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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|  <b>WARWICKSHIRE<br/>POLICE</b> |                 | <b>POLICY</b> |
| Security Classification                                                                                          | <b>OFFICIAL</b> |               |
| Disclosable under Freedom of Information Act 2000                                                                | Yes             |               |

|                     |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>POLICY TITLE</b> | <b>Unauthorised Encampments</b> |
| REFERENCE NUMBER    | <b>WP069</b>                    |
| Version             | <b>1.2</b>                      |

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| <b>POLICY OWNERSHIP</b> |                |
| DIRECTORATE             | LOCAL POLICING |
| BUSINESS AREA           | PREVENTION     |

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| DATE FIRST IMPLEMENTED         | <b>13/08/2021</b> |
| CURRENT VERSION EFFECTIVE FROM | <b>28/08/2026</b> |
| REVIEW DATE:                   | <b>28/08/2028</b> |
| RISK RATING                    | <b>HIGH</b>       |
| EQUALITY ANALYSIS              | <b>LOW</b>        |
| TIER                           | <b>1</b>          |

Warwickshire Police welcome comments and suggestions from the public and staff about the contents and implementation of this policy. Please e-mail [policiesandprocedures@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:policiesandprocedures@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

## 1.0 POLICY OUTLINE

This policy will explain how Warwickshire Police will deal with people who trespass on land owned by another, with an intention to reside.

## 2.0 PURPOSE OF POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to detail how unauthorised encampments are managed, when police powers should be considered and providing an auditable record of the encampment management.

This policy and associated procedure, forms its' basis from the most recent **NPCC Operational Advice on Managing Unauthorised Encampments** (June 2022). The advice also refers to **Home Office Statutory Guidance for Police on Unauthorised Encampments** (June 2022).

Nationally circulated guidance and should be read in conjunction with this policy.

There are primarily two additions to the Warwickshire Police policy:

- a. This policy requires that any use of police powers is authorised by a Superintendent which is not required in the NPCC Guidance.
- b. The NPCC document does not offer any guidance with regard to utilisation of police powers under Sec 62A-E of Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994 (direction to move to an alternative local authority site), primarily because this power has been rarely used due to lack of available sites.

Within Warwickshire policing areas, some local authorities either provide or plan to provide sites. This policy and associated procedure, provides direction on the use of this legislation.

## 3.0 IMPLICATIONS of the POLICY

An unauthorised encampment will usually involve the need to balance the competing needs of the local community and the occupants of the encampment.

The Code of Ethics underpin this policy and the management of unauthorised encampments in general. This policy sets out to ensure that decisions made around their management are compliant with the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010 in that they are legal, proportionate and necessary for all parties concerned.

A requirement of this policy is to provide an audit record detailing the management of the encampment which will be retained for a period of 6 years and referred to should decisions be challenged by any party in the future.

#### 4.0 CONSULTATION

This policy has previously been circulated to relevant stakeholders and the Critical Friends consultation group.

#### 5.0 DOCUMENT HISTORY

The history and rationale for change to policy will be recorded using the below chart:

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Author / Reviewer</b>           | <b>Amendment(s) &amp; Rationale</b>                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Date of Approval / Adoption</b> |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Oct 2016    | Insp David Kettle                  | Harmonised document.                                                                                                                                                                                     | JNCC 18/11/2016                    |
| July 2020   | Martin Rone-Clarke.<br>GRT Advisor | Reviewed and amended for Warwickshire Policing purpose. This policy, procedure and associated guidance will be further reviewed by the Warwickshire Police Strategic Independent Advisory Group in 2021. | 13/08/2021                         |
| Aug 2025    | Martin Rone-Clarke.<br>GRT Advisor | Reviewed and amended for Warwickshire Policing purpose.                                                                                                                                                  | 04/09/25                           |
| Aug 2026    | Martin Rone-Clarke.<br>GRT Advisor | Policy reviewed. One minor amendment made to section 3.0: audit record retention period changed from 7 years to 6 following advice from Records Management team                                          | Republished<br>28/08/2026          |

#### 6.0 PROCEDURE

A separate document details the specific procedure.

#### 7.0 ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS

The policy and procedure has been subject of an Equality Analysis (EA), Health and Safety Assessment (HAS) and Risk Assessment (RA).