History of planning for Gypsy and Traveller sites

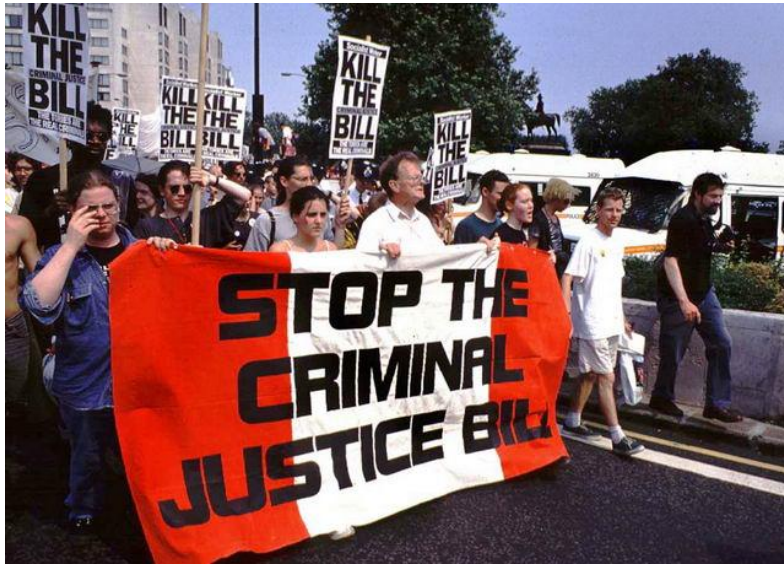## And how Gypsies and Travellers have played a part....

Tracie Giles

London Gypsy and Traveller Forum

13th February 2018

1968 Caravan Act

1994 Criminal Justice Act

- Removed duty to build sites
- Stopped people gathering and travelling
- Pushed into houses
- Encouraged to buy land

2000 - 1st London Mayor was elected Ken Livingstone

2008 - 2nd London Mayor
Boris Johnson

...and a new London Plan

Gypsies and Travellers responded by :

MET WITH BORIS

COMMUNITY PROTEST

POSTCARD RESPONSES

ASKING FOR MORE SITES

Long Road Ahead...

2008-2016

Campaigning for Gypsies and Travellers to be included in the London Plan

Changes to national policy in 2015-2016

2016 - New London Mayor Sadiq Khan

Key issues and evidence

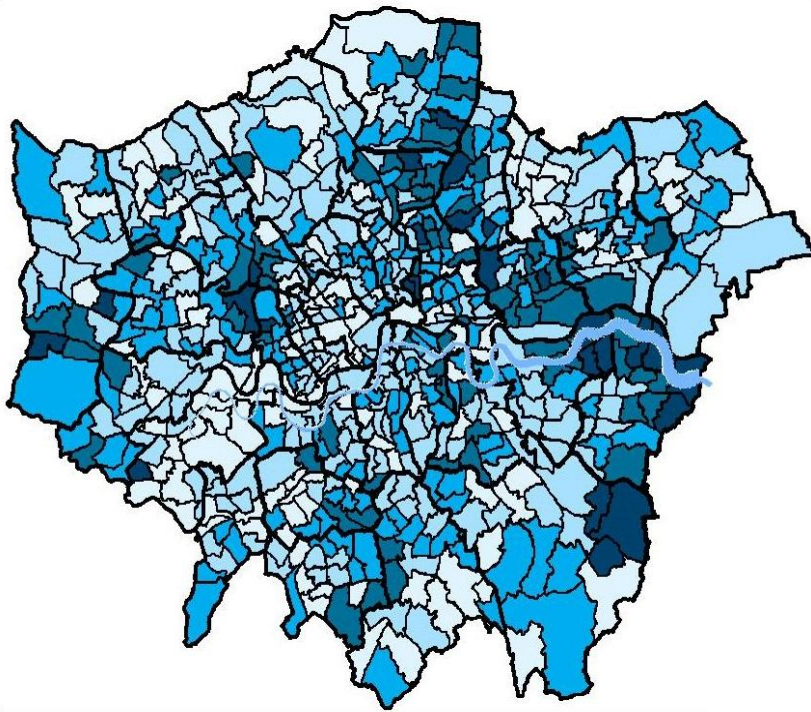**LONDON GYPSIES & TRAVELLERS**

Ilinca Diaconescu

London Gypsy and Traveller Forum

13th February 2018
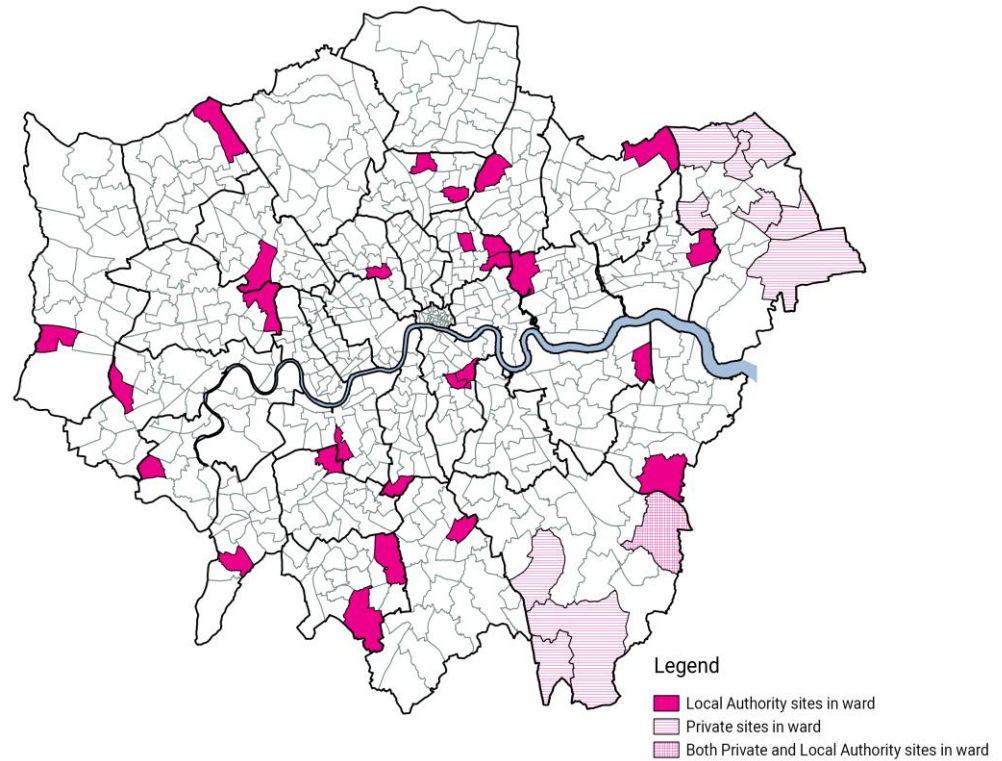
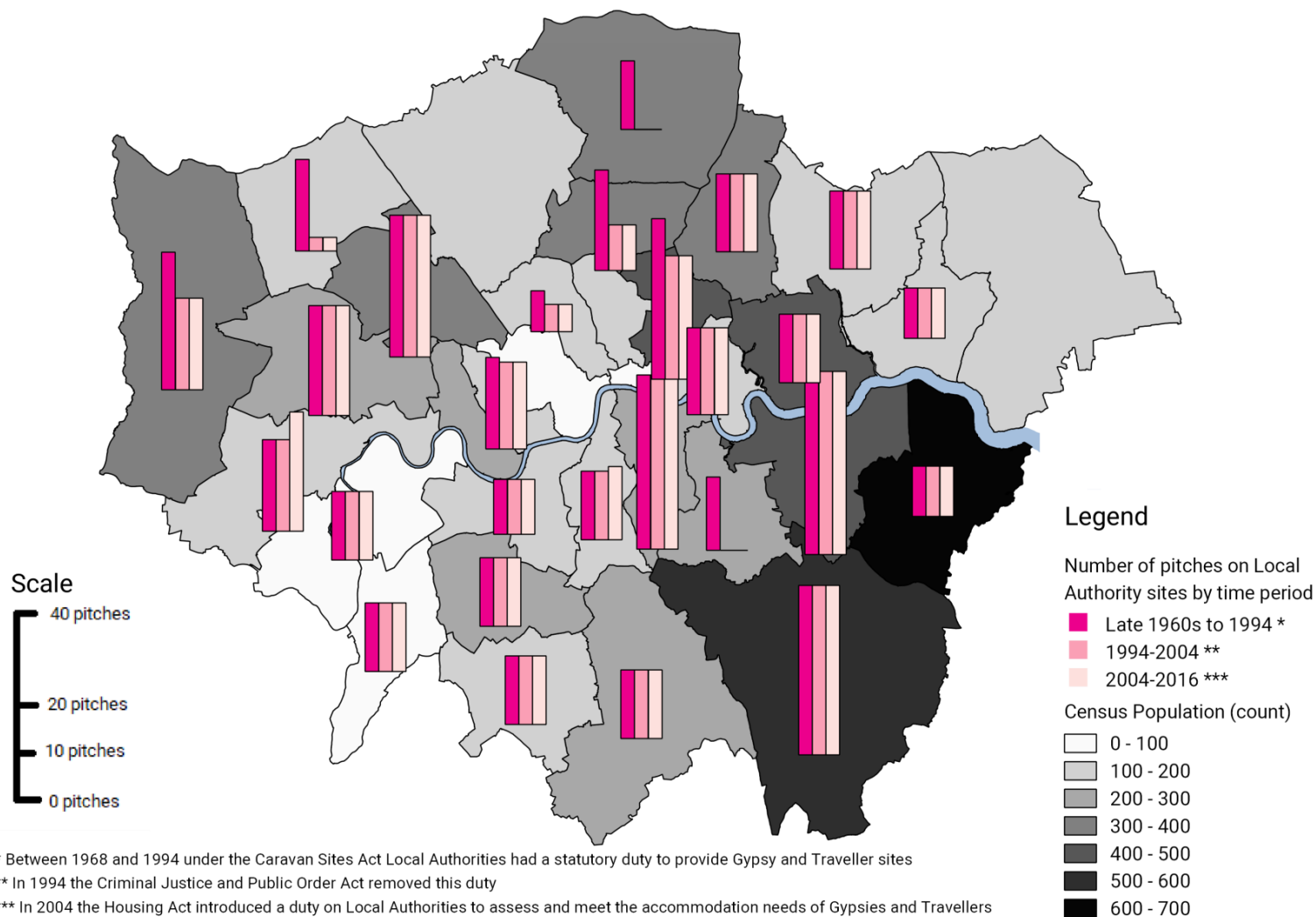# Insufficient accommodation

Gypsy and Traveller population by ward

Gypsy and Traveller sites in London at ward level

Legend

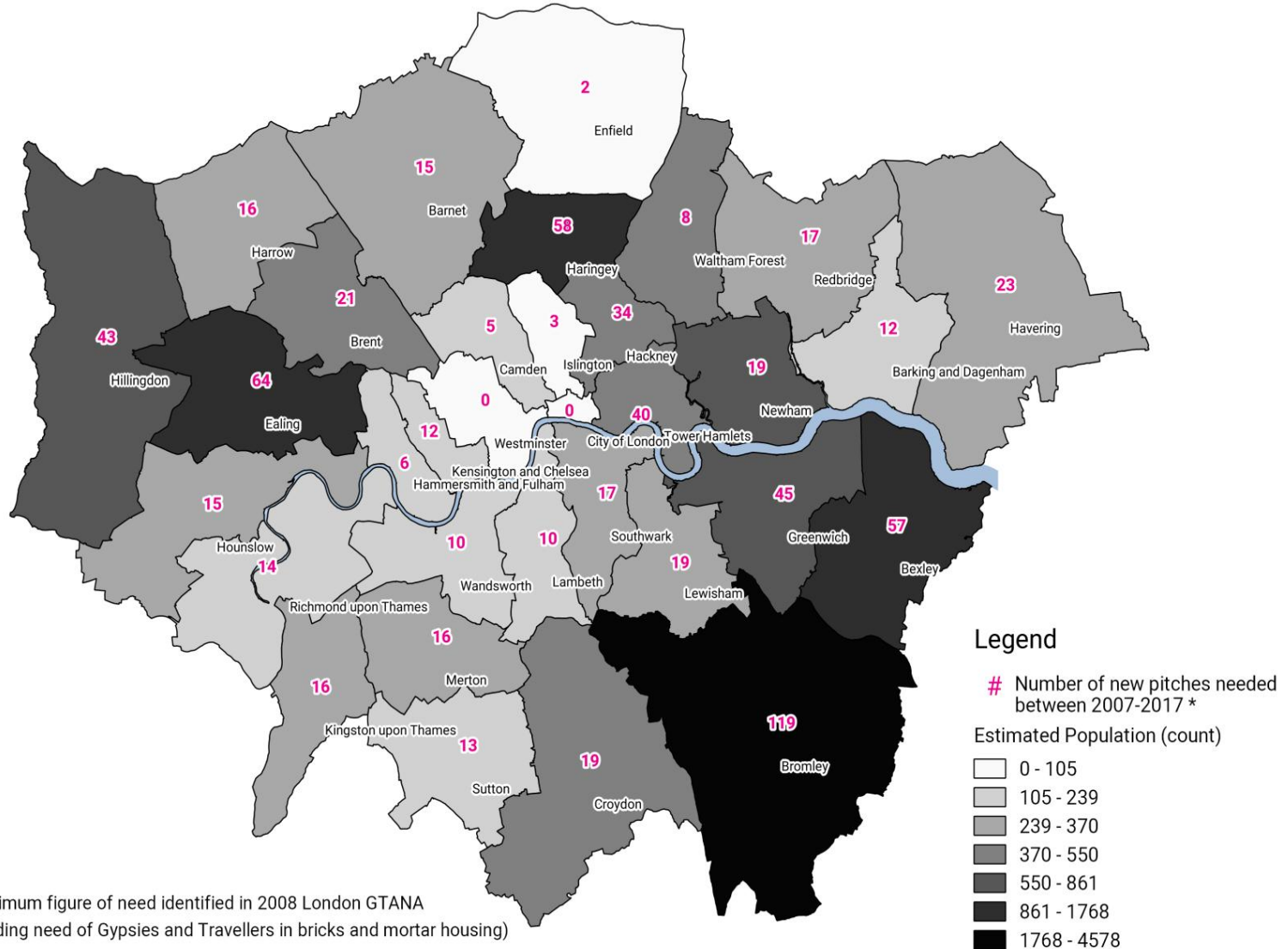■ Local Authority sites in ward
▨ Private sites in ward
▨ Both Private and Local Authority sites in ward

Loss of council sites

Number of pitches on Local Authority sites and Gypsy and Irish Traveller population (2011)

Scale

40 pitches

20 pitches

10 pitches

0 pitches

Legend

Number of pitches on Local Authority sites by time period

Late 1960s to 1994 *
1994-2004 **
2004-2016 ***

Census Population (count)

0 - 100
100 - 200
200 - 300
300 - 400
400 - 500
500 - 600
600 - 700

* Between 1968 and 1994 under the Caravan Sites Act Local Authorities had a statutory duty to provide Gypsy and Traveller sites
** In 1994 the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act removed this duty
*** In 2004 the Housing Act introduced a duty on Local Authorities to assess and meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers
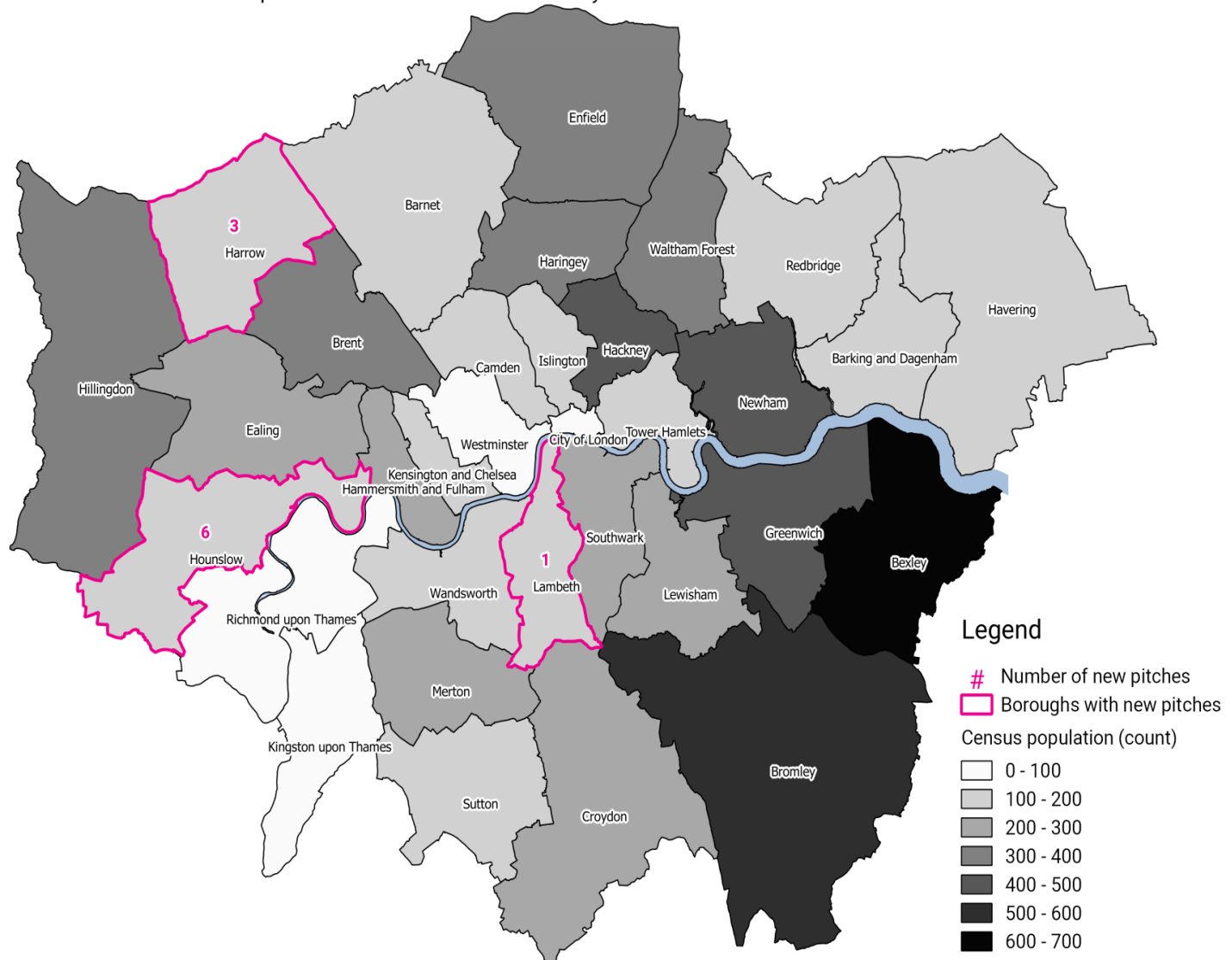
Need...

Gypsy and Traveller population estimate (2007) and need for new pitches between 2007-2017 (2007)

Legend

\#   Number of new pitches needed between 2007-2017 *

Estimated Population (count)

- 0 - 105
- 105 - 239
- 239 - 370
- 370 - 550
- 550 - 861
- 861 - 1768
- 1768 - 4578

* Maximum figure of need identified in 2008 London GTANA
(including need of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar housing)

...vs Delivery

New pitches delivered on Local Authority sites since the 2008 London GTANA

Legend

\#   Number of new pitches

▭   Boroughs with new pitches

Census population (count)

- 0 - 100
- 100 - 200
- 200 - 300
- 300 - 400
- 400 - 500
- 500 - 600
- 600 - 700

National policy changes

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment figures between 2012-2017 by London Borough

Legend

☐ Have completed GTANA

Identified need for new pitches (count) by planning policy requirement

■ Based on 2006 Housing Act and 2012 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites definition

■ Based on 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites definition - pitches needed by GT families meeting definition

■ Based on 2015 Planning Policy for Traveller Sites definition - pitches needed by GT families not meeting definition

Symbol key

☐ London Legacy Development Committee LLDC / Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation OPDC

◯ London Borough

What the housing crisis means for Gypsies and Travellers in London

- **More families pushed in unsuitable housing**

- **Temporary and emergency accommodation**

- **Discrimination and frequent evictions in the private rented sector**

- **Rise in unauthorised encampments**

- **Huge social costs: family and community life, health, education, work**

- **Challenge of density/viability vs social value and equality duty**

What are the opportunities to make this happen?

Small group discussion

1. How can the policy be improved?

2. What needs to be in place for the delivery of new sites to happen?