London Gypsy and Traveller Forum 2021 Election manifesto

This manifesto draws on discussions of the London Gypsy and Traveller Forum throughout 2019 and 2020 and the experience and expertise of community members and other stakeholders.

More information about the London Gypsy and Traveller Forum can be found at

www.londongypsiesand travellers.org.uk/london -travellers-forum/

Covid19

The community
has been severely
marginalised
in the Covid19 response

Mental Health

Suicide and poor mental health are on the rise in the community

Discrimination

Institutionalised and deep rooted discrimination is still facing the community in all aspects of life (education, work, housing, accessing services)

Accommodation

Families face increasing homelessness, forced evictions, lack of culturally suitable accommodation, insecurity, threats of site closures and the criminalisation of their traditional way of life

We are asking the candidates for Mayor of London and London Assembly to:

- Work with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities and councils to implement inclusive Covid19 recovery strategies
- Champion the mental health of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities by addressing the issues of severe discrimination and poor accommodation
- Take a stand against the unacceptable level of racism and discrimination faced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities
- Work with councils and other public bodies on good practices to meet their equality duties
- Ensure MOPAC collects data on Gypsy, Roma and Traveller victims of hate crime
- Implement the London Plan Policy for Gypsies and Travellers and work with councils to increase the delivery of culturally suitable accommodation
- Implement a negotiated stopping approach in London and oppose government plans to increase enforcement powers and criminalise trespass
- Implement London-wide standards for high quality accommodation, tenants' rights and site management.