



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date: 15/04/2026

2026/383 - Section 4 PCSC Act 2022 and Equality Impact

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

Section 4 PCSC Act 2022 and Equality Impact

I am writing on behalf of a Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) voluntary organisation whose remit includes empowering our communities and monitoring the impact of legislation and policing practices.

The pursuit of a nomadic way of life is lawful and is recognised and protected under both UK and European legislation. Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers are protected groups under the Equality Acts 2010. The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) places a statutory obligation on police forces to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between people of different racial groups. Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights protects private and family life, and Article 23 protects the right of communities to maintain and follow their culture.

Under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information regarding your force's approach to Section 4 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts (PCSC) Act 2022, which introduced new criminal offences relating to Unauthorised Encampments.

Please provide data from the date the legislation came into force to the present.

Question 1: Equality Impact and Compliance

Given the PSED obligations and the recognised protected status of Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers, please provide:

- 1) Recorded evidence of how any Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs), Equality Analyses, or internal reviews carried out in relation to the introduction or use of Section 4 powers –**

No formal assessment or analysis conducted

- 2) Recorded evidence of how any internal guidance, training materials, or briefings provided to officers regarding the cultural rights of GRT communities and the need to avoid discriminatory or disproportionate enforcement**

Nil. Officers and staff undertake on-line learning in relation to DEI but it would be unusual to see guidance in relation to one specific group and the impact of 'new' legislation on that group.

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3) Recorded evidence of how any monitoring data your force holds relating to the protected characteristics of individuals affected by Section 4 enforcement.

I am not aware of any enforcement by NWP under section 4.

Question 2: Policies and Strategies

In light of Section 4 of the PCSC Act, has your force drafted or adopted any new strategies, operational guidance, or policies relating specifically to Unauthorised Encampments?

If so, please confirm whether these documents are publicly accessible and provide copies or links where available.

North Wales Police (NWP) do not hold any information.

Question 3: Implementation of Section 4

Has your force implemented Section 4 of the PCSC Act?

Yes, it is legislation, but not aware of it ever having been used. It will have been considered in relation to incidents occasionally.

If yes, please provide details of how it has been used, including:

- 1) Directions to leave**
- 2) Seizure or confiscation of vehicles**
- 3) Arrests made under this provision**

N/A.

Question 4: Prosecutions

Have there been any prosecutions within your force area under Section 4 of the PCSC Act?

If so, please provide:

- 1) The number of prosecutions - including dates, reference numbers and/or case numbers**
- 2) The decision outcomes of those prosecutions (e.g., charges, convictions, discontinued cases) - including dates, reference numbers and/or case numbers**

Please also include details of any current pending enforcement.

We have searched the stats classed for any relevant offences on our system, Niche 125/65/NONCRIME/CJ94034: Removal of trespassers failure to comply with a section 62A direction to leave land CJ and PO 1994;

Nil return for any of these offences on NWP since 2022.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 14/04/2026