

Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Paper 4:

Environmental Rights on Gypsy/Traveller Sites



1. Introduction

Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project (MECOPP) supports unpaid carers from Scotland's minority ethnic communities, including supporting many in the Gypsy/Traveller Community, including those with both caring and health needs.

The Environmental Rights Centre for Scotland (ERCS) is an environmental law charity that assists people to understand and exercise their rights in environmental law, which includes laws relating to land-use planning, pollution control, environmental health and climate change.

This briefing summarises the findings and learnings of a joint action research project between MECOPP and ERCS to investigate and address the range of environmental burdens faced by residents on Gypsy/Traveller sites in Scotland.

The project used an environmental human rights lens and applied the PANEL principles: Participation, Accountability, Non-discrimination and equality, Empowerment and Legality, to challenge and hold managing bodies such as local authorities and housing associations to account to improve site conditions.

1.1 Background

The project work was carried out at five Gypsy/Traveller sites managed by local authorities and housing associations between February 2022 and December 2025. Most sites in Scotland are run in one of these forms.

Systemic environmental injustice

Environmental justice is about ensuring a fair distribution of environmental benefits and burdens. It acknowledges that marginalised groups and communities are more exposed to environmental burdens (such as pollution, proximity to landfill and the impacts of climate change); and have less access to environmental benefits (such as accessible and nature-rich greenspace).

It also recognises that these groups are often denied equitable participation in decision-making and opportunities to challenge harmful practices and protect their right to a healthy environment.

There has been significant criticism of the environmental conditions of Gypsy/Traveller sites across Scotland, with Colin Clark, Professor of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of the West of Scotland saying:

“If you stay on a local authority Traveller site, you will be close to hazards that nobody wants as a neighbour. Whether it is industrial estates, sewage works, A roads or vermin, you will likely have to contend with unacceptable situations and significant barriers to having a quality of life that most settled people in houses take for granted.”¹

¹ The Ferret (2023), 'Mapped: Authorised Gypsy/Traveller sites are near sewage plants and rubbish dumps', <https://theferret.scot/gypsy-traveller-sites-near-sewage-rubbish/>

Using Google Maps, journalists from the Ferret (an investigative news outlet) mapped 28 public Gypsy/Traveller sites in Scotland and found 13 out of 28 sites were 50m or less from hazards and locations with pollution and environmental degradation, with 15 out of 28 at 100m or less (54%), and 21 out of 28 (75%) at 300m or less. Detailed information on the living environments of these sites has not been investigated.²

These environmental burdens contribute to the health inequalities experienced by the Gypsy/Traveller Community. According to the 2022 Scottish Census, 26.2% of the Gypsy/Traveller Community have a long-term mental health condition compared to 11.8% of the White Scottish Community, and 25.4% of the Gypsy/Traveller Community have a long term health condition compared to 22.5% of the White Scottish population.³ Research by MECOPP has shown that this has led to high instances of caring within the Community, and 56% of Gypsy/Traveller unpaid carers are facing negative mental health as a consequence of their caring role.⁴

1.2 Policy context

Gypsy/Travellers are a minority ethnic group protected under the Equality Act 2010. Local authorities/housing associations that manage public Gypsy/Traveller sites have a responsibility to provide a standard of accommodation that is culturally appropriate, adequately maintained, safe and secure, as well as upholding the core rights of tenants. The following policies are relevant:

- **Minimum Site Standards 2015⁵** – The introduction of these standards was one of the most significant reforms to improve environmental conditions at Gypsy/Traveller sites. These standards act as guidance for site providers, defining the minimum site housing and environmental standards for Gypsy/Traveller sites and the core rights and responsibilities for site tenants. The standards have seven parts: Essential Fabric Standards; Energy Efficiency; Facilities and Amenities; Safety and Security; Maintenance and Repairs; Fair Treatment; Consultation. It should be noted that the policy is now over 10 years old and lacks a mechanism to monitor compliance.
- **Housing to 2040⁶** – This housing strategy states the Scottish Government's commitment to invest in and improve the quality on Gypsy/Traveller sites, improve energy efficiency and improve the planning system for Gypsy/Travellers.
- **Improving the lives of Gypsy/Travellers: 2019-2021⁷** – The five key areas of the action plan are to improve accommodation, public services, income, representation and tackle discrimination. The Scottish Government committed an investment of £2 million to improve the quality of life in Gypsy/Traveller accommodation.

² Ibid.

³ Scotland's Census (2022).

⁴ MECOPP (2025), 'Gypsy/Traveller Unpaid Carers: Where are we now?', <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62f4f5fa696d570e19a69429/t/68dcf4517aea163a275d13af/1759310929519/GypsyTraveller+Factsheet.pdf>

⁵ Scottish Government (2015), 'Improving Gypsy/Traveller sites: guidance on minimum sites standards and site tenants' core rights and responsibilities', <https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-gypsy-traveller-sites-guidance-minimum-sites-standards-site-tenants/pages/1/>

⁶ Scottish Government (2021), 'Housing to 2040', <https://www.gov.scot/publications/housing-2040-2/pages/2/>

⁷ Scottish Government (2019), 'Improving the lives of Gypsy/Travellers: 2019-2021', <https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-lives-scotlands-gypsy-travellers-2019-2021/>

- Improving the lives of Gypsy/Travellers 2: 2024-2026**⁸ – Building on the Scottish Government’s commitments in the above policies, the action plan includes the Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Fund which allocates £20 million from 2021-2026 for more and better accommodation. As part of the fund, the Scottish Government produced **interim minimum site standards**⁹ for sites undergoing redevelopment. It should be noted that while the joint action plan aims to continue funding the redevelopment of sites, only 5 out of 28 currently active sites have been funded so far.
- National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)** refers to supporting development of Gypsy/Traveller sites, both public and private, stating “[developments] should be supported where a need is identified and the proposal is otherwise consistent with the plan spatial strategy and other relevant policies, including human rights and equality.”¹⁰
- Equality Impact Assessment** – A tool for assessing the effects or impacts of policies, legislation and decision making on the rights of groups of citizens, such as the Gypsy/Traveller Community under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012.¹¹ There are concerns about the effective use of equality impact assessments during the delivery of services for Gypsy/Travellers.

The findings of this paper explore the inconsistent delivery of these policies at Gypsy/Traveller sites around Scotland and the resultant systemic environmental issues.

⁸ Scottish Government (2024), ‘Improving the lives of Gypsy/Travellers 2: action plan 2024-2026’, <https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-the-lives-of-scotlands-gypsy-travellers-2-action-plan-2024-2026/>

⁹ For current interim guidance see following: Scottish Government (2021), ‘Interim Gypsy/Traveller site design guide’, <https://www.gov.scot/publications/interim-gypsy-traveller-site-design-guide/>

¹⁰ Scottish Government (2023), ‘National Planning Framework 4’, <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/pages/3/>

¹¹ Equality and Human Rights Commission (2016), ‘Assessing impact and the Public Sector Equality Duty: A guide for public authorities in Scotland’, <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/assessing-impact-public-sector-equality-duty-scotland.pdf>

2. Findings

In the project, ERCS's role was to identify the extent of environmental burdens experienced by site residents and to bring these to the attention of local authorities/housing associations as a breach of their duties. MECOPP's role was to support the residents to hold the local authority/housing association to account and deliver improvements in consultation with residents.

The project supported residents on five Gypsy/Traveller sites using a rights-based approach by applying the PANEL principles of participation, accountability, non-discrimination and equality, empowerment and legality.

The five sites and the bodies managing them were:

- ▶ Longman Park – Highland Council
- ▶ Larkhall – South Lanarkshire Council
- ▶ Kentallen Park – Highland Council
- ▶ Dunchologan and Bayview – Argyll Community Housing Association

Each of these Gypsy/Traveller sites faced a number of unique environmental issues and each site was non-compliant with either the Minimum Site Standards or, in the case of sites redeveloped under the Gypsy/Traveller accommodation fund, the Interim Site Standards. A summary of the issues from the five sites is listed below. The details of each site investigation are provided in Appendix 1.

2.1 Summary of environmental burdens

- ▶ Proximity to industrial sites and historical landfill containing hazardous waste, which posed a potential human health risk to site residents.
- ▶ A lack of appropriate greenspace and play areas at sites for residents and their children.
- ▶ On site flooding and overflowing storm drains during periods of heavy rain.
- ▶ Poor living conditions, such as poorly maintained amenity blocks with issues such as mould/damp.
- ▶ Poor local authority/housing association dialogue and accountability with the residents regarding site issues and developments on site.
- ▶ Poor engagement and communication with residents during the decanting process when sites were being redeveloped, leading to significant upheavals and risks to health and safety during works.
- ▶ **Consistent failures to meet the Scottish Government's Minimum Site Standards and, in the case of redeveloped sites, the Interim Site Standards. This relates both to the conditions of the sites, including where redevelopments had taken place, as well as to the engagement with communities which is also stipulated in the Standards.**

2.2 Summary of outcomes and learnings using the PANEL principles

The high level of engagement from residents throughout this project highlights the strong desire within the Community to share experiences and improve conditions on their sites. With the trusted support of MECOPP and ERCS, residents were keen to raise environmental and housing concerns.

Using the PANEL principles and a traffic light scorecard, this section evaluates both the progress made and the challenges that remain in ensuring residents' rights are upheld.

Green ■ = achieved.

Orange ■ = improving, but more to be done.

Red ■ = little to no improvement.

Participation – Improved ■. Residents are acutely aware of the environmental burdens they endure and want them addressed. Regular engagement and support are essential to ensure residents are equipped to stay involved in what can often be time-consuming and complicated processes.

Challenges:

- As a disadvantaged community, regular engagement and support are essential to help residents be involved in the management of their sites. To be able to support residents, trusted relationships need to be built, which takes time.
- There were several instances where residents feared 'asking for too much' or 'rocking the boat' when asking for repairs or improvements.
- Internal differences between residents on actions to take and internal tensions between residents sometimes delayed decisions.

Accountability – Improved ■. Residents are empowered to demand improvements following support from MECOPP and ERCS's interventions with managing local authorities and housing associations, detailing residents' grievances.

Challenges:

- Communication between ERCS, MECOPP, residents and local authority/housing association officers could quickly break down if not regularly maintained.

Non-discrimination and Equality – Little improvement ■. Residents report discriminatory practices and tokenistic gestures, which do not lead to improved conditions.

Challenges:

- Residents often experienced a lack of cultural awareness and racism from contractors and local authority/housing association officers.
- Residents did not always believe local authority and housing association officers were committed to meaningful engagement.

Empowerment – Improved ■. Through this collaboration, residents were empowered to hold local authorities and housing associations to account.

Challenges:

- While residents increased their confidence in understanding and exercising their rights, sustained support and stronger duty-bearer accountability are required to ensure their rights are upheld.
- Significant prolonged work is required to empower residents and the Gypsy/Traveller Community to uphold their rights beyond the case studies.

Legality – Improved ■. Policy frameworks were used to improve accountability, but this needs to be strengthened.

Challenges:

- Infringements of housing rights at Gypsy/Traveller sites require significant work to be escalated. For example, Making Rights Real worked over multiple years with Gypsy/Travellers on the Double Dykes site in Perth to highlight a number of key rights infringements and have reported cases to the Scottish Housing Regulator.^{12 13}

2.3 Learnings

- Across Scotland, only six Gypsy/Traveller sites have received funding for improvements. This includes two of the investigated sites. The other three sites investigated still require significant funding to meet the Minimum Site Standards.
- Currently, there are no external processes to monitor and evaluate compliance with the Minimum Site Standards and Interim Site Standards. This highlights a gap in ensuring compliance and without the work carried out in this project, the extent of non-compliances detailed in the case studies in Appendix 1 would not have been highlighted.
- Sites investigated had a number of environmental and housing issues, many of which were previously reported by residents. In the case of redeveloped sites, these were said to be addressed in the coming works, which for some residents took over 12 months. Residents were supported in addressing these issues, but prolonged support and training are required for residents understand their environmental rights and to self-advocate.
- Local authorities/housing authorities must fully understand the responsibilities they hold. A one-size-fits-all approach cannot be used. An understanding of the Gypsy/Traveller culture and residents' specific needs must be taken into account, as stated in policies like the Minimum Site Standards. They must also be mindful of the Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 when it comes to the Community, particularly when completing Equality Impact Assessments.

The following recommendations are made from the findings of this project.

¹² Making Rights Real, <https://makingrightsreal.org.uk/what-we-do/travellers-rights/>

¹³ Scottish Housing Regulator (2025), 'Regulator finds serious failings in Perth and Kinross Council Gypsy/Traveller sites', <https://www.housingregulator.gov.scot/about-us/news/regulator-finds-serious-failings-in-perth-kinross-council-gypsytraveller-sites/>

3. Recommendations

- ▶ **Increase investment for more and better accommodation for the Gypsy/Traveller Community.**
This includes further Scottish Government capital funding, as detailed in the commitment from 2026 to fund new projects in the Action Plan, as well as capital funding from local authorities.
- ▶ **Review existing public Gypsy/Traveller sites to ensure compliance with the Minimum Site Standards and Interim Minimum Site Standards in the case of redeveloped sites.** Mechanisms should be put in place to ensure standards are met. The Scottish Housing Regulator should also consider how it fulfils its role in safeguarding the interests of Gypsy/Traveller families who live on public Gypsy/Traveller sites.
- ▶ **Local authorities/housing authorities must complete remedial work on sites that are awaiting capital funding to tackle critical environmental and housing issues such as mould and damp.**
- ▶ **Provide training and support for all the Gypsy/Traveller Community to understand and exercise their environmental rights.** This should ensure that they have the ability to self-advocate where necessary and would support the action from the second Scottish Government/COSLA Joint Action Plan to empower communities to understand their human rights.
- ▶ **Provide training for all local authority/housing association officers on the Gypsy/Traveller culture, non-discriminatory practice and tackling inequalities.** Examples of relevant training include Cultural Competency Training, which MECOPP can provide.
- ▶ **Local Authorities/housing associations must ensure that Equality and Environmental Impact assessments are completed in a thorough and robust manner when building or updating sites.** This must consider both potential positive and negative impacts of any development on the Gypsy/Traveller community as an ethnicity under the category of race, as well as taking steps to ensure that environmental standards are maintained. The aim of this should be to mitigate against some of the issues that have been experienced by communities during site redevelopments in particular.

Appendix 1 – Findings from Project

The project investigated five Gypsy/Traveller sites to address environmental concerns using a rights-based approach with the PANEL principles of participation, accountability, non-discrimination and equality, empowerment and legality.

The following sites and the bodies managing them were:

- ▶ Longman Park, Highlound Council
- ▶ Larkhall, South Lanarkshire Council
- ▶ Kentallen Park, Highlands Council
- ▶ Dunchologan and Bayview, Argyll Community Housing Association

The following section details the investigation, problems identified, actions taken and outcomes of each site.

CASE STUDY 1

Longman Park, Highlands [March 2023 to December 2024]

Longman Park was identified as a site of interest after residents raised numerous environmental health concerns to MECOPP's community health worker on site. The site was under redevelopment as part of the Gypsy/Traveller accommodation fund.

The investigation

An Environmental Information Request¹⁴ was submitted by ERCS to the Highland Council and revealed the following:

- ▶ Longman Park was built on a historical landfill that was operational between 1919 and 1965.
- ▶ The Traveller site was formed in 1985 and underwent refurbishment in 1993.
- ▶ A 2009 Phase 1 Contamination Assessment (desktop assessment with a site walkover) and a 2010 Phase 2 Assessment (ground intrusive assessment with environmental sampling) highlighted several contaminants of concern in the landfill. The 2010 report stated that without adequate capping layers on the landfill, the human risk was considered inappropriate.
- ▶ A Phase 2 Ground Assessment and Remediation Strategy was published in 2023 ahead of redevelopment works. The remediation strategy aimed to block and create a barrier between the contaminants in the landfill waste and the residents.

Note: 13 years passed between the identification of the risk to human health due to the underlying landfill and remediation actions. Residents were not aware of the presence and extent of the contamination or the remediation works. They were later notified of both by the ERCS Rights Officer.

In February 2024, ERCS, MECOPP and an NHS public health official close to the residents met with them to hear their environmental health concerns. This was followed by a site walkover by ERCS.

¹⁴ The right to obtain environmental information under the Environment Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004. For more information, read [ERCS's Guide to accessing environmental information](#).

Problems identified

Several non-compliances with the interim site standards were identified.¹⁵ The investigation highlighted the following concerns:

- Risk to human health due to exposure to the landfill during redevelopment works – Residents were not aware of the risk and therefore did not have all the information when choosing to decant or remain at the site during works.
- Loss of greenspace during redevelopment works. At the residents' request, Highland Council provided a square patch area of grass of approximately 50m², adjacent to the works. Residents described it as 'miserable'.
- Poor dialogue from the Highland Council to the residents, which led to several inconveniences and risks to health and safety during works.

The actions

ERCS and MECOPP shared these concerns via a letter to the Highland Council in March 2024. This was followed by two meetings with the Highland Council to address the concerns.

The outcomes

In December 2024, residents reported that following the project work, communication from the Highland Council had improved. Residents reported that the environmental concerns they raised were addressed.

PANEL principles evaluation:

Participation – Improved ■. Residents readily shared a number of environmental concerns relating to the site. Residents reported that communication from the local authority improved.

Accountability – Improved ■. Residents had their concerns addressed by the Highland Council following ERCS and MECOPP's work and residents reported it was easier to raise concerns with the Highland Council due to improved relations.

Non-discrimination and Equality – Improved ■. Residents had their health concerns represented by an NHS public health official who highlighted determinants impacting residents' health. Architects took into account residents' cultural needs during redevelopment works. The local authority requires further training to recognise and tackle non-discriminatory practice inequalities.

Empowerment – Improved ■. In this instance, residents better understood their rights and felt they were supported in advocating for them.

Legality – Improved ■. Interim minimum site standards were largely adhered to in the redevelopment of the site, but during works, site conditions (such as safety and access to a play park in the interim) and communication (such as for decant processes and day-to-day operations) require further improvement.

¹⁵ Scottish Government (2021) 'Interim Gypsy/Traveller site design guide', <https://www.gov.scot/publications/interim-gypsy-traveller-site-design-guide/>

CASE STUDY 2

Larkhall, South Lanarkshire [February 2023 to October 2024]

The site was recently redeveloped as part of the Gypsy/Traveller accommodation fund. Residents raised health concerns to MECOPP and reported poor and inconsistent communication from South Lanarkshire Council during redevelopment works.

The investigation

In March 2023, ERCS and MECOPP met with residents on site to hear their environmental concerns. This was followed by a site walkover by ERCS.

Problems identified

The investigation highlighted the following concerns:

- ▶ Potential health risk from the adjacent landfill and associated vented gases. When the project team met with the Council on-site to investigate the potential environmental harms, they were unaware of the landfill and gas vents.
- ▶ The play area was fenced off due to disrepair and safety issues and had not been used for multiple years. South Lanarkshire Council argued the state of the park was due to residents, which they replied was untrue and offensive. The Council consulted with the residents for a new play park as part of the redevelopment. This new park was undergoing construction by July 2024, but the residents have said they have been without a playpark for more than 3 years.
- ▶ Concerns were raised about the quality of dialogue from the local authority towards the residents. While there were initial consultations on the development, updates were intermittent and rare. There were also concerns about the slow or inadequate response to issues being raised.

The actions

The issues were shared via a letter to South Lanarkshire Council in October 2023 following delays from the Council and residents. A meeting between the Council, ERCS and MECOPP was held in February 2024.

Following the meeting, ERCS submitted an Environmental Information Request regarding the historical landfill and associated gas vents. No response was received within the required 20 working days. Following an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner, the requested information was received.

ERCS identified several hazardous chemicals within the landfill and the presence of carbon dioxide and methane in the gas vents. A 2002 report stated that there are 'no unacceptable risks for residents and trespassers to the contaminants present'. No updated assessments have been carried out since.

ERCS and MECOPP shared the findings with residents and provided options for further action. During the timeline of these works, many of the residents initially engaged had moved off the site due to unrelated reasons. The tenant housing association disbanded during this time. MECOPP were unable to determine a desired action from the remaining residents and no further work was carried out.

The outcomes

South Lanarkshire Council were receptive to the concerns highlighted in their meeting with ERCS and MECOPP. Concerns regarding coal dust were noted by the local authority, who stated measures would be implemented to reduce health risks during any future works. A replacement play park began construction in July 2024.

There was no reported improvement in communication between the residents and South Lanarkshire Council. ERCS found the local authority consistently difficult to maintain a dialogue with. ERCS also found that the local authority failed to provide the requested information and updates.

The dialogue between MECOPP and residents stopped due to changes in residents on site, unforeseen incidents and a lack of continuous communication. Therefore, no further work was carried out.

PANEL principles evaluation:

Participation – Improved . Residents readily shared a number of environmental concerns relating to the site. Residents reported short-term improvement during initial engagement only.

Accountability – Little improvement . Residents' concerns surrounding issues of coal dust and the play park were addressed but their concerns surrounding the adjacent historical landfill, gas vents and poor communication were not addressed.

Non-discrimination and Equality – No improvement .

Empowerment – No improvement .

Legality – Improved . Following redevelopment works, the site conditions were largely improved in line with the interim site standards, but infringements remained.

Communication breakdown with residents and the local authority resulted in ERCS and MECOPP being unable to fully address their concerns and uphold their rights in the circumstances.

CASE STUDY 3

Dunchologan and Bayview, Argyll and Bute [July 2025 to December 2025]

The Dunchologan and Bayview Traveller sites are two sites managed by the Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA). An on site MECOPP community health worker highlighted the poor condition of the two sites to ERCS. The two sites are included in the same case study as they were investigated together.

The investigation

In July 2025, ERCS and the on site MECOPP community health worker (who is a resident of the Dunchologan site) met with residents at the respective sites to hear their environmental concerns and conduct site walkovers.

Problems identified

Residents noted their concerns about the lack of repairs when requested and poor communication with ACHA.

Both Argyll and Bute sites had the following common issues:

- ▮ Storm water sewage drains regularly flooding
- ▮ Exposing residents to sewage water
- ▮ Poor quality fire hoses that often froze and burst that were insufficient for fire emergencies
- ▮ Utility blocks with inoperable outdoor power leading to residents powering caravans from an indoor power point, creating a fire risk
- ▮ Units that were extremely cold in winter that were facing damp, mould and levels of disrepair.

Issues unique to the Dunchologan site in Argyll and Bute were:

- ▮ Overhanging trees over pitches presenting a hazard to residents
- ▮ Stagnant water surrounding the site during heavy rain events which was providing a breeding ground for insects
- ▮ A septic tank with damaged infrastructure, which spilt when emptied.

The actions

The residents' concerns from both sites were shared via a letter to ACHA and a meeting with ACHA took place in November 2025.

The outcomes

Following a meeting between ACHA, MECOPP and ERCS, ACHA noted that sites were no longer fit for purpose and were seeking funds to implement much needed improvement works at both sites. ACHA was receptive to the concerns raised and has planned interim works to improve conditions. ACHA stated a commitment to improving the sites and engaging residents in a manner suitable to them.

PANEL principles evaluation: Note – Residents' feedback was not evaluated by the time of reporting. Therefore, the evaluation is reported from ERCS and MECOPP's observations.

Participation – Improved ■. Residents readily shared a number of environmental concerns relating to the site. ACHA committed to culturally appropriate engagement for residents. This included consultations for improvement works and repairs.

Accountability – Improved ■. ACHA acknowledged issues on site and are seeking funds for improvement works. ACHA acknowledged instances where residents felt communication was poor and highlighted steps to improve.

Non-discrimination and Equality – Improved ■. ACHA are implementing cultural training for staff to ensure delivery of services is appropriate and fair.

Empowerment – Improved ■. Residents had their concerns heard and addressed with support from the leadership of the MECOPP community health worker. However, more prolonged support to residents is required to address future concerns.

Legality – Improved ■. Measures are being taken to meet minimum site standards.

CASE STUDY 4

Kentallen Park [July 2025 to ongoing]

At the Kentallen Park site, a number of non-compliances with the Scottish Government's 2015 minimum site standards were observed by MECOPP staff. These included environmental issues, housing issues and incidents of racism.

The investigation

In July 2025, ERCS and the on site MECOPP community health worker met with residents at Kentallen Park. This was followed by a site walkover.

Problems identified

Several non-compliances with the Scottish Government's 2015 Minimum Site Standards were observed at this site. These include:

- on-site flooding from a nearby burn
- danger of rockfalls due to the location in a quarry
- utility blocks with inoperable outdoor power leading to fire risk from residents powering caravans from an indoor power point
- hot water and in disrepair and cold and damp units with mould
- multiple instances of racism from the previous site warden

The actions

The residents concerned were shared via a letter to Highland Council, who have responded to state they are working on these issues. Work is ongoing between MECOPP, ERCS and the Highland Council to address concerns raised by residents.



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