

# Mapping the Pathway to Equality



## THE NEED FOR CHANGE

The EHRC report [Healing a Divided Britain](#) recognises that ‘the lack of robust data is a key challenge to achieving race equality.’ Through our work on the [London Gypsy and Traveller Manifesto](#), we identified a number of areas where gaps in evidence on Gypsy and Traveller communities negatively affect the formulation of inclusive policies to adequately meet their needs. We believe the first step towards transformative social change is for all stakeholders in decision making processes to have comprehensive evidence, to expose inequalities and injustices, to inform policy making and to enable civil society groups to hold authorities accountable on their decisions. This resonates with the proposed vision for civil society in London outlined in [The Way Ahead](#), which prioritises co-production and sharing of data on community needs, policy and best practice and identifies the GLA as a key strategic partner.

## London Gypsies and Travellers

Through our long-established relationship of trust, we work in partnership with Gypsies and Travellers to address social exclusion, challenge discrimination and work to build a positive future. Supporting Gypsies and Travellers to have a voice is central to what we do and embedded in all areas of our work. Founded in 1981 by Save the Children, we became an independent, registered charity in 1998 as the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit

## Mapping for Change

A social enterprise that specialises in working across all sectors, in the use of geospatial technologies to achieve social and environmental sustainability, with a focus on disadvantaged and marginalised communities. MfC undertakes research and development of new technologies, tools, and platforms. This is centred on providing easily replicable data collection methodologies, low-tech inclusive approaches, and interactive mapping tools.

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## OBJECTIVES

- **Support evidence-based policy making in London**, particularly the London Plan and the Mayor's statutory strategies, by evaluating and complementing data collated by the GLA and Local Authorities
- **Hold local authorities and other public bodies to account** by shining a light on both good and bad policy and practice.
- **Increase the visibility of London's Gypsy and Traveller communities** seeking to gain greater recognition of their long history and their right to inclusion and equality.
- **Increase the capacity of Gypsy and Traveller activists to** play an essential role in campaigning for equality and advancing social change.
- **Promote the inclusion of Gypsies and Travellers in research** on poverty, deprivation, and social inequality by addressing the current absence of readily available, pan-London data
- **Develop a scalable model of best practice** that could be replicated in other UK cities and regions, but also for other marginalised groups including more robust evidence on Roma communities.

## WHY MAPPING?

*Maps can help in collecting facts about an area and the connected communities, allow for comparison between areas, act as a tool for representation and communication with local decision makers and identify key issues for campaigning.*

*We believe community-sourced mapping can provide a vital tool for London's Gypsy and Traveller communities to participate in the gathering of data and enable greater empowerment by being armed with authoritative evidence to tackle discrimination and campaign for appropriate provision more effectively.*

*Information regarded as relevant by a community does not necessarily feature in evidence provided by local authorities or national government. Community generated data provides important insights into the issues and concerns of communities on a local level, giving an on-the-ground live monitoring system and enables greater ownership the data*

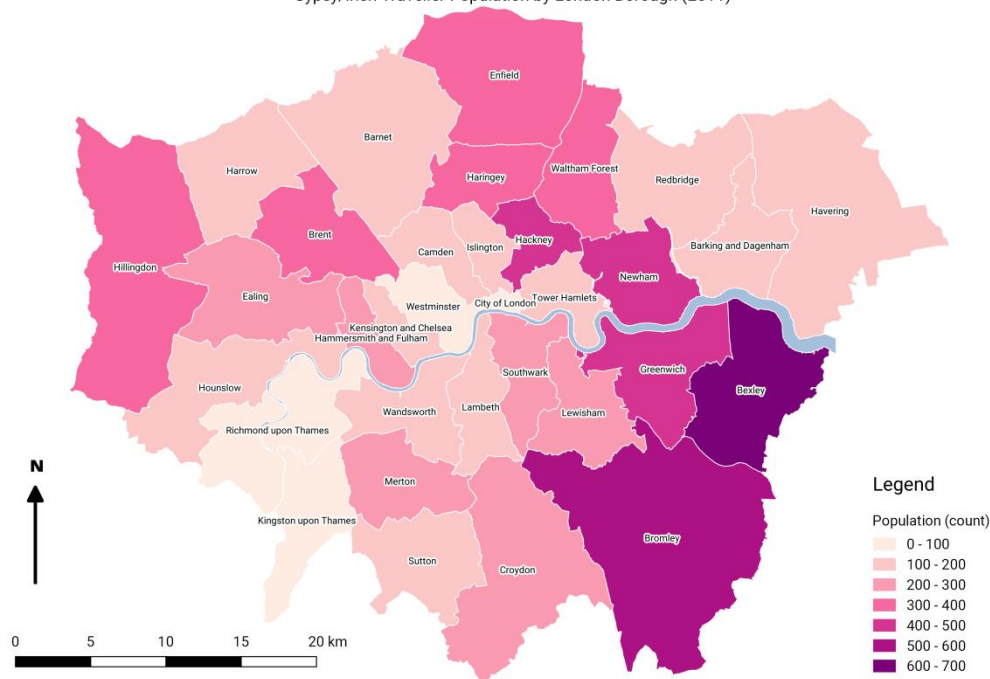
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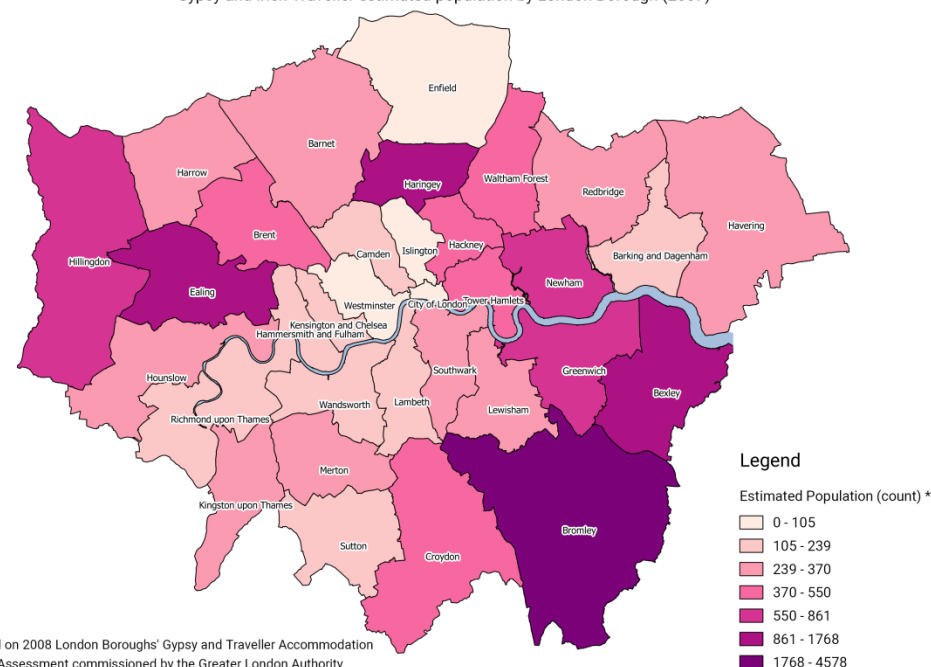


## Phase 1: Mapping existing data

Gypsy/Irish Traveller Population by London Borough (2011)



Gypsy and Irish Traveller estimated population by London Borough (2007)



The 2011 Census was the first one to include the Gypsy/Traveller ethnic category, but only 8,200 people chose to self-identify. A more robust estimate of the population at over 17,000 was provided by the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment commissioned by the GLA in 2007.

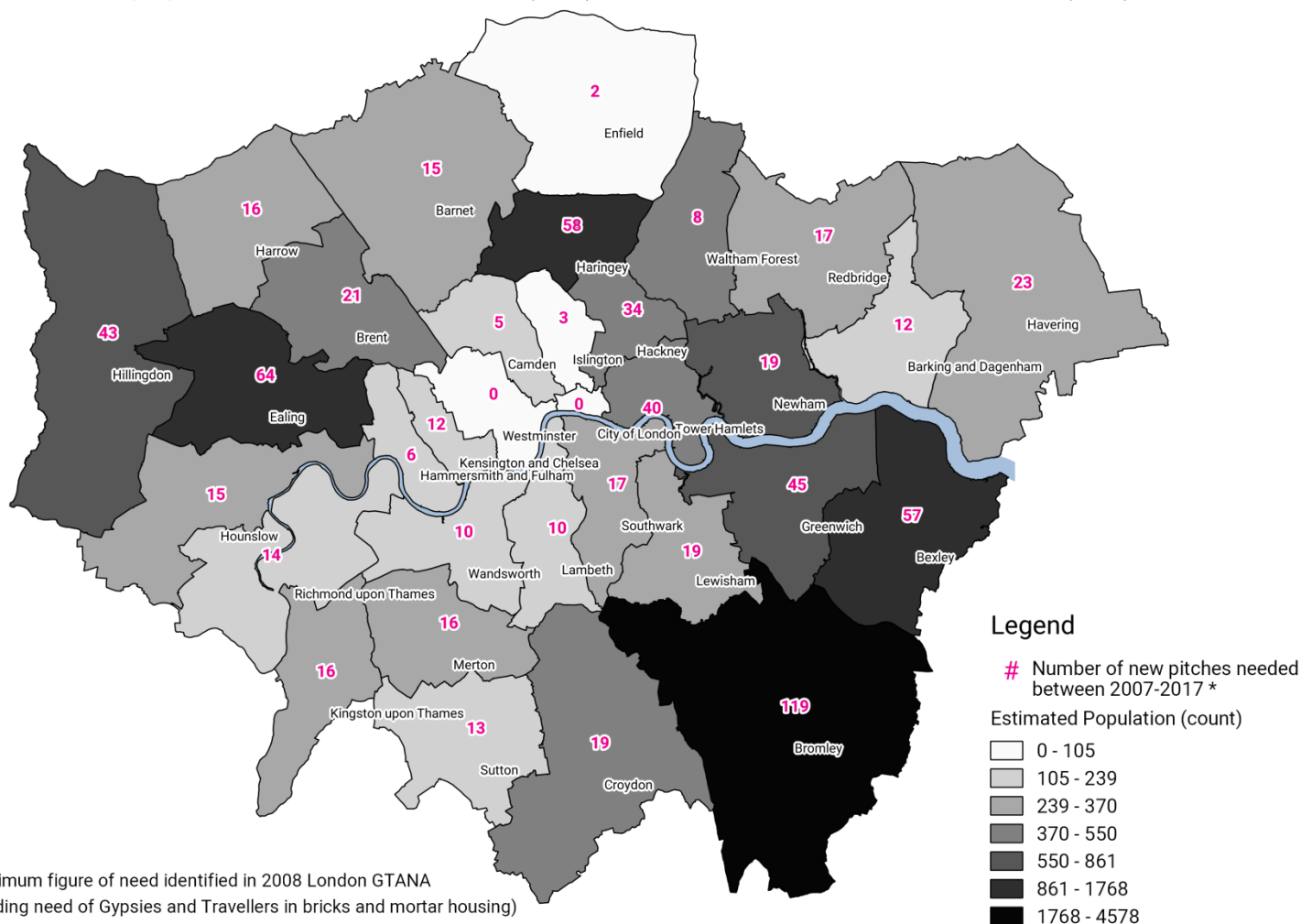
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## Phase 1: Mapping existing data

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



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

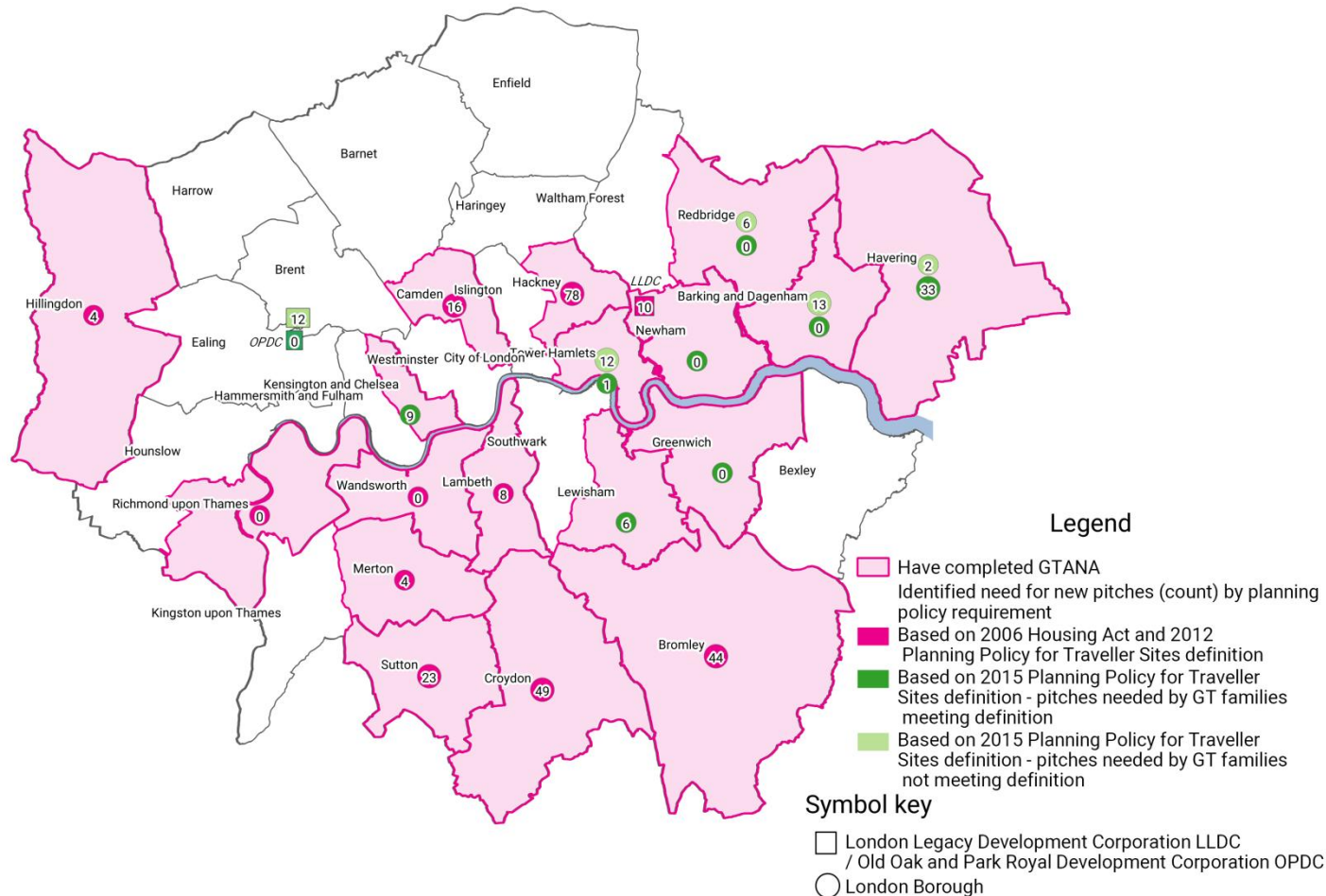
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## Phase 1: Mapping existing data

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



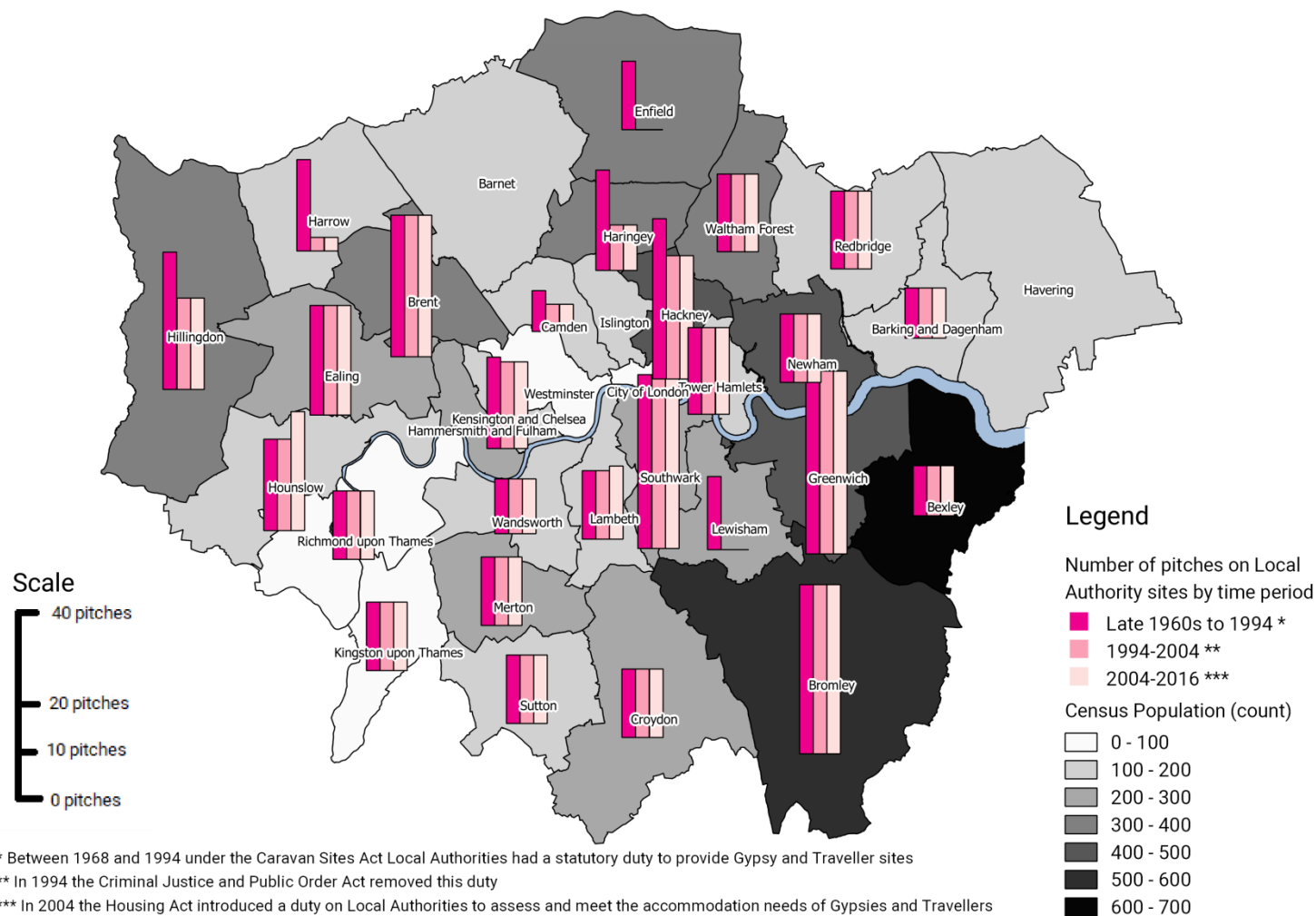
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## Phase 1: Mapping existing data

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



\* 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



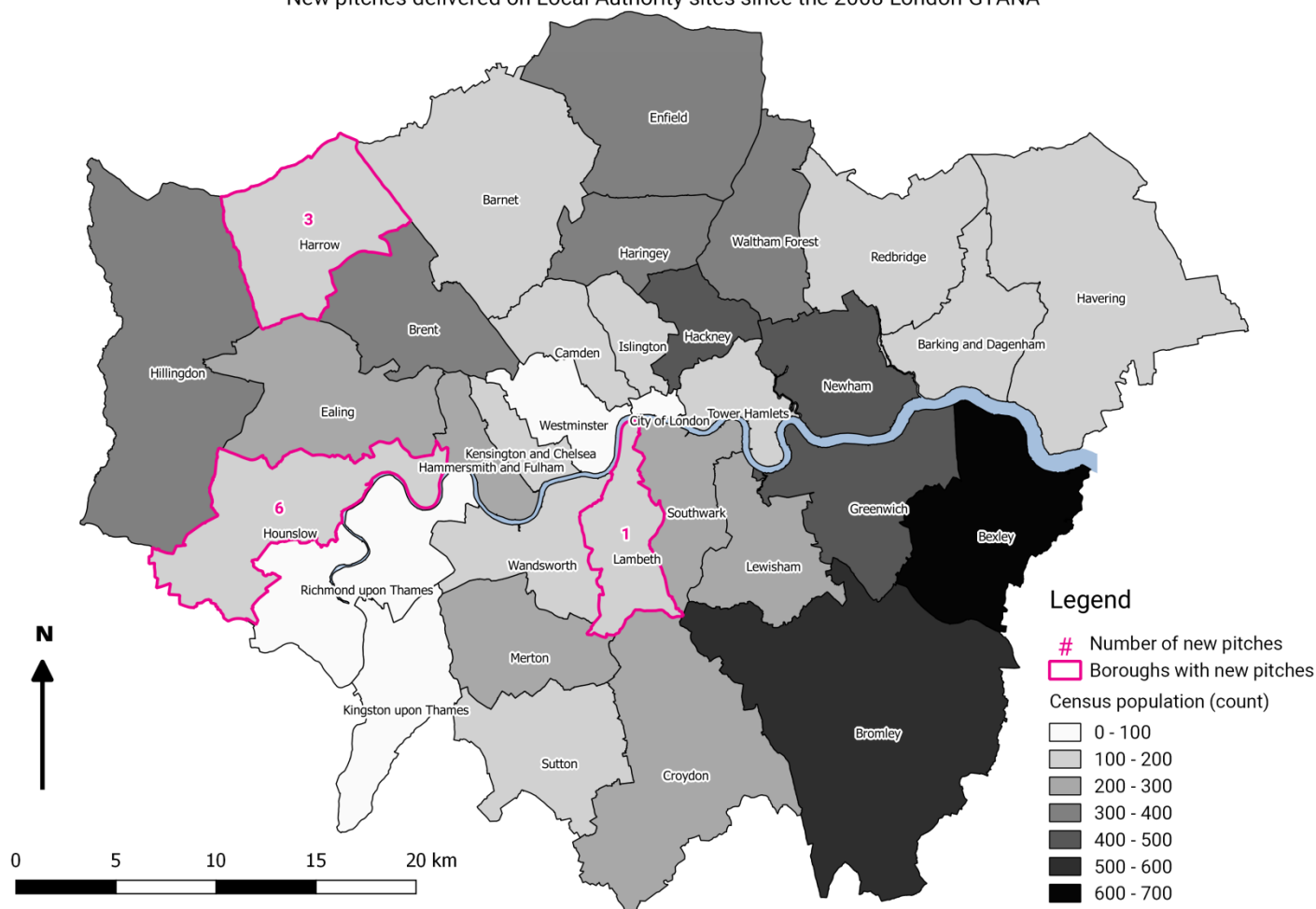
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## Phase 1: Mapping existing data

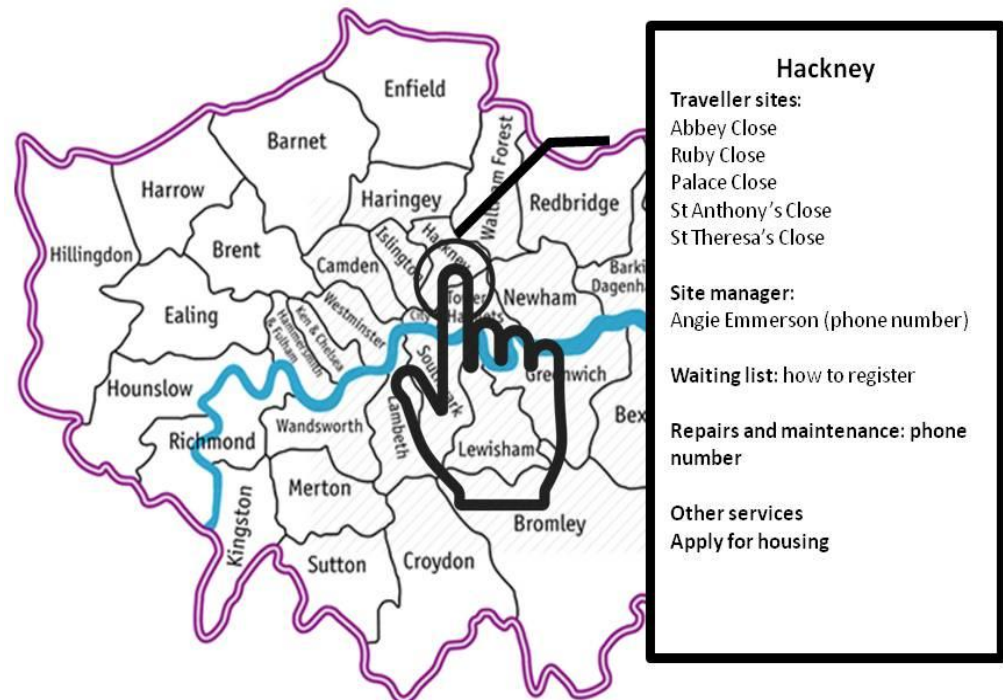
New pitches delivered on Local Authority sites since the 2008 London GTANA



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**Phase 2: Interactive London Borough Directory** of services available for Gypsy and Traveller communities (e.g. available site provision, allocations policy and waiting lists, maintenance and repairs, lead council contacts etc.) for use by the community, NGOs and other support agencies. This would complement the activity of the LGT Hub, encouraging members of the community to make use of resources to deal with some of their personal affairs independently.





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## Phase 3: Gypsy and Traveller history and heritage in London

The project will focus on the heritage of the Gypsy and Traveller community in London, seeking to make visible their presence and experiences of the city over the last few hundred years through a range of research activities leading to the creation of an accessible online mapping platform to share this heritage with the community and wider public.

The types of heritage that will be included are:

- Memories of place – traditional stopping places, travelling routes, local authority caravan sites that have been lost and other places of significance for the community
- Lived experiences – individual and family histories and memories related to living and working in London
- Practices – economic and cultural activities; social infrastructure (e.g. Gypsy and Traveller support programmes and services); decisions and procedures affecting Gypsies and Travellers (e.g. Olympic site relocations, borough-wide injunctions etc)