

<p>Title: Bylaw leads to drop in freedom camping complaints</p> <p>Author: Christchurch city council</p> <p>When accessed: 16th March, 2018</p> <p>https://www.ccc.govt.nz/news-and-events/newsline/show/1470</p>	<p>Which research question is the information gathered relevant to?</p> <p>Question 2: What are peoples points of view about freedom camping?</p> <p>Question 3: What social actions have people taken on the issue of freedom camping?</p>
<p>Primary or Secondary source of information</p> <p>Under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 Act, freedom camping is considered to be a permitted activity everywhere in a local authority (or Department of Conservation Area (DOC)) area, except at those sites where it is specifically prohibited or restricted. The Act allows Council to adopt a bylaw to restrict or prohibit camping. Many local authorities have introduced bylaws in response to complaints made from the public about some of the sites being left in a mess, damaged, vandalised or over utilised.</p> <p>The Christchurch City Council is pleased with the introduction of the bylaws within its city. The bylaw banned all non-self contained freedom camping throughout the district, including Banks Peninsula, but allowed certified self-contained freedom camping without a time restriction in rural zones. Christchurch City Council Chief Executive Karleen Edwards said the Council’s compliance and investigation team had been conducting daily freedom camping monitoring inspections since the bylaw came into effect and have issued a total of 66 infringement notices. “There has been a noticeable reduction in the number of complaints received in relation to freedom camping. The number of non-compliant campers to date is approximately half compared with the same period last year,” Dr Edwards said.</p>	
<p>Summary of information:</p> <p>This information is about what councils have done to combat the freedom camping issue. Councils have put in place by-laws to restrict freedom campers in certain areas in their cities.</p>	
<p>Points of view obtained from the source</p> <p>The Christchurch City Council believes that there has been a reduction in the complaints in relation to freedom camping because of the bylaws being put in place.</p>	<p>Information about actions taken by the groups/individuals</p> <p>The Christchurch City Council introduced a bylaw throughout the Christchurch are including banks peninsula which banned non-self contained vehicles from camping in freedom camping spots. This was designed to help prevent mess and over utilisation of the spots from freedom campers.</p>
<p>Ethical procedures followed</p> <p>Information was from the council site itself so it is likely to be reputable. I checked it against a NZ Herald article which essentially gave the same information</p>	

Nelson man wants crack down on dirty freedom camping site

A Nelson resident is demanding the council cracks down on illegal campers defecating at a camping spot near Nelson. Appalled by a prevalence of human excrement and homelessness at the Queen Elizabeth II Dr freedom camping site, [redacted] said "more active management" was needed from Nelson City Council in dealing with illegal camping behaviour.

[redacted] said since late last year, he had seen several incidences of human faeces and discarded toilet paper around the bushes beside the site. "I came down here and there was fresh crap in the bushes, and by the looks of things someone had then stood in it and smeared it - the great big brown stain is still there and there's toilet paper everywhere." The proximity of the nearest toilet was 300m away from the camping area and required campers to cross State Highway 6 to access amenities.

[redacted] said those in smaller self-contained vans or non-compliant vehicles would be unlikely to make the walk, especially in the middle of the night. "The whole notion of these tiny campervans having a toilet that they'd use while someone is sleeping right next to them ... can you imagine that happening, as opposed to saying 'I'll just jump out and go in the bushes?'" "[Council] either puts some toilets in here or they stop this."

While he accepted inroads had been made to contain the freedom camping influx in the last 12 months, the consequences of ignoring illegal camping behaviour had the potential to snowball. "Then we get the Lewis Stanton situation again, the same with Tasman District ignoring the situation in Takaka - the River People ... this is like the waterfront tribe."

The Nelson City Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2017, which came into force on December 1, banned freedom camping, restricting the use of city space to those in self-contained vehicles, and setting a limit on the number of vehicles able to use designated parking zones.

Since January, he had sent two letters to the council and made several phone calls to express his concerns. In a written response to Williamson, NCC group manager community services Chris Ward said the area was patrolled twice daily by its contractor Environmental Inspections Limited, with "virtually all" campers found to be genuinely meeting the self-containment certification.

Responding to questions from Nelson Mail, Ward said on the whole there had been fewer issues than the previous summer, however the council continued to receive complaints about non-complying campers. "Disappointingly, there are also areas where there is evidence campers are using the bushes to go to the toilet. Council Officers are keeping this under review, and will meet after the busy tourist season to discuss what can be done, if anything, to improve the situation for next summer."

Ward said the installation of additional toilets had been considered, however this would come at a cost to ratepayers. While the council did provide facilities over the 2016/17 season, general feedback received at that time suggested that ratepayers should not be subsidising them.

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Secondary:
From
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/travel/102366070>
Nelson-man-wants-crack-down-on-dirty-freedom-camping-site March 25th, 2017

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Will help me answer question 2: What are peoples points of view abut freedom camping? and question 3: What social actions have people taken on the issue of freedom camping?

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believes that freedom camping in Nelson is getting out of control. He thinks stricter measures need to be enforced in order to control campers not using the facilities provided or not being self contained.

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Nelson City Council's social action of putting in a bylaw banning freedom camping in some areas, and restricting other areas to self-contained vehicles.

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social actions of writing letters and phoning the council to express concern about freedom campers.

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In contrast to Jim, Chris Ward the NCC group manager of community services feels that the recently introduced by-laws had made a big difference to the freedom camping issue. He said that officers enforced the rules twice a day in peak times and most were compliant. He disagreed with Jim in building more facilities as he felt this would be too much of a cost to ratepayers.

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