

FFT is one of the partners of the Together Co partnership in Brighton delivering social prescribing services to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities in the Brighton area. FFT has Gypsy and/or Traveller staff working to deliver its social prescribing provision.

Case study 2 - employing Gypsy, Roma and Traveller staff

MECOPP is a Scotland based charity supporting carers from minority ethnic groups. MECOPP coordinates a Gypsy/Traveller Health Workers Service. Through this service MECOPP has recruited a team of Gypsy and Traveller health workers who are from the community themselves and working directly with members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities in the area. Although the health workers at MECOPP do not have a designated social prescribing role, this function falls under their wider remit and they are connecting members of Gypsy and Traveller communities with social prescribing services where needed.

Example of impact: - working with a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller charity organisation

In 2020, during the pandemic, a nomadic Traveller person needed emergency health intervention in response to his heart condition. For this reason he had to travel to a London hospital urgently. The London ambulance service and the London hospital requested him to do a Covid-19 test following very specific instructions prior to being transported to the hospital in London. The Traveller patient was not able to drive, was living roadside with limited access to public transport and had no relatives to provide support. He has requested support through FFT, his local Gypsy, Roma and Traveller charity. FFT's Gypsy, Roma and Traveller social prescribing link worker was able to engage with the Traveller person and establish a trustful relationship. This enabled the professional to link the patient directly with a local hospital who

¹⁶ [Together Co Charity](#)

then agreed to transport the Traveller person to their facilities and have him tested for Covid-19. The social prescriber was then able to link the patient, and the local hospital with the London hospital and the London Ambulance Service who also facilitated his transport to London and conducted the required medical intervention. The Gypsy, Roma and Traveller social prescribing link worker has linked the Traveller patient with relevant services that enabled a successful recovery.

9. Useful resources

Throughout this guidance we have provided a number of useful resources. We have gathered them all in this section for easier reference. Most of the resources included respond to the needs identified by social prescribing professionals we engaged with.

<p>General information about Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities</p>	<p>For more information about Roma communities, the European Roma Rights Centre has developed a video, '7 things to know about Roma'. For more information about Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, Traveller Times has developed a video, 'Roads from the past'.</p>
<p>Organisations supporting the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities</p>	<p>You can find a services directory of local organisations supporting Gypsies, Roma and Travellers from Friends, Families & Travellers. You can find a map of organisations supporting the Roma community here.</p>
<p>Health information</p>	<p>General health related information about Roma communities was made available by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities here. For more information about Roma health, RSG has developed this information leaflet for health care professionals and NHS staff here. For more information about tackling health inequalities in Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, FFT have developed this guide. For more information about health inequalities in Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, the UK Parliament has published this report. For information on social exclusion, see Council of Europe: Human rights of Roma and Travellers in Europe. You can find a range of resources on Roma health from across Europe on the European Public Health Alliance website. The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities has developed a Social Prescribing: Migrant Health Guide.</p>
<p>Training</p>	<p>Roma Support Group offers training sessions for health and care professionals on cultural awareness with a specific focus on Roma communities Friends, Families and Travellers offers training and workshops with specific focus Gypsy and Traveller communities For more training on cultural awareness, you can access the Cultural Awareness Hub.</p>

	<p>NHS England e-learning for healthcare training module: Culturally responsive practice.</p> <p>NHS England e-learning for healthcare training module: Social Prescribing - Learning for Link Workers.</p>
GP registration	<p>NHS England has produced a patient information leaflet on registering with a GP for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.</p> <p>GP practices can sign up to Doctors of the World's Safe Surgeries initiative to ensure that lack of ID or proof of address, immigration status or language are not barriers to patient registration.</p> <p>The charity Groundswell has produced 'My right to healthcare' cards to make it easier for people to register with their GP.</p>
Healthcare for inclusion health groups	<p>Inclusion Health: applying All Our Health provides guidance on preventing ill health and promoting wellbeing of people in inclusion health groups.</p> <p>For guidance on improving engagement with inclusion health groups, see the inclusion health self-assessment tool for primary care networks.</p> <p>The Faculty for Inclusion Health's Homeless and Inclusion Health standards for commissioners and service providers includes principles for clinical standards in inclusion healthcare.</p>
Language and translation services	<p>NHS England guidance for commissioners on interpreting and translation services in primary care.</p> <p>The University of Manchester has produced a Romani language resource, which includes learning materials and a dictionary.</p>
Policy and entitlements	<p>The FFT website has provided a section on policy, publications and information on issues affecting Gypsies and Travellers.</p> <p>For EU citizens' entitlements to healthcare, see the Migrant health guide.</p> <p>For more information about accessibility of social prescribing schemes to people from Black, Asian and ethnically diverse population groups, the National Academy for Social Prescribing has published a briefing.</p>
Statistical information	<p>To find out locations and percentages of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities across England and Wales the Office for National Statistics has developed this map.</p> <p>The Office for National Statistics has made available bespoke analysis covering Gypsy and Traveller communities as for Roma communities.</p> <p>The UK government has also published data on 'Gypsy, Roma and Irish Traveller ethnicity summary' here.</p>