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of Health

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08 FEB 2016

Dw Alf

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 January about the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly report *Travellers, Gypsies and Roma: access to public services and community relations*.

NHS England published a paper on data monitoring and data collection last March – Monitoring Equality and Health Inequalities: A Position Paper
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/monitrg-ehi-pos-paper.pdf>

This paper presents the current commonly used questions and codes for the collection of equality and health inequalities data in health and social care based on examples of good practice, and provides an update on the programme of work to develop equality data collection information standards for health and care. It has been produced for the interim period until equality data monitoring information standards are developed and rolled-out to the health and social care system.

NHS England seeks to ensure Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities get the same standards of care and access to care across all services in meeting its duties outlined in the Equality Act 2010 and Health and Social Care Act 2012. We expect local commissioners to ensure that this requirement is being met. The Department has worked with the Royal College of General Practitioners (and others) to provide guidance on improving such access for Gypsies and Travellers and other vulnerable groups.

No specific national targets on improved Gypsy, Roma and Traveller health outcomes are being developed.

I hope this reply is helpful.

With kind regards
Jane

JANE ELLISON