

International Health and Social Care Seminar
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Health and Social Care seminar
4th December 2014 9.30am – 17.00pm



This seminar is funded by The Council of Europe, the European Academic Network of Romani Studies and the Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Society and Health at Buckinghamshire New University.

University of Warwick, CREDS have provided financial support to enable Pavee Point delegates to attend and present on their work for which we are most grateful. The University of Derby Multifaith Centre have also provided us a significant degree of practical in-kind support in preparing for this event.

We have been extensively supported in this event by the Lankelly Chase Foundation who have most generously provided us with the venue for this expert seminar and access to their facilities.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of our sponsors without whose kind assistance this event would not have been able to occur as well as to our speakers and those agencies and employers who have supported their attendance.

Notes

This seminar is a 'closed' session for invited policy experts, practitioners and community groups. As such whilst we will be uploading to the IDRICS website copies of presentations for interested parties who were unable to attend the event, all discussions will use simplified 'Chatham House' rules - meaning that recommendations, discussions, examples, concerns over particular forms of crime, policing etc. and considerations detailed during the workshops will not be attributed to any individual when we prepare the report and policy guidance resulting from this seminar.

This model enables attendees to discuss potentially controversial issues in a confidential setting to enable us to work together to acknowledge challenges and emergent solutions, and to enable us to seek to influence policy and steer good practice in the UK and wider European context.

All delegates will be reminded of the confidentiality inherent in participating in this event on the day. Delegates will be circulated with a copy of the draft policy guidance for comment in early Spring of 2015 prior to publication and dissemination of the report.

Photography

We will have a professional photographer present at the event to sensitively document the proceedings.

Mary Humphrey has worked closely with Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities over a number of years and specialises in images of community life, developed in partnership with the subjects of her photography.

A consent form is included in the delegate pack. Mary will only share photographs or take pictures of attendees with permission. Any photographic images will be available to be viewed and agreed by the subjects before being published in any outputs or IDRICS publicity.

Welcome from Professor Greenfields

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you here to today to take part in this important policy debate on Gypsy, Traveller and Roma experiences of accessing health, and engagement with social work agencies in the European context. You have all been invited to attend as individuals with significant degrees of expertise gained as front line professionals, policy experts, practitioners, academics or community members who have direct experiences of the impacts of these critically important services on the lives of Gypsy Traveller and Roma communities.

The intended outcome of this expert seminar is not merely to produce another report which can gather dust on a shelf but to work to share expert knowledge and engage with each other to bring about positive action. As such we intend to ensure that today's activities will directly impact on policy formation and influence good practice in ensuring equality of access to, and treatment by, health and social care services when Gypsy, Traveller and Roma community members come into contact with front line medics and social work staff. As individuals with familiarity with the health and social care systems we are all too often aware that members of GTR communities are frequently marginalised and excluded, or may even receive clearly discriminatory treatment when they seek contact (or are required to engage) with health and social work providers. As such this event seeks to explore both tension points and injustices and well as considering transferable best practice and opportunities for positive, evidence-based models of engagement.

I and my colleagues from the partner institutions involved in developing this seminar look forward to working with you now and in the future in this important field of policy development. We anticipate that today is simply the next stage in an on-going process of enhancing inclusion of Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities in the context of health and social care and hope that we can collectively continue to share our knowledge to bring about positive change in the months and years ahead.



Prof Dr Margaret Greenfields
Professor of Community Engagement and Social Policy
Buckinghamshire New University



**Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Health and Social Work Engagement
International Expert Policy Seminar**

9:30 – 10.00am	Networking and Coffee
10.00 – 10.15am	Welcome and outline for the day Professor Margaret Greenfields
10.15 – 11.00am	<p>Professor István Szilard, Chief Scientific Advisor WHO; University of Pécs Medical School, Hungary: <i>“Policy and Practice Challenges in improving Gypsy, Traveller and Roma Health in Europe”</i></p> <p>Dr Ray Earwicker, Health Inequalities Unit, Equity and Social Inclusion Branch, Department of Health: <i>“Department of Health responses and approach to improving GRT health in the UK”</i></p>
11.00 – 12.45pm	<p>Workshop 1: Maternal and Children’s Health Ruth Passman, NHS England, Head of Equality and Health Inequalities Zoe Matthews & Chris Whitwell, Friends, Families & Travellers Helen Jones, LeedsGATE Gabriela Smolinska-Poffley, Roma Support Group</p>
12:45 – 13.30pm	Lunch
13:30 – 14.45pm	<p>Workshop 2: Accommodation Issues and the impacts on health and wellbeing Matthew Brindley. The Traveller Movement Professor Margaret Greenfields, Buckinghamshire New University</p>
14.45 – 15.00pm	Refreshments break
15.00 – 16.30pm	<p>Workshop 3: Social work engagement with GRT communities, good practice and international concerns. Dr Dan Allen, University of Salford Dr Daniele Victor Leggio, University of Manchester Dr Phil Henry, University of Derby/Derby Roma Care</p>
16.30 – 17.15pm	Whole Group Discussion – preliminary agreement on key policy guidance/practice points for inclusion in report (to be finalised via email/collaborative review of draft document)
17.15-17.25pm	Close of Event/agreement on next steps (Margaret Greenfields)

Speakers Biography

Dan Allen has been working with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young people, families and communities for 13 years. In 2007 he secured funding from the Economic Social Research Council to complete a Masters in Social Work Research and a PhD. These two programmes of study enabled him to begin consolidating his knowledge and understanding of social work with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller groups. Whilst completing this period of study, Dan also spent some time working as a child protection social worker in the North of England. This experience provided him with the opportunity to develop a key understanding of some of the challenges being faced by Roma young people in particular. In 2011 Dan focussed his work as a social work academic and practitioner. As well as teaching social work students, he is also working to improve social work with Roma, Gypsy and Traveller children, families and communities in the United Kingdom and across Europe.

Matthew Brindley is Policy Manager for the Traveller Movement, a leading national policy and voice charity, working to raise the capacity and social inclusion of the Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities in Britain. TM act as a bridge builder bringing community members, service providers and policy makers together, stimulating debate and promoting forward-looking strategies to promote increased race equality, civic engagement, inclusion, service provision and community cohesion. Matthew has managed and authored both large and small research projects primarily focused on bringing about policy change in the key areas of planning and accommodation, health, education and economic inclusion. He is also an experienced policy worker and regularly provides briefing papers and gives presentations to Government Minister's, shadow Ministers, the All Party Parliamentary Group for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers etc. TM has an established track record of active policy development, community engagement and social cohesion work. They were a shared award recipient of the Liberty Human Rights Award 2004 for our management of the Traveller Law Reform Project and recently awarded the All Party Parliamentary Group on Maternity care for award 2011 for their health and wellbeing project with the Traveller communities.

Ray Earwicker is a Senior Policy Manager in the Health Inequalities Unit at the UK Department of Health. Among numerous other duties within the DH, he is the policy lead for the social determinants of health, governance and international work in the Health Inequalities Unit, and the DH lead for EC Equity Action programme of health inequalities. He was the secretary to the Independent Inquiry on Health Inequalities (the Acheson report) 1997/98.

Margaret Greenfields, a Professor of Social Policy and Community Engagement at Buckinghamshire New University works extensively in the field of social inclusion, ethnicity, equalities and social justice, undertaking collaborative research with communities at risk of marginalisation, racism and 'othering'. She has worked closely with Gypsy, Traveller and Roma (GTR) communities for over 25 years as well as leading action research studies with vulnerable migrants, LGBT members of faith communities, and refugee/asylum-seeking women. In addition to her membership of a number of NGO and Central Government advisory panels, editorial board memberships and activities as a funding reviewer for several agencies, she is currently engaged in a number of trans-national networks which are undertaking research and policy development in the fields of mobilities, migration and social policy and the health and social care needs of migrants and Roma.

Dr Phil Henry is a sociologist with special interests in policy, identity politics and religion. He developed his training as a researcher at the University of Liverpool exploring Buddhist social movements, activism, and minority groups in the global landscape. His research interests lie in Symbolic Interactionist methods of engagement and encounter and the nature of life as performance, and stigma as a feature of discredited identity. The theme of identity politics and the global subversion of religion for ideological and political gain resonate with his current areas of research in 'Understanding Radicalisation'. He is also committed to the empirical exploration of chain migration east west in a European context, out of which the politicisation of the Roma nation by agents of the state, and the continued marginalisation of Roma in the UK is a feature. His work on Roma and their engagement with youth offending services and with social work provision has implications for policy at home and in the wider EU context. It raises questions of human rights and cultural

rights against the backdrop of a public and political discourse that seeks to put barriers in the way of freedoms of movement and of equality across a variety of European nations. His background in the Police service and as a researcher of the marginalised in society, includes work on deviance and difference and the challenges to policy makers of those who sit outside perceived normative social roles.

Helen Jones is the Chief Executive Officer at Leeds Gypsy and Traveller Exchange (Leeds GATE), where she has worked since the organisation began in 2003. Leeds GATE is a community led member's organisation, whose aim is to improve the quality of life for Gypsies and Irish Travellers in West Yorkshire. Prior to Leeds GATE, and whilst her children were small, Helen enjoyed a varied career in food production, horticulture and agriculture. During this period Helen lived with Gypsy people in the West Midlands. After leaving the West Midlands Helen worked as a volunteer Police Special Constable and as Traveller Family Worker at Irish Community Care in Manchester. Since joining Leeds GATE Helen has nurtured the organisation through a decade of operation. The organisation is established as among the leading Gypsy and Traveller organisations in the country, providing services to local Gypsy and Traveller people and maintaining a national profile as stakeholder to the Department of Communities and Local Government and to the Department of Health.

Helen is the author of several publications regarding Gypsies and Travellers including 'How to Engage with Gypsies and Travellers as part of your Work' which is endorsed by the Inclusion Health Board.

Daniele Viktor Leggio is Research Associate at the University of Manchester, where he also completed his PhD in Romani Linguistics. He has participated in educational project in Roma camps in Italy and conducted research with Roma in Italy and on the Internet. He is currently investigating the reactions of local authorities to Roma migrations as part of the MigRom project.

Zoe Matthews is as a Strategic Health Manager at Friends, Families and Travellers, one of the leading national organisations seeking to address and bring an end to the inequalities faced by Gypsy and Traveller communities. FFT is a membership organisation and many of its members are Travellers, or have children and grandchildren who travel.

Her expertise is in the field of Health Inequalities of excluded and marginalised people. She has written about health inequalities, particularly the chronic exclusion faced by Gypsies and Travellers

Ruth Passman is the Deputy Director for Equality and Health Inequalities. Ruth has enjoyed a diverse portfolio career spanning the voluntary, academic and public sectors, operating at Directorial and Chief Executive Level to establish and lead health renewal organisations. She has worked in the Department of Health and across government on the wider determinants of health agenda as Senior Health Policy Adviser/ Public Health Specialist. Ruth has worked at local, regional and national level promoting Equality and tackling Health Inequalities. She has been involved in formulating policy for End of Life care, the implementation of human rights in healthcare, promoting dignity and is passionate about working from the asset base of individuals and communities. Ruth strives to use a co-production approach in order to ensure that on the ground experience is translated into effective health and wellbeing policy and practice to deliver real and improved outcomes for people, places and health services.

Gabriela Smolinska-Poffley is the Roma Support Group's deputy manager and a Roma Support & Engagement Programme Leader. She has been working with East European Roma communities since 2002. From 2002 until 2005 Gaba ran after school activities for Roma children and young people. These included art and crafts sessions and a reading group; through those activities Gaba was co-responsible for the creation of *Colours of Hope: A Little Book by Roma Refugee Children for Everybody*, a pictorial book written and illustrated by Roma refugee and asylum-seeking children, which was first published by the RSG in 2003. Between 2005 and 2011 Gaba ran different health-related projects including Roma Health Awareness and Advocacy Project funded by the Volunteering England and Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project funded by the King's Fund; facilitating Roma refugees and migrants' access to health and mental health services and empowering them to gain a greater control over their lives. Gaba is a co-author of the *Roma Mental Health Advocacy Project Evaluation Report* published by the Roma Support Group in 2012. More recently Gaba has been co-running the Roma Support & Engagement Programme, which is our response to a growing need amongst service providers to ensure specialist and cost-effective interventions for Roma families across the

UK. Through this programme Gaba supports professionals and organisations working with Roma communities across the UK. Gaba delivers Roma culture awareness training sessions, a specialist assessment and intervention service for Roma families in crisis.

Professor István Szilard is a specialist in internal medicine and public health medicine. He joined International Organization for Migration (IOM) in 1996 to participate in emergency and post-conflict humanitarian operations in the Balkans. Upon his initiative and his coordination, in 2003 IOM Budapest Mission (in cooperation with the US Embassy in Budapest) organized a Regional Conference on Public Health and Trafficking where twelve countries of the region participated, most of them at MoH level. The conference adopted the 'Budapest Declaration on Public Health and Trafficking in Human Beings'. From 2004 to July of 2007 he was IOM Senior Migration Health Adviser in charge of Europe and liaison person to EC/EU on migration health.

In 2007 Professor Szilard has returned to his home university and now he is chief scientific adviser at the Pécs University Medical School and he is heading its migrant and ethnic minority health programs. Now he is the coordinator (overall or Hungarian) of several EU level projects - among them the ARECHIVIC that is focused on assisting trafficked children. In 2010 with his coordination the University of Pécs has hosted EUPHA 3rd Conference on Migrant and Ethnic Minority Health in Europe and he is the coordinator of the consortium of six EU Universities developing the EC co-funded ERASMUS CHANCE Project: MSc in Migrant Health. In October this year he was the organizer -in cooperation with WHO - the expert level symposium entitled 'Healthy ageing of Roma communities - Endowers - Realities - Perspectives'. The participants out of eleven countries have adopted the 'Pécs Declaration' that has been uploaded on the WHO Europe website. Acknowledging University of Pécs and Professor Szilard's achievement, on the 10th of November this year WHO Regional Director Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University, where migrant and ethnic minority health are in the focus. Professor Szilard has published more than 120 scientific papers and he is the co-editor of WHO 'Public Health Aspects of Migration in Europe' electronic newspaper."

Chris Whitwell is the Director and Company Secretary at Friends Families and Travellers one of the leading national organisations seeking to address and bring an end to the inequalities faced by Gypsy and Traveller communities. FFT is a membership organisation and many of its members are Travellers, or have children and grandchildren who travel. Before FFT he occupied various senior posts within the public and voluntary sectors. Originally a town planner by profession, Chris has developed an increasing interest and involvement in issues around equality and social justice. In particular he calls for a greater focus on addressing the needs of those groups that are 'chronically excluded' and who frequently remain wholly untouched by mainstream initiatives aimed at choice, participation and empowerment.

Buckinghamshire New University

Our vision at Bucks New University is to be a leading professional and creative influence, shaping higher education for the benefit of people and employers. Within a caring and supportive environment, we deliver high-quality scholarship, as well as focused research and professional practice. Our mission is to put our students first and work responsively with the very best partners to influence, inspire and nurture talent for professional and creative careers. To achieve this, we have put the student experience at the heart of all our plans. We work with a range of partners regionally, nationally and internationally to ensure that our students leave us ready for the world of work, and that we are able to meet the current and future needs of employers.

The Institute of Diversity Research, Inclusivity Communities and Societies (IDRICS) works to ensure that high-quality research and evaluation is undertaken which contributes fully to the life of communities, agencies and service providers by providing robust evidence which supports the development of effective and efficient policies and practices in the areas of diversity, inclusivity and community studies. IDRICS integrates its work across inter-professional learning which grows our capability.

The University of Warwick

In less than fifty years since being founded we've become one of the UK's best universities known as a world leader in research and teaching, and consistently at the top of UK league tables (ranked 3rd, by the Times & the Sunday Times, for 2015). We are a university that champions independent thinking and as well as being founded, first and foremost, on academic excellence, a key driver of the Warwick success story so far is our entrepreneurial spirit. A key strength is our relevance to society and our close working relationships with the government and business partners, resulting in ground breaking discoveries with academic and industry partners globally. Companies tap into Warwick knowledge to develop their own strengths and ensure they remain at the cutting edge within their industries. And that cutting edge insight is developed out of truly world class research: Warwick ranks 7th overall in the UK for research, and has 19 departments in the top ten in the UK in their unit of assessment; 65% of Warwick's research is 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent'.

Warwick University's Centre for Rights, Equality, and Diversity [CRED], focuses on investigating a number of key themes, through research, consultancy and policy development. We examine the social and political determinants of the oppressive and exclusionary processes that deny citizens equal treatment and fundamental human rights (in particular, racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism); analysing tensions and conflict within and between ethnic and faith communities, and the implications of diversity for contemporary societies. We also develop Widening Participation initiatives for diverse groups at local, regional, and national levels, seen as key to sustainable social cohesion and economic success.

University of Greenwich

The University of Greenwich is one of the leading universities in London – the largest in the capital by student numbers, the best for teaching excellence according to The Sunday Times, the greenest in the country as assessed by the People and Planet Green League Table, and our research has been adjudged by our peers to be world leading. Our students and staff continue to win major awards, prizes and accolades for their high-quality achievements and contributions to society.

The Council of Europe

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It includes 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states. Individuals can bring complaints of human rights violations to the Strasbourg Court once all possibilities of appeal have been exhausted in the member state concerned. The European Union is

preparing to sign the European Convention on Human Rights, creating a common European legal space for over 820 million citizens.

Romani Studies EU

The overall aim of the European Academic Network on Romani Studies is to support efforts towards the social inclusion of Romani citizens in Europe. The project facilitates intercultural dialogue and raises the visibility of existing research outside the academic community in order to foster cooperation with policymakers and other stakeholders. By creating an interface between academic researchers and political decision makers, while promoting and improving the existing resources on the European Roma communities, the project shall ultimately allow for the implementation of better conceived policy initiatives based on reliable evidence.

Roma Support Group

The Roma Support Group (RSG) is the only Roma-led charity organisation in the UK. Since its founding in 1998, the organisation has assisted thousands of Roma families in accessing welfare, housing, education, health and employment, as well as empowering Roma communities through a wide range of advocacy and cultural programmes. During the last 15 years we have built a wealth of expertise on Roma issues and have become the leading experts in this field. We have developed best models of practice regarding integration and empowerment of Roma communities which has led us to become advisers to governments, statutory and non-statutory agencies nationally and internationally. Since 2011, the RSG has been implementing the Roma Engagement and Support Programme (RSEP), which enables statutory and voluntary agencies to respond effectively to the needs of Roma families by working with professionals through delivery of training and specialist advice; organising strategic Forums to share good practice; facilitating a wide range of interventions and Roma Families Support Schemes.

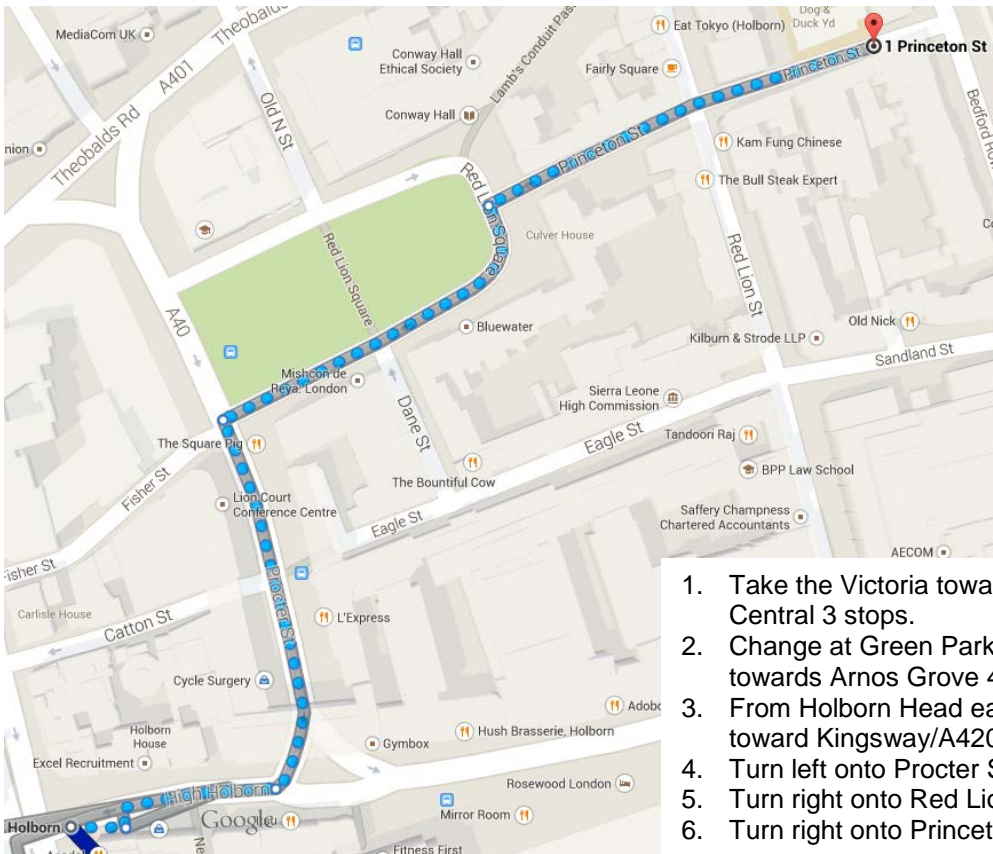
Lankelly Chase Foundation

Exists to bring about change that will transform the quality of life of people who face severe and multiple disadvantages. We focus particularly on the persistent clustering of social harms such as homelessness, substance misuse, mental and physical illness, extreme poverty, and violence and abuse. We employ a number of different methodologies, including grant making, special initiatives and commissioned research and policy analysis. We aim to work in a problem solving way, supporting or promoting action based on a robust analysis of both the problem and its underlying drivers. Our fundamental goal is to help shift the way that people on the extreme margins are valued by society, so that policy, public debate and practice are focused on people's capabilities and humanity.

Maps

Lankelly Chase from Travelodge Vauxhall

1st Floor Greenworks Lankelly Chase Dog and Duck Yard Princeton Street London WC1R 4BH



1. Take the Victoria towards Walthamstow Central 3 stops.
2. Change at Green Park and take the Piccadilly towards Arnos Grove 4 stops
3. From Holborn Head east on High Holborn/A40 toward Kingsway/A4200
4. Turn left onto Procter St/A40
5. Turn right onto Red Lion Square
6. Turn right onto Princeton Street

Our building is in a yard, set back from Princeton Street, with a large **'Greenworks'** banner to identify it (see photo). We are in between a large Premier Inn hotel (shown on the map) and a City University building.

There is no reception area in the building, so on arrival **please use the intercom** located next to the main entrance, even if the door is open.

Please call 020 3747 9930 if you need any help finding us!

