

Traveller Network – Terms of Reference

INTRODUCTION

The Traveller Network is a forum bringing together statutory agencies and community & voluntary (C&V) sector organisations supporting Traveller communities in Belfast. The Network meets bi-monthly to share good practice, strengthen partnership working, and collectively support the health and wellbeing of Traveller communities across the city.

Originally established as part of the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT) Traveller Early Intervention Project, the Network now welcomes representatives from all sectors working with and for Traveller communities. Broadening the membership enhances opportunities for collaboration, ensures a more coordinated city-wide approach, and promotes shared learning and experience.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Traveller Network is to provide a collaborative forum for statutory and C&V sector organisations supporting Traveller communities in Belfast to share learning, discuss emerging issues, and strengthen joined-up approaches to meeting community needs.

AIMS

- To strengthen partnership working across statutory and C&V organisations supporting Traveller communities in Belfast.
- To identify emerging trends within Traveller communities and articulate their health and wellbeing needs.
- To enhance the support available to Traveller communities through shared learning, coordinated practice, and improved awareness of relevant services.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to statutory and community & voluntary organisations working with and for Traveller communities in Belfast.

- Each organisation will nominate an appropriate representative (e.g., officer/project worker directly involved in Traveller-related services) to attend Network meetings and contribute to discussion, learning, and partnership development.

MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

- Meetings will be held bi-monthly.
- Meeting locations will rotate, with organisations taking turns to host.

Information shared at meetings will inform and link with the work of the Belfast Trust Healthy Relations Committee and contribute to the implementation of the BHSCT *Good Relations Strategy – Healthy Relations for a Healthy Future 3*.