

HEALTH SERVICE -

In addition to mainstream health care, Herefordshire Primary Care Trust (HCPT) has provision to fund a Travellers health project, which offers additional support to Travellers who have well recognised health inequalities. The project offers a 9am -5pm service Monday - Friday working from an administration base within the city. The team currently consists of a Lead Nurse/Project Manager, Health Visitor, Health Visitor Support Worker, Mobile Unit Drive and administration support. We offer outreach health care, advice, support, advocacy, health education and health promotion to Travellers wherever they may be living within the county. We also provide outreach clinics at Traveller sites via a mobile unit as pre-arranged and previously advertised.

The project works closely with other health professionals with the aim of providing optimum health care to this population. The team will adapt the health care work provision offered according to needs assessment and patient involvement. We work closely with the local Travellers Support Group - with which we have a service level agreement (SLA) - to provide Traveller run pre-school play groups to local Travellers. We also work closely with other local statutory services e.g. Council, Housing, Education, Police etc.

The projects steering group meets 3 to 4 times annually to which are invited representatives from local Traveller groups and local health, voluntary and statutory agencies. Travellers are encouraged to provide their views on what services they would like provided and ways in which the project can best meet health needs.

Planning for success and continuity

- **Partnership Working** - continuing to work closely with local Traveller Voluntary and Statutory agencies to ensure Travellers health needs are met as well as possible for this potentially vulnerable group.
- **Efficiency** - ensuring the project teams are identifying Traveller health needs and are trained to respond to these needs as well as possible.
- **Equality and Diversity** - ensuring Travellers health needs are taken into consideration when planning local services.
- **Health Management** - empowering Travellers to access services and manage their own health needs