

Gypsies & Travellers

PUT YOUR CASE

If you are a Council tenant in a house or a flat and the Council takes possession action against you, you are entitled to put your case in Court. However, if you are a Gypsy or a Traveller on a Council caravan site you have no such right. Both the European Court of Human Rights (in 2004) and the House of Lords (in 2008) have said that this situation amounted to a breach of Human Rights. The Government said they would amend the law by including Council sites within the provisions of the Mobile Homes Act 1983.

After an extensive and drawn out consultation process, the Government released an e-mail to certain organisations on 10th February 2010 (no public announcement having been made) saying that they no longer had time to introduce the necessary amending powers.

This is despite the fact that security of tenure could be introduced with a few simple sentences. Additionally Councils could introduce security of tenure on their sites by the addition of a simple clause in their licence agreements (as has already been done by Oxfordshire County Council). **If you are a Gypsy or Traveller resident on a local authority site and want to put your case about this shameful situation to the Government and to your Council, then please telephone The Community Law Partnership on 0121 685 8595 and ask to speak to a member of the Travellers Advice Team.**

**Don't let this moment
pass phone us now
0121 685 8595**