

Employment, skills and training for London's Gypsies and Travellers

14 May 2015

London Gypsy and Traveller Unit

Mayoral election 2016

- The new Mayor of London should champion Gypsy and Traveller issues
- Mobilise the community to engage with the candidates
- Come up with a list of demands for the new Mayor



Priorities

Employment and training

Education



Health

Site provision

Today's theme: Employment, skills and training

- What are the main issues?
- What's happening at a London wide level?
- What is the Mayor currently doing?
- What are our demands?



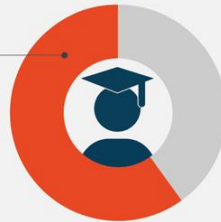
Some statistics

QUALIFICATIONS

Gypsy or Irish Travellers over the age of 16 were more likely than any other ethnic group to have no qualifications.

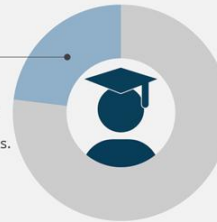
60%

of Gypsy or Irish Travellers over the age of 16 have no qualifications.



23%

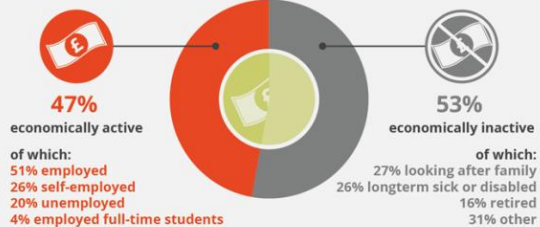
of residents in England and Wales over the age of 16 have no qualifications.



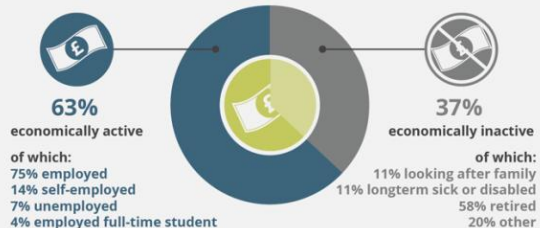
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Gypsy or Irish Travellers had the lowest proportion of economic activity of the ethnic groups.

GYPSY OR IRISH TRAVELLERS



ENGLAND AND WALES



OCCUPATION

ELEMENTARY OCCUPATIONS

E.g. sales, service (e.g. bar or cleaning staff) and construction.



SKILLED TRADES

E.g. agricultural, electric and building trades.



Census, 2011

Access to employment and training

- Leaving education early
- Literacy, numeracy, IT skills
- Accessing childcare
- Barriers to mainstream programmes
- Red tape



Cultural awareness

- Laws and regulations affecting Gypsies and Travellers
- Discrimination
- Traditional jobs disappearing

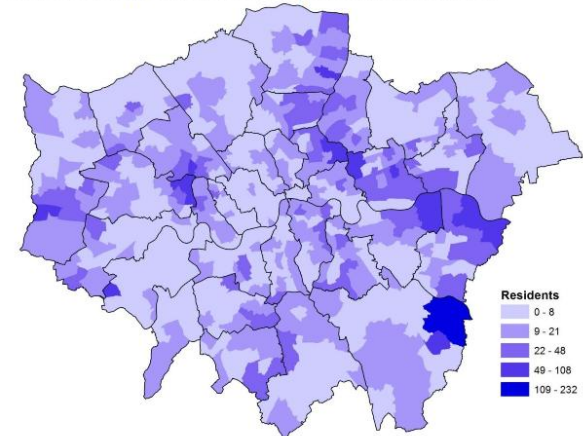


Policy and evidence

- Very little data available
- No evidence – inadequate policies
- Need to recognise and address inequalities facing Gypsies and Travellers in the Mayor's strategies and plans



Distribution of Gypsy or Irish Traveller population across London, 2011



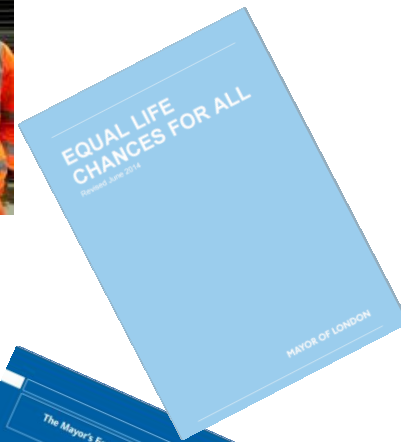
What's happening in London?



- Limited funding/resources for voluntary and community organisations
- Lack of mainstream programmes which meet the needs of the community

What is the Mayor doing?

- **Equal Life Chances for All** – aims to address employment and training inequalities for disadvantaged groups
- **London Enterprise Panel** – access to European funding for reducing inequalities
- **London Plan:** *‘Helping people who are disadvantaged or excluded from the workplace, including those who are unemployed or who lack basic skills, will be a particular priority’*
- **Mayor’s Economic Development Strategy:**
‘The Mayor will work to ensure that all young people in London have appropriate opportunities to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed in London’s labour market.’
- **Mayor’s Apprenticeship Scheme**



Is this enough?

- No data collected on how these policies work for Gypsies and Travellers
- Focus is on high-tech, financial and creative sectors
- No programmes targeted specifically at Gypsies and Travellers



What should the new London Mayor do for Gypsies and Travellers?

Questions

- How can we all work together to raise awareness of the challenges but also the best practice examples presented today?
- What commitments are we asking the mayoral candidates to make?