I would like to thank you again for inviting me to give evidence to the Women and Equalities Committee Inquiry on inequalities faced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. I found the session constructive and hope that our discussions will provoke further action to support these vulnerable communities.

At the session, I promised to write to you with a detailed list of the projects funded by my Department, including budgets and timeframes. I have set these out in the attached document. You will see that there are a wide range of projects currently being funded. Regarding the Controlling Migration Fund, total funding awarded to projects and timeframes has been published by the Government and is available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/controlling-migration-fund-prospectus.

I should clarify one point raised in the discussion. You asked about how lessons from the initial pilots set out in 2012 are being taken forward. There was just one pilot set out in 2012, which was run by the Department for Education. The pilot funded two local authorities to trial a Virtual Head Teacher for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils, with responsibility for supporting schools to promote better pupil outcomes. Following on from this, in 2017, the Department for Education held a conference for local authorities to identify and disseminate best practice in this area.

More broadly, we have taken our work forward through the range of projects identified in this letter, along with the integration green paper, hate crime action plan and subsequent action plan refresh.

I would also like to repeat the offer I made for my Department to facilitate a visit to any of these projects, if the Committee would find that helpful.

I know the Inquiry is ongoing so please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.
I am copying this letter to my colleagues in the Department for Education and the Department of Health and Social Care, with whom I will be holding a Tri-Lateral meeting on 4 February. They will be responding separately on the points raised at the session which related to their departments.

LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH
Annex A: Hate Crime Projects

Herts GATE
- MHCLG provided Herts GATE with £27,500 in 2017/18 and £27,500 in 2018/19.
- Herts GATE support victims of hate crime within Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities and encourage the reporting of hate crime incidents.
- Herts GATE also works with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities across Hertfordshire to promote a better understanding of the history, culture and lifestyles of Gypsies and Travellers.
- Herts GATE has a close relationship with several local voluntary sector organisations with a view to push the Gypsy/Traveller agenda.

#OperationReportHate
- #OperationReportHate is a campaign run by the Traveller Movement which aims to raise awareness within Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities about hate crime and the need to report it.
- We provided £15,000 funding in 2016/17 and £35,000 in 2017/18.

True Vision
- True Vision is the Police hate crime recording portal. We have been supporting True Vision to increase the reporting of hate crime and to respond to hate crime in communities.
- True Vision works with communities which are particularly vulnerable to hate crime, such as Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.
- MHCLG provided True Vision with £90,000 in 2016/17 and £160,000 in 2017/18.
Annex B: Pilot Projects

MHCLG provided £200,000 in 2018-19 to six pilot projects to support Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities in the areas of health, education and integration.

Education

Lancaster: The Dukes – Peer-led educational programme
- This project is developing a sustainable peer-led educational programme, specifically led by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller young people and parents. The project trains Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community influencers in facilitation, and develops an accredited (Arts Award) peer-led training programme. This enables young people and parents from Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities to deliver workshops to their peers, education providers and policy-makers to effect positive change.
- The project also develops sustainable capacity within the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities to support social integration, leadership, career skills development, positive attitudes to learning and academic performance. The project aims to highlight key recommendations to support ‘a charter for change’ in education, in order to support transition and retention in education throughout Lancashire and beyond. The project is also producing an educational film as a training resource.

Liverpool: Granby Toxteth Development Trust – Roma Education Aspiration Project (REAP)
- This project aims to raise aspirations amongst Roma young people and their families by helping them to access educational and employment opportunities, whilst retaining their Roma values and culture. Working in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University, the project is developing a programme for school years 10 to 13 (and their families) to enable young people to consider education and career options.
- At the same time, the project works with schools to challenge expectations around the ability and progress of Roma students. The project aims to challenge stereotypes and break down barriers on all sides, inspiring schools, further and higher education establishments as well as employers to recognise the benefits of engaging with the Roma community. The project hopes this will result in higher educational attainment for Roma communities and therefore instil the belief in young Roma people that education is the key to their future prosperity.

Health

Brighton: Friends, Families and Travellers – Health accreditations for the community
- This project delivers accredited training in public health (Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) Level 1 Award in Health Awareness, RSPH Level 2 Award in Understanding Health Improvement and Understanding Behaviour Change) using an asset-based peer-support model. Friends, Families and Travellers already deliver this project successfully in other locations and will be extending the training they offer to Gypsies and Travellers in West Sussex and Surrey. In addition, the project delivers a modular pilot RSPH Young Health Champions qualification to a group of Irish Traveller youth in Brighton.
- The project aims to improve educational attainment, build skills, improve health knowledge in the community and generally improve the welfare and wellbeing of Gypsy and Traveller communities.
Bradford: The Thornbury Centre – LACO My Life

- This project aims to educate and up-skill Central and Eastern European Roma families to enable them to keep their children safe from grooming and sexual exploitation. This project is run in partnership with Barnardo's and the University of Bradford and attempts to work closely with the statutory sector, such as the Council's Multi-Agency Child Sexual Exploitation team. The programme equips Roma families to help their children (especially their daughters) to have healthy relationships and make safer choices. Although focused on change for mothers and daughters, the project engages with the whole family to ensure Roma men and boys also understand their rights, roles and responsibilities.

Integration/Community Cohesion

Luton: Roma Luton Trust

- The Roma community in Luton regularly express the need for assistance with learning English. In response to this, the Roma Luton Trust have created a Roma Community Centre in the heart of Luton where, alongside their daily interventions, they run a bespoke programme of English language teaching. The Roma are provided with the chance to learn English with teachers who speak their languages and understand their culture. The organisation also trains Roma to handle their own civic affairs online to enable them to become more self-sufficient. The organisation works with two universities that have researched and implemented language programmes within Roma communities: the University of Newcastle and Beds & Luton University.

Brixton: National Prison Radio – On the Road

- This project produces a radio series for Gypsy and Traveller prisoners. This helps raise and explore issues faced by Gypsies and Travellers alongside the long-term aim of helping the prisoners involved with the project to re-integrate into society after release.
- Presented by a recently released community member, On-the-Road will build on the Prison Radio Association's experience of working with Gypsy and Traveller communities, and of producing life-changing media for the hardest to reach and most vulnerable members of society. The series of 24 programmes will help with the rehabilitation of offenders, and ultimately help Gypsy, Roma and Traveller ex-offenders reintegrate in society successfully.
Annex C: Controlling Migration Fund Projects

Sheffield - Sheffield Community Investment Deal
A community based project located in marginalised communities in North-East and East Sheffield, responding to concerns from local people with more on the ground officers, better organised local services and engaging established and new communities through community development initiatives to improve their areas.

Derby - Housing and Modern Slavery in Derby
Work to undertake a population profile, tackle complex family issues and exploitation through an early intervention and support approach. Supporting migrants to understand social norms and expectations in the UK.

Medway - Community Plus
Aims to inform, improve and develop relationships between migrant and resident communities through English language workshops, peer mentor schemes and employment support.

Kent - Targeted health interventions
Kent - Cultural competency and communication skills
Funding will support new teams to work with migrant communities across Kent to ensure families are well supported. Targeted early interventions will improve the health and wellbeing of the migrant community and save money - encouraging healthier lifestyles and preventing the development of illnesses. The project will also deliver cultural awareness training to frontline NHS staff to provide targeted support and improve access to NHS services for the Roma community. This will also make more efficient use of resources by, for example, shortening appointment times and reducing the frequency of missed appointments.

Bradford - Changing Place - Stronger Bradford
Ensuring effective delivery and effective use of public services. Providing English language support, targeted youth work, additional school support and health support workers to enable migrant communities to navigate public services effectively, reducing the demand on and increasing the capacity of children’s social services, health services and schools in the local area.

Rotherham - Building Stronger Communities
Rotherham has an overarching strategy around Building Stronger Communities that emphasises that Rotherham is a shared community focusing on ensuring effective delivery and efficient use of public services. Providing English language support to help new migrant communities navigate services more efficiently and enable them to engage more effectively with the resident communities. Tackling exploitative practices such as modern slavery, addressing environmental health issues such as fly tipping, combatting anti-social behaviour and criminal behaviour in public places and tackling disruptive behaviour in schools.

Wakefield - Community Harmony - Wakefield
The resident community have reported concerns around worsening street scene, increasing intolerance, hate crime and overcrowded housing. This programme centres on central Wakefield. This project will challenge problem landlords, ensure more migrants can speak English and improve relations between young communities through youth work and volunteering to make the streets presentable reducing community tensions and creating an inclusive and supportive community feeling in the target area.

Bolton - My Bolton Family
Funding to carry out a range of cohesion activity in central Bolton, Breightmet and Tonge to encourage integration between communities and to reduce pressure on services.
Brent - Love Where You Live
Funding will enhance the outreach work with and social integration of Eastern European communities and will also help expand engagement with other emerging communities. The project will consist of a community outreach team that will deliver drop-in information sessions, develop community volunteers and deliver cultural community events. The project will include additional ESOL provision (covering digital skills, employability and civil engagement), signposting through a ‘Welcome to Brent’ leaflet and capacity building among existing local support networks. These interventions will reduce reliance on public services and create more cohesive and integrated communities.

Middlesbrough - Improving attainment and cohesion in schools
Helping schools alleviate pressures associated with a large number of international children arriving within the school year by supporting their smooth transition with additional teaching staff and language support enabling a stronger level of attainment for all children and supporting better community cohesion between children of all backgrounds.

Oldham - Stronger Together Oldham
Will enable the town to build on positive work already undertaken with communities who work together and support each other as they settle into Oldham. The project will help the borough gain more up-to-date information on the make-up of the local population and support targeted interventions or enforcement action in terms of crime, anti-social behaviour, overcrowding and illegal immigration. The funding will enable a programme of activities to build language skills, and provide support to schools with a larger number of new pupils with limited English. A new youth programme will support young people from across all communities to develop a range of skills including leadership skills which increase their own self-confidence and esteem. The programme will benefit the whole community by encouraging more social mixing, improving English which reduces the need for costly translation and tackling community tension.

Fenland - Parallel Lives project
Identifying the Roma community across the East of England and improving their relationship with resident communities. This research will inform actions to help Roma communities engage with public services in a more efficient way, and to improve the relationship between settled and Roma communities. This will result in improving the safety and feel of the town, as well as reducing anti-social behaviour, crime and noise.

Doncaster - Migration: Support Engagement and Education Project in Doncaster
A programme of work to build trust and engage within communities targeted in locations within Doncaster. Community development work will help integration and cohesion of all residents and also provide information on local expectations and responsible citizenship across all the community, helping to tackle issues such as poor quality overcrowded housing, ASB, Crime, fly tipping and other environmental nuisance, addressing significant concerns for all residents in these areas.

Leeds - Learning English in Leeds
The aim of this proposal is to create a comprehensive ESOL/Learning English Strategy for Leeds to help save costs to public services, unlock migrant capabilities and capacity and promote a more integrated and socially cohesive society. It will enable people from migrant communities to participate more fully in society, leading to greater integration and less opportunities for isolation, as well as promoting physical and mental health and wellbeing by developing people's language skills and confidence, enabling parents from new communities to better support their children's education.
Calderdale - Together Calderdale
Supporting additional youth engagement, English language classes, establishing understanding of local social norms and housing/environmental enforcement, with a ward level focus around central Halifax, Ovenden and Mixenden to benefit the whole community with improved public environment.

Kirklees - Connecting Kirklees
This funding will enable Kirklees to build on positive work so far to establish communities who work together and support each other as they settle into the area. It will enable a programme of activities to build language skills, an understanding and awareness of local culture, and provide support to schools with a larger number of new pupils with limited English.

Barnsley - Housing and Migration
Activity focused on areas of high concentrations of private rented accommodation being accessed, predominantly, by migrants to Barnsley where there are issues, for example, around the local physical environment, fraud, exploitation and criminal activity. The remit will particularly focus on hearing and responding to concerns of the whole community on the impact of migration and promote understanding of local social, cultural and civic norms.

Migration Yorkshire (Strategic Migration Partnership) regional bid - Place-based data and mitigating local impacts of migration
This is a research project to better understand how and why migration impacts differently in different local communities in Yorkshire and Humber, and how local authorities plan for and deal with these impacts. The project will identify different types of neighbourhoods using a range of socio-economic and migration data, and then explore how a selection of these neighbourhoods respond to migration, through hearing the views of a cross-section of local residents and service providers. The project will improve how local authorities prepare for and address issues related to new migration. It will also inform the nationwide understanding of the impact of recent migration.

Gravesham - Better Life
A project to improve community cohesion between the migrant and settled resident population in Gravesham through the provision of English language lessons, in partnership with the Romani Slovak Czech community group. This project will improve the atmosphere of the neighbourhood and reduce anti-social behaviour; improve migrants’ opportunities to work and contribute to local economy; and reduce the amount of public money spent on interpreter costs, freeing up funds for other public services.

Walsall - Walsall People
A multi-themed proposal to support better community integration in Walsall; improve the living environment; improve educational attainment; safeguard some of the most vulnerable; reduce fly tipping; reduce anti-social behaviour and improve the private landlord housing provision delivered through a strong community sector and public sector partnership.

Thanet - Rogue Landlord and Community Cohesion Task Force
To tackle rogue landlords in Thanet and provide English language support to help migrants engage effectively with the local community.