



### Request

1. Does the council collect data on how many of its residents are living full-time in a caravan?
2. If yes, what is the most recent data on how many such residents there are? Please specify the time period for which this figure applies, and any relevant detail on how it was calculated – eg. is it number of residents or number of households?
3. Is it known what proportion of caravan dwellers are from Gypsy or Traveller communities? If yes, please specify the proportion.
4. If data is not formally collected on residents living full-time in a caravan, is the council aware of whether there are any such residents locally?
5. Has the council ever used caravans to temporarily accommodate people who would otherwise be homeless? If so, how many people are currently housed in this way?
6. Does the council have strategic plans which incorporate the use of caravans as temporary accommodation?
7. Is the council taking any actions to assure itself of the electrical safety of caravans being used as dwellings? If yes, please briefly detail the types of actions being taken.

### Response

We do not hold this information.

N/A

Unable to provide this data. We do collect data on traveller caravans through the twice-yearly 'Count of Traveller Caravans' required by the MHCLG. But this is only the number of caravans, not the number of inhabitants. Some of the results of the count are published as official statistics on gov.uk. (see latest release: [Traveller caravan count: Jan 2025](#)). But the published statistics don't include privately owned sites by local authority. We could provide an overall figure from the Jan 2025 count, which would be 105 traveller caravans across privately owned sites in the borough.

Although the Council do not hold this information, information is available through the Office for National Statistics: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/>. The ONS published data includes the number of households per accommodation type, by local authority districts. The number of households 'living in a caravan, mobile home or other temporary structure' in the Wigan Borough is reported as 86 (at the 2021 Census).

No.

No.

This would only be applicable to one Gypsy/Traveller site managed by the Council. However, our involvement here has been in respect of the communal block and shared facilities only.

8. In the past 12 months, has the council offered caravan dwellers any specific advice or support on electrical safety in their vehicle?

No.

9. Does the council collect any information on a) how caravan dwellers are accessing electricity and b) which electrical items they are using? If so, please share details.

The electricity supplies for each plot are prepayment meters, we have no information on personal consumption.

10. Into the remit of which a) councillor/s and b) officer/s does the wellbeing and safety of caravan dwellers fall?

There is not one single officer appointed with responsibility of caravan dwellers.