

Record of Operational Decision

Decision title:	Removal Order to be served under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 on [REDACTED] and persons unknown Land at highway verge opposite Halo leisure centre, Bridge Street, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8EA.
Date of decision:	26 November 2024
Decision maker:	Corporate Director, Economy and Environment
Authority for delegated decision:	Economy and Environment Scheme of Delegation, Item 70.
Ward:	Leominster South Ward
Consultation:	Legal Services, Children’s Services, and the Service Director
Decision made:	To apply for a Section 78 removal order under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 in line with our eviction policy to secure the land at highway verge opposite Halo leisure centre, Bridge Street, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8EA free from unauthorised occupants.
Reasons for decision:	The occupants, their animals, associated caravans and vehicles are occupying Herefordshire Council owned / administered land i.e. a highway verge creating potential distraction for road users. There are also safety issues for occupiers / children residing so close to the highway and safeguarding concerns for the children on site.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal considerations:	There could be cost implications if the occupants refuse to comply with the removal order as bailiffs will be required to secure eviction from the land. There could also be cost implications to remove any waste once the encampment has vacated.
Equality Considerations	The decision to serve this removal order does not discriminate, harass or victimise nor encourage conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010. It also does not unfairly impact upon anyone with a relevant protected characteristic nor hinder relations between persons sharing such a characteristic.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	The alternative would be to relocate these Gypsy travellers on to another site although no suitable pitches are currently available.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed:

Date: 26/11/2024