



PAVEE POINT

TRAVELLER AND ROMA CENTRE

Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre Updates: June 2026

Dear Colleagues,

We hope that you are well and have been enjoying the first days of summer weather! Over the last few weeks, Pavee Point has continued to progress Traveller and Roma rights.

Recent work has supported the development of national policy through consultation and input to the Social Inclusion Forum on the new Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2026–2030, the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Key Issues Affecting the Traveller Community, the Traveller Health Action Plan, the National Strategy on Substance Use, the forthcoming Roma Health and Traveller Mental Health Action Plans, the Strategy to Reduce Suicide and Self-harm, and the successor to the Traveller Health Action Plan.

'Pride Not Prejudice – 30 Years On: Donegal Travellers Project'

Pavee Point was proud to join the Donegal Travellers Project's 30 Year Anniversary Conference 'Pride Not Prejudice – 30 Years On'.

Pavee Point contributed on the day alongside other speakers highlighting the important role DTP has played both locally and nationally to progress Traveller and Roma rights, while also standing in solidarity with other marginalised and minority ethnic groups. We warmly congratulate the DTP on three decades of outstanding community development and human rights work, and look forward to continued partnership in the years ahead.



National Policy Updates and Developments

Targets, Data and Implementation of Policy

Key Messages for Social Inclusion Forum 2026

Pavee Point provided key contributions to this year's Social Inclusion Forum, highlighting progress made in government policy development but ongoing gaps in their implementation. The annual Forum, hosted by the Department of Social Protection and the European Anti-Poverty Network and Community Work Ireland, provides an opportunity to engage directly with policymakers.

This year's Forum focused on Advancing Action on Poverty and Social Exclusion and saw the launch of the Government's Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2026–2030, outlining cross-government actions to address poverty and inequality. While some commitments are welcomed, concerns remain, including the absence of a dedicated Traveller and Roma employment and enterprise plan, lack of reference to the National Equality Data Strategy, and no specific poverty reduction targets for Travellers and Roma.

Read our full Social Inclusion Forum news [here](#)

Read Pavee Point's submission to the Public Consultation for Roadmap 2026-2030 [here](#)

Read 'Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2026-2030' [here](#).

Oireachtas Committee Visit to Dunsink Lane



In May, members of the [Joint Oireachtas Committee on Key Issues Affecting the Traveller Community visited Traveller residents on Dunsink Lane.](#)

The visit highlighted the lived realities of over 100 Travellers living in the area, many of whom have been there for more than 55 years, amid proposed plans by Fingal County Council for a major urban development across the wider 1,000-acre site. Residents have raised concerns about the lack of consultation and the potential risk of displacement.

The visit formed part of the Committee's broader focus on Traveller policy issues, including [accommodation](#), [health](#) and the [role of Traveller Primary Health Care Projects](#).

Health Updates

As Traveller organisations, we know one of the main causes of Traveller deaths is due to cancer, with more reports from Traveller organisations on late diagnosis from Traveller families.

As we enjoy the warmer weather and spend more time outdoors, it is a good reminder to look after our skin health.

For more information see our Traveller-specific resources on [staying sunsafe](#) and our [other cancer resources](#).

Follow the SunSmart 5 S's to reduce your risk of skin cancer



Slip on clothing that covers your skin



Stop on sunscreen using factor 30+ for adults and 50+ for children



Slap on a hat with a wide brim that covers your face, ears and neck



Seek shade – especially if outdoors between 11am and 3pm



Slide on sunglasses

Do not deliberately try to get a suntan. Avoid getting a sunburn. Never use a sunbed.

Be SunSmart
www.hse.ie/sunsmart



nccp National Cancer Control Programme

Ireland's new Strategy to Reduce Suicide and Self-harm: Connecting for Life 2026–2035

Pavee Point was pleased to support the Department of Health in the development of Ireland's new Strategy to Reduce Suicide and Self-harm, Connecting for Life: 2026–2035, including consultations with Travellers, Roma and Traveller organisations and groups Roma.

Launched last week, the Strategy recognises the disproportionate impact of suicide on Travellers and the role that racism, social exclusion and other social determinants play in shaping mental health outcomes. We look forward to the publication of an associated Action Plan which we hope will include targeted actions to address Traveller suicide and self-harm, given the significant level of Traveller suicide and self-harm on the ground.

Read more [on our website](#).

Ireland's First National Roma Health Action Plan

Across Europe, including Ireland, Roma experience significant health inequalities, due to structural inequalities and failure to address the social determinants of health, including racism, discrimination, poor accommodation conditions, poverty, low literacy levels and discrimination. According to the [EU Fundamental Rights Agency](#), 30% of Roma reported discrimination when accessing health services in Ireland.

We welcome the Department of Health's commitment to developing a Roma Health Action Plan as part of the [National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy Action Plan](#). Yesterday, we discussed the development of the Action Plan with Roma and groups working with Roma involved in the National Roma Network, with key issues highlighted on the need to ensure recognition of the social determinants of health, including racism as having a significant impact on Roma health status. Welcoming the development of the Plan, key issues raised on the day included the need for direct Roma representation on consultation and implementation structures and the need for targets, timelines, identified resources and data to ensure effective implementation of the Plan. We look forward to Department of Health initiating the consultation process and supporting the development of the Plan, along with other groups working with Roma.



Consultation towards the Development of a Traveller Mental Health Action Plan

The Department of Health, with the Traveller Mental Health Specialist Group established by Minister Butler has now commenced a consultation process to support the development of a Traveller Mental Health Action Plan. The consultation invites Travellers, Traveller organisations, and other stakeholders to participate by filling out this online survey before July 31st, and/or by registering through this form to take part in one of the upcoming consultation sessions. Pavee Point will be developing our submission and will share with Traveller organisations shortly.

All-Ireland Conference on Integrated Care 2026 at UCD



Presenting at the All-Ireland Conference on Integrated Care 2026 at UCD, Pavee Point spoke about rights-based approaches to health care and the vital role of Traveller organisations and Traveller Primary Health Care Projects in addressing Traveller health inequalities. Discussions focused on ensuring that inclusion is built into integrated care systems from the earliest design stages.

The conference provided a valuable opportunity to share learning, connect local and global perspectives and emphasise the importance of partnership with Traveller organisations and groups working with Roma in advancing a supporting a rights-based approach to health.

Read more about the conference [here](#).

Traveller Stop Smoking Initiative



Our Traveller Stop Smoking Initiative, covering Dublin North and West, provides outreach, health advocacy and signposting to support Travellers to quit smoking. The initiative includes direct engagement of Travellers on the ground, signposting to support services, and provision of information, resources, alongside awareness-raising on vaping and passive smoking. For more information about the initiative, contact pauline.mcdonnell@pavee.ie.

Read our recent [research on Cancer Awareness and Attitudes among Travellers](#).

Two-year Programme for Traveller Primary Health Care

Twenty-four Travellers are currently undertaking a two-year programme that provides structured learning, mentoring and on-job experience as Traveller Community Health Workers. The programme was identified by Traveller organisations/PHCTPs as key to supporting overall workforce planning and sustainability of the projects into the future by supporting newer Traveller Community Health Workers into the sector. The programme combines QQI-accredited learning with practical experience and covers topics including primary health care, community development, mental health, addiction, violence against women, communication and community health.

Participants are now nearing completion of their first year and, on successful completion of the programme, will achieve a QQI Level 4 Major Award in General Learning (Traveller Health).

This programme is supported by the City of Dublin Education and Training Board and funded by the Eastern Region Traveller Health Unit as part of the [Eastern Regional Traveller Health Action Plan](#). The programme is co-ordinated and hosted by Pavee Point alongside the Clondalkin Travellers Development Group.



Participants of the programme attending a Traveller Road to Hope & Change engagement.

Pavee Glokes Hike and Talk take on the Camino de Santiago



Our Men's Health Programme continues to address Traveller men's health inequalities through targeted initiatives underpinned by community development. This includes our annual Traveller and Roma Men's Health Day taking place on June 16th, 10am – 2pm in Phoenix Park and more recently our exciting Pavee Glokes Hike initiative which will see a group of Traveller men take on their next challenge of hiking the Camino de Santiago as part of ongoing recovery and resilience walks. The Camino pilgrimage, which has particular significance for many Travellers, will see a group of Traveller men in September raise awareness about addiction and mental health issues, and highlight that recovery is possible. The group has been preparing for this all year and we will keep you posted on their developments.

The initiative, supported by the HSE and Eastern Region Traveller Health Unit, forms part of a wider programme addressing Traveller men's health inequalities and aligns with the National Traveller Health Action Plan.

Education Updates

Some updates and key developments in Traveller and Roma education below. We will host an end-of-year education information session online on Monday 29th June. A formal invitation will be issued. The second Action Plan (2026–2028) under the Traveller and Roma Education Strategy (TRES) will be published in July alongside the final progress report on the first Action Plan. The report will outline progress made to date, as well as key developments and ongoing challenges over the last two years. Pavee Point also submitted [analysis and recommendations to inform the development of the successor TRES Action Plan \(2026-2028\)](#).

Mid-term Progress Review of the National Access Plan

Read the Higher Education Authority's [update on the publication of the Mid-term Progress Review of the National Plan for Equity of Access to Higher Education \(2022–2028\)](#). We welcome

the continued progress in Traveller participation in higher education, with entrant numbers rising from 33 students in 2020/21 to 57 in 2024/25. We also welcome the continued target of 150 entrants by 2028, while continuing to advocate for a similar target for Roma students.

Read more about the Progress Review [here](#).

National Traveller and Roma Education Strategy Forum Meeting

Pavee Point participated in a recent Traveller and Roma Education Forum, the final Forum meeting under the current two year Action Plan (2024–2026) for the Strategy. The successor Action Plan is due to be published in July.

The current Action Plan has seen progress across a range of commitments, with important structures and frameworks now established to support implementation. Discussions focussed on continuing this progress.

Important Education Deadlines

Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance

The closing date to apply for the 2026 Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance is 30 September 2026.

Important dates for CAO and SUSI

We wish all of the Traveller & Roma students good luck with their Leaving Certificate exams. See below important information on CAO and SUSI grants.

CAO

Key CAO dates for undergraduate applicants include:

- July 1, 2026 (5:00 PM): The final closing date for the [Change of Mind facility](#).
- August 26, 2026 (2:00 PM): Round 1 offers are released.

SUSI

SUSI is now open for renewal and new applications for student grant funding for academic year 2026/27. The closing date for renewal grant applications is 11 June 2026 for new applicants it is 9 July 2026. For more information, see [here](#)

Arts, Culture & Heritage Updates

Launch of Traveller Stamps by An Post

A major cultural milestone was marked by the unveiling of the first-ever Traveller stamps by An Post at the GPO on 14 May. Developed in line with commitments under the Second National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy, the stamps celebrate Irish Traveller history and culture and recognise Travellers as a distinct and valued part of Ireland's shared heritage. Pavee Point, together with Meath Travellers Workshop, were pleased to support the development and launch of the stamps.

Read more [on our website](#).



Travellers and Traveller organisation spend the Afternoon with President Connolly



'Every young Traveller child deserves to grow up in an Ireland where they can feel confident in their heritage. An inclusive Ireland means one in which the Traveller Community are involved in the decision-making processes that serve you and where you are granted the same opportunities as everyone else.' - President Catherine Connolly

Pavee Point was honoured to join a special afternoon tea reception hosted at Áras an Uachtaráin by President Catherine Connolly. In her remarks, the President emphasised the importance of inclusion, highlighted the barriers faced by Travellers, and recognised the community's significant contributions to Irish society through its culture, traditions, craftsmanship, and strong community values.

Watch the President's speech [here](#).

Traveller Pride Awards

The Traveller Pride Awards 2026 celebrated the achievements and contributions of Travellers across Ireland and the UK in areas including education, enterprise, community, culture, youth,

and sport. Now in its 17th year, the Awards are organised by the Traveller Pride Week Steering Committee and supported by the Department of Children, Disability and Equality.

Read about the recent Traveller Pride Awards and the 2026 Awardees [here](#).

Traveller Wellbeing Through Creativity Funding Awarded

The Traveller Wellbeing Through Creativity programme supports Traveller organisations and Primary Health Care Projects to address health inequalities and improve wellbeing through creative approaches. See [here](#) for the full list of funded projects from this round.

Upcoming Events

Annual Traveller and Roma Men's Health Day,
June 16th - Phoenix Park

In its twelfth year running, please join us next week, 16 June, 10-2pm for Traveller and Roma Men's Health Day which will be taking place in the 15 Acres in the Phoenix Park. This annual event brings together Traveller and Roma men from around the country along with health services to take positive action in relation to health.

Registration is required. For more information and to register [please see here](#).



Resources

Stall, Pause, Use your Nuck

Primary Health Care for Travellers Projects (PHCTPs)

Ensuring Traveller inclusion in Health Services May 2026

The Primary Health Care for Travellers Projects (PHCTPs) involve Traveller Community Health Workers working to bridge the gap between the Travellers and mainstream health services. These projects aim to link Travellers with the healthcare services and to address their health needs through peer-led health promotion, advocacy, and support.

The **1st** Traveller Primary Healthcare Project was established in 1994 at Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre.

Since then, the model has been replicated nationwide, with approximately **30** Traveller Primary Health Care Projects currently operating across Ireland.

Aims of the Primary Health Care for Travellers Projects

- To establish Primary Health Care as a **Model of Good Practice** to address Travellers' Health.
- To develop the **skills of Travellers** in providing community-based health services.
- To **liaise and assist** in dialogue between Travellers and health service providers.
- To **highlight gaps in health service** delivery to Travellers and work towards reducing inequalities that exist in established services.

Research shows that almost **9 out of 10** Travellers receive health information through PHCTPs, highlighting the vital role these projects play in improving health literacy, service access, and overall Traveller wellbeing.

To learn more, you can watch the Traveller Primary Healthcare Project Conference celebrating 30 years of Traveller Primary Healthcare:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5GR7ktgSeQ

www.paveepoint.ie

The Eastern Region Traveller Health Unit Maternal & Child Health Subgroup has developed a series of infographics entitled 'Stall, Pause and Use Your Nuck' (Stop, pause and use your head' in Cant) to promote Traveller inclusion in health services.

Access the infographics:

- ['Stall, Pause and Use your Nuck' 1](#)
- ['Stall, Pause and Use your Nuck' 2](#)
- ['Stall, Pause and Use Your Nuck' 3](#)

Funding, Research & Opportunities

€1000 Award for Older Traveller Artists

Don't miss the deadline! Applications for the €1,000 Award for an Older Traveller Artist close on 18 June 2026.

Traveller artists and makers, aged 40 are invited to apply for the €1,000 Award for an Older Traveller Artist. The award is organised by Bealtaine Festival, an Age and Opportunity initiative which supports and celebrates Traveller creativity. The award supports the development of artistic or creative work.

Applications can be made by WhatsApp. For further information contact caoimhe.mccabe@pavee.ie or phone 085 816 2351.

Request for Tender - Traveller Representation on Local Structures

Request for Tender (RFT) for a study on Traveller representation on local representative structures has now been published on eTenders ([European Dynamics - View CfT Workspace](#)). The application window will remain open between now and 2pm on 6 July 2026.

Job Vacancies

Traveller Brighter Beginnings Initiative based in Dublin and the North East Region is looking for suitably qualified candidates to fill two separate roles:

Traveller Child Health Development Worker (19.5 hours)

Traveller Child Health Development Workers are peer worker roles, working as a team alongside a coordinator in the region to support the implementation of the Traveller Brighter Beginnings initiative under the National Traveller Health Action Plan.

Job Description & how to apply: [Traveller Child Health Development Worker \(19.5 hours\)](#)

Traveller Brighter Beginning (TBB) Childhood Health Co-ordinator

The TBB Childhood Health Co-ordinator will work as part of a regional team to support the implementation of the TBB initiative under the National Traveller Health Action Plan. The aim of the TBB initiative is to improve equality of access, participation and health outcomes for Traveller children aged 0-5.

Job Description: [Traveller Brighter Beginning \(TBB\) Childhood Health Co-ordinator](#)

Application form: [Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre Application Form](#)