



Choose another section

- Home
- Benefits & Council tax
- Business
- Community
- Environment, Refuse & Recycling
- Health & Wellbeing
- Housing & Private Property
- Jobs at Hertsmere
- Parks and Leisure
- Planning & Building Control
- Transport, Streets and Parking
- Your Council

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[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Articles](#) > [July 2019](#)

Travellers moved on, thanks to injunction



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Travellers who had arrived on land owned by Hertsmere Borough Council during the late evening of Monday (8 July) were moved on within 12 hours – because of an injunction covering council-owned land.

Police and council officers, attended Parkfields in Potters Bar during the early hours of Tuesday morning (9 July) to ask the group – consisting of nine caravans and several associated vehicles – to leave the site as soon as possible.

By 9.30am the travellers had left the site and had taken their rubbish with them.

The injunction – granted by the High Court of Justice in January and which will last for three years – bans unauthorised encampments of travellers from 108 council-owned sites within Hertsmere.

It means any encampment on the sites can be moved on, without the need for further court action. Anyone who refuses to go could face arrest, committal to prison or an unlimited fine.

Councillor Seamus Quilty, Portfolio Holder for Environment, said: “This action shows that we will act robustly within the parameters of the law to ensure our parks can continue to be enjoyed by the public.

“The injunction allowed the police to swiftly remove the illegal encampment and with minimal disruption to local residents. I would like to thank the council and police officers involved.”

Council contractors have visited the site to ensure the site is clear and all waste has been removed.

Posted on Wednesday 10th July 2019

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