

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

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A. SECTION 1



Claim Form (CPR Part 8)

In the High Court of Justice

Claim no.

Fee Account no.

Help with Fees -
Ref no. (if appli-
cable)

H W F - - - - -

Claimant

Rushmoor Borough Council
Council Offices
Farnborough Road
Farnborough
GU14 7JU



KB-2025-002184

Defendant(s)

Persons Unknown occupying land at Aldershot Park, Aldershot, Hampshire.

Does your claim include any issues under the Human Rights Act 1998? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Details of claim (see also overleaf)

The Claimant makes an application for an injunction under s.187B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to restrain a breach of planning control.

Please see the attached Details of Claim and Draft Order, together with the witness statement of Helen Payne and exhibits.

Defendant's
name and
address

Persons Unknown
Currently occupying land in the Borough of
Rushmoor at Aldershot Park

£

Court fee	£528
Legal representative's costs	TBC
Issue date	

For further details of the courts www.gov.uk/find-court-tribunal.

When corresponding with the Court, please address forms or letters to the Manager and always quote the claim number.

Details of claim (continued)

1. The Claimant seeks an Interim and final injunction pursuant to section 222 of the Local Government Act 1972 and section 187B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
2. The Claimant owns and / or is responsible for the management of the Parks, Playing Fields, Carparks and Green Spaces (the "Open Spaces") within the Borough.
3. These Open Spaces are identified by number and corresponding name on the maps at 'Annex 1' to this claim form.
4. As explained in the Witness Statement of Helen Payne produced on behalf of the Claimant there have been repeated incidents of unauthorised encampments in the Borough resulting in considerable depositing of waste and reports of anti-social behaviour in the vicinity.
5. The unauthorised encampments cause considerable disruption to the residents and citizens of Rushmoor.
6. The fly-tipping causes considerable distress and anxiety, is a major eye-sore and results in recreational facilities being un-usable. Further the expense incurred in the cleaning up operations including the removal of untreated human excrement, domestic litter and general waste.
8. The unauthorised encampments cause considerable expense to be incurred in restoring the sites to a fit, hygienic and safe level for usage by the public.
9. Considerable costs are also incurred in attempting to secure the sites owned by the Claimant.
10. Following the making of a Removal Order requiring the unknown persons to leave a specific unauthorised encampment site the unlawful occupiers often move to another site in Rushmoor.
11. Accordingly, for the reasons set out in the witness evidence in support of this Claim, it is necessary and expedient for the promotion and / or protection of the interest of the residents of Rushmoor and to prevent nuisance and trespass and further breaches of planning control to seek an injunction in the terms of the draft Order attached to this Claim, to prevent the repeated establishment of unauthorised encampments and the disruption and loss of resources caused by this type of unlawful action.
12. It is necessary to bring these proceedings against Persons Unknown Occupying Land on Land as the identity of the unlawful occupiers may or will be is uncertain.
13. The proposed Order is intended to prevent any future unauthorised encampments on the Open Spaces.
14. The draft Order against Persons Unknown Occupying Land has confined the scope of the order to specifically identifiable sites within Rushmoor as identified on the attached Maps and attached to the draft Order.

Legal Services
Rushmoor Borough Council
Council Offices
Farnborough Road
Farnborough
GU14 7JU

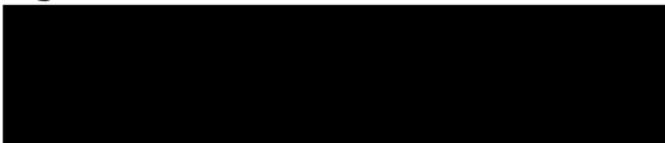
Claimant's or claimant's legal representative's address to which documents should be sent if different from overleaf. If you are prepared to accept service by DX, fax or e-mail, please add details.

Statement of Truth

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.

- ☐ I **believe** that the facts stated in these particulars of claim are true.
- ☒ **The Claimant believes** that the facts stated in these particulars of claim are true. **I am authorised** by the claimant to sign this statement.

Signature



- ☐ Claimant
- ☐ Litigation friend (where claimant is a child or a Protected Party)
- ☒ Claimant's legal representative (as defined by CPR 2.3(1))

Date

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text" value="23"/>	<input type="text" value="06"/>	<input type="text" value="2025"/>

Full name

Name of claimant's legal representative's firm

If signing on behalf of firm or company give position or office held

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Claim no.

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RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

Claimant

-V-

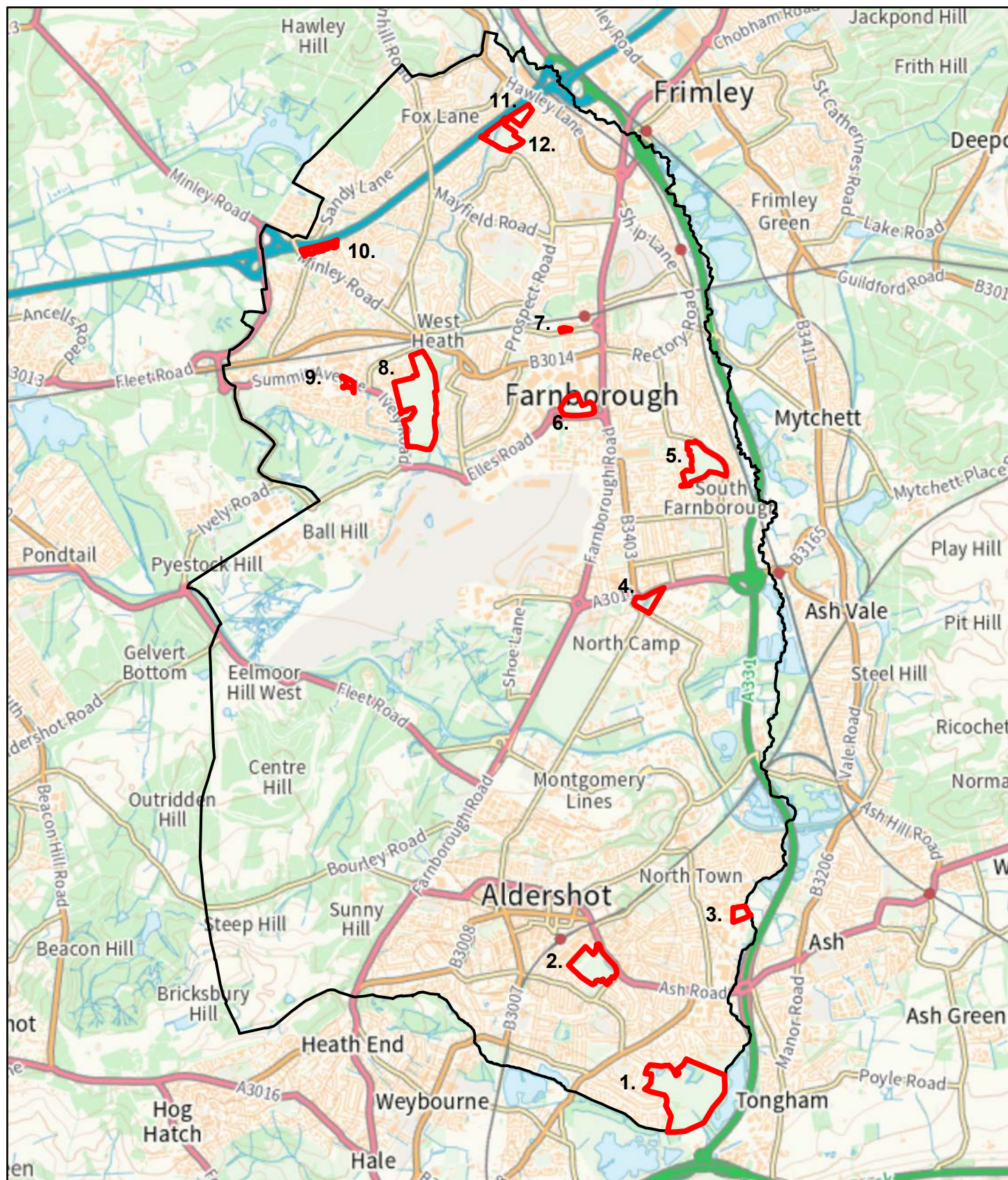
PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO ARE FORMING UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS IN
THE BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

Defendants

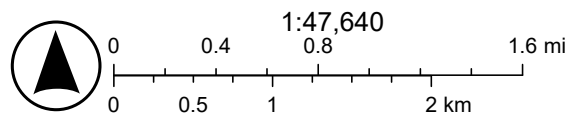
Annex 1 – List of Areas and Redline Plans

	Site Address
1	Land at Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot (including Aldershot Park, Aldershot Pools Complex & Lido, Aldershot Crematorium, Aldershot Cricket Club)
2	Manor Park, Church Hill, Aldershot
3	Ivy Road Recreation Ground, Ivy Road, Aldershot
4	Napier Gardens and Car Park, Redvers Buller Road, Aldershot
5	King George V Playing Field, Sycamore Road, Farnborough
6	Farnborough Leisure Centre car park, Westmead, Farnborough
7	Union Street West car park, Union Street, Farnborough
8	Southwood County Park, Playing Fields, Car parks, Ively Road, Farnborough
9	Southwood Village Green, Summit Avenue, Farnborough
10	Nightingale Close, Farnborough (Land to the east of Minley Road)
11	Land at Hawley Lane, Farnborough
12	Moor Road Playing Field, Moor Road, Farnborough

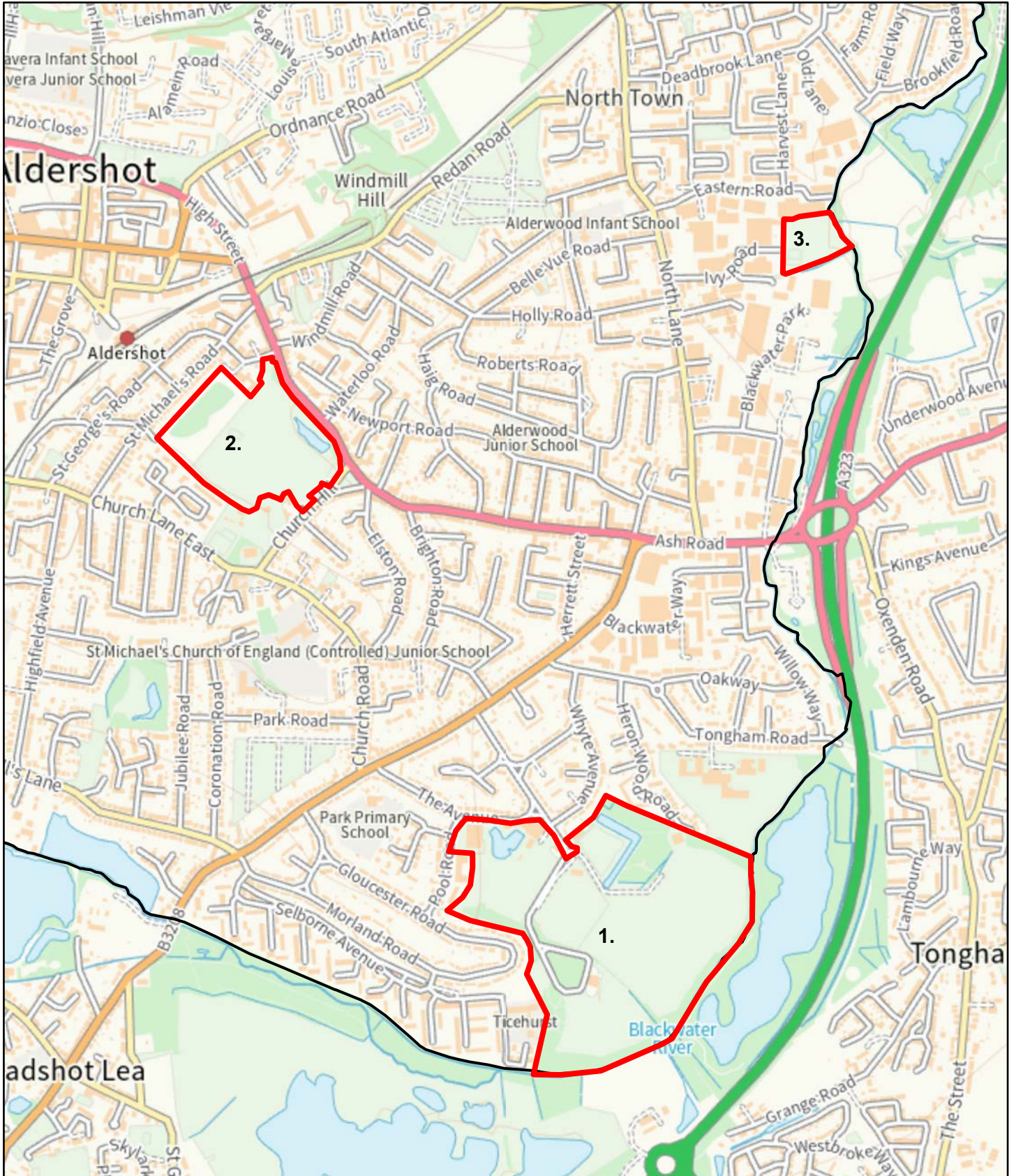
ArcGIS Web Map



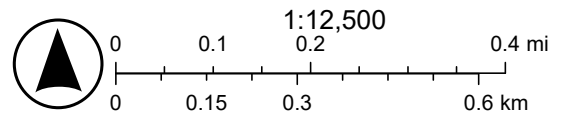
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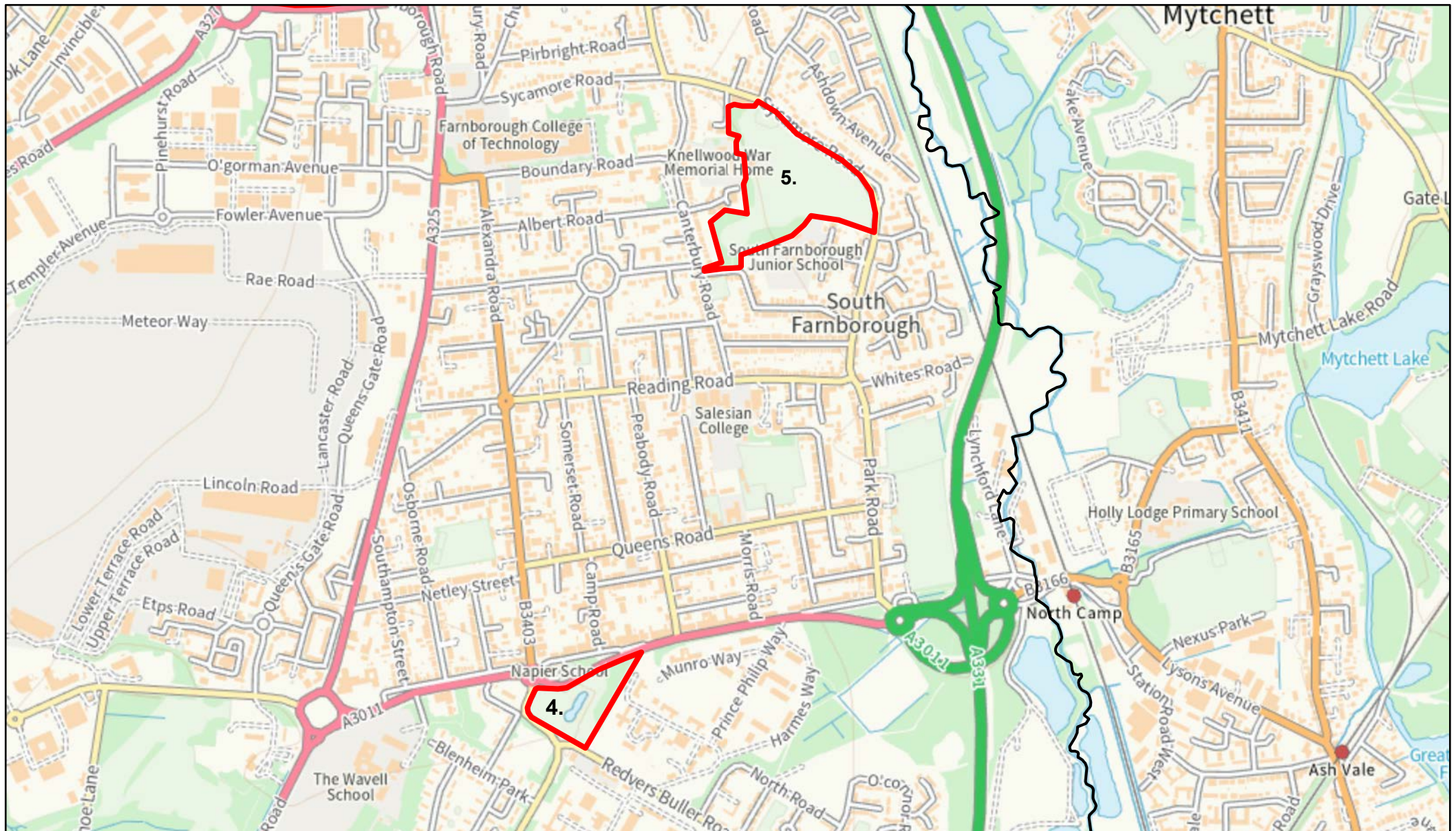
ArcGIS Web Map



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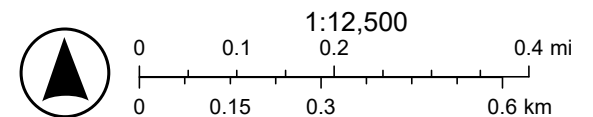


ArcGIS Web Map

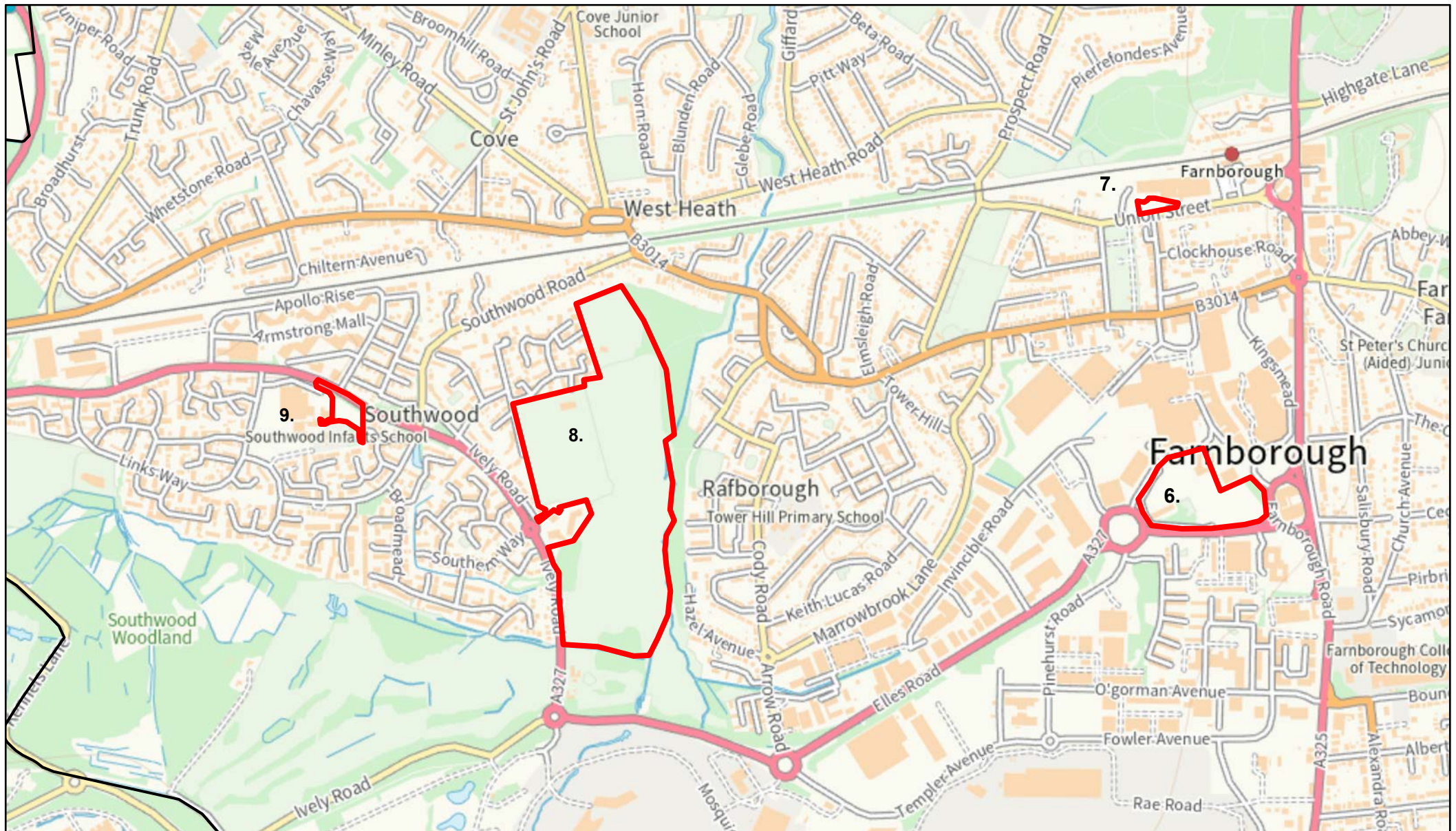


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 Rushmoor Boundary



ArcGIS Web Map



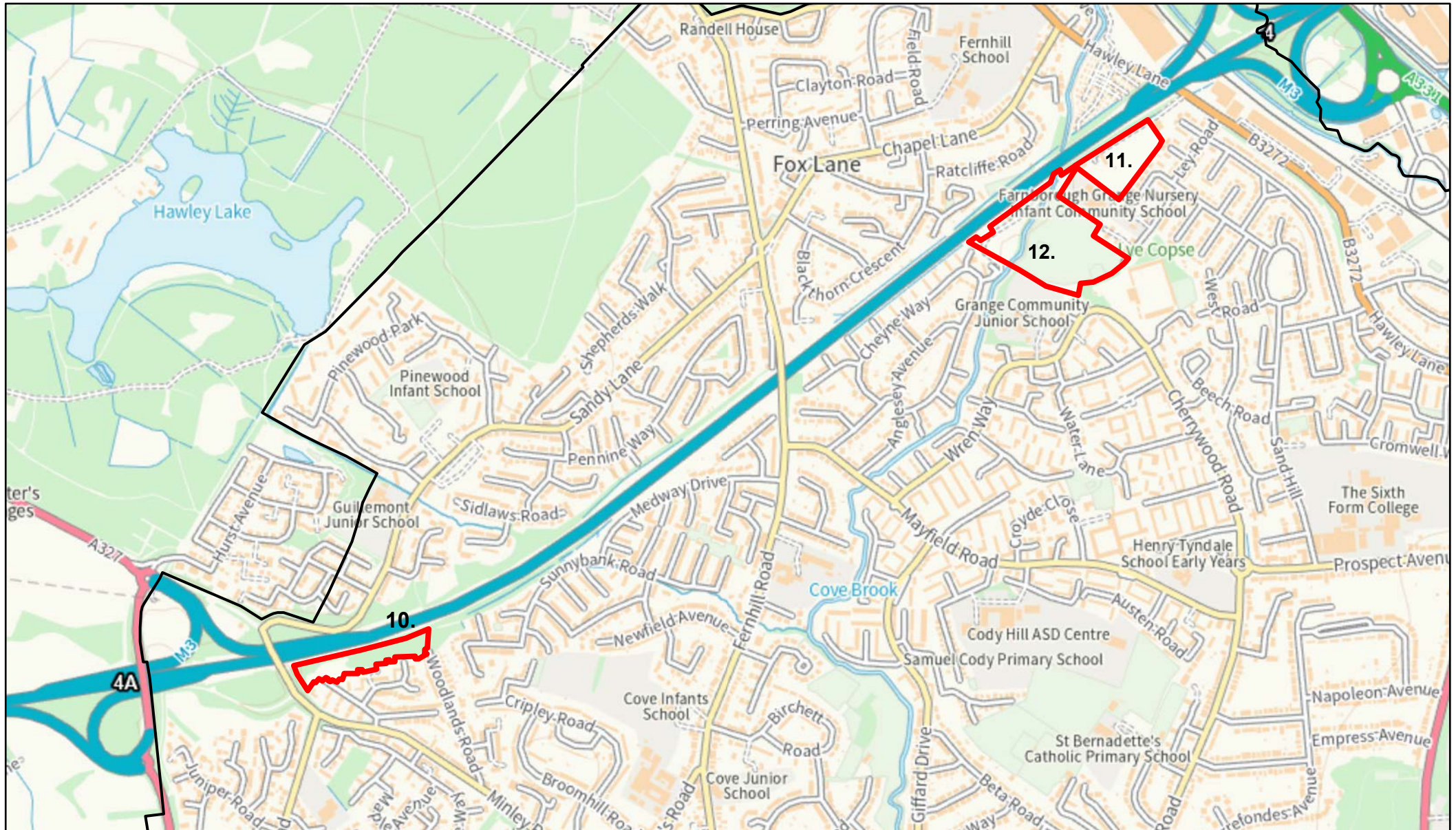
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 Rushmoor Boundary



1:12,500
0 0.1 0.2 0.4 mi
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

ArcGIS Web Map



6/23/2025, 10:10:16 AM

 Rushmoor Boundary



1:12,500
0 0.1 0.2 0.4 mi
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

B. SECTION 2

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Claim no.

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

Defendants

FIRST 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 am currently employed as the Principal Environmental Health Officer for the Claimant. I have been in my current role since November 2007 working within the Claimant's Environmental Health Team. In my current role, I am responsible for responding to unauthorised Traveller encampments on Council-owned land. This includes undertaking initial site visits, welfare checks, and process servicing (direction notices/summonses/removal orders). I also deal with complaints of "nuisance" from neighbouring residents and businesses in connection with such matters of noise, rubbish, damage, anti-social behaviour and other issues relating to unauthorised Traveller encampments.
2. Except where I state otherwise, the facts in this statement are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Where it appears that my knowledge has come from another source, then I believe that source and the facts gained from there to be true. This statement has been prepared with the assistance of the Claimant's legal services team. I am aware of the duty for full and frank disclosure.

3. I make this statement in support of the Claimant's application for injunctive relief over land known as the "Injunction Area". The Injunction Area comprises land in Schedule 1 of the Draft Order. It comprises land known as Southwood Playing Fields (which is currently occupied by the Defendant) and land known as Aldershot Park and Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park, and other sites in the borough which have a public amenity value and have been particularly vulnerable to encampments over recent years.
4. 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.

BACKGROUND

5. This application is brought by the Claimant, who is the local authority, against Persons Unknown who are forming unauthorised encampments within the Claimant's administrative area. It is not intended to single out any one particular group however it would not be credible if I did not observe that people of the Travelling Community are most likely to be affected by the injunctive relief being sought.
6. I am aware of the fact that Travellers are from a nationally recognised ethnicity and have their own distinct identity and culture which is protected by the Equality Act 2010 and Article 8 Human Rights Act 1998 (the right to a private and family life) which is a qualified right and must be balanced against competing rights. I am therefore aware of the need to treat Travellers' needs with respect and dignity and be especially aware of any potential conflict between Travellers' culture, the need to uphold their rights under these acts.
7. Travellers nomadic lifestyle is part of the tradition and culture of the Gypsy and Traveller community. Travelling is part of their identity and the importance of this lifestyle to Travellers and Gypsies is recognised by the European Court of Human Rights in a number of judgments.

8. Gypsies and Traveller people have been present in England since at least the 16th century. Historically, they have been persecuted across Europe and the United Kingdom. In the twenty first century, The Equality and Human Rights Commission has published a number of reports showing that Gypsy and Traveller people have unequal and poor outcomes in health, education and economy. They suffer the worst outcomes of any group, across a wide range of social indicators, with their life chances being in decline. This was recently recognised by the High Court in *Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council v Persons Unknown* [2025] EWHC 738 (KB).
9. I recognise that meeting the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers, which includes transit stopping, is important to protecting their way of life. In practical terms, it is necessary to help improve the life chances of their families. In this regard, the proportionate approach is necessary with enforcement being a last resort.

The needs of Gypsies and Travellers in the Local Plan

10. The Government requires local councils to make their own assessment of the need for Traveller sites and to set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers, and plot targets for Travelling Showpeople, in their local development plans.
11. The Rushmoor Local Plan (“**the Local Plan**”) was adopted on 21 February 2019. It provides the overarching spatial strategy, guiding the location, scale, and type of future development to 2032, as well as detailed development management policies.
12. The Claimant undertook a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (“**GTAA**”) prior to the adoption of their Local Plan which showed a very low internally generated demand for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation (**Exhibited as HP1**). This did lead to a policy, LN3 which provide for provision to be made for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople which is a permissive policy provided that the Site meets certain criteria. I am advised that there is no application before the Local Planning Authority relating to this, or any other area within the Injunction Land.

13. The Claimant will be undertaking a further assessment as part of the adoption and consultation of their new Local Plan and will consider whether provision of transient Gypsy and Traveller accommodation is required within the Borough. If such a need arises, then the Local Planning Authority will consider making allocations to meet that need.

The needs of children

14. The Claimant is aware of the requirement to have particular regard to the enhanced protection that children are entitled to pursuant to the Children Act 1989 and Article 3 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This requires the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.
15. The Claimant undertakes welfare checks in relation to any encampment in their administrative area which include consideration of the dangers to children on the site, children's entitlement to education and other safeguarding issues. During my recent welfare visit I noted that there were a number of children on the site.
16. The rights of Travellers and their children on the site must be balanced against the rights and entitlements of the local residents and businesses affected by Traveller movements and the adverse effect that unlawful encampments has on the Borough in both financial terms, including the cost to the Council of remediation and the cost to businesses who close due to nearby encampments, and in non-financial terms, including the cost to community relations, anti-social behaviour experienced by residents and preventing the legitimate use of the land for recreational space.
17. As I shall endeavour to explain, the cost is extremely significant and detrimental to the Communities of the Borough. This harm is intensifying as the frequency of unauthorised Traveller encampments has been increasing significantly and the effectiveness of the Claimants usual remedy (a removal order) has been reduced as encampments have simply been moving elsewhere in the Borough.

The Occupiers

The defendants are Persons Unknown who are forming unauthorised encampments in the Borough of Rushmoor. It is not a category of Defendant designed to capture the world at large but has been confined only to those who are engaging in the unlawful activity. I have to the best of my ability, made attempts to find out the names of Defendants however, this information is quite unreliable and there may be others who are engaging in this unlawful activity that we do not know the names of the Defendants provided the family name “McDonagh” to the Claimant. No first names were provided to identify specific defendants. I understand that the family name “McDonagh” is a common Traveller family name and has been provided by a number of encampments recently. The Claimant notes the registration numbers of all vehicles forming unauthorised encampments with the Borough however in my experience this information can be unreliable in identifying individuals in the encampments. I also understand that the transient nature of the Defendants means that some occupiers come and go and therefore the identities of the Defendants may change on a day to day basis. I therefore believe it is proportionate to identify the Defendants as “Persons Unknown Who Are Forming Unauthorised Encampments in the Borough of Rushmoor.”

18. The injunction is only intended to capture those on the Injunction Land. The sites within the Injunction Land are predominantly areas of Public Open Space which are used by residents of the Borough for recreation and sports and have significant amenity value. The Injunction Land also includes three car parks. The car park at Union Street West is a large car park close to Farnborough Main Station, encampments on this area therefore cause significant disruption to residents who use the station to commute. The car park at Southwood Country Park adjoins an area designated as Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace, which is required pursuant to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 to mitigate harm to the ground nesting birds in the Thames Basin Heath Special Protection Area. The car park at Napier Gardens is used by residents to access the gardens the ponds which it adjoins, this area is managed as a wildlife habitat and has significant amenity value to residents.
19. The arrival into the Borough of persons wanting establish unauthorised encampments is not a new phenomenon. Throughout my time employed by the Claimant, I have

witnessed and dealt with a significant number of encampments, many of which have involved breaking onto sites by cutting down height barriers or gates. The encampments are usually made up of as many as 30 passenger vehicles, motorhomes, caravans and commercial vehicles. The occupants of the encampments are usually adults and children, often accompanied by dogs. I have provided a summary of the encampments the Claimant has experienced since 2017 (**Exhibited as HP2**).

20. In response to an encampment, officers are dispatched as soon as possible to do an initial assessment of the situation and then following this, officers undertake a welfare check on the occupiers of the site. A welfare assessment report is then produced, which considers a number of factors including the group profile and history, site details, health and safety considerations, waste and sanitation, welfare and education, accommodations, human rights considerations and environment and local community considerations. Taking into account all these factors, I make a recommendation of the action which should be taken to deal with the unauthorised encampment. This report and recommendation is then considered by the Executive Head of Operational Services and they decide on the action to be taken. Normally action under Section 77 of Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 is considered appropriate, and a Direction Notice is served on the occupiers. If this is not complied with, we seek a Removal Order through the Magistrates' Court.
21. The Claimant's legal services team then assist officers in gaining a removal order, directing the encampment to leave the land within 24 hours.
22. Previously, this remedy was successful, and the encampment moved out of the Borough; however, recently, the most recent removal order sought (addressed further below) has only been successful in moving the encampment to another area in the Borough.

Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park Order

23. In April 2025, this occurred with an encampment at Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park (also known as Aldershot Lido). In response to the encampment which arrived on the

evening of 21 April 2025 the Claimant undertook the usual welfare checks and served a direction notice on the 22 April 2025 (**Exhibited as HP3**) on the occupiers.

24. In response to the direction notice the occupiers moved to land known as Aldershot Park, an area adjacent to Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park. The Claimant re-served a direction notice with an extended area on 23 April 2025 (**Exhibited as HP4**) and served a summons on the occupiers on 24 April 2025 (**Exhibited as HP5**). The Claimant obtained a removal order on 28 April 2025 (**Exhibited as HP6**).
25. On the most immediate occasion, an encampment consisting of 32 caravans/motorhomes pulled onto the land known as Aldershot Park on 14 June 2025. Following the usual welfare checks, the Claimant obtained a removal order on 19 June 2025 (**Exhibited as HP7**). In response to this removal order, the 15 caravans/motorhomes from this encampment moved to the land known as Southwood Playing Fields.

Southwood Playing Fields

26. Southwood Playing Fields is currently occupied by the Defendants. This is an area of public open space with sports pitches. From 19 June 2025, the use of the land has been materially changed from that of a public open space/sports pitches to that of an encampment with some residential uses. The Claimant has carried out welfare checks on the encampment at Southwood Playing Fields and produced a welfare report (**Exhibited as HP8**).
27. This is an area which is frequently enjoyed by residents of the borough for amenity and sports. It is an area which is frequented by dog walkers, and football and cricket players. During the weekend of 20-22 June 2025, numerous sporting events have been cancelled on this area of land – I have been advised that the football club have cancelled four training sessions on the 20 June 2025 for children of all ages and Cove Cricket Club cancelled a league game on the 21 June with junior fixtures anticipated to be cancelled during the week if the encampment is not moved on. Southwood Pavilion on the site which includes bar and toilets has been closed to the public and sports club for the

duration of the encampment and will also result in lost income for the Farnborough Community Football Club.

28. During my Site visit, I noted that there were vehicles being driven at speed across the field. This was interfering with the peaceful enjoyment of neighbouring properties. I noted that there were likely to be significant issues for residents, nearby businesses, users of the park and nearby amenity areas and leisure facilities if this encampment was allowed to remain. I noted that the padlock had been cut to enable entry from Grasmere Road, and a padlock had been cut on the gate leading into the field.
29. The Site is also near to Cove Valley and Cove Brook both of which are designated Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (“SINCs”). There is a possibility of children accessing the nearby Cove Brook – and there was a risk of drowning as there is often little adult supervision.
30. There were a significant number of children on the Site. Some occupiers advised that their children are homeschooled. Some of the occupiers usually reside in Ireland and schools in Ireland are on academic holidays. The Claimant has assessed the needs of the occupiers and had particular regard to the needs of the children.

Actual or Apprehended breach of Planning Control

31. Section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (“**1990 Act**”) defines development “the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under land, or the making of any material change in the use of any buildings or other land.”
32. The land the defendants are currently occupying at Southwood Playing Fields is public open space and sports pitches. The encampment has materially changed the use of the land to a residential use. This development occurred when the new use was instituted, on the evening of 19 June 2025.

33. The development of the land does not benefit from planning permission or any permitted development rights and therefore is development contrary to Section 171A(1)(a) of the 1990 Act and is a breach of planning control.
34. The development causes the loss of open space, the loss of areas for sport or recreational use and is harmful to the visual amenity of the area contrary to policies DE6 (Open Space, Sport and Recreation) DE7 (Playing Fields and Ancillary Facilities) of the Local Plan. Furthermore, the Claimant views that the development is likely to cause noise pollution to the surrounding area, contrary to policy DE1 (Design in the Built Environment) of the Local Plan. The Claimant also believes that the development is on and adjacent to a site that may be impacted by pollution, including littering and human waste contrary to policy DE10 (Pollution) of the Local Plan.

Apprehended Development

35. The Claimant has experienced that when encampments vacate a site, they often move to another site within the Borough and the Claimant has to repeat the process of obtaining a removal order which causes significant strain on the Claimant's resources.
36. The Injunction Area also contains other specified sites (shown at Schedule One of the Draft Order). These are all sites which have had issues with encampments since 2017. Many of the sites, such as Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park have suffered from multiple encampments annually.
37. The Claimant believes that there is a significant prospect that an injunction solely restraining the actual breach described above would cause a further breach on one of the Specified Sites and therefore believes that it is expedient for the Court to restrain the apprehended development at these sites.

Harm to the Borough

38. In my experience often encampments cause criminal damage to access sites by cutting through height barriers and/or gates. The encampments also often cause significant damage to the land on which is occupied. Grassed open space is not usually driven on by heavy vehicles and the damage to ground and grass can be significant. This has a

particular impact on sports pitches or when the ground is wet. The Claimant has received many complaints from local sports clubs that the encampments have disrupted their schedules. The encampments have often taken place on sports fields near football goals, rugby posts and cricket squares. Encampments on these areas not only damage the land but often curtail the sporting activities on these areas including children's sport lessons/training.

39. The Claimant provides waste bags to unauthorised encampments and makes arrangements for the collection of these bags. Despite this, once the encampments have moved on, the sites are often left in shocking conditions. This has included human waste being left on site which is a significant health hazard particularly on sports pitches or areas where children may play. Encampments also often leave domestic litter, commonly within waste bags, which are left over the site. This has included broken glass being left on site which could be harmful to residents, including children, who use the land. The cost of remediating the sites is often significant.

Reasonable Alternatives and reason for requesting injunctive relief

40. The Claimant's Protocol provides a helpful guide on how the Claimant deals with unauthorised encampments (**Exhibited as HP9**). There is a degree of tolerance in the protocol, and removal is not always sought. Where removal is sought, the Claimant's approach to date has been to deal with encampments by obtaining a removal order. This has become less effective recently and the Claimant's Environmental Health and Legal Team are spending a disproportionate amount of time reacting to encampments. The Court will appreciate, local authorities under resourced and the intensification of encampments is causing significant strain on the Claimant.
41. Furthermore, the time taken in order to obtain a removal order allows the sites to deteriorate through significant littering and damage to land.
42. The Southwood Playing Field site is particularly problematic when it is subject to occupation by an encampment because it has a high amenity value and is used by several community groups. The cancellation of the sporting fixtures means that an urgent and

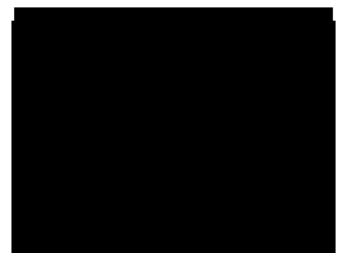
proportionate response is necessary. We have previously used the powers available to us under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1984 (such as in the case of the Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park Order); however, this has resulted in the unauthorised encampment moving to other areas of the borough. This does not resolve the issues and so I am of the view that it is now proportionate to protect the Southwood Playing Field and other areas of high amenity value in the Borough which are also vulnerable to unauthorised encampments through an injunction.

43. The Claimant has made the occupiers aware that they are occupying the land unlawfully. The Claimant also believes that the occupiers were aware of this previously as a removal order had been obtained against their occupation of Aldershot Park.
44. The Claimant seeks a more positive and pro-active approach and understands that a injunction similar to those achieved by other Boroughs is necessary to try and prevent the encampments which is so prejudicial to the Borough, its residents and businesses.
45. The Claimant believes the matter is urgent as the ongoing breach of planning control is causing significant harm to the local community sports club and regular users of the land, which is only intensified by allowing the breach to continue. All of the land subject to the Injunction Area is open to the public - and it is either owned or leased by the Claimant. Without the injunction, there is a fear that there will be a continued increase or worsening of the number of encampments in the Injunction Area.

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:





Rushmoor Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment

Final Report

October 2012

UNITED
KINGDOM &
IRELAND



Prepared for:
Rushmoor Borough Council

Limitations

URS Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited ("URS") has prepared this Report for the sole use of Rushmoor Borough Council ("Client") in accordance with the Agreement under which our services were performed. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this Report or any other services provided by URS. This Report is confidential and may not be disclosed by the Client nor relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of URS.

The conclusions and recommendations contained in this Report are based upon information provided by others and upon the assumption that all relevant information has been provided by those parties from whom it has been requested and that such information is accurate. Information obtained by URS has not been independently verified by URS, unless otherwise stated in the Report.

The methodology adopted and the sources of information used by URS in providing its services are outlined in this Report. The work described in this Report was undertaken between May 2012 and August 2012 and is based on the conditions encountered and the information available during the said period of time. The scope of this Report and the services are accordingly factually limited by these circumstances.

Where assessments of works or costs identified in this Report are made, such assessments are based upon the information available at the time and where appropriate are subject to further investigations or information which may become available.

URS disclaim any undertaking or obligation to advise any person of any change in any matter affecting the Report, which may come or be brought to URS' attention after the date of the Report.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Context

1.1.1 This report is an independent assessment of the need for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation in the period 2012 - 2017. The assessment has been undertaken by the Strategic Planning team at URS, based on survey work undertaken by Rushmoor Borough Council.

1.1.2 Previous evidence based studies¹ have demonstrated that there is a need for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople accommodation in Rushmoor Borough. Given the time that has elapsed since these studies it is now necessary to appraise more recent evidence in respect of the need to make provision for traveller's sites in Rushmoor Borough.

1.2 About Rushmoor

Figure 1: The location of the Borough of Rushmoor within Hampshire



1: Rushmoor; 2: Wokingham; 2: Bracknell Forest; 4: Surrey Heath;
5: Guildford; 6: Waverley; 7: East Hampshire; 8: Hart

¹ DCA (2006) 'Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight' and Hampshire Strategic Officers' Group (2008) 'Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment for Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight'

1.2.1 Rushmoor is a small urban authority (3,905 ha) in North East Hampshire, adjacent to the Surrey and Berkshire borders. It is densely populated (93,800 residents in the 2011 Census²) with a well defined built-up area made up of two major settlements whose boundaries are contiguous.

1.2.2 Aldershot lies to the south of the Borough, and Farnborough to the north. Aldershot is famous for being the home of the British Army whilst Farnborough is renowned as the birthplace of British aviation. The northern and eastern parts of the Borough are mainly urban in character, whilst the land in the west has, in general, an international, national or local nature conservation designation, is made up of Ministry of Defence training land, or forms part of Farnborough Airport. The Borough is bounded on the east by the Blackwater Valley relief road.

1.3 Definitions

1.3.1 The following terms are used in this report:

Site: A Gypsy and Traveller site is an area where Gypsies and Travellers live. A site may contain a number of pitches.

Pitch: A pitch is the space occupied by one household and their vehicles.

Yard: The Travelling Showpeople equivalent of a site.

Plot: The Travelling Showpeople equivalent of a pitch.

1.4 Local planning policy

1.4.1 Rushmoor Borough Council's Core Strategy was adopted in October 2011. Paragraph 8.83 notes that "The Rushmoor Plan documents must provide for the needs of all sectors of the community, including those of gypsies and travellers and travelling showpeople".

1.4.2 Policy CP7 – Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople states that:

The Council will safeguard existing sites for travelling showpeople. Where additional local need is demonstrated for new sites for gypsies and travellers and travelling showpeople, including transit sites, planning permission will be granted or sites allocated to meet this need provided that the following criteria are met:

a. Provision is made for safe and convenient access onto the highway network;

b. The proposals will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the amenity of adjoining property and uses;

c. The proposal will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the physical and visual character of areas of acknowledged importance;

d. The site can accommodate on-site facilities, appropriate to its scale.

1.4.3 The Council will monitor the supply and delivery of provision to ensure that locally identified needs are being met.

² When the full Census 2011 results are published, a more complete picture of the gypsy population may be revealed. The 2011 Census is the first Census where there was "Gypsy or Irish Traveller" tick box in the questionnaire, and results will be shown on table KS201EW: Ethnic group.

- 1.4.4 This Policy was prepared on the basis of the evidence which informed the preparation of the Core Strategy, and recognised the need to protect existing sites for travelling showpeople based on local need. In respect of gypsies and travellers, given that Rushmoor Borough does not have any existing gypsy and traveller sites, the Policy is criteria based to enable the identification of sites, or the determination of planning applications, should a need for such sites be demonstrated over the Plan period.
- 1.4.5 The Monitoring chapter of the Core Strategy includes no net loss of yards for travelling showpeople as one of its targets, both on an annual basis and over the plan period to 2027.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Choice of approach

2.1.1 This report has been prepared to meet the expectations of the following two national policy and guidance documents.

Planning policy for traveller sites³ (DCLG, 2012)

2.1.2 This Government policy document requires local authorities to make their own assessment of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople needs for the purposes of planning. In doing so, it calls upon them to use evidence and to plan positively for such developments. Specifically, it calls upon local authorities to:

- Pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and Traveller communities (including discussing Travellers' accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups);
- Co-operate with Travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups, other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas;
- Use a robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of local plans and make planning decisions;
- Set pitch targets for Gypsies and Travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in their area;
- Identify and update annually, a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of sites against their locally set targets;
- Identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years six to ten and, where possible, for years 11-15

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Guidance⁴ (DCLG, 2007)

2.1.3 This guidance document provides details of best practice when conducting a Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs assessment. This guidance has therefore formed the basis of this assessment in order to ensure that a robust evidence base is established. In particular, it suggests that:

- Some secondary information that is currently held by local authorities or other agencies can be used to inform the assessment; and
- It is recommended that the local authority or partnership conduct a specialist survey and/or qualitative research to obtain further more detailed information.

³ Available online at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2113371.pdf> (accessed 06/2012)

⁴ Available online at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/accommneedsassessments.pdf> (accessed 06/2012)

2.1.4 Details of both of these areas of research are set out below.

2.2 Secondary information

2.2.1 The following secondary sources of information were consulted during the course of the assessment:

- Waiting list for the two nearby local authority sites (Star Hill & Penny Hill, both in Hart District, provided by Hampshire County Council);
- Housing waiting list information, where this shows people are Gypsies or Travellers;
- Hampshire County Council data on unauthorised encampments, as supplied by Rushmoor Borough Council;
- Planning data on private authorised sites;
- Planning data on unauthorised sites;
- Planning data on any planning applications for Gypsy or Traveller sites which have been refused permission over the past five years;
- Outcomes of any planning appeals and those where enforcement action has been taken over the past five years;
- Current planning applications within the Borough awaiting determination; and
- Biannual gypsy and traveller caravan counts for the Borough.

2.3 Stakeholder engagement

2.3.1 The following agencies have inputted into the production of this report:

- Hampshire County Council Gypsy Liaison Office and Head of Planning
- Neighbouring local authorities: Guildford, Surrey Heath, Waverley, Basingstoke & Deane, Hart, Chichester, Winchester, West Sussex, Test Valley, East Hampshire, Eastleigh
- Registered Providers (housing associations)
- Gypsy Council
- Showmen's Guild

2.4 Specialist survey

The survey work was carried out in early 2012 in two phases. The details of the survey work are set out below.

Phase 1: Desktop Study

2.4.1 Officers at Rushmoor Borough Council (RBC) undertook a desktop review of published documentation, policy and statistics relating or relevant to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the Rushmoor area, as well as two sites in Guildford Borough close to the Rushmoor boundary, and consulted with relevant stakeholders such as the Showmen's Guild.

2.4.2 Officers collected information from local stakeholders, including Council Officers at Rushmoor Borough Council, neighbouring authorities including the Hampshire GTAA Group (7 local authorities – East Hampshire, Eastleigh, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Test Valley & Winchester), Hampshire County Council (HCC), Hampshire and LA Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officers, Community Safety Officer (Guildford BC)). Information was also sought from Registered Housing Providers with large stock in Rushmoor, The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain (Western Section and London and the Home Counties Section), FFT (Friends, Families and Travellers) and others who work with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. The information sought included:

- Information on population size and / or movement of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople – data obtained from RBC Planning, Environmental Health, Council Tax, Housing Benefit, and Housing Options Team (HOTs); HCC and Registered Providers with large stock in Rushmoor;
- Information was also requested from other local authorities who are currently carrying out GTAA or have carried out surveys in the past e.g. the Hampshire GTAA group, Hart DC, Basingstoke and Deane BC, and Guildford BC. Officers requested the information/findings from the studies undertaken by these local authorities, and the neighbouring Guildford authorities to enable us to consider cross boundary movements of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, and to help ensure that the GTAA is as robust as possible;
- An illegal transit encampment was identified through the RBC Environmental Health Team; information on illegal encampment over the last four years was also obtained from the Hampshire County Council Gypsy Liaison Officer;
- At the time of the desktop study, the Hampshire GTAA Group had not finalised their questionnaire, whilst Basingstoke & Deane BC had completed interviews and analysis, but had to complete their final report. The latter had not come across anyone in the borough who had expressed an interest in moving to Rushmoor;
- At the time of the desktop study, Hart DC had carried out the interviews but were waiting to undertake an analysis of the findings. However, the results of the surveys showed no expression of interest in moving to Rushmoor;
- Numbers from Registered Housing Providers (RPs) are either not available (not collected), or very low because residents self select the categories provided on ethnicity. Many of the Gypsy and Traveller residents who live in bricks and mortar do not select Gypsy and Travellers on the requisite form;
- Homeless presentations if they indicate Gypsies and Travellers – data sought from RBC Housing Option Team (HOT);
- Re-housing data which monitors the re-housing of Gypsies and Travellers – information obtained from RBC Housing Options Team and RPs;

- Housing waiting list information if information on the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers is available on the list – information obtained from RBC HOT;
- Movement of Gypsies and Travellers from permanent housing – HOT and RPs;
- Data on private authorised sites, including information on the number of caravans permitted on each site, whether the planning permission was granted on a permanent or temporary basis, and whether it restricted occupancy to named individuals; obtained from RBC's planning department.

Phase 2 – Research by interview

- 2.4.3 Phase 2 of the study supplemented the desktop study by undertaking research by interview and survey with Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople in the Borough, and in the neighbouring Borough of Guildford where sites are located close to Rushmoor Borough's boundary.
- 2.4.4 Interview questions were designed after consultation with the working group⁵ and key stakeholders. Whilst a single questionnaire was adopted for interviewing Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople, this was based on a semi-structured 'qualitative' approach centred on a number of 'key questions'. However, as it is recognised that Travelling Showpeople do not share the same culture or tradition of Gypsy and Travellers (of which there are various ethnic groups), an interpretive approach was required when interviewing based on the one questionnaire. A copy of the questionnaire is included at Appendix A of this report.
- 2.4.5 A target number of interviews was identified for each type of accommodation e.g. authorised developments, side of road, conventional housing. Rushmoor Borough has four authorised sites for Travelling Showpeople. Two authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites are located in Guildford Borough, on the boundary of Guildford BC and Rushmoor BC. Officers from both Rushmoor and Guildford Borough Councils worked together to facilitate the research by interview on these sites in neighbouring Guildford Borough.
- 2.4.6 The questionnaire aimed to:
- Gather information on current tenure types and aspirations/future needs, plus tenure preferences for caravan dwelling/movement between housing and caravans;
 - Ascertain attitudes to current site provision; presence on unauthorised encampments;
 - Gather data on household composition and demography including patterns of extended family living;
 - Identify migration patterns and transient settlement patterns;
 - Gather information on employment trends and barriers to accessing training and education opportunities.

⁵ This working group included Rushmoor Borough Council Officers with knowledge of the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities, Officers from Hampshire County Council, representatives of the Gypsy and Traveller communities, and other key stakeholders such as neighbouring local authorities.

- 2.4.7 In undertaking the surveys, a qualitative approach was used, taking into account cultural sensitivities, for example, women may not wish to answer questions, or speak to a male researcher.
- 2.4.8 In respect of gypsies and travellers, Officers from Rushmoor and Guildford Borough Councils spent time with Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officers, site managers, community officers and Lead Families on site. This time prior to the survey work was spent with a leading household on each site to explain the purpose of the questionnaire build up a relationship and gain trust, and for that family to introduce interviewers to other households on the site. When interviewing Gypsies and Travellers, the preference was for the women to answer the questions.
- 2.4.9 Similarly, with the Travelling Showpeople, the first visit was simply to give advice on the purpose of the survey and arrange an appointment to call back if the families were unable to complete the questionnaire at the time of the first visit. Further follow up visits were made to collect and complete the questionnaires. When interviewing the Travelling Showpeople, both the men and women were happy to answer questions. However, if they had adult sons and daughters, they preferred them to answer on behalf of the family.
- 2.4.10 Table 1 below summarises the organisations and people consulted in preparing the GTAA. This is followed by Table 2 which sets out the sites visited in preparing the GTAA.

Table 1: Summary of organisations & people consulted for information

Consultee	Details	Number of potential interviewees identified
Rushmoor Borough Council Officers including:		
- Council Tax	Does not collect any ethnic information, including Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople	n/a
- Housing Benefit Team	Does not collect any ethnic information, including Gypsies, Travellers or Showpeople	n/a
- Housing Options Team	Collect information on Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople, but this information is not always provided. Information requested on Homeless presentations, Re-housing data & the Housing allocation pool	4
- Planning	Information on location of sites in Rushmoor	10
- Environmental Health	Information regarding illegal encampments	2
Hampshire County Council Gypsy Liaison Officer	Information regarding illegal encampments pre-2012	n/a
Registered Providers	Collect information on Gypsies, Travellers and Showpeople, but this information is not always provided by respondent	n/a
Neighbouring Local Authorities	Guildford ; Basingstoke & Deane ; Hart ; Chichester ; Winchester ; West Sussex ; Test Valley ; East Hants	43 (13 Ash Bridge ; 30 Lakeside Close – both sites in Guildford Borough)

Table 2: Traveller Sites visited during February and March 2012

Site	Identified number of plots/sites/properties	Actual number of households interviewed
330 – 342 Farnborough Road, Farnborough	5	6
159 Queens Road, Farnborough	1	2
10-14 Peabody Road, Farnborough	3	3
11 Peabody Road, Farnborough	1	2
Ash Bridge, Aldershot (Plots 1-13)	13	9
Lakeside Close, Ash Vale (30 properties in Buttermere Court ; Coniston Court ; Eskdale Court ; Haweswater Court ; Langdale Court ; Ullswater Court ; Windermere Court)	12 (self identified as Gypsy / Travellers)	9
Bricks & Mortar (Rushmoor)	4	2
Illegal encampments	2	1

N.B. One plot/site may contain more than one accommodation and some plots/sites did not contain any households or accommodation.

2.5 Limitations

2.5.1 The approach taken during the assessment does have limitations. These are summarised as such:

- Whilst there has been liaison with neighbouring local authorities and other agencies, this assessment does only cover Rushmoor Borough, whereas planning for Gypsies and Travellers is something that is best undertaken at the larger than local level. However, the results of this work can be shared with neighbouring authorities to come to an appropriate cross-boundary solution, as is appropriate in planning to meet the needs of travellers. In addition, whilst this study focuses on a single local authority area, it has been set in the wider sub-regional context.
- The surveys undertaken for the assessment produced some useful data but there were some refusals and it is possible that those who completed the questionnaire are not a representative sample. Nevertheless, this is a risk applicable to all survey work, and the results should therefore be considered within this context.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Current provision

- 3.1.1 There are currently four local authority Gypsy sites in Hampshire, with a total capacity of 78 pitches. Two of these are in the neighbouring district of Hart: Star Hill and Penny Hill, each with 20 pitches. The other sites are the Tynefield site in Winchester District (18 pitches) and the Bury Brickfields site in New Forest District (20 pitches).
- 3.1.2 There are also several authorised private sites in Hampshire. The 2006 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment estimated that there were 21 of these in the study area, totalling an estimated 36 pitches. The County of Surrey is home to a large Gypsy and Traveller Community, making them one of the largest ethnic minorities in the area. The 2006 West Surrey Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment found that there were 106 permanent pitches within the boroughs of Guildford, Waverley and Surrey Heath.
- 3.1.3 The eastern boundary of Rushmoor Borough is formed by the Blackwater Valley Relief Road. The Relief Road marks the boundary between Rushmoor and Guildford Boroughs. Just over the boundary, in neighbouring Guildford, there are two permanent sites for travellers, one at Ash Bridge (13 pitches) and one at Lakeside Close, Ash Vale (30 pitches).
- 3.1.4 In Rushmoor Borough, there are no permanent Gypsy and Traveller sites, either authorised or unauthorised.
- 3.1.5 Similarly, there are no legal transit sites.
- 3.1.6 There are 10 plots for Travelling Showpeople, spread over four yards in Farnborough, used by four families:
- Two yards on Peabody Road
 - One yard on Queens Road; and
 - One yard on Farnborough Road.

3.2 2012 survey results

- 3.2.1 The following information can be drawn from the surveys undertaken to inform the assessment, as described in section 2.2 above (only information that can directly inform the assessment is highlighted here).
- 3.2.2 In relation to Gypsies and Travellers:
- The survey work identified one English Traveller family (one adult, two children) living in bricks and mortar in the affordable housing sector in the Borough that is expecting some of the household to move in the next five years. They will be looking to move to a local authority serviced site in a rural area. More specifically, in response to an open-ended question, the respondent named the location they are looking to move to as “Guildford, local”.
 - There are three other households, identifying themselves as Romany, Gypsy and English Traveller, currently living in bricks and mortar but expecting at least some of the household to move in the next five years. Each of these would like to live in affordable housing (bricks and mortar) in the local area.
 - One survey was undertaken with a household that was illegally encamped on private land in Farnborough. This was a temporary encampment. The household pursues a nomadic way of life, travelling all the time, and was in their previous location for less

than a month. They would like to move to a serviced site (local authority or private), if available, or the side of the road. No preferred area was specified.

- Ten surveys were completed at the Ash Bridge serviced site in the neighbouring district of Guildford, Surrey. Of these, only one move is expected in the next 5 years. This is a daughter who is expected to marry and wants to live in Surrey.

3.2.3 In relation to Travelling Showpeople:

- 13 questionnaires were completed, seven in Queens Road/Peabody Road and six in Farnborough Road. Typically, respondents are living on their own land or that of a family member;
- A marked characteristic of the Peabody Road sites is how longstanding they are. Respondents reported that their families had owned their respective sites “for over 150 years”, “for over 60 years” and “since 1892”;
- Three of the respondents may be planning to move in the next five years;
- An important issue to emerge at the Peabody Road sites is a shortage of space. The owner occupiers of two of the plots are having to store some vehicles elsewhere;
- At the time of the survey, one of the plots on Peabody Road was vacant;
- No respondents at Farnborough Road expressed any plans to move or indicated that their current facilities are in any way lacking;
- Many are hesitant to use transit sites as they do not know who else will be on site. In addition, transit sites are generally not large enough for most Travelling Showpeople with equipment;
- Not all members of Travelling Showpeople households travel, with older members of the household often staying behind;
- The equipment of Travelling Showpeople is often stored elsewhere in neighbouring local authority areas due to lack of storage space on established sites in Rushmoor, and this makes it difficult to undertake activities such as maintenance work;
- Travelling Showpeople travel with family members based in neighbouring boroughs;
- Static vans are preferred in the context of existing means, but if funds were not an issue many would prefer to build and live in bungalows (bricks and mortar);
- Many do not travel as far as they did in the past due to rising fuel costs.

4 RESIDENTIAL SITE ESTIMATE

4.1 Summary estimate

4.1.1 As noted above, a methodology closely based on the 2007 DCLG guidance on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments has been used to estimate the requirement of permanent pitches required in Rushmoor for the period 2012-2017.

4.1.2 The table below summarises the steps taken to arrive at the estimate, alongside the outcomes of each step.

Factor to be quantified	Amount
A: Current supply of occupied pitches in local authority or private ownership.	There are 0 authorised pitches.
B: Vacant or planned pitches, or those in the pipeline.	There are no vacant or planned pitches.
C: Current and forecast residential demand.	There is 1 example in the surveys of a resident in bricks and mortar wanting to move into a local authority site in the 'Guildford, local' area. No other such requests were uncovered. This represents a current and forecast residential demand of 1 pitch in the general area.
D: Extra pitches needed, 2012-17	Current and forecast demand of 1 (C) and no development in the pipeline (B) means that 1 extra pitch is estimated to be needed over the five year period, estimated to be in the general area over the five year period.

4.2 Detailed estimate

4.2.1 The table below provides the same information as above in a more detailed format.

Current supply of residential pitches (based on one pitch per household)			
Occupied	Number	Data Source(s)	Notes
Current supply of occupied local authority residential site pitches	0	Rushmoor Borough Council; Hampshire County Council	
Current supply of occupied authorised privately owned site pitches	0	January 2012 Caravan Count	
Total Occupied:			0
Vacant, Planned & Potential			
Number of unused local authority pitches	0		n/a
Vacancies on privately owned sites available	0		n/a
New local authority pitches already planned in year one	0	Rushmoor Borough Council	
Existing applications for private site development/extension likely to gain planning permission (during year one)	0	Rushmoor Borough Council	
Number of households in site accommodation expressing a desire to live in housing	0		n/a
Total Vacant, Planned & Potential:			0
Total current residential pitch provision:			0

Current residential demand (based on one pitch per household)				
Demand	Number	Data Source	Comments / Questions / Actions	
Number of households seeking permanent site accommodation in the area	0		No sites so no waiting list	
In housing, but with a need for site accommodation	1	Survey	Survey includes one respondent living in bricks and mortar in Farnborough who wants to move into a local authority site in “Guildford/local”.	
Number of households on unauthorised encampments	0	Rushmoor Borough Council, Hampshire County Council	No permanent unauthorised encampments	
		Current Demand:		1
		Minus those Vacant, Planned & Potential:		0
Family Formation				
Family formation (2012-2017)	2.5%	Growth rate from previous Hampshire GTAA	0	
		Extra pitches needed in the general area 2012-2017:		1

- 4.2.2 There is very little permanent Gypsy and Traveller activity in Rushmoor. There is no provision and very little locally-generated demand. This demand has been identified from a bricks and mortar household who would like to move to a local authority site in the general area, although not necessarily in Rushmoor, and preferably as part of an existing site.
- 4.2.3 This does not mean that there should be no supply, however, this supply is most practically provided as part of a wider sub-regional solution. Provision for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation, like general housing provision, is one of those strategic planning issues that must be dealt with at a larger than local scale. There is, and will continue to be, unmet demand in neighbouring authorities; Rushmoor may have a role to play in meeting this, although this role may be limited by the absence of any existing sites for Gypsies and Travellers.
- 4.2.4 It is recognised that given the very low level of local demand, and the fact that there are currently no permanent sites for Gypsies and Travellers in Rushmoor, it may be impractical to provide a single pitch in the Borough. Moreover, this level of provision could fail to meet the cultural needs of Gypsies and Travellers by virtue of the isolation from the travelling community that a single pitch would provide.
- 4.2.5 This assumes that the cross-boundary work continues, with a partnership effort to meet the need.

5 TEMPORARY SITE ESTIMATE

5.1 Current temporary supply

5.1.1 Provision of temporary or transit pitches and emergency stopping places is very limited in Hampshire. There are no publically-owned sites in the County and it is difficult to identify any privately-owned sites; the 2006 Hampshire and Isle of Wight GTAA (published in 2007) says that there are none.

5.1.2 Rushmoor has no authorised or unauthorised transit sites.

5.2 Temporary demand

5.2.1 An effective approach to estimating the demand for transit pitches involves a review of the record of unauthorised encampments that the Borough Council provides to the County Council.

- First 6 months of 2012: 12 caravans at Kennels Lane, Farnborough; with a separate instance of one caravan on the same site.
- 2011: none.
- 2010: Two encampments with five caravans in June and July, Fleet Road and Moor Road; assumed to be the same group moving from one location to another.
- 2009: Two encampments with three and four caravans for 15 consecutive nights in July, assumed repeat encampment.

5.2.2 With the exception of the larger 2-day encampment in June 2012, demand for temporary sites is generally low. However, this event does demonstrate that there is some demand.

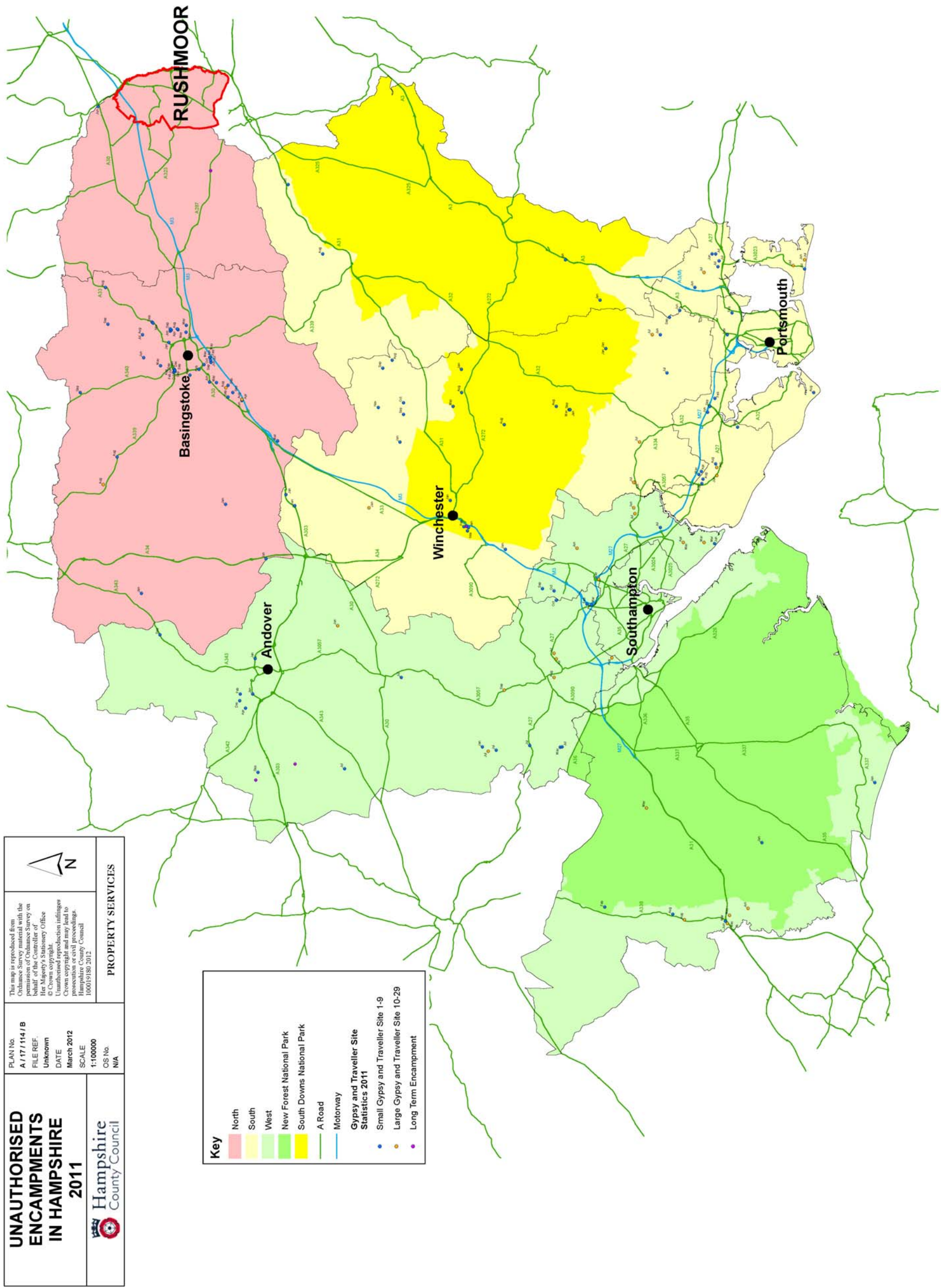
5.2.3 The DCLG Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count is another indicator of low demand, with no caravans of any type being reported for the last five counts.

5.2.4 The evidence suggests that the need for temporary sites within Rushmoor is no more than **five pitches**. This would be adequate to deal with all instances of unauthorised encampment in the district in the last 3.5 years, with the exception of the most recent, unusually large, encampment.

5.2.5 As with permanent provision, however, transit sites may need to be planned for on at least a sub-regional basis. Users of temporary sites are, by definition, transient, moving from one district to another.

5.2.6 The 2006 Hampshire and Isle of Wight GTAA recommended that four managed transit sites should be developed within Hampshire, focussed on Basingstoke and Deane, Winchester, Southampton and the west of Hampshire. This has not occurred, but those working with Gypsies and Travellers locally, such as the County Council's Gypsy Liaison Officer, believe that if delivered this number of sites would still meet demand. If these sites were to materialise, then this could meet the need for transit sites such that specific provision would not be required in Rushmoor. Cross boundary discussion must take place in this respect.

- 5.2.7 The plan on the following page maps all of the recorded illegal encampments in Hampshire in 2011. It shows some clusters, particularly around Basingstoke, and confirms the lack of instances in Rushmoor and neighbouring Hart. It also illustrates that there could be particular travel patterns across the sub-region which show where clusters of transit provision should logically be made to meet demand.



6 SHOWPEOPLE SITE ESTIMATE

6.1 Summary estimate

- 6.1.1 Chapter 3 of this report illustrates that the Travelling Showpeople population in Rushmoor is both very longstanding and stable. They are an important part of the community.
- 6.1.2 There is no evidence of demand for additional yards or plots from outside the Borough, so any new demand will be to meet the needs of the existing population.
- 6.1.3 There is no evidence of poor living conditions amongst the Rushmoor Travelling Showpeople community.
- 6.1.4 Occupants of two of the plots in Peabody Road report a lack of space to store vehicles and are having to use overspill space elsewhere. This would suggest unmet demand.
- 6.1.5 However, it would appear that at least some of this demand could be met by the vacant plot in Peabody Road that is in the same wider family ownership as those requiring more space. The summary table below assumes that this vacant plot can meet the additional needs of one plot owner.

Factor to be quantified	Amount
A: Current supply of occupied plots in local authority or private ownership.	There are 9 occupied plots.
B: Vacant or planned plots, or those in the pipeline.	There was 1 vacant plot at time of survey. There is no planned provision.
C: Current and forecast demand.	There are 2 examples in the survey of plots without enough space. This represents a current and forecast unmet demand of 1 plot.
D: Extra plots needed, 2012-17	Current and forecast demand of 1 (C) and no development in the pipeline but 1 vacant plot (B), plus 1 as the result of projected family formation, means that 2 extra plots are estimated to be needed over the five year period.

6.2 Detailed estimate

- 6.2.1 The table below provides the same information as above in a more detailed format.

Current supply of Travelling Showpeople plots				
Occupied	Number	Data Source(s)	Notes	
Current supply of occupied local authority plots	0	Rushmoor Borough Council		
Current supply of occupied authorised privately owned plots	9	Rushmoor Borough Council survey	10 plots over 4 yards; 1 plot unoccupied at time of survey	
Total Occupied:				9
Vacant, Planned & Potential				
Number of unused local authority plots	0		n/a	
Vacancies on privately owned plots	1	Rushmoor Borough Council survey		
New local authority plots already planned in year one	0	Rushmoor Borough Council		
Existing applications for private site development/extension likely to gain planning permission (during year one)	0	Rushmoor Borough Council		
Total Vacant, Planned & Potential:				1
Total current plot provision:				10

Current demand for Travelling Showpeople plots				
Demand	Number	Data Source	Comments / Questions / Actions	
Number of households known to be seeking a plot in the area	0		No waiting lists exist as there are no local authority yards	
Number of existing occupiers needing more space	2	Rushmoor Borough Council survey		
Number of households on unauthorised sites	0	Rushmoor Borough Council, Hampshire County Council	No unauthorised sites	
		Current Demand:		2
		Minus those Vacant, Planned & Potential:		1
Family Formation				
Family formation (2012-2017)	3%	Growth rate from previous Hampshire Showpeople Accommodation Assessment	1	
		Extra plots needed 2012-2017:		2

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Recommendations

7.1.1 In relation to the period 2012 – 2017, the conclusions of this assessment are as follows:

- There is very low internally-generated demand for permanent Gypsy and Traveller accommodation in Rushmoor. A single pitch will meet the demand. This would not necessarily be provided in Rushmoor itself given that provision of a single pitch in isolation from other such sites may not be a pragmatic solution, and could fail to meet the cultural needs of Gypsies and Travellers by virtue of its isolation from the travelling community. This provision could more logically form part of a wider strategy.
- There is more of a need for temporary or transit accommodation to deal with infrequent events. Five pitches would comfortably meet this need. This could potentially be more practically met as part of a wider strategy, rather than making specific provision in Rushmoor.
- Two additional plots for Rushmoor's well-established Travelling Showpeople community will meet local demand. There is no evidence of demand from elsewhere.
- Further discussion will be needed with this community, but the fact that it is storage space rather than living accommodation that is needed may suggest that some standard industrial/storage space may meet these needs.
- As is stated in the CLG Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Guidance (2007), it is unlikely to be realistic to try and forecast need for up to 15 years ahead (as is recommended within the Strategic Housing Market Assessment guidance for the rest of the community), with 5-10 years considered to be a reasonable range. Given the low numbers involved in this assessment, it is considered appropriate to only set targets for a five year period. For the years 6-15 it is suggested that the GTAA be updated to enable the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople to be provided according to the criteria set out in Core Strategy Policy CP7.

7.1.2 In addition to the above, it is possible that Rushmoor will have a contribution to make to meeting broader sub-regional need, working in partnership with other local authorities.

7.2 Partnership working

7.2.1 Partnership working will clearly be very important to ensure that the accommodation needs of Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople communities are met.

7.2.2 Importantly, neighbouring local authorities must work together to ensure a balanced approach to delivery. For Rushmoor, this will include local authorities in Surrey and Berkshire as well as Hampshire, particularly those in north-east Hampshire (Hart and Basingstoke and Deane), and in the adjoining County of Surrey (Guildford Borough).

7.2.3 It will also require meaningful partnership working with a range of other agencies, including those engaged with in the undertaking of this assessment, such as the Showmen's Guild, the Gypsy Council and Registered Housing Providers operating in the Borough.

APPENDIX A – GYPSY AND TRAVELLER AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE ACCOMMODATION ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire



Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment

Interviewer		Date	
Accompanied by			

Site Address	
--------------	--

Interviewee First			
Male		Female	

Statement to read to the respondent:

The Council is carrying out a survey to help us work out how many sites will be needed for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople over the next 5 years. To do this we would like you to answer some questions about your family, where you live and how often you travel. The information you give us will be treated confidentially, but your answers will help us to make sure we plan for the future of the gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople.

To be completed prior to carrying out questionnaire

(If possible - confirm with interviewee if necessary):

The Household

1) How many people live with you?

Number

2) What is the make-up of the household?

	Number of males	Number of females
Under 16		
16-20		
21-30		
31-40		
41-50		
51-60		
60+		

3) Do you think of yourselves as?

Romany	
Irish Traveller	
English Traveller	
Travelling Showpeople	
Other	
Not applicable	
Refused	

4) Apart from living accommodation, how many additional motorised vehicles do you keep at your home?

Cars	
Vans	
Work vehicles	
Fairground equipment	
Other	

5) Do you keep any horses or livestock at your home? If so what?

Yes	
No	
Refused	

.....

Current accommodation

6) What type of accommodation are you currently in?

For respondents in 'bricks and mortar' housing	Number	No. of bedrooms
Private rented		
Social rent (Local authority)		
Social rent (Housing Association or other social landlords)		
Temporary / Homeless accommodation		
Owner occupied		
For respondents in a static caravan		
Serviced site (Local Authority owned)		
Serviced site (privately owned)		
Own land (with planning permission)		
Own land (without planning permission)		
Don't know status of land		
For respondents in a touring caravan		
Serviced site (Local Authority owned)		
Serviced site (privately owned)		

Own land (with planning permission)		
Own land (without planning permission)		
Public land		
Don't know status of land		
Other		
Private land without consent		
Refused		
Notes:		

7) How long have you lived in your current home?

Less than 1 month	
Between 1 month and 6 months	
More than 6 months to a year	
More than 1 year to 5 years	
More than 5 years	
Refused	

8) Do you regard this accommodation/site as:

a) Your permanent home for the foreseeable future	
b) Your main home for the present	
c) Your seasonal home	
d) A temporary stopping point only	
e) An emergency "stop-gap" only	

Notes:

If answered yes to 8a or 8b, go to Q9. Otherwise skip to Q10.

9) If this is your main base, what are your reasons for being settled here?

Always lived here	
Family connection	
Work in area	
Site provides base for work	
Site provides storage facilities for equipment	
Schools / education	
Availability of pitches locally	
Closer to facilities / services	
Quality of area	
Other	

Previous accommodation

10) Previously were you living.....

For respondents in 'bricks and mortar' housing	
Private rented	
Social rent (Local authority)	
Social rent (Housing Association or other social landlords)	
Temporary / Homeless accommodation	
Owner occupied	
For respondents in a static caravan	
Serviced site (Local Authority owned)	
Serviced site (privately owned)	
Own land (with planning permission)	
Own land (without planning permission)	
Don't know status of land	
For respondents in a touring caravan	
Serviced site (Local Authority owned)	
Serviced site (privately owned)	
Own land (with planning permission)	
Own land (without planning permission)	
Public land	
Don't know status of land	
Other	
Private land without consent	
Refused	

Notes:

11a) How long did you live in your previous location?

Less than 1 month	
Between 1month and 6 months	
More than 6 months to a year	
More than 1 year to 5 years	
More than 5 years	
Refused	

11b) How long did you live in your previous accommodation?

Less than 1 month	
Between 1 month and 6 months	
More than 6 months to a year	
More than 1 year to 5 years	
More than 5 years	
Refused	

12) Why did you decide to move?

Family reasons	
Travelling	
Unsuitable location	
Unsuitable living conditions	
Refused planning permission	
Offered other accommodation	
Employment	
Looking for employment	
Other	
Refused	

13) What area did you previously live in?

.....

Future plans

14) Are you, or any of the people in your household (including children) expecting to move in the next 5 years?

Yes, whole household		Go to Q15
Yes, some people in household (give number)		Go to Q15
No		Go to Q18
Do not know		Go to Q18
Refused		Go to Q18

(If answer yes to Q14 ask Q15-17, otherwise go to Q18)

15) What type of accommodation are you looking to move to?

Bricks and Mortar (affordable housing)	
Bricks and Mortar (market housing)	
Serviced Site (Local Authority owned)	
Serviced Site (privately owned)	
Own land (with planning permission)	
Own land (without planning permission)	
Side of the road	
Other	
Refused	

16) What area are you looking to move to?

.....

17) Why are you looking to move?

Family reasons	
Travelling	
Current home is an unsuitable location	
Current home has unsuitable living conditions	
Refused planning permission at current home	
Offered other accommodation	
Looking for employment	
Other	
Refused	

18) If you were to move, what type of location would you look for?

Rural	
Urban	
Good access to major roads	
Near to schools	
Near to doctors/dentist	
Space for vehicles	
Space for animals	

Travelling

19) Do you pursue a nomadic way of life?

Yes			Go to Q20
No			Go to Q28
Refused			Go to Q28

If answer yes to Q19 ask Q20-27, if not go to question 28.

20) How often do you travel?

All the time	
Once a year	
Twice a year	
3 times a year	
4 times a year	
5+ times a year	
Other	
Refused	

21a) Who do you travel with?

On your own	
As a household	
With friends and family	
With a group of travellers who are unrelated to you	

Other	
Refused	

21b) How many vehicles do you normally travel with in total? (Size of convoy)

No. of vehicles	
-----------------	--

22) Where do you normally travel to?

Other sites in Rushmoor	
Other sites in Hampshire	
Other sites in Surrey	
Other sites in the South East	
Other sites in the UK	
Other	
Refused	

23) What travelling pattern do you follow?

Travel to one specific destination	
Travel to a set pattern of locations	
No set pattern of locations	
Other	
Refused	

24) What is your preferred time of year to travel?

Spring	
Summer	
Autumn	
Winter	
All year round	

No preference	
Other (specify)	
Refused	

25) For what reasons do you travel?

To visit friends / family	
To work	
To visit specific events	
Other	
Refused	

26) When you travel, how long are you away from your main accommodation?

Up to a week	
Up to a month	
1-3 months	
3-6 months	
More than 6 months	

27) Would you use a transit site if one was available?

Yes	
No	

Additional

28) Do you know of any other traveller families we could talk who may live elsewhere in the Area?

29) Do you have any other comments or would you like to add anything we have not covered?

Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.

	Date	Location	No of caravans	Land Owner	Duration	Action taken
April 1st 2017 to 31st March 2018						
	03.07.17	Ivy Road Playing Field A	22	RBC	5 days	RBC action through Magistrates Court
	25.07.17	Hawley Lane F	2	RBC	2 days	RBC started legal action but site vacated
	18.08.17	Nightingale Close F	1	RBC	2 days	Left voluntarily
April 1st 2018 to 31st March 2019						
	14.04.18	Ivy Rd Playing Field A	8	RBC	6 days	RBC action through Magistrates Court
	04.07.18	Ivy Rd Playing Field A	9	RBC	4 days	RBC started legal action but site vacated
	10.07.18	Ivy Rd Playing Field A	47	RBC	5 days	Site vacated before summons date
	03.12.18	Southwood Golf Course F (Southwood Country Park car park)	6	RBC	8 days	RBC legal action and bailiffs to enforce
April 1st 2019 to 31st March 2020						
	12.08.19	Hawley Lane F	2	RBC	14 days	RBC tolerated until travellers left
	12.09.19	Napier Gardens F	8	MOD/ RBC lease	5 days	RBC started Legal action but Police used s61
	10.03.20	Hawley Lane F	3	RBC	7 days	RBC granted Removal Order
	12.03.20	Napier Gardens F	14	MOD/RBC Lease	8 days	RBC granted Removal Order
	21.03.20	Lido Car Park, A	13	RBC	3	Direction served but Police took action under s61
April 1st 2020 to 31st March 2021						
	01.05.2020	Hawley Lane F	2	RBC	2 days	Left voluntarily
	07.06.2020	Hawley Lane F	2	RBC	5 days	Left voluntarily
	20.09.2020	Nightingale Close F	3	RBC	8 days	RBC granted Removal Order
	21.03.2021	Hawley Lane F	9	RBC	6 days	Same group as Farnborough Gate encampment (private land). RBC granted Removal Order
	26.03.2021	Napier Gdns car park, F	9	MOD/RBC Lease	2 days	Same group as Queens Ave (MoD land) etc. Left voluntarily on 28/04/21 persuaded by use of land for Covid-19 mobile test centre on 01.04.21
	28.03.2021	Union Street west car park F	8	RBC	5 days	Same group as Hawley Lane, Napier etc. RBC granted Removal Order and group left 01.04.21 to Frimley area
April 1st 2021 to 31 st March 2022						
	08.04.21	Land adj to Crab & Anchor, Links Way F (Southwood Village Green)	6	RBC	1 day	Same group as Napier and Hawley Lane. Morrison's believed it to be their land and served notice to leave on 08.04.21. Group revisited by Morrisons and Police on 09.04.21 and agreed to leave. departed same afternoon.

	Date	Location	No of caravans	Land Owner	Duration	Action taken
	03.05.2021	Moor Road recreation ground F	13	RBC	4 days	4/13 caravans same group as before. Rushmoor served direction and removal order hearing arranged for 7 May. Police took section 61 action on 6 May because of crime and anti-social behaviour linked with encampment. Caravans left same day
	20.08.21	Aldershot Park A	16	RBC	4 days	Notice of Direction served 23.08.21 and Summons 24.08.21. Site vacated evening of 24.08.21
	08.03.22	Lido Car Park, A	12	RBC	6 days	Notice of Direction served 21.02.2022 and Summons 22.02.22. Site vacated evening of 22.02.22
1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023						
	18.06.22	Aldershot Lido Car Park	18	RBC	5 days	Direction served 20.6.22 Summons served 21.6.22. Removal Order served 22.6.22 Site vacated 23.6
	09.10.22	Manor Park A	7	RBC	2 days	Notice of Direction served 10.10.2022. Summons applied for and Court fees paid but site vacated 11.10.22 before Summons was authorised
	15.03.23	Aldershot Lido Car Park	14	RBC	8 days	Notice of Direction served 16.03.23. Summons served 20.03.23. Removal Order served 22.3.23 Site vacated 23/03/23
1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024						
	25.04.23	Westmead car park F	19	RBC	1 days	Caravans left site before welfare checks could be made
	25.04.23	KGV Playing Field	19	RBC	3 days	Notice of direction served 26.04.23, summons served 26.04.23 for hearing on 28.04.23. police took s61 action 27.04.23 due to carpark use as polling station and group vacated site same day
	12.09.23	KGV Playing Field	11	RBC	2 days	Police took section 61 action due to criminal activity linked with group 13/09/23 and group left site on 13/09/23
	19.03.24	Aldershot Lido car park A	7	RBC	3 days	Notice of Direction served 20/3/24 Summons served 21/3/24 Site vacated 22/3/24 ahead of removal order hearing
1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025						
	11.05.24	Westmead car park F	4	RBC	1 day	Advised by CCTV/Parking that caravans pulled onto the car park for the former leisure centre on Saturday morning. Site vacated same day.
	11.05.24	KGV Playing Field F	26	RBC	3 days	Direction notice served 13/05/24. Met criteria for police to take section 61 action. Notice served by police 13/05/24. group left site by 17:30pm

	Date	Location	No of caravans	Land Owner	Duration	Action taken
	16.05.24	Aldershot Park A	21	RBC	8 days	Direction Notice served 17/05/24 Summons served 20/05/24 Summons reserved 21/05/24. 23/5/24 Removal Order granted. Site confirmed as vacated 3.30pm
	18.07.24	Aldershot Park A	25	RBC	5 days	Direction Notice served 19/07/24. 22/07/24 Site vacated as Police used s61 provisions
	18.07.24	KGV Playing Field F	14	RBC	8 days	Direction Notice served 19/07/24 Summons served 22/07/24 Removal Order and Notice of Entry served 24/07/24 Site vacated 11.20 am 25.07.24
	06.03.25	Aldershot Lido car park	27	RBC	4 days	Direction notice served 07/03/25. site vacated by group 09/03/25.
1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026						
	21.04.25	Aldershot Lido car park	27	RBC	2 days	Direction notice served 22/04/25. site vacated by group 22/04/25 but went onto Aldershot Park also RBC land
	22.04.25	Aldershot Park	30	RBC	7 days	Same group who vacated Aldershot lido carpark on 22.04.25 plus three extra vans. Direction notice served 23.04.25. removal order obtained on 28.04.25. Group vacated site on 28.04.25 prior to service of removal order. Order put up at site entrance.
	14.06.25	Aldershot Park	32	RBC	6 days	Three caravans matched encampment at Aldershot Pk in April 2025. Direction notice served 16/06/25. removal order obtained 19/06/25. group left 19/06/25. 15 caravans/motorhomes from group went to RBC land at Southwood Playing Fields on 19/06/25
	19.06.25	Southwood Playing Fields	15	RBC	still in situ	15 caravans/motorhomes arrived from Aldershot Park encampment during evening on 19.06.25

Our reference: 25/00561/POLTRA

Contact: Richard Ward

All the occupants of the vehicles on
the land

E-mail: pollutionteam@rushmoor.gov.uk

Part of Aldershot Park, also known
as Aldershot Pools Complex Car
Park

Date: 22 April 2025

Guildford Road
Aldershot
Hampshire

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

Unauthorised encampment on land at Part of Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot (Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park)

Rushmoor Borough Council being satisfied that persons are residing in a vehicle or vehicles within their area on land at part of Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot, Hampshire (Aldershot Pools Complex Car Park), hereby give direction that those persons and any others with them are to leave the land and remove the vehicle or vehicles and any other property they have on the land, forthwith.

This direction takes immediate effect and if not complied with a Removal Order from Basingstoke Magistrates Court will be sought after which time all vehicles and property will be removed from the land.

You are required to leave the land in accordance with this Notice and having left, must not return in contravention of this Notice for a period of three months beginning on the day on which this Notice was served. If you do not comply with the requirement(s) imposed by this Notice you will be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 (£1,000) on the standard scale.

Hampshire Constabulary may choose to take action under section 61 of the above Act to remove all vehicles and property from the land, in which case the above action will be stopped.

Yours faithfully

Richard Ward
Environment & Airport Monitoring Officer
Operational Services

Contact Richard Ward

Our reference 25/00571/POLTRA

Telephone 01252 398177

Email pollutionteam@rushmoor.gov.uk

To:

All the occupants of the vehicles on the land at:

Aldershot Park
Aldershot Pools Complex
Aldershot Crematorium
Aldershot Cricket Club
Guildford Road
Aldershot
Hampshire

Date 23 April 2025

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994

**Unauthorised encampment on land at: Aldershot Park, Aldershot Pools Complex, Aldershot Crematorium, Aldershot Cricket Club
Guildford Road, Aldershot, Hampshire**

Rushmoor Borough Council being satisfied that persons are residing in a vehicle or vehicles within their area on land at: Aldershot Park, Aldershot Pools Complex, Aldershot Crematorium, Aldershot Cricket Club, Guildford Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, hereby give direction that those persons and any others with them are to leave the land and remove the vehicle or vehicles and any other property they have on the land, forthwith.

This direction takes immediate effect and if not complied with a Removal Order from Basingstoke Magistrates Court will be sought after which time all vehicles and property will be removed from the land.

You are required to leave the land in accordance with this Notice and having left, must not return in contravention of this Notice for a period of three months beginning on the day on which this Notice was served. If you do not comply with the requirement(s) imposed by this Notice you will be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 (£1,000) on the standard scale.

Hampshire Constabulary may choose to take action under section 61 of the above Act to remove all vehicles and property from the land, in which case the above action will be stopped.

Yours faithfully

Richard Ward
Operational Services

Ian Harrison - **Managing Director**

Karen Edwards - **Executive Director**

SUMMONS ON COMPLAINT
(MC ACT 1980 SS 51, 52: MC Rules 1981-98)

North East Hants Magistrates Court

Date	24 April 2025
To the Defendants	Persons Unknown, the occupants of vehicles on land at: Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot, Hampshire.
Address	Occupying land at: Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot, Hampshire.
	<p>You are hereby summonsed to appear on Monday 28 April 2025 at 09:30am before the Magistrates Court sitting at Basingstoke to answer the following complaint.</p>
Matter of Complaint	<p>The complaint is made pursuant to Section 78 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994. The Defendants are currently residing on land at: Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot situated within the district of Rushmoor Borough Council, in contravention of a direction served on them on 23 April 2025 pursuant to Section 77 of the said Act requiring them to leave the land and remove the vehicle or vehicles and any other property they have on the land. Immediately prior to this they occupied land adjacent to Aldershot Park, being Aldershot Pools Complex. The land at Aldershot Crematorium and Aldershot Cricket Club on Guildford Road, Aldershot, Hampshire is also adjacent to Aldershot Park.</p>
The complainant is	Rushmoor Borough Council
Address	<p>Sophie Thorp Corporate Manager Legal Services Council Offices Farnborough Road Farnborough Hampshire GU14 7JU</p>
Date of Complaint	24 April 2025

Justice of the Peace / Clerk to the Magistrates Court

**Order to Remove Vehicles unlawfully on land
Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994**

Order on Complaint (Magistrates' Court Act 1980 S.53)

Basingstoke Magistrates' Court

Date	28 April 2025
Defendants	Persons unknown, the occupants of vehicles on land at part of Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot Hampshire.
Address	Occupying land at part of Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot Hampshire.
On the Complaint of	Sophie Thorp, Corporate Manager Legal Services
Complainant	Rushmoor Borough Council ("the Council")
Address	Council Offices Farnborough Road Farnborough Hampshire
Matter of Complaint	The Defendants continue to occupy land at Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot Hampshire ("the Land") shown outlined in red on the attached plan ("the Plan"), in contravention of a Direction Notice served under Section 77 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence punishable by way of a fine not exceeding Level 3 (£1,000.00) on the standard scale, pursuant to section 77(3) Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

It is adjudged that the complaint is true and it is ordered that:

ORDER

The Defendants:

- (i) Must leave the Land shown outlined in red on the attached Plan and remove the vehicles and any other property they have with them from the Land forthwith;
- (ii) And, having left the Defendants are not to re-enter the Land shown outlined in red on the attached Plan within a period of three months ending on 28 April 2025.

It is further ordered that:

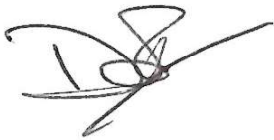
The Council is authorised to take such steps as are reasonably necessary to remove any vehicle(s) or other property present on the Land and any person residing within it pursuant to

section 78(2) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.
In particular, the Council, by its officers and servants is authorised to:-

(a) Enter the said Land; and

(b) Take, in relation to any vehicle(s) or property to be removed, such steps for securing entry and rendering such vehicle or property suitable for removal from the said Land.

A person who wilfully obstructs any person in the exercise of any power conferred on him by an order under this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale



Justice of the Peace

63



**Order to Remove Vehicles unlawfully on land
Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994**

Order on Complaint (Magistrates' Court Act 1980 S.53)

Basingstoke Magistrates' Court

Date	19 June 2025
Defendants	Persons unknown, the occupants of vehicles on land at part of Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot Hampshire.
Address	Occupying land at part of Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot Hampshire.
On the Complaint of	Amanda Bancroft, Corporate Manager Legal Services
Complainant	Rushmoor Borough Council ("the Council")
Address	Council Offices Farnborough Road Farnborough Hampshire
Matter of Complaint	The Defendants continue to occupy land at Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot Hampshire ("the Land") shown outlined in red on the attached plan ("the Plan"), in contravention of a Direction Notice served under Section 77 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Failure to comply with these requirements is a criminal offence punishable by way of a fine not exceeding Level 3 (£1,000.00) on the standard scale, pursuant to section 77(3) Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

It is adjudged that the complaint is true and it is ordered that:

ORDER

The Defendants:

- (i) Must leave the Land shown outlined in red on the attached Plan and remove the vehicles and any other property they have with them from the Land forthwith;
- (ii) And, having left the Defendants are not to re-enter the Land shown outlined in red on the attached Plan within a period of three months ending on 19 September 2025.

It is further ordered that:

The Council is authorised to take such steps as are reasonably necessary to remove any vehicle(s) or other property present on the Land and any person residing within it pursuant to

section 78(2) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.
In particular, the Council, by its officers and servants is
authorised to:-

(a) Enter the said Land; and

(b) Take, in relation to any vehicle(s) or property to be
removed, such steps for securing entry and
rendering such vehicle or property suitable for
removal from the said Land.

**A person who wilfully obstructs any person in the exercise
of any power conferred on him by an order under this
section commits an offence and is liable on summary
conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard
scale**

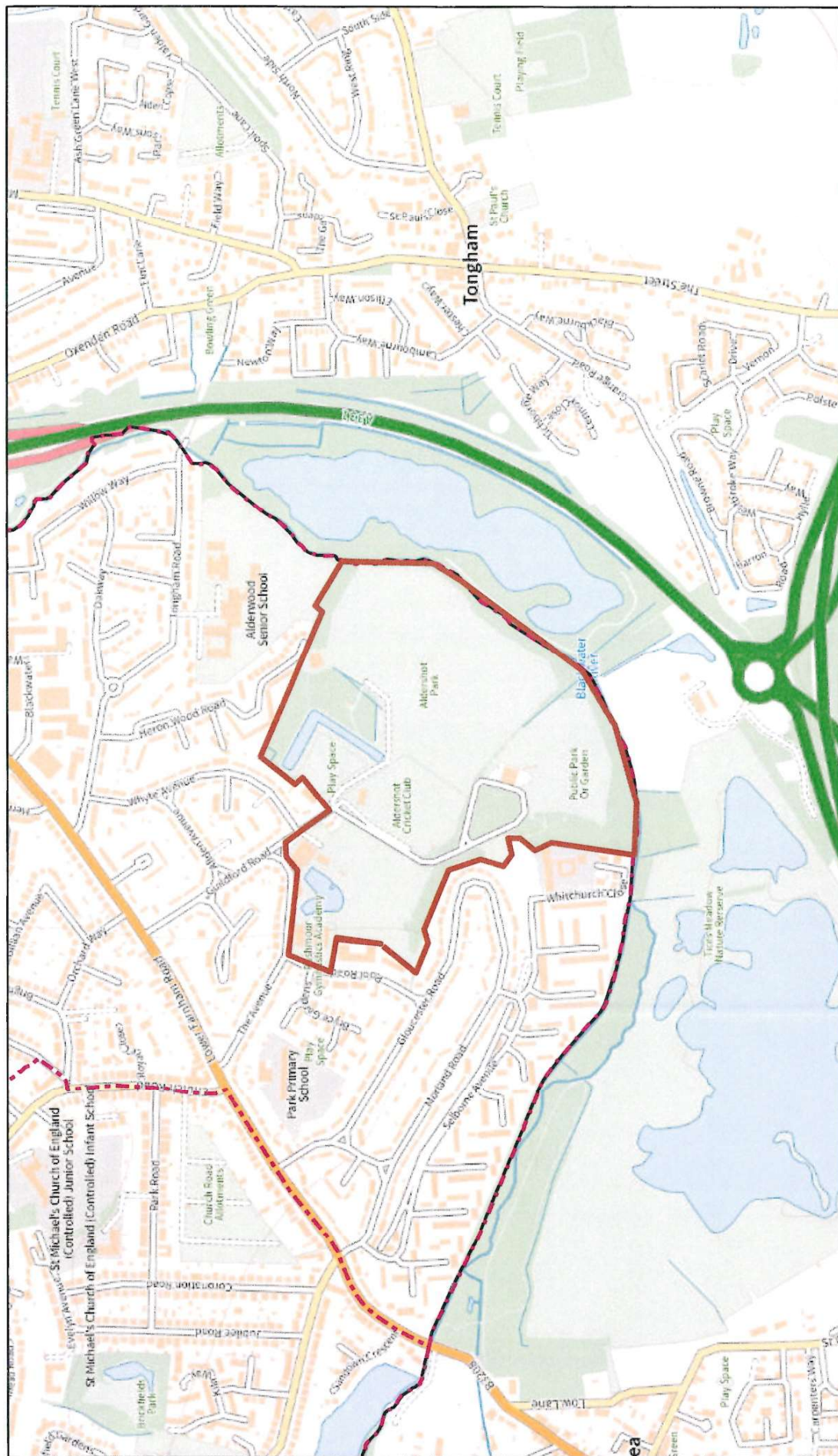
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~~Justice of the Peace~~

DJ (MC) Apted

19/06/25

Aldershot Park area

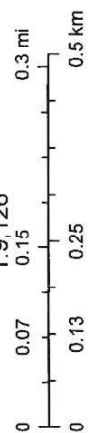


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Rushmoor Boundary

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Appendix A: Welfare Assessment Checklist

This checklist is intended to be used as a guide by officers visiting unauthorised encampments. It is not comprehensive, as it is only a welfare assessment. Officers should note that an informal and verbal approach to obtaining the information may be more effective.

BEFORE GATHERING DATA THE OFFICER SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO THE GRT REPRESENTATIVES:

“As part of our duties we need to carry out a Welfare Assessment at this encampment. We may need to ask you for personal and possibly sensitive information. You are under no obligation to provide this information. In order to pursue our duties we will need to store and use this information and may share this with other regulatory agencies as part of the Welfare Assessment.”

1. GROUP PROFILE AND HISTORY

Location	Southwood Playing Fields, Grasmere Road, Farnborough
Date(s) of assessment	20 June 2025
Main contact name	Not Known
Mobile number	N/A
Other site contact names	Family names given as: McDonagh
Mobile number(s)	N/A
When did the group first arrive?	20:30 on Thursday 19 June 2025. Group came from Aldershot Park Access via car park off Grasmere Rd. Padlock on entrance height barrier cut off and padlock on gate onto field cut.
Why are they here?	One gentleman advised that the driver for one of the caravans was in France and would return on Sunday and they could not move until he arrived (they had moved caravan from Aldershot Park by another driver returning for caravan). One lady mentioned that a child in one of the caravans was having some teeth removed today and needed sedation but other caravan occupants gave no reason given for their need to stay on this site or to remain in area.
How many living units (i.e. caravans, motor-homes) are on site? Note vehicle registration numbers/make/models	15 living caravans and motorhomes in total: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobile Home Fiat, Swift , grey and white [REDACTED]• Caravan, Coachman Acadia, white , [REDACTED]

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor home Peugeot, Autosleeper, gold, [REDACTED] • Caravan, Amara, white, [REDACTED] • Motor home, Fiat, Auto trailer, [REDACTED] • Caravan, Swift, white [REDACTED] • Caravan, Bailey, white and grey, [REDACTED] • Caravan, Exquisite, white, [REDACTED] • Caravan Swift, white, [REDACTED] • Mobile home, Fiat, Swift, white, [REDACTED] • Mobile home Fiat, Rollerteam, white, [REDACTED] • Caravan, Adria, white [REDACTED] • Caravan, Tabbert, white, [REDACTED] • Caravan Adria, Altea, white [REDACTED] • Caravan, Pegasus, Bailey, Grey and white [REDACTED]
Roughly how many other vehicles are present? Note vehicle registration numbers/make/models	<p>8 vehicles on site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seat, SR white, [REDACTED] • VW, Multivan, blue, [REDACTED] • Toyota, Hiace, Blue, [REDACTED] • Ford, Transit, blue, [REDACTED] • Ford Transit, white, [REDACTED] • Skoda, Kodiah, grey, [REDACTED] • Renault, grey, van, [REDACTED] • Opel, car, grey [REDACTED]
(if known) Prior to this encampment, were they on Rushmoor Borough Council land <i>if yes, give location and indicate is immediately before or a passage of time has passed</i>	<p>These 15 caravans/motorhomes were part of larger unauthorised encampment at Aldershot Park from 14 June to 19 June 2025. A removal order was obtained from the Magistrates' Court on 19 June 2025, which was served on the group on the afternoon of 19 June 2025. The encampment at Aldershot Park consisted of approx. 32 caravans/motorhomes. We were advised the group has split, with the other occupants going to Devon and up North.</p>

Is the group known to the lead authority, or to other agencies represented? - <i>if yes, to what extent has it respected verbal or written agreements at previous encampments?</i>	See above
Has the group previously been subject to eviction? - <i>if yes, please give details</i>	See above
How long does the group intend to stay?	No clear answer given. Several indicated that they would be going in a few days

2. SITE DETAILS

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Who owns the land? (Where there is multiple ownership, please list ALL landowners)	Rushmoor Borough Council
What services (if any) are available to the gypsies/travellers? (i.e. water supply, toilets etc.)	<p>Waste sacks have been distributed and arrangements made for regular collection by Serco.</p> <p>The are no public toilets available locally.</p> <p>Southwood Pavilion has been closed for the duration of the encampments presence.</p>
Are rights of way affected by the encampment? - if yes, in what way?	<p>Land used by dog walkers and as an amenity space. Encampment immediately adjacent to football and cricket pitches. Vehicles seen driving over field.</p> <p>Presence of group likely to deter public from using footpaths around the land.</p>
Are accesses to or from nearby properties or amenities obstructed by the encampment? - if yes please explain - in what ways (if any) could this be remedied without forcibly moving the group?	No
Is operational use of the land obstructed by the encampment? - if yes please explain	<p>Encampment adjacent to football and cricket pitches which will deter legitimate use for sports and recreational activities.</p> <p>The presence of the encampment is also likely to deter people from using the field and car park.</p> <p>Southwood Pavilion has been closed for the duration of the encampments presence, so the bar and toilets etc will not be available for public or sports club use. Training and matches have been cancelled by Cove Cricket Club and Farnborough Community Football Club who use the land while the encampment is present.</p>
Has the site been occupied by the current gypsies or travellers in the preceding 3-month period?	No
Is the encampment on or near to a nature reserve, SSSI, or other environmentally sensitive area? - if yes please give details	Sie is near to Cove Valley and Cove Brook which have both been designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)

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- in what ways (if any) could damage be prevented without forcibly moving the group?	
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3. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Is there an increased chance of road accidents from traffic entering and leaving the site? - <i>if yes, please explain</i> - <i>if yes, in what ways (if any) could this be remedied?</i>	Vehicles from the encampment regularly entering and leaving site and driving through the car park and across the playing field, so added risk to pedestrians in park and immediate area.
How far from the road are the living units situated? - <i>does this present hazards to the group or motorists through children or animals getting onto the road?</i>	Closest caravan is approximately 90 metres from public highway Concern that young children may leave the playing field unsupervised.
Are there waterways, railway tracks, buildings, disused wells, or other features that could endanger members of the encampment or their animals? - <i>if yes, could these reasonably be made safe?</i>	Cove Brook approximately 145m from the site. No means of making safe. Risk of young children at this location unsupervised.
Are there materials or substances on site that could endanger members of the encampment or their animals? - <i>if yes, could these be economically removed?</i>	No
Are open fires being lit? - <i>if yes, are they kept under control?</i> - <i>if yes, is there evidence of noxious substances being burned?</i>	No evidence of fires during visit.
Are caravans spaced sufficiently to prevent fire spreading from one vehicle to another? - <i>if no, is there room to move them further apart</i> - <i>if no, what is the maximum number of vehicles that could remain on site to minimise such a risk?</i>	No – there is room to space further apart but they have chosen to space themselves close to each other
Are there animals on site? - <i>if yes, please give types and rough numbers</i> - <i>if yes, how are they being kept under control?</i>	16 dogs on site at time of visit, all but four tied up securely. Most are small dogs. Advice given re ensuring under control.

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4. WASTE AND SANITATION

Are arrangements in place for the disposal of waste? - <i>if yes, please specify</i> - <i>if yes, are these arrangements effective?</i>	Waste sacks have been distributed and arrangements made via Council's Contracts Team for regular collection from a central point near the site entrance.
What toilet arrangements are in place? - <i>are these satisfactory?</i> - <i>if no, how could these be improved?</i>	None
Is there evidence of domestic, human or trade, waste spreading beyond the encampment? -..... <i>has the Environment Agency been notified?</i> - <i>what other steps have been taken to deal with it?</i>	Some bags of waste awaiting collection outside caravans. Some litter accumulating around the site.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD RELATIONS

How far is the encampment from the nearest residence or business? - in what ways (if any) does this affect them?	Encampment located approximately 60 metres from the nearest residential properties on Grasmere Road. Encampment immediately adjacent Southwood Pavilion who have advised that the pavilion (incorporating bar, toilet facilities etc) will be closed for the duration of the encampment's presence. This will cost the operator Farnborough Community Football Club lost revenue. Presence of encampment likely to intimidate residents and deter use of field and children's play area. All training and matches by Cove Cricket Club and Farnborough Community Football Club have been cancelled until the encampment vacates the site.
Is the encampment separated from other properties by a road or other boundary? - <i>if yes, please specify</i>	Yes – encampment separated by fencing/tree boundary
Has there been any impact on the local community? - please detail	Presence of encampment likely to intimidate local residents and deter use of field and car park. Has impacted matches at Southwood Playing Fields this weekend and cancellation of club training on sports pitches.
Are the obligations under the Code of Respect (see appendix C) being adhered to, by the group?	Code of Respect left on site, tied to gate post at entrance to sports field and copy left with each

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If not, has the relevant obligations been explained to the group.	caravan. Group advised of standards of behaviour expected.
Has criminal and/or antisocial behaviour been witnessed against or by members of the encampment? If yes: - <i>what specific incidents have been reported?</i> - <i>who have they been reported to?</i> - <i>are these reported incidents verifiable?</i>	Padlock to car park height barrier cut to allow entry from Grasmere Road and padlock cut on gate leading into the field.

6. WELFARE AND EDUCATION

Are there medical concerns with any members of the group? If yes: - <i>please give details</i> - <i>would a forced move put individuals at risk?</i> - <i>what help has the group been offered to access services?</i> <i>Considering asking for evidence, e.g. are there in the area for a hospital appointment and identify their vehicle</i>	One lady reported that a child in another caravan needed to have some teeth removed today. Child or family not identified during the site visit. Informant unable to identify which hospital procedure was taking place at. No other health concerns reported.
Are there vulnerable members of the group? If yes: - <i>please give details e.g., elderly, infirm.</i> - <i>would a forced move put individuals at risk?</i> - <i>what help has the group been offered to access services?</i>	No.
Are there members of the group, who are pregnant? If yes: - <i>please give details</i> - <i>what help has the group been offered help to access services?</i> - <i>in what ways (if any) would a forced move put any of the above individuals at risk?</i>	None identified
Are there children on site? If yes: - <i>approximately how many?</i> - <i>what is the age range?</i> - <i>are the children attending school in the area or elsewhere?</i> - <i>would a forced move result in children missing out on education?</i>	Yes, approx. 35 children under the age of 16 years Some were homeschooled. Many of them are Irish and the school year in Ireland has finished

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Are there any other areas of concern for members of the encampment? - <i>if yes, please explain</i>	Children accessing nearby Cove Brook – risk of drowning as little adult supervision.
Are there concerns for the welfare of animals on the site? - <i>if yes, what action has been taken to address these?</i>	No

7. ACCOMMODATION

Do members of the encampment have access to accommodation elsewhere? - <i>if yes, please give details</i> - <i>if yes, does the group intend to return there?</i>	Not known, but they advised they did not have any housing needs
Are there places on authorised or tolerated sites available to the group?	No
Do members of the encampment wish to apply for places on authorised sites? - <i>If yes, what advice or support has been offered to them?</i>	No
Are any members of the group currently on a housing waiting list? If yes: - <i>In which area?</i> - <i>When are they likely to be made an offer?</i> - <i>What advice or assistance has been offered or given?</i> - <i>could the encampment be tolerated until they are offered housing?</i>	Not known – but declined housing support from Rushmoor

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<p>Are any members of the group homeless in having no access to any pitches or other accommodation which they consider suitable and available for their occupation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Do they need to make an urgent application for assistance as a homeless household?</i> - <i>How can this be best undertaken</i> 	<p>Declined contact from Housing Options team</p>
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DECISION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENT SITE

ASSESSMENT OF THE DECISION TO EVICT OR NOT TO EVICT

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS	
<p><i>Would Eviction constitute an interference with the right to respect for private and family life of group members except where it is in accordance with the law and it is necessary in the interest of national security, public safety or economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others:</i></p> <p><i>For what reason is such an inference warranted in the circumstances?</i> <i>Explain why?</i></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><i>Would eviction deny members of the travelling community peaceful enjoyment of their possessions?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>If this is a risk, will it be in the public interest or subject to the conditions provided for by law?</i> 	<p>No</p>
<p><i>Would eviction deny the travelling community's children access to their right to education?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>If yes, what is the response of the Social Services and Education Authorities response upon being informed?</i> 	<p>No</p>
<p><i>Is there evidence that eviction is being pursued on the grounds of the travelling community's ethnic or social origin status?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>If yes, please explain</i> 	<p>No</p>

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<i>Are there any mitigating factors arising out of the Welfare Assessment which enables the Council to consider allowing the group to stay for a period of time?</i> - If yes, please give details and proposed duration?	No
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ENVIRONMENTAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS

<i>Are there any special considerations that should be considered for the land occupied?</i> - If yes, please give details?	None identified
<i>Is the unauthorised encampment causing harm to the local amenities or to the local environment?</i>	Land is RBC owned. Loss of legitimate use of the playing fields and sports pitches. Cove Cricket Club and Farnborough Community Football Club have advised that all training and matches has been cancelled until the encampment vacates the site. Southwood Pavilion facilities (bar, toilets etc) have also been closed to sports clubs and the public while encampment present.
<i>Is the unauthorised encampment interfering with the peaceful enjoyment of neighbouring property?</i>	Driving vehicles at speed across field All training and matches have been cancelled at Southwood Playing Fields
<i>Is there a need to maintain public order and safety and protect health – e.g. by deterring fly tipping and criminal damage?</i>	No evidence at present on this site.
<i>Is there any harm to good community relations?</i>	Ongoing presence likely to cause significant issues for residents, nearby businesses, users of the park and nearby amenity areas and leisure facilities.
<i>Are there any general public interest factors that require consideration?</i>	No

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AGREED COURSE OF ACTION (AFTER A WELFARE ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT (IN ORDER TO TO SERVE A DIRECTION ORDER, ETC) AND TIMESCALES FOR PROPOSED ACTIONS

<i>Are Hampshire Police taking the lead?</i> - <i>If yes, please give details?</i>	No – current situation does not meet criteria for Police to take action under section 61, but Police will keep under review.
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Decision :

Recommendation by the ECP Team Leader including:

Confirmation of land ownership: **RBC is the freeholder for the land.**

Welfare Assessment: **Assessment does not identify any need for the group to remain on this site. No clear plans given about when group will be leaving site.**

Consultation with Hampshire Police and Legal Services. **Police have visited encampment. Encampment does not meet criteria currently for police to use their section 61 powers.**

Legal are aware of the encampment.

Normally, I would consider that Section 77 action is appropriate and a Direction Notice be served on the occupiers and that we seek a Removal Order through the Magistrates court if the Direction is not complied with. However, due to the number and impact of the encampments we have experienced in a short space of time and the movement of groups from one site to another we are considering an injunction.

Name: Helen Payne



Signature:

Title: Principal EHO

Date: 20 June 2025

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

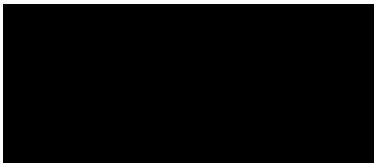
To be completed by the Head of Operational Services:

Decision on course of action, taking into account the information in the Welfare Assessment and the above recommendation:

Normally, I would consider that Section 77 action is appropriate and a Direction Notice be served on the occupiers and that we seek a Removal Order through the Magistrates court if the Direction is not complied with. However, due to the number and impact of the encampments we have experienced in a short space of time and the movement of groups from one site to another we are considering an injunction.

Name: James Duggin

Signature:

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of James Duggin.

Title: Executive Head of Operational Services

Date: 20 June 2025



Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Protocol
V1.1

Author:	Colin Alborough, Environmental Health Manager
Date of original:	28th March 2019
Version number:	V1.1
Authorised by:	Colin Alborough, Environmental Health Manager
Next review date:	1st April 2021

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

Distribution list:	
Strategic Director	
Head of Operational Services	
Environmental Health Manager	
Principal ECP Officer	
Corporate Legal Services Manager	
Hampshire Police	

Amendments		
Date	Details of change made	By
28 01 2019	V0.6 Changes following consultation with RBC Legal Services	EHM
19 03 2019	V0.7 Minor layout changes	EHM
19 03 2019	V1.0 Following consultation with Hampshire Police	EHM
28 03 2019	V1.1 following consultation with ECP DATE OF ISSUE	EHM

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

1. Introduction

The Council is obliged to manage unauthorised encampments within the Borough on Council owned land. It is not possible to stop all access to Council owned land and from time to time unauthorised encampments will be established.

Unauthorised encampments are problematic, they rarely provide an appropriate or adequate setting and frequently result in poor living conditions for Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) communities. The use of the land for its usual purposes will often be prevented or curtailed and the encampment may also impact on the local community.

In creating this protocol the Council has consulted Hampshire Police so that an overall policy and clear lines of responsibility are in place for encampments in the Rushmoor Borough on Rushmoor land.

The National Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, to be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework, requires planning authorities assess the local needs for traveller pitches/plots and plan positively to deliver on these needs

The Council considers that its approach to planning for travellers has been proportionate and justified, and that the policies set out in the Local Plan are evidence of this.

Insert from "Rushmoor Local Plan – Topic Paper 4 – Planning for Travellers.

"Since the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) in the Borough was carried out in 2012, the focus has been on planning for Travelling Showpeople, where there is a well-established community with good communication links with the Council and clear evidence of need. The draft submission Rushmoor Local Plan contains two allocations for additional plots for Travelling Showpeople. These comprise an extension to an existing yard at Peabody Road Car Park, North Camp (Policy LN3.1) and a new allocation at Land at Hawley Lane South, Farnborough (Policy LN3.2). Both of the allocated sites are within the Council's ownership and therefore deliverable.

There are currently no sites for gypsies and travellers within the Borough and the 2012 GTAA and subsequent updates of the evidence base have identified a very low level of demand for such accommodation.

The council is mindful that the definition of 'traveller' for planning purposes changed in 2015 and that this is likely to reduce the potential need for accommodation for gypsies and travellers still further. Notwithstanding this lack of demand, the draft submission Local Plan includes a criteria-based policy (Policy LN3) which provides for planning permission to be granted or sites identified to meet demonstrated local need, should that arise over the Plan period.

The law confers legal rights to the travelling community and places responsibilities on local Councils relating to the welfare and other needs of the GRT community. Local authorities have a duty under the Equality Act to actively seek to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and promote good race relations."

Rushmoor Borough Council Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

The Department for Communities and Local Government does however advise that:

“Public bodies should not gold-plate human rights and equalities legislation. Councils and the police have been given strong powers to deal with unauthorised encampments and when deciding whether to take action, they may want to consider for example:

- (a) the harm that such developments can cause to local amenities and the local environment,
- (b) the potential interference with the peaceful enjoyment of neighbouring property,
- (c) the need to maintain public order and safety and protect health – for example, by deterring fly-tipping and criminal damage,
- (d) any harm to good community relations,
- (e) that the state may enforce laws to control the use of an individual's property where that is in accordance with the general public interest.”

A variety of Council services and external agencies currently work together to effectively manage unauthorised encampments. The management process is currently coordinated by the Environmental Control and Pollution Team (ECP Team) within Operational Services with the objectives to:

- In the short term, ensure that the GRT community are supported and encouraged to conduct themselves in a responsible manner in accordance with a set of minimum standards whilst on land unlawfully
- To ensure that any inconvenience and disruption to local communities is minimised
- To bring the unauthorised encampment to an end which can take time because of the need to carry out investigations into the circumstances and welfare needs, and to ensure that any enforcement action taken is lawful

2. Approach to be taken

Once an encampment is established on land owned by Rushmoor Borough Council it is crucial that early contact is made by officers from the ECP Team with the GRT group to undertake enquiries into their welfare needs and their plans, if any, as to how long they intend to stay at the location. This is known as a Welfare Assessment and it may trigger further assessments where there is a specific identified need, e.g. housing or education issues.

After a Welfare Assessment has been completed by officers from the ECP Team, and, if necessary, following discussions with Hampshire Police and Legal Services, the ECP Team Leader will review all of the information available to them about the encampment and will recommend a course of action to deal with it to the Head of Operational Services.

The decision may be to take no action if the group have indicated they will be leaving the site within the next 24/48 hours.

Depending on the circumstances of the unauthorised encampment, Rushmoor Borough Council or Hampshire Police will take the lead in dealing with the unauthorised encampment on Rushmoor Borough Council land.

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Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

Each case of unauthorised encampment will be individually considered on its merits as set out in this protocol, before any decision on a response is taken. Where the group have gone from site to site, Rushmoor Borough Council may take this into account when deciding on the most appropriate response.

Where Rushmoor Borough Council land is leased to a third party, an early decision will be taken as to whether the tenant is obliged to take action or whether Rushmoor Borough Council will lead. This decision will be taken by the Head of Operational Services in liaison with the Head of Service with responsibility for the affected land/property.

3. Steps to be taken once encampment established:

Rushmoor Borough Council has a large number of assets which are managed on a day to day basis by teams using them to deliver their service objectives, e.g. leisure centres, community centres, public car parks, etc. A high percentage of these have grounds or hard standing areas which could be used by the GRT community.

To ensure consistency of response and approach to an unauthorised encampment, a small team of trained staff from the Environmental Control and Pollution Team in Operational Services serve as the lead officers. These officers are trained to deal with aggression and conflict, negotiation skills and can prepare Court related papers. They will liaise with relevant Heads of Service and their teams, will keep relevant Members informed and will work with partners as might be relevant.

Upon notification of an unauthorised encampment the following steps should be followed:

1. Initial reports received by Council (usually via contact with members of the public or through the Police)
2. Hampshire Police will be contacted and liaison initiated
3. Land ownership will be confirmed. Where the land is in the ownership of Rushmoor Borough Council and leased, a decision will be taken on responsibility for action.
4. If the land is not owned by Rushmoor Borough Council, the ECP Team will ensure that the appropriate landowner is identified and informed of the encampment. The Council has powers to take action on private land and will seek to use these powers if deemed necessary in the public interest.
5. In any case, the ECP Team will advise relevant parties of the encampment and the intended course of action using the preferred group email string which includes:

The Leader, relevant portfolio holder and local ward Councillors

The Chief Executive and Directors, the Head of Operational Services, officers responsible for the management of the affected land, the CSU, CCTV room, the Council's Duty Officers and Communications Team

Relevant stakeholders and partners, e.g. Hampshire Police

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Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

6. Meanwhile a Welfare Assessment (Appendix A) will be undertaken on site by the ECP Team, where necessary with support from the Police. (Advice should be sought from Hampshire Police to establish if the group are known, and to assess if they are aware of any previous behaviour which could pose a risk to staff. In any case the Council's Health and Safety arrangements will be followed). The purpose of the Welfare Assessment is to gather information about the composition of the encampment, any potential welfare issues, including any housing needs and/or homelessness issues.
7. The ECP Team will ask the group to leave site voluntarily and to make it clear that they do not have permission to stay. They will also be advised of the Code of Respect for Unauthorised Encampments while they are on site (see Appendix C).
8. If there are specific identified welfare needs, close liaison will be needed with the relevant service providers, eg the Housing Options Team or Social Services to ensure the Council's legal duties are met.
9. The ECP Team together with the Head of Operational Services will make a decision as to next steps based on the information gathered to date and the Welfare Assessment form. This could include any mitigating circumstances to allow the group to stay or the most appropriate method to secure eviction. Every encampment is different and there may be circumstances when it might be appropriate to provide waste facilities, etc. whilst the Council takes action to secure the removal of the encampment which may take time to effect.
10. In the event of repeated unauthorised or extended encampments by the same group, the welfare assessment will be updated to confirm the identity as the same group. The Head of Operational Services will then determine if conditions (i.e. location, numbers) have materially changed to require a fresh assessment.
12. In certain circumstances Hampshire Police will, where relevant use their powers under section 61 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 taking into account Operation Quebec guidelines and other relevant factors.
13. If, following the Welfare Assessment, legal action is required to remove the unauthorised encampment, a Notice of Direction will usually be issued by the Council through the ECP Team directing the vehicles and their occupants and other property to leave the land under Section 77 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994. (There are a range of legal powers available to manage incursions (see Appendix B) however at the current time, the most effective power in most cases has proven to be Section 77 of the Criminal Justice and Public order act as summarised below.)

The Notice of Direction will be served in the following manner:

- a) By affixing a copy of the Notice of Direction in a prominent place to all the vehicles on the land
- b) By displaying a copy of the Notice of Direction on the land in a manner designed to ensure that it is likely to be seen by any person camping on the land.

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

For the purposes of above service, it is assumed that it is addressed to “all the occupants of the vehicles on the land”. The officer serving the documents must provide a certificate of service by way of evidencing effective service of the Notice of Direction. The officer will similarly take a photo of the Notice of Direction served at the boundary of the site (together with an overall image of the site) to assist the proving of service. The officer will also record the licence registration plate of the vehicles served with the notice.

14. If the Notice of Direction is not complied with, an application for a Removal Order under section 78 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 can be applied for, which authorises the Council to remove the vehicles, its occupants and other property from the land.

This will require a complaint and summons to be presented to the Magistrates Court. The issued summons and complaint must then be served on the encampment in the same manner as the Notice of Direction. There should normally be at least 24 hours between the summons being served (to inform the encampment of the details of the hearing) and the hearing for the Removal Order.

This process is led by the Legal Service supported by the ECP Team who attend the necessary hearing at the Magistrates Court.

15. Once a Removal Order is obtained and served (by the ECP Team), the Council can proceed to effect removal of the vehicles, etc. and the departure of the encampment will be renegotiated in line with the Order.

16. Failure to comply with a Notice of Direction is an offence and the Council has the option to prosecute in addition to seeking a Removal Order for their removal. Whilst it is usually the case that the Order for Removal achieves the objective sought, i.e. to ensure the removal of the unauthorised encampment from the land, the Council may seek to prosecute where the same group goes from site to site which will act as a deterrent. In this regard, the identity of the GRT group needs to be established as prosecution must be against named individuals.

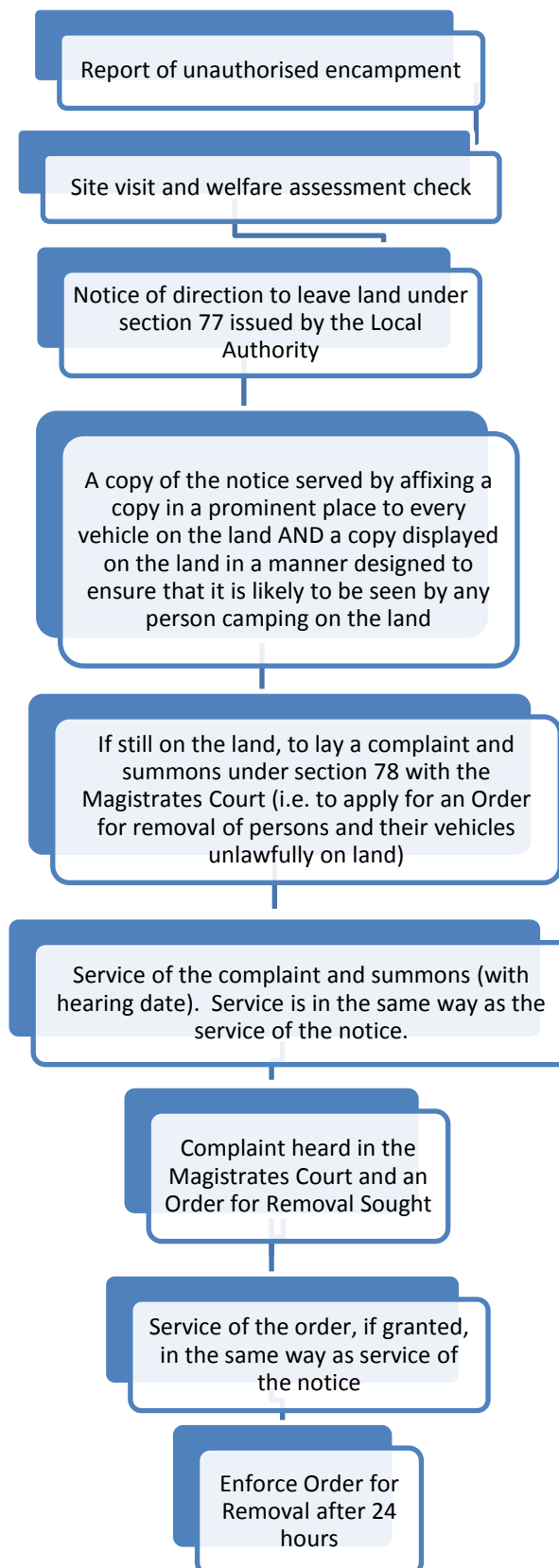
17. Should the encampment not leave in accordance with the Removal Order, eviction will usually take place by instructing bailiffs. The process will require advance notice to be given to the bailiffs and the Police.

18. Following eviction, arrangements will be made by the ECP Team working with relevant partners to clear and clean the site and make it secure.

19. The case throughout will be recorded and updated to include a record of actions and the hours and costs involved in securing removal of the unauthorised encampment.

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

FLOWCHART OF SECTION 77 PROCEDURE
UNDER
CRIMINAL JUSTICE & PUBLIC ORDER ACT 1994



Appendix A: Welfare Assessment Checklist

This checklist is intended to be used as a guide by officers visiting unauthorised encampments. It is not comprehensive, as it is only a welfare assessment. Officers should note that an informal and verbal approach to obtaining the information may be more effective.

BEFORE GATHERING DATA THE OFFICER SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO THE GRT REPRESENTATIVES:

“As part of our duties we need to carry out a Welfare Assessment at this encampment. We may need to ask you for personal and possibly sensitive information. You are under no obligation to provide this information. In order to pursue our duties we will need to store and use this information and may share this with other regulatory agencies as part of the Welfare Assessment.”

1. GROUP PROFILE AND HISTORY

Location	
Date(s) of assessment	
Main contact name	
Mobile number	
Other site contact names	
Mobile number(s)	
When did the group first arrive?	
Why are they here?	
How many living units (i.e. caravans, motor-homes) are on site? Note vehicle registration numbers/make/models	
Roughly how many other vehicles are present? Note vehicle registration numbers/make/models	
(if known) Prior to this encampment, were they on Rushmoor Borough Council land <i>if yes, give location and indicate is immediately before or a passage of time has passed</i>	

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

Is the group known to the lead authority, or to other agencies represented? - if yes, to what extent has it respected verbal or written agreements at previous encampments?	
Has the group previously been subject to eviction? - if yes, please give details	
How long does the group intend to stay?	

2. SITE DETAILS

Who owns the land? (Where there is multiple ownership, please list ALL landowners)	
What services (if any) are available to the gypsies/travellers? (i.e. water supply, toilets etc.)	
Are rights of way affected by the encampment? - if yes, in what way?	
Are accesses to or from nearby properties or amenities obstructed by the encampment? - if yes please explain - in what ways (if any) could this be remedied without forcibly moving the group?	
Is operational use of the land obstructed by the encampment? - if yes please explain	
Has the site been occupied by the current gypsies or travellers in the preceding 3-month period?	
Is the encampment on or near to a nature reserve, SSSI, or other environmentally sensitive area? - if yes please give details - in what ways (if any) could damage be prevented without forcibly moving the group?	

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

3. HEALTH AND SAFETY

<p>Is there an increased chance of road accidents from traffic entering and leaving the site?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, please explain</i> - <i>if yes, in what ways (if any) could this be remedied?</i> 	
<p>How far from the road are the living units situated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>does this present hazards to the group or motorists through children or animals getting onto the road?</i> 	
<p>Are there waterways, railway tracks, buildings, disused wells, or other features that could endanger members of the encampment or their animals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, could these reasonably be made safe?</i> 	
<p>Are there materials or substances on site that could endanger members of the encampment or their animals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, could these be economically removed?</i> 	
<p>Are open fires being lit?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, are they kept under control?</i> - <i>if yes, is there evidence of noxious substances being burned?</i> 	
<p>Are caravans spaced sufficiently to prevent fire spreading from one vehicle to another?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if no, is there room to move them further apart</i> - <i>if no, what is the maximum number of vehicles that could remain on site to minimise such a risk?</i> 	
<p>Are there animals on site?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, please give types and rough numbers</i> - <i>if yes, how are they being kept under control?</i> 	

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

4. WASTE AND SANITATION

<p>Are arrangements in place for the disposal of waste?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, please specify</i> - <i>if yes, are these arrangements effective?</i> 	
<p>What toilet arrangements are in place?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>are these satisfactory?</i> - <i>if no, how could these be improved?</i> 	
<p>Is there evidence of domestic, human or trade, waste spreading beyond the encampment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>.....has the Environment Agency been notified?</i> - <i>what other steps have been taken to deal with it?</i> 	

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD RELATIONS

<p>How far is the encampment from the nearest residence or business?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>in what ways (if any) does this affect them?</i> 	
<p>Is the encampment separated from other properties by a road or other boundary?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, please specify</i> 	
<p>Has there been any impact on the local community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>please detail</i> 	
<p>Are the obligations under the Code of Respect (see appendix C) being adhered to, by the group?</p> <p>If not, has the relevant obligations been explained to the group.</p>	
<p>Has criminal and/or antisocial behaviour been witnessed against or by members of the encampment? If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>what specific incidents have been reported?</i> - <i>who have they been reported to?</i> - <i>are these reported incidents verifiable?</i> 	

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

6. WELFARE AND EDUCATION

<p>Are there medical concerns with any members of the group? If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>please give details</i> - <i>would a forced move put individuals at risk?</i> - <i>what help has the group been offered to access services?</i> <p><i>Considering asking for evidence, e.g. are there in the area for a hospital appointment and identify their vehicle</i></p>	
<p>Are there vulnerable members of the group? If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>please give details e.g., elderly, infirm.</i> - <i>would a forced move put individuals at risk?</i> - <i>what help has the group been offered to access services?</i> 	
<p>Are there members of the group, who are pregnant? If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>please give details</i> - <i>what help has the group been offered help to access services?</i> - <i>in what ways (if any) would a forced move put any of the above individuals at risk?</i> 	
<p>Are there children on site? If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>approximately how many?</i> - <i>what is the age range?</i> - <i>are the children attending school in the area or elsewhere?</i> - <i>would a forced move result in children missing out on education?</i> 	
<p>Are there any other areas of concern for members of the encampment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, please explain</i> 	
<p>Are there concerns for the welfare of animals on the site?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, what action has been taken to address these?</i> 	

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

7. ACCOMMODATION

<p>Do members of the encampment have access to accommodation elsewhere?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>if yes, please give details</i> - <i>if yes, does the group intend to return there?</i> 	
<p>Are there places on authorised or tolerated sites available to the group?</p>	
<p>Do members of the encampment wish to apply for places on authorised sites?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>If yes, what advice or support has been offered to them?</i> 	
<p>Are any members of the group currently on a housing waiting list?</p> <p>If yes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>In which area?</i> - <i>When are they likely to be made an offer?</i> - <i>What advice or assistance has been offered or given?</i> - <i>could the encampment be tolerated until they are offered housing?</i> 	
<p>Are any members of the group homeless in having no access to any pitches or other accommodation which they consider suitable and available for their occupation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Do they need to make an urgent application for assistance as a homeless household?</i> - <i>How can this be best undertaken</i> 	

DECISION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENT SITE

ASSESSMENT OF THE DECISION TO EVICT OR NOT TO EVICT

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS	
<p><i>Would Eviction constitute an interference with the right to respect for private and family life of group members except where it is in accordance with the law and it is necessary in the interest of national security, public safety or economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others:</i></p> <p><i>For what reason is such an inference warranted in the circumstances?</i> <i>Explain why?</i></p>	
<p><i>Would eviction deny members of the travelling community peaceful enjoyment of their possessions?</i></p> <p>- <i>If this is a risk, will it be in the public interest or subject to the conditions provided for by law?</i></p>	
<p><i>Would eviction deny the travelling community's children access to their right to education?</i></p> <p>- <i>If yes, what is the response of the Social Services and Education Authorities response upon being informed?</i></p>	
<p><i>Is there evidence that eviction is being pursued on the grounds of the travelling community's ethnic or social origin status?</i></p> <p>- <i>If yes, please explain</i></p>	
<p><i>Are there any mitigating factors arising out of the Welfare Assessment which enables the Council to consider allowing the group to stay for a period of time?</i></p> <p>- <i>If yes, please give details and proposed duration?</i></p>	

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

ENVIRONMENTAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS	
<p><i>Are there any special considerations that should be considered for the land occupied?</i></p> <p>- If yes, please give details?</p>	
<p><i>Is the unauthorised encampment causing harm to the local amenities or to the local environment?</i></p>	
<p><i>Is the unauthorised encampment interfering with the peaceful enjoyment of neighbouring property?</i></p>	
<p><i>Is there a need to maintain public order and safety and protect health – e.g. by deterring fly tipping and criminal damage?</i></p>	
<p><i>Is there any harm to good community relations?</i></p>	
<p><i>Are there any general public interest factors that require consideration?</i></p>	

Rushmoor Borough Council
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Unauthorised Encampments

AGREED COURSE OF ACTION (AFTER A WELFARE ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT (IN ORDER TO TO SERVE A DIRECTION ORDER, ETC) AND TIMESCALES FOR PROPOSED ACTIONS

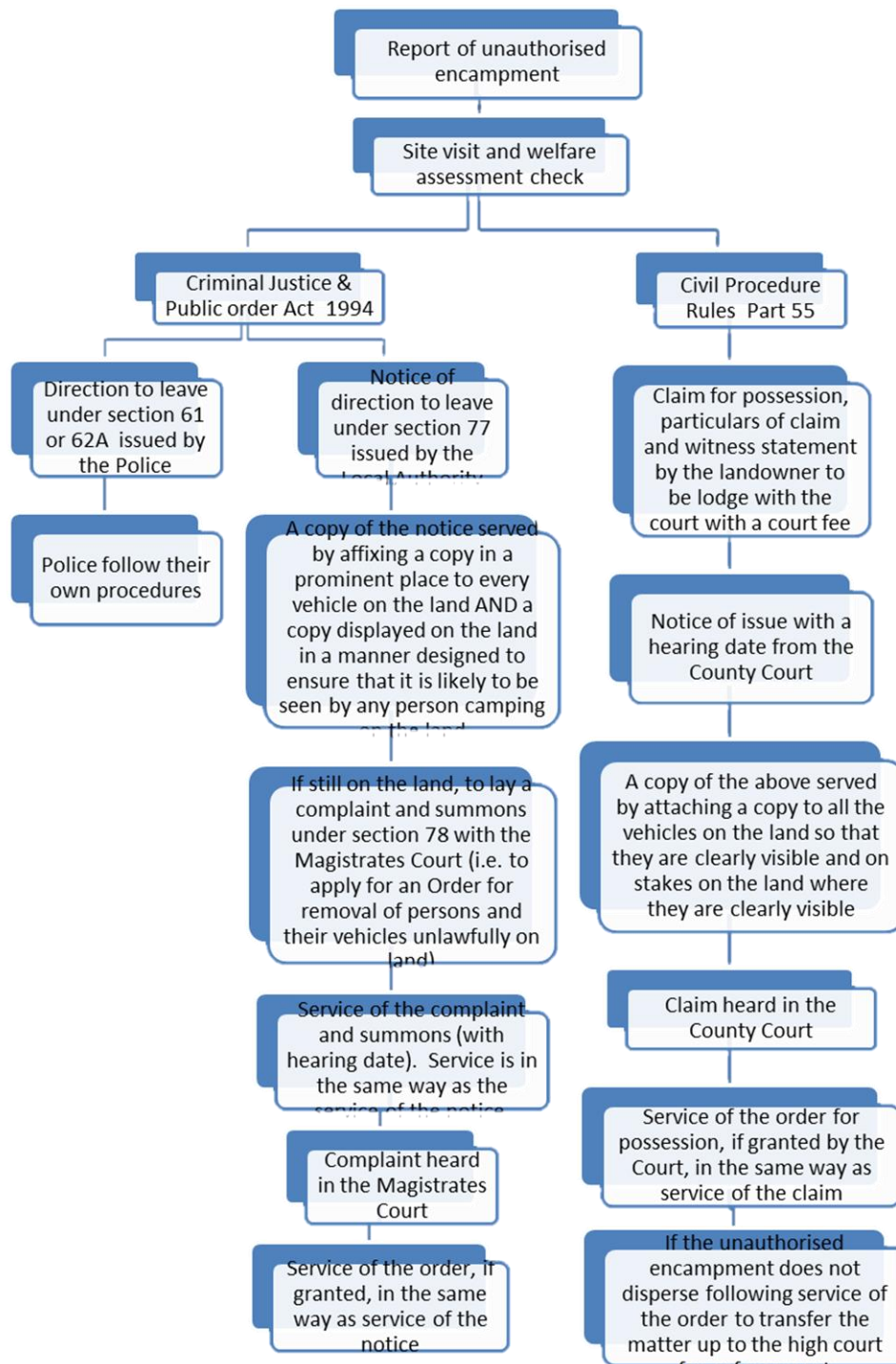
<i>Are Hampshire Police taking the lead?</i> - <i>If yes, please give details?</i>	
---	--

Decision :

<p>Recommendation by the ECP Team Leader including: Confirmation of land ownership Welfare Assessment Consultation with Hampshire Police and Legal Services</p> <p>- <i>E.g. Section 77 Direction Order to leave the land (and to proceed with an order for removal if the Direction is not complied with)? Or other course of action considered?</i></p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Date:</p>	
<p>To be completed by the Head of Operational Services:</p> <p>Decision on course of action, taking into account the information in the Welfare Assessment and the above recommendation:</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>Date:</p>	

Appendix B

Various Legal Procedures to deal with unauthorised encampments



Which procedure will depend on the circumstances of the unauthorised encampment.

Appendix C:



Code of Respect for Unauthorised Encampments

(to be displayed on site)

This Code sets out the standards of behaviour that are expected on unauthorised encampments, and should be the same as those expected of the wider community.

Intimidation from and towards the encampment will not be tolerated

Encampments are asked to:

- Please show respect to other people
- Please drive carefully
- Please space yourselves out and park away from other groups
- Please keep groups small (normally no more than 6 vehicles) and away from houses
- Please do not play loud music or use loud equipment (i.e. generators)
- Please do not damage any land or property
- Please do not have open fires
- Please use plastic bags for rubbish and leave it at agreed collection points
- Please dispose of other waste at official waste and recycling centres
- Please dig and bury your poo and dirty tissue paper in an appropriate place
- Please keep animals under control and clear up their poo
- Please do not block rights of way
- Please work with council staff and the landowner
- Please clear up before you leave site.

C. SECTION 3

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
KING'S BENCH DIVISION**

Claim No:

BEFORE [X]

ON [X]

B E T W E E N:

**PENAL NOTICE IF YOU THE WITHIN NAMED DEFENDANTS OR ANY OF YOU
DISOBEY THIS ORDER YOU MAY BE HELD TO BE IN CONTEMPT OF COURT
AND MAY BE IMPRISONED, FINED OR HAVE YOUR ASSETS SEIZED.**

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

Claimant

-and-

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

Defendant

***DRAFT* INJUNCTION**

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANTS

This Order prohibits you from doing the acts set out in this Order. You should read it very carefully. You are advised to consult a solicitor as soon as possible. You have the right to ask the Court to vary or discharge this Order.

A Defendant who is an individual who is ordered not to do something must not do it himself/herself or in any other way. He/she must not do it through others acting on his/her behalf or on his/her instructions or with his/her encouragement.

BEFORE [X] sitting at [X] on [date]

AND UON HEARING Counsel for the Claimant, Ms Sioned Davies

AND UPON the Claimant's application by Application Notice dated 23 June 2025

AND UPON the Claimant's confirmation that this Order is not intended to prohibit lawful use of the application land

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

A. INJUNCTION ORDER

1. With immediate effect, and until 23rd September 2025 unless varied, discharged or extended by further order, the Defendants and each of them are forbidden from doing the following:
 - a. Entering and/or occupying any part of the Land (as defined below) for residential purposes (temporary or otherwise) including the occupation of caravans/mobile homes, storage of vehicles, caravans and residential paraphernalia, save for where the Land is occupied in accordance with a lawful planning permission from the Local Planning Authority, or the Secretary of State, or Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below) or in accordance with statutory permitted development rights.
 - b. Setting-up an encampment on any part of the Land (as defined below) unless authorised to do so by the owner of the Land and provided the encampment does not breach planning control, save for where the encampment is authorised by Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below).
 - c. Setting-up an encampment on any part of the Land (as defined below) without Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below), or planning permission granted by the Secretary of State or in accordance with statutory permitted development rights.
 - d. Bringing on to any part of the Land (as defined below) or stationing on any part of the Land any caravans/mobile homes other than when driving through the highways on the Land or in compliance with parking orders regulating the use of car parks or with the express permission from the owner of the Land, save for where the Land is occupied in accordance with a lawful planning permission from the Local Planning Authority, or the Secretary of State, or Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below) or in accordance with statutory permitted development rights.
 - e. Depositing or causing to be deposited, Controlled Waste (as defined below) in or on any part of the Land (as defined below) unless a waste management licence or environmental permit is in force and the deposit is in accordance with the licence or permit.

2. There shall be a power of arrest attached to paragraphs 1(a) to 1(e) (inclusive) of this Order
3. The 'Land' in this Order means all land within the Borough of Rushmoor marked within the redline on the attached map in Schedule 1 of the Order
4. The 'Injunction Website' means a website hosted at:
www.rushmoor.gov.uk/injunctionapplication

B. SERVICE

5. Pursuant to CPR r6.27 and r.8.14:
 - a. The Claimant shall serve this Order upon the Defendants by:
 - i. Advertising the existence of this Order in the Hampshire Independent and in particular, with a link to the Injunction Website which will contain a direct link to this Order and the accompanying documents.
 - ii. The Claimant shall use reasonable endeavours to place advertisements on local notice boards managed by the Claimant which shall contain a direct link to this Order and the accompanying documents.
 - iii. Publishing social media posts on the Claimant's Facebook and LinkedIn pages, providing a link to the Injunction Website which will contain a direct link to the Order and the accompanying documents.
 - b. Service of this Order on Defendants in occupation on the Injunction Land may be effected by personal service where practicable and/or posting a copy of this Order through the letterbox. If there is no letterbox, then a package containing this Order may be affixed to or left at the front door or other prominent feature marked with a notice drawing the recipient's attention to the fact that the package contains a court order and should be read urgently. The notices shall be given in prominent lettering in the form set out in Annex B. It is open to any Defendant to contact the Claimants to identify an alternative place for service and, if they do so, it is not necessary for a notice or package to be affixed or left at the front door or other prominent feature.
6. Service of this Order shall be effected by affixing copies (as opposed to originals) of this Order in a transparent envelope, or laminated copy, in a prominent position on or close to all adopted highway entry points within the area marked with the red line on the map attached at Schedule 1 with a notice to Persons Unknown that a copy of the supporting evidence can be obtained from Rushmoor Borough Council, Council Offices, Farnborough Rd, Farnborough GU14 7JU.
7. The Claimant shall further advertise the existence of this Order in a prominent location on the Injunction Website, together with a link to download an electronic copy of this Order.

2. Service of this Order shall be

- a. Verified by certificates of service to be filed with the Court; and
- b. Be good and sufficient service of this Order on the Defendants and each of them and the need for personal service be dispensed with.

C. LIBERTY TO APPLY

8. The Defendants or anyone notified of this Order may each of them apply to the Court on 72 hours prior written notice (without prejudice to the right of that person to apply to shorten the time for service) to both the Court and the Claimants to vary or discharge this Order (or so much of it as affects that person). The contact details for both the Court and the Claimant can be found in paragraph 19 below.

D. RENEWAL OF THIS ORDER

9. This Order against the Defendants will expire by effluxion of time at 00:00 hrs on 24th September 2025. The Claimants may, if so advised, apply for the renewal of the Order against the Defendants (“the Renewal Application”). Any Renewal Application and evidence in support must be filed and served in accordance with paragraph 4 above by 4pm on **2nd September 2025**
10. A hearing shall be listed on [**date before 22nd September**], with a time estimate of one day, at which the Renewal Application shall be considered. If the Claimants do not make a Renewal Application, they must notify the Court as soon as reasonably practicable and seek to vacate the hearing.
11. Any person other than the Claimant who would like to participate in the hearing of the Renewal Application must also file on the Claimant any evidence upon which they seek to rely at the hearing of the Renewal Application by 4pm on **9 September 2025**.

E. COSTS

12. No order as to costs against the Defendants.

GUIDANCE NOTES

EFFECT OF THIS ORDER

13. A Defendant who is an individual who is ordered not to do something must not do it himself or herself or in any other way. He or she must not do it through others acting on his or her behalf or on his or her instructions or with his or her encouragement.

14. A Defendant which is a corporation and which is ordered not to do something must not do it itself or by its directors, officers, employees or agents or in any other way.

PARTIES OTHER THAN THE CLAIMANT AND DEFENDANTS

EFFECT OF THIS ORDER

15. It is a contempt of court for any person notified of this Order knowingly to assist in or permit a breach of this Order. Any person doing so may be sent to prison, fined, or have their assets seized.

INTERPRETATION OF THIS ORDER

16. In this Order, where there is more than one Defendant, unless otherwise stated, references to “the Defendants” means each or all of them.
17. A requirement to serve on “the Defendants” means on each of them, unless an Order of the Court specifies otherwise. The Order is, however, effective against any Defendant on whom it is served.
18. An Order requiring the Defendants to do or not to do anything applies to all Defendants.
19. ‘**Controlled waste**’ has the same meaning as within s.75(4) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
20. ‘**Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority**’ includes, but is not limited to, written permission granted pursuant to any negotiated stopping agreement, policy or procedure.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE COURT

21. All communication to the Court about this Order should be sent to kjudgeslistingoffice@justice.gov.uk, The Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL. The telephone number is 020 3938957. 21.
22. All communications to the Claimants about this Order should be sent to legal@rushmoor.gov.uk

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
KING'S BENCH DIVISION**

Claim No:

BEFORE

ON

B E T W E E N:

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

Claimant

-and-

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

Defendant

SCHEDULE 1: RED LINE PLAN

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Claim no.

BETWEEN:-

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

Claimant

-V-

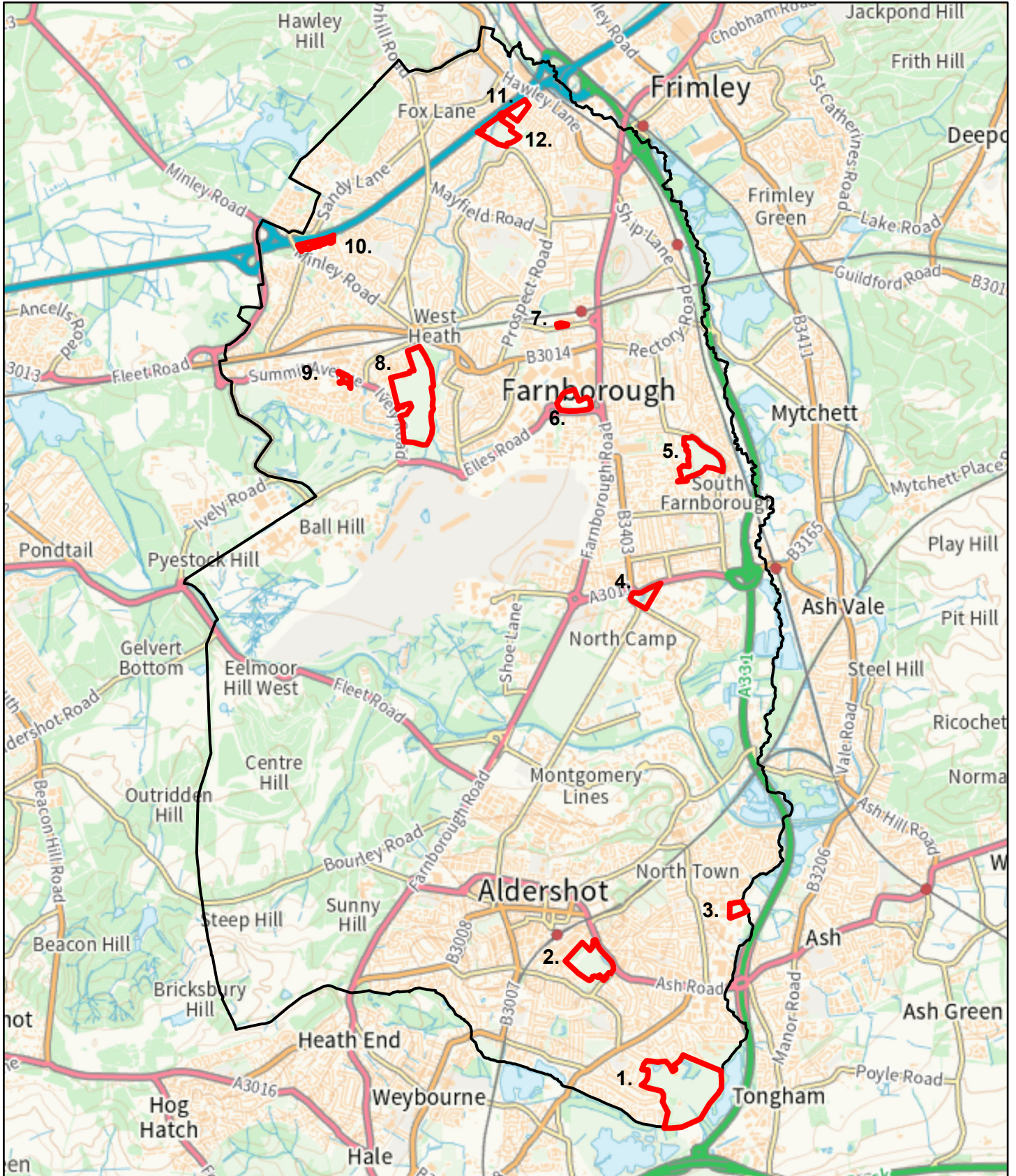
PERSONS UNKNOWN WHO ARE FORMING UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS IN
THE BOROUGH OF RUSHMOOR

Defendants

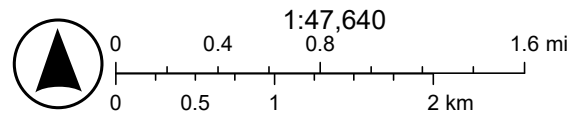
Annex 1 – List of Areas and Redline Plans

	Site Address
1	Land at Aldershot Park, Guildford Road, Aldershot (including Aldershot Park, Aldershot Pools Complex & Lido, Aldershot Crematorium, Aldershot Cricket Club)
2	Manor Park, Church Hill, Aldershot
3	Ivy Road Recreation Ground, Ivy Road, Aldershot
4	Napier Gardens and Car Park, Redvers Buller Road, Aldershot
5	King George V Playing Field, Sycamore Road, Farnborough
6	Farnborough Leisure Centre car park, Westmead, Farnborough
7	Union Street West car park, Union Street, Farnborough
8	Southwood County Park, Playing Fields, Car parks, Ively Road, Farnborough
9	Southwood Village Green, Summit Avenue, Farnborough
10	Nightingale Close, Farnborough (Land to the east of Minley Road)
11	Land at Hawley Lane, Farnborough
12	Moor Road Playing Field, Moor Road, Farnborough

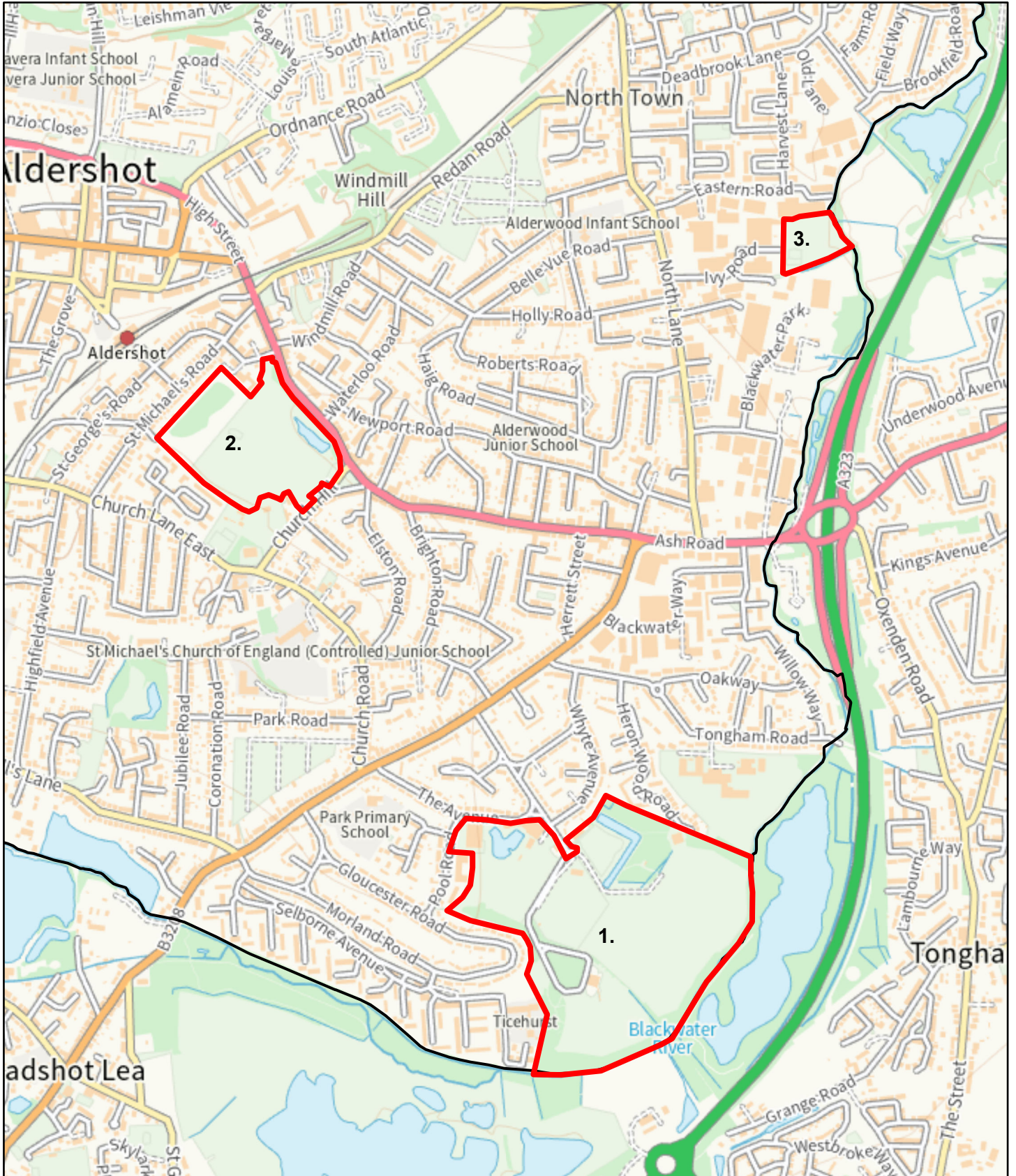
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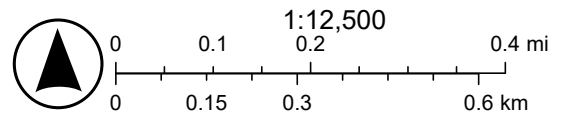
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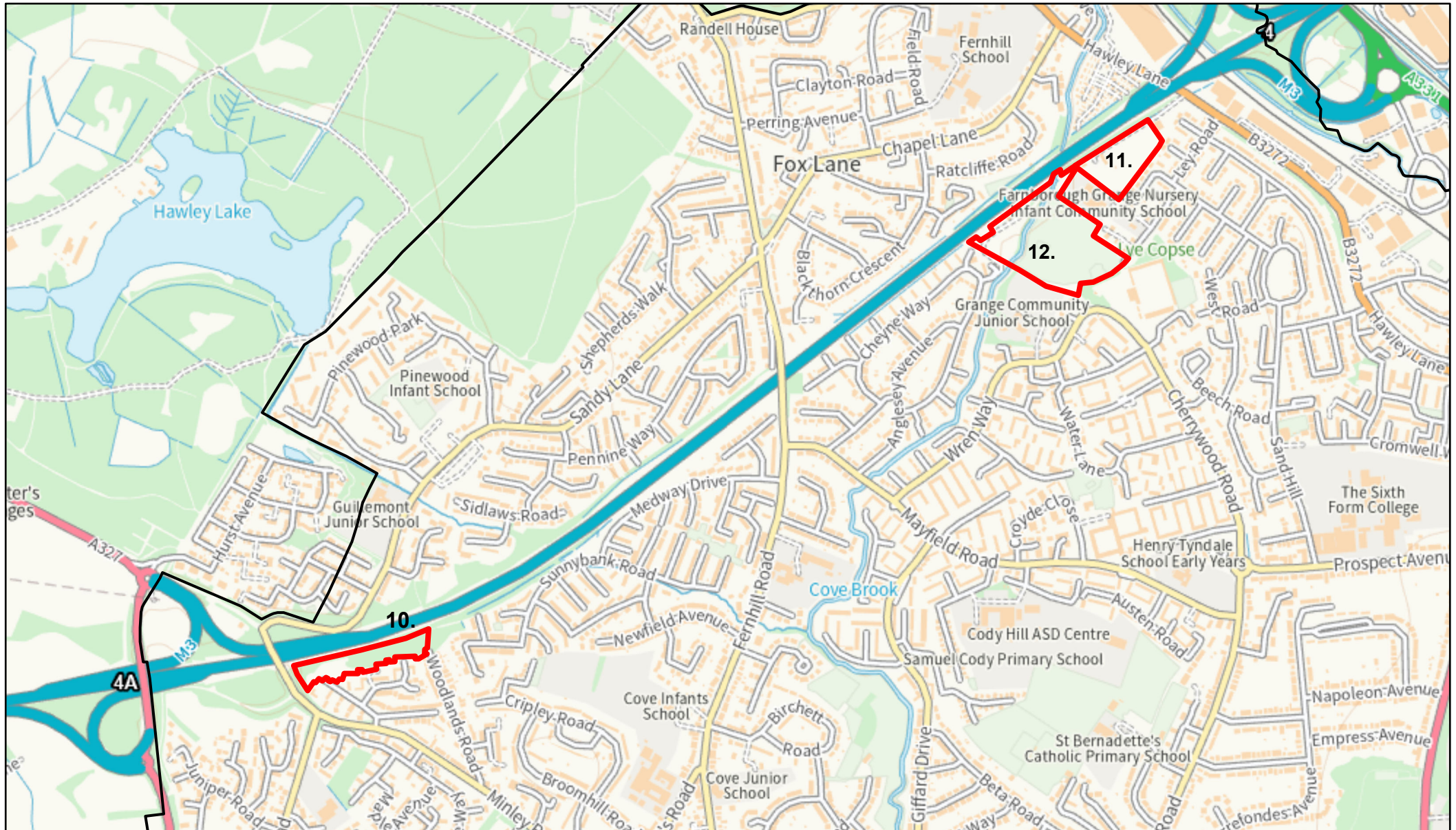
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ArcGIS Web Map



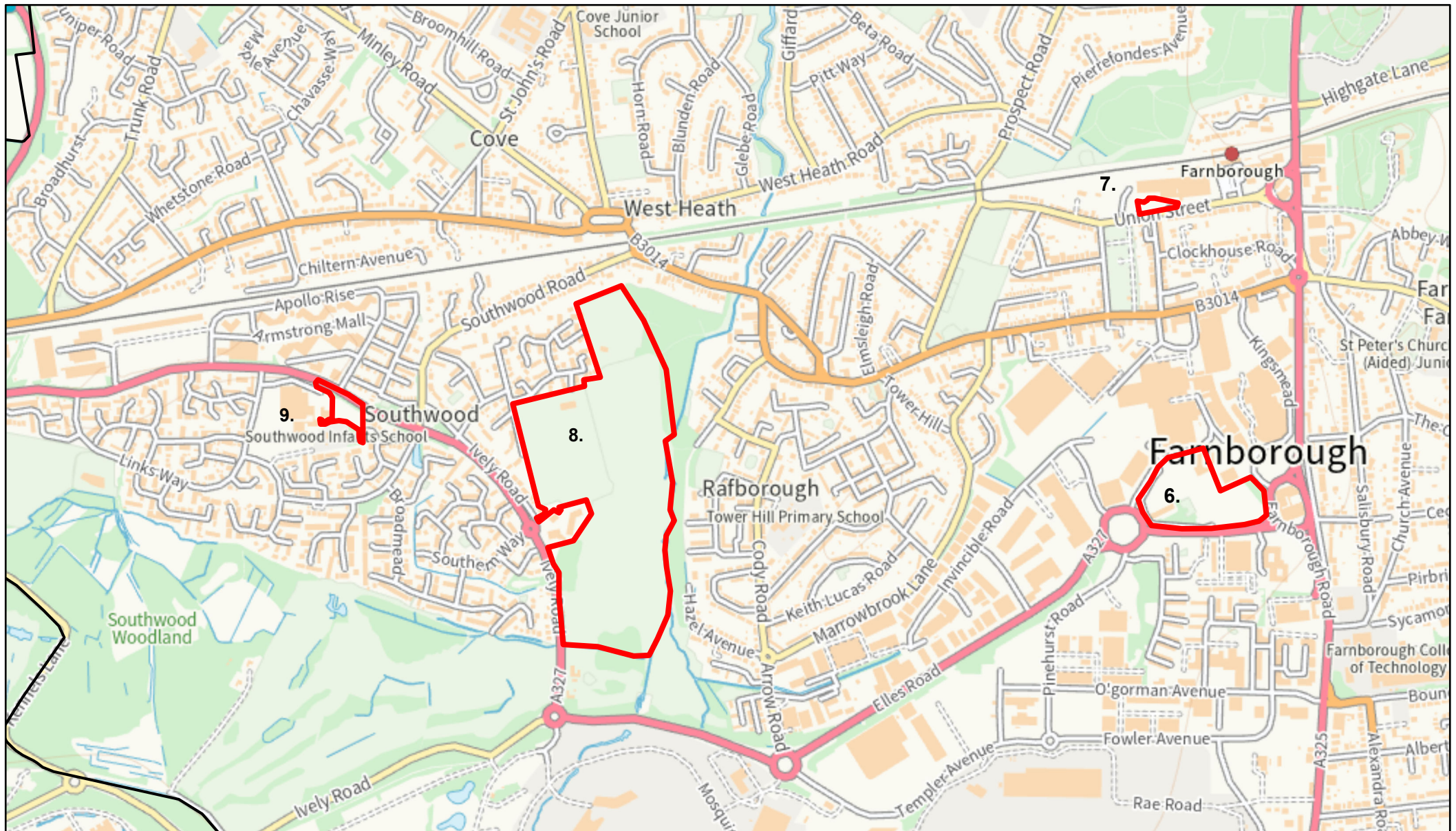
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 Rushmoor Boundary



1:12,500
0 0.1 0.2 0.4 mi
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

ArcGIS Web Map



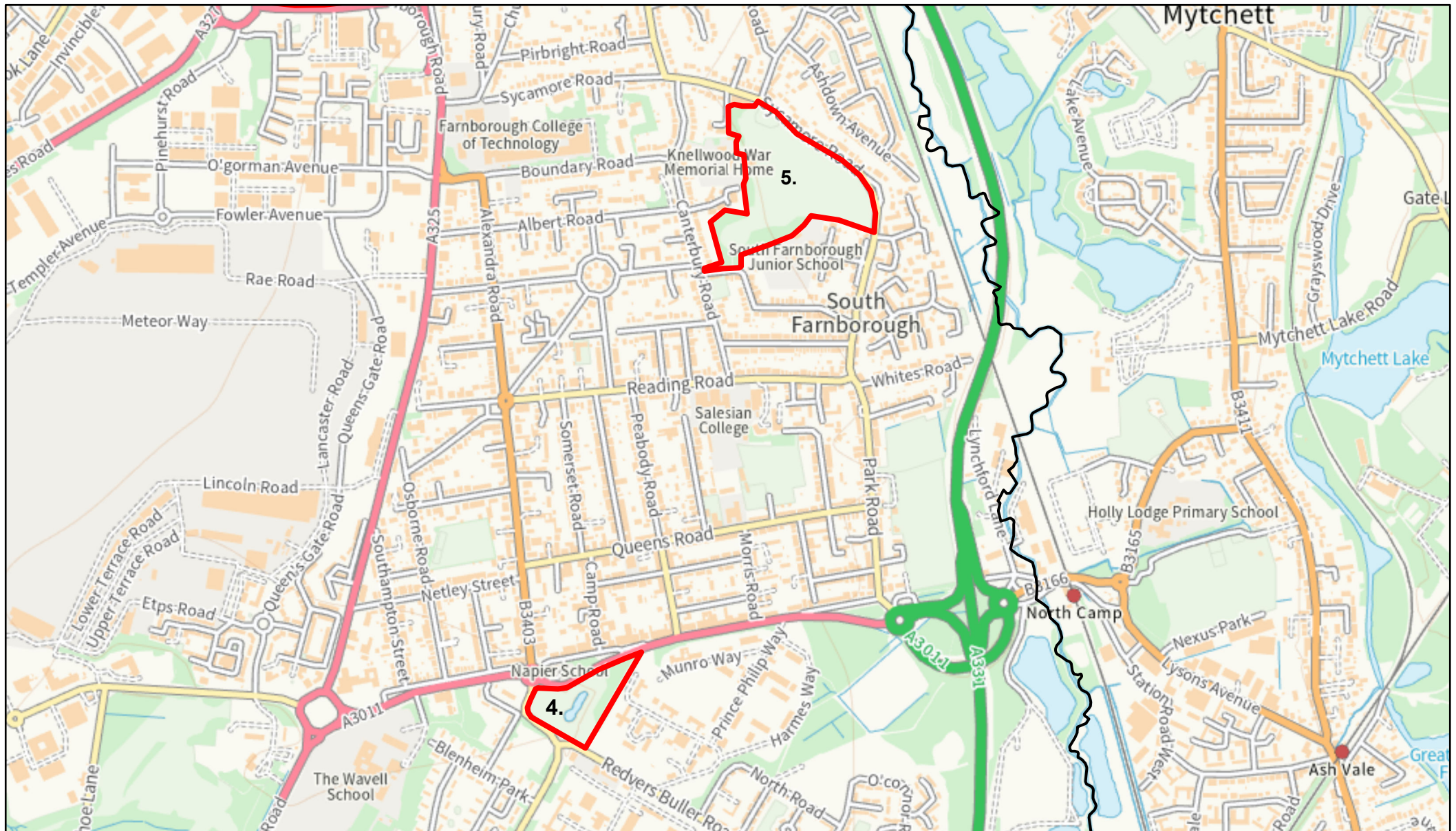
6/23/2025, 10:11:01 AM

 Rushmoor Boundary



1:12,500
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0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

ArcGIS Web Map



6/23/2025, 10:11:27 AM

 Rushmoor Boundary



1:12,500
0 0.1 0.2 0.4 mi
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

Power of arrest

Name of defendant

Defendant's address

Name of court

Claim No.

Claimant's name (including ref.)

Defendant's name (including ref.)

Seal

Date order made

/
/

Name of judge

Order madeunder (insert
statutory provision)

This order includes a power of arrest under (insert statutory provision)

The relevant paragraphs of the order to which a power of arrest has been attached are:

(set out those paragraphs of the order to which the power of arrest is attached, if necessary continue on a separate sheet)

This power of arrest was ordered on

/
/

and expires on the

/
/

Note to Arresting Officer

Where the defendant is arrested under the power given by section 155 of the Housing Act 1996, or section 27 of the Police and Justice Act 2006; or section 43 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009; or section 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014:-

- the defendant shall be brought before the judge within the period of 24 hours beginning at the time of their arrest;
- a constable shall inform the person on whose application the injunction was granted, forthwith where the defendant is arrested under the power given by section 155 of the Housing Act 1996 or as soon as reasonably practicable where the defendant is arrested under the power given by section 27 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 or section 43 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 or section 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Nothing in section 155 of the Housing Act 1996 or section 27 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 or section 43 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 or section 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, shall authorise the detention of the respondent after the expiry of the period of 24 hours beginning at the time of their arrest.

In calculating any period of 24 hours, no account shall be taken of Christmas Day, Good Friday or any Sunday.

Name of Claimant

Claimant's address

Claimant's phone number

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
KING'S BENCH DIVISION

Claim No:

BEFORE

ON

B E T W E E N:

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL

Claimant

-and-

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

Defendant

POWER OF ARREST

This power of arrest applies to the Defendant (Persons Unknown who are forming unauthorised encampments in the Borough of Rushmoor).

The relevant paragraphs of the order to which the power of arrest has been attached are paragraphs 1(a)-(e) (inclusive) of the Order of [x] dated [x]:

Until and including 23rd September 2025, the Defendants are **forbidden** from:

- a. Entering and/or occupying any part of the Land (as defined below) for residential purposes (temporary or otherwise) including the occupation of caravans/mobile homes, storage of vehicles, caravans and residential paraphernalia, save for where the Land is occupied in accordance with a lawful planning permission from the Local Planning Authority, or the Secretary of State, or Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below) or in accordance with statutory permitted development rights.

- b. Setting-up an encampment on any part of the Land (as defined below) unless authorised to do so by the owner of the Land and provided the encampment does not breach planning control, save for where the encampment is authorised by Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below).
- c. Setting-up an encampment on any part of the Land (as defined below) without Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below), or planning permission granted by the Secretary of State or in accordance with statutory permitted development rights.
- d. Bringing on to any part of the Land (as defined below) or stationing on any part of the Land any caravans/mobile homes other than when driving through the highways on the Land or in compliance with the parking orders regulating the use of car parks or with the express permission from the owner of the Land, save for where the Land is occupied in accordance with a lawful planning permission from the Local Planning Authority, or the Secretary of State, or Written Permission from the Local Planning Authority (as defined below) or in accordance with statutory permitted development rights.
- e. Depositing or causing to be deposited, Controlled Waste (as defined below) in or on any part of the Land (as defined below) unless a waste management licence or environmental permit is in force and the deposit is in accordance with the licence or permit.

2. There shall be a power of arrest attached to paragraphs 1(a) to 1(e) (inclusive) of this Order.

3. The 'Land' in this Order means all land within the Borough of Rushmoor marked within the red line on the attached map in Schedule 1 to this Order.