

TLRP Briefing Note July 2010

1-This month sees the Parliamentary recess begin.

The new All Party Group for Gypsy Roma Travellers will be meeting in the autumn and will immediately address issues around accommodation, HCA cuts, security of tenure, education and other matters. As soon as the date is confirmed for the meeting it will be published.

2-The updates on the Project are available from January 2010, when the new Policy Officer was appointed, - they run to end of May. June and July are listed here.

3-The months of June and July were mainly concerned with setting up the New APPG /TLR. All 649 MPs and all Peers were contacted, and informed about the Project, and the Group, and given an overview of the main issues for Gypsy/Traveller communities. -Reference section APPG.

4-June was Gypsy Roma Traveller History Month, and many successful events took place.

5-The Education Consultation on Funding was submitted to the Department of Education. Reference –Documents.

6-Meetings are being requested for the autumn with Ministers from the Department of Education and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

7-The Equality and Human Rights Commission has stakeholder meetings and are considering work with a specific focus on GRT communities. Reference –Documents.

8-The Policy Officer TLRP will be part of the EHRC Advisory Group to inform the Commission's international treaty work on the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination [CERD]. The UK has to submit a report once every five years to the United Nations.

9-The Policy Officer TLRP will be on the new monitoring committee –an NGO Children's Rights Monitoring Committee-undertake ongoing monitoring of law, policy and practice, -to prepare an annual State of Children's Rights in England Report, and submissions to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and other international and European human rights monitoring bodies.

10-A Consultation on School Funding –Introducing a Pupil Premium will be submitted for October 2010.

11- There will be an Expert Panel Review of Government policy on Gypsies and travelers in the autumn. The Report will help inform debate around the Decentralisation and Localism Bill and Government guidance on Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and enforcement.

12-The TLRP Steering Group Minutes are available on request.

13-Please contact TLRP for more information.

July 26th 2010.