Gypsies and Travellers in UK cost benefits of improving services

LEEDS GATE
Gypsy and Traveller Exchange

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Gypsy and Traveller Exchange

Leeds GATE

Community led group working to improve quality of life for Gypsies and Travellers since 2003

Four key objectives

- Improving accommodation
- Improving health
- Improving education, employment and financial inclusion
- Improving citizenship and social inclusion

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Demographics

- Data – Leeds baseline census of Gypsies and Travellers 2005
- Estimated Leeds population of 3000 (WY 10,000)
- Half under 25 years old
- 2.33% aged 60+ (Compared to 19.95% across Leeds)
- Average life expectancy estimated at 50 years (28 years less than local average)

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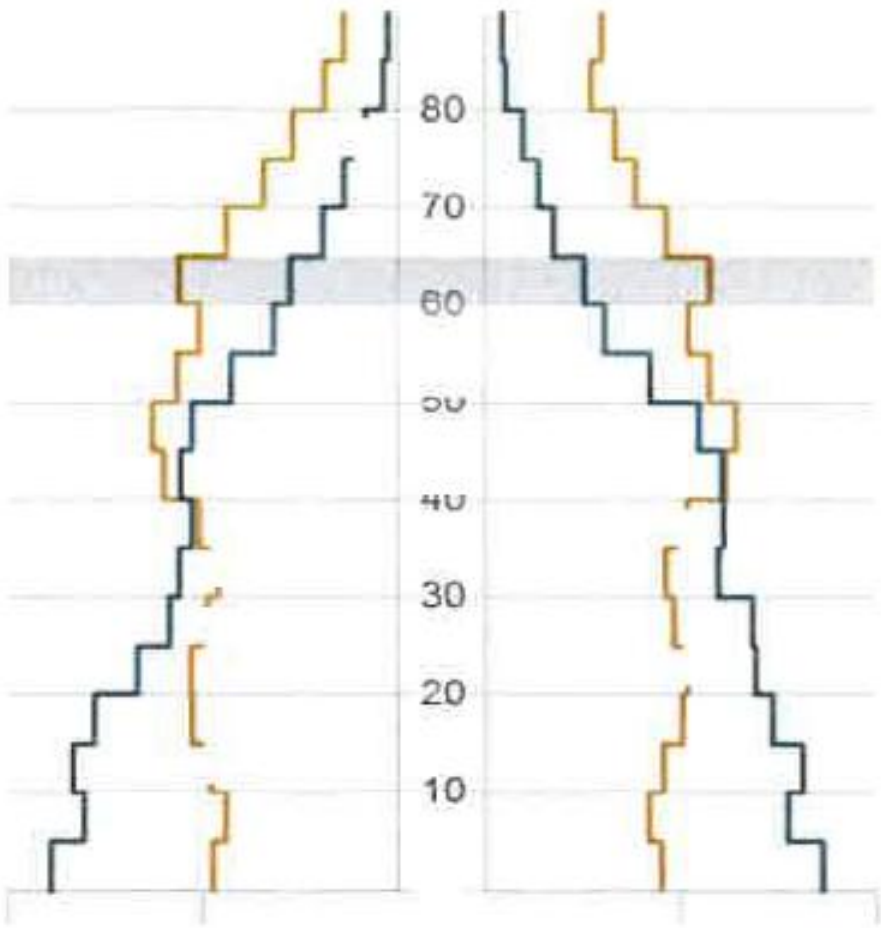

Contrasting Pictures

Age structure of UK population – source ONS 2011

English/Welsh/Scots/Irish

Gypsies and Travellers

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What do we know?

Gypsies and Travellers in the UK have much worse health outcomes than comparator groups.

Gypsies and Travellers experience among worst maternal and infant deaths.

Gypsies and Travellers are suspected to have very high suicide rates

Gypsies and Travellers suffer very poor overall mental health.

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Cost Fails!

- Ill informed/inappropriate accessing of services
- Miscommunications and failure to 'risk stratify'
- Fear of humiliation (on both sides)
- Interrupted care due to eviction/move on
- Lack of access good health information
- Fear of 'inevitability' of potential terminal conditions
- Ineffective prescribing (ie CBT?)
- Lack of immunisation and other preventative care

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Opportunities

- Gypsies and Travellers want to participate in negotiation to improve their living conditions.
- Gypsies and Travellers want to participate in achieving good health
- New legal duties regarding health inequalities
- Commissioning opportunities to innovate.
- Gypsies and Traveller amongst highest providers of 50+ hours unpaid care (ONS)
- Significant potential for long term cost saving

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"Gypsy and Traveller Health – Who pays?"

Health Pathways: Cost-Benefits Analysis Report

Contents	Page
1. Introduction	2
2. The Scenarios	3
3. Pathway Flow-Diagrams	8
4. Cost Calculations and Conclusions	13
Annex	16

Real-Improvement

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