



30th May 2025

Further to your information request FOI/EIR 25/26-060, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

Unauthorised encampments:

1. How many complaints have the council received between the calendar years 2019 and 2024 about unauthorised encampments in the local authority area.
2. The number of times your local authority has evicted members of the Romani Gypsy and Irish Traveller communities from encampments from public or private land between 2019 and 2024.
3. Of those, how many were carried out using:
 - a. Anti-social behaviour powers (please specify which)
 - b. Planning enforcement powers
4. Whether the authority works in partnership with the police or private bailiffs in these cases, and any costs incurred.
5. Copies of any internal policies or protocols used in making decisions to evict.

Anti-social behaviour powers

1. A list of all anti-social behaviour powers used by your authority that were directed at members of Romani Gypsy or Irish Traveller communities/any orders that specifically mention members of these communities.
2. For each instance, please provide:
 - a. The type of power used (e.g., Community Protection Notice, Public Spaces Protection Order, Dispersal Order, Injunction, Criminal Behaviour Order, etc.)
 - b. The location
 - c. The date
 - d. The reason for its use
 - e. Whether the action was challenged and the outcome of any challenge
3. Please confirm whether your authority has a specific policy or guidance for the use of ASB powers against Romani Gypsy or Irish Traveller or nomadic communities.

Injunctions

1. Has your authority applied for, obtained, or enforced any injunctions (interim or final) to prevent unauthorised encampments, including "wide" or "persons unknown" injunctions?
2. For each injunction, please provide:
 - a. The type (e.g. interim, final, wide area, "persons unknown")
 - b. The date it was granted and by which court
 - c. The geographic area or sites it covers
 - d. The legal grounds on which it was sought (e.g. nuisance, ASB, trespass)
 - e. Whether it was directed at specific individuals or groups, and whether Traveller communities were named or implicitly included
3. The number of times the injunction has been enforced, including:
 - a. How enforcement took place (e.g. eviction, arrest, fine)
 - b. Whether any individuals from Romani Gypsy or Irish Traveller communities were affected
 - c. Any challenges or appeals, including outcomes

- Copies of any Equality Impact Assessments or Human Rights Assessments conducted in connection with seeking or enforcing such injunctions.

Response:

Unauthorised Encampments:

1. The Council have received notifications about unauthorised encampments in the local authority area which are then notified to the police.
2. This question is specifically regarding members of the Romani Gypsy and Irish Traveller communities, and the Council does not hold information as to the ethnicity of the travelling community or anyone who may be on an unauthorised encampment.
3. A-b – None - please refer to question 2.
4. Please see the answer to question 2 and 3 above.
5. Please see the Council's website - <https://eastcambs.gov.uk/environmental-health/unauthorised-traveller-encampments> and <https://eastcambs.gov.uk/housing/travellers>

Anti-social behaviour powers

1. None.
2. a – e – Not applicable.
3. None.

Injunctions

1. No.
2. a – e. Not applicable.
3. a – c – Not applicable.

Not applicable.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 25/26-060.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.