

London Gypsy and Traveller Forum

Manifesto for 2024 London elections

We are asking candidates to pledge to take urgent action to:

1. Make the racism and discrimination experienced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Londoners unacceptable

Some suggestions on how to achieve this:

- A London-wide campaign led by the Mayor and London Assembly Members
- A celebration of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller culture and contributions organised by the GLA events team in collaboration with the communities
- Active outreach and inclusion of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Londoners in GLA strategies, funding streams, projects and activities

2. Increase the delivery of culturally suitable homes and ensure existing homes meet good quality standards and are fit for the future

Some suggestions on how to achieve this:

- Implement a Negotiated Stopping approach on GLA owned land and work collaboratively with local authorities and the police to facilitate nomadism instead of inhumane and costly evictions
- Work proactively with communities, local authorities, housing associations and other stakeholders to meet the accommodation needs identified in the London wide Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment, prioritising the allocation of land and funding to deliver new homes
- Work with local authorities to support them in meeting their duties as social landlords, both on sites and in housing, to ensure residents are listened to and homes are maintained at decent standards.

3. Understand and address the mental health emergency affecting the communities

Some suggestions on how to achieve this:

- Actively reach out and include Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Londoners in initiatives aiming to reduce health inequalities and improve mental health
- Support targeted suicide prevention initiatives
- Invest in future generations, working with communities, education and employment stakeholders to ensure young people can be proud of who they are and reach their potential