

 WARWICKSHIRE POLICE		POLICY
Security Classification	OFFICIAL	
Disclosable under Freedom of Information Act 2000	Yes	

POLICY TITLE	Unauthorised Encampments
REFERENCE NUMBER	WP069
Version	1.1

POLICY OWNERSHIP	
DIRECTORATE	LOCAL POLICING
BUSINESS AREA	PREVENTION

IMPLEMENTATION DATE	13/08/2021
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	04/09/2026
RISK RATING	HIGH
EQUALITY ANALYSIS	LOW
TIER	1

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

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 7 years and referred to should decisions be challenged by any party in the future.

4.0 CONSULTATION

This policy has 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:

Date	Author / Reviewer	Amendment(s) & Rationale	Date of Approval / Adoption
Oct 2016	Insp David Kettle	Harmonised document.	JNCC 18/11/2016
July 2020	Martin Rone-Clarke. 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. GRT Advisor	Reviewed and amended for Warwickshire Policing purpose.	04/09/25

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).