

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Claim no.

BETWEEN:-

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

Claimant

-V-

PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO ARE FORMING UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS IN
THE BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

Defendants

Second Witness Statement

A. SECTION 1

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B. SECTION 2

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A. SECTION 1

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SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF HELEN PAYNE

I, HELEN PAYNE, Principal Environmental Health Officer at Rushmoor Borough Council of Farnborough Road, Farnborough, GU14 7JU, WILL SAY as follows:

1. I make this statement in support of my First Witness Statement. I make this statement in support of the Claimant's application for injunctive relief over land known as the "Injunction Area".
2. I am duly authorised by the Claimant to make this statement on its behalf and in support of the Claimant's application for an injunction pursuant to section 187B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and s.222 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Threatening and Abusive Behaviour

3. I have received several reports of threatening and/or abusive behaviour which has been alleged to have been caused by the Defendants.
4. Significant damage has been done to the playground at Southwood Country Park which is shown in the photographs (**Exhibited as HP10**). This play infrastructure was installed in 2023 as a result of significant investment by the Claimant. Since then, it has been a

popular children's playground in the borough, particularly in hot weather as we experienced on the 21 and 22 June 2025. The damage to the park has left nails exposed which is dangerous to the children who may wish to play on the infrastructure.

5. A local café also had an incident which they have reported to Hampshire Constabulary relating to people who they believe are the Defendants stealing food and swearing at staff and guests.
6. The Claimant has received a report from a local pub which has experienced vandalism including the hand basin of their disabled toilets being ripped off the wall and a padlock to their bin store being broken which they believe is due to them trying to get access to the water tap.
7. The Claimant has been made aware that the Defendants are digging up the cricket square in the area adjacent to where they are occupying causing substantial damage to a community asset.
8. The Claimant has also received reports of anti-social behaviour from residents of the Borough. One complaint has identified that there was significant noise nuisance generated by the Defendants through 'loud music, dogs barking and girls screaming' and when the complainant contacted the Defendants about the noise they were sworn at (**Exhibited as HP11**). This noise stopped the complainant 'sleep[ing] soundly.' Another complainant similarly stated that dogs were 'barking consistently for hours' which upset the complainants children and stopped the complainant sleeping (**Exhibited as HP12**).
9. A further complaint alleges that the Defendants have been 'taking dog poo bags and rubbish out of bins and throwing them on the field and road' (**Exhibited as HP13**). This causes significant health concerns for any persons using the playing fields for sport. The same complaint also states that the Defendants were playing music 'incredibly loudly' at 00:08 and the Defendants' dogs were barking loudly which caused them to 'struggle to sleep' and caused 'extreme frustration.'

10. The Defendants anti-social, and in some cases abusive behaviour, is cause for significant concern and is having a substantial impact on residents and businesses. The damage caused to play infrastructure and the cricket square, as well as the contamination of sports pitches is dangerous and a health risk. The verbal abuse, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour means that there is risk of significant harm to people or property that is likely to occur if the unauthorised encampment continues.

I believe that the facts stated in this statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Dated the 23 day of June 2025

Signed:

HELEN PAYNE
PRINCIPAL EMO

B. SECTION 2

HP10

Damage to Play Infrastructure at Southwood Country Park





Subject:

FW: Noise Complaint

From: Rushmoor Council Customer Environmental Health <customer.eh@rushmoor.gov.uk>

Sent: 22 June 2025 16:19

To: Rushmoor Council Customer Environmental Health <customer.eh@rushmoor.gov.uk>; Helen Payne

Subject: Noise Complaint



Noise nuisance form

Noise Type: **Barking Dogs**

Is noise one-off: **No**

Your address [REDACTED] **Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 0JP**

Your Details :

- First name: [REDACTED]
- Last name : [REDACTED]
- Telephone number: [REDACTED]
- Email Address: [REDACTED]

Noise coming from: **Southwood Pavilion Grasmere Road Farnborough Hampshire GU14 0LE**

Business details: **The field**

Person responsible details : **Travellers in the field. We do not know them**

Have you contacted the person responsible for the noise about this problem? -
No The people are not approachable and we are worried about the response to us or to our property if we approach them.

Noise impact details:

- More details about the noise: **Dog or dogs barking consistently for hours. Mainly at night time. Barking till they seem like they cannot possibly bark anymore. Sounds very distressed. It stops a bit during the day but constant at night. It's very sad to hear. We cannot have windows open in this hot weather as it keeps the**

children and us awake. It is upsetting the children to hear the dogs barking consistently.

- How often does the noise occur? **For the last 3 evenings since the travellers moved in onto the field.**
- First noise affected from: **19/06/2025**
- When does the noise occurs: **From the afternoon/evening till the early house of the morning and party through the day.**
- How long does the noise go on for? **Hours.**
- How does the noise affect you at your home / property? **We can't have our windows open or sit in the garden as the noise is too distressing. We cannot sleep at night because it keeps us awake and it is upsetting to hear.**

Further information about the complaint:

Have you complained before about this problem? - **No**

Is the property that the noise is coming from a rented property? - **No**

Have you contacted one of our teams or any other organisations about this problem - **No**

Email: customer.eh@rushmoor.gov.uk Phone: 01252 398177
Rushmoor Borough Council, Council Offices, Farnborough Road,
Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7JU

Subject:

FW: Noise Complaint - Southwood Playing Fields

From: Rushmoor Council Customer Environmental Health <customer.eh@rushmoor.gov.uk>

Sent: Saturday, June 21, 2025 12:26 am

To: Rushmoor Council Customer Environmental Health <customer.eh@rushmoor.gov.uk>; Helen Payne

Subject: Noise Complaint



Noise nuisance form

Noise Type: **Noisy neighbours**

Is noise one-off: **No**

Your address

Your Details :

- First name:
- Last name :
- Telephone number:
- Email Address:

Noise coming from: **Travelers who have taken up residence on the Southwood playing fields**

Person responsible details : **Travelers on the playing fields**

Have you contacted the person responsible for the noise about this problem? - **Yes They told me to F off**

Noise impact details:

- More details about the noise: **Loud music, dogs barking and girls screaming**
- How often does the noise occur? **Daily**
- First noise affected from: **20/06/2025**
- When does the noise occurs: **In the evenings, starting from 10pm**
- How long does the noise go on for? **Long into the night**

- How does the noise affect you at your home / property? **Dog barking, girls screaming and loud music is not allowing us to sleep soundly in our own home**

Further information about the complaint:

Have you complained before about this problem? - **No**

Is the property that the noise is coming from a rented property? - **No**

Have you contacted one of our teams or any other organisations about this problem - **No**

Email: customer.eh@rushmoor.gov.uk Phone: 01252 398177
Rushmoor Borough Council, Council Offices, Farnborough Road,
Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 7JU

Subject:

FW: Report of antisocial behaviour - 3103042

From: forms@rushmoor.gov.uk <forms@rushmoor.gov.uk>

Sent: 21 June 2025 00:11

To: Rushmoor Council Community Safety <communitysafety@rushmoor.gov.uk>

Subject: Report of antisocial behaviour - 3103042

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Rushmoor Borough Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Report antisocial behaviour

Thanks for filling in one of our forms. Below is a copy of the information you sent to us. If you would like to make a change please reply to this email. Your reference number is 3103042.

First name:

[REDACTED]

Last name:

[REDACTED]

Are you over 18?

Yes

What is your housing status?

Privately owned

Address:

[REDACTED]

Email:

[REDACTED]

Phone:

[REDACTED]

Do you have any disabilities that you think we may need to be aware of?

No

Type of antisocial behaviour:

Criminal damage

Type of antisocial behaviour:

Vandalism

Type of antisocial behaviour:

Vehicle nuisance

Type of antisocial behaviour:

Street drinking

Type of antisocial behaviour:

Other

Details of the antisocial behaviour:

Travellers on Rushmoor FC grounds, Grasemere roads Already reported to police and council - no action has been taken Travellers on the field -28 vehicles in total so far - has been increasing as the day goes on. Arrived night of 19th June. They have been taking dog poo bags and rubbish out of bins and throwing them on the field and road - this is a health and safety violation as well as vandalism They are playing music incredibly loud and it's 00:08 - they are screaming and shouting and dogs barking loudly - this is causing a struggle to sleep and extreme frustration. Incredible inconsideration and trespassing on the field. They have cut the padlock to gain access to the field and need to be removed ASAP.

Address or location of the antisocial behaviour:

Rushmoor Community FC, Farnborough

Date of the antisocial behaviour:

19-21st June

Has there been antisocial behaviour here before?

No

Name(s) of person(s) carrying out the antisocial behaviour:

Travellers in caravans

Housing status of person causing the antisocial behaviour:

Other

Other type of housing:

Travellers in caravans

Can you provide us with evidence of the antisocial behaviour?

No

Are there any other witnesses to this antisocial behaviour?

Yes

Please provide the witnesses' name(s), contact details and if they are they happy to be contacted by us:

Neighbours

What would you like the outcome of our investigation to be?

To remove the travellers from the field ASAP and ensure the field is cleaned and safely secured

Email: customerservices@rushmoor.gov.uk

Phone: [01252 398 399](tel:01252 398 399)

Address:

Rushmoor Borough Council
Council Offices
Farnborough Road
Farnborough

