

To enquiries.luton.countycourt@justice.gov.uk × DisputeResolutionLaw@hertfordshire.gov.uk × csc@stevenage.gov.uk × pat.peake@herts.pnn.police.uk ×
simon.tabert@herts.pnn.police.uk × stephen@stephenmcpartland.co.uk × philip.bibby@stevenage.gov.uk × jim.brown@stevenage.gov.uk ×
sharon.taylor@stevenage.gov.uk × madeline.heredia@stevenage.gov.uk × sarah.pateman@stevenage.gov.uk × ben.amondsen@herts.pnn.police.uk ×

www.stevenage.gov.uk/news-and-events/news/232891/

We, the Stevenage and District Motorcycle Club, have recently become aware of the proposal to ban riding in convoy in Stevenage.

We are a responsible group of motorcyclists who, as a Club have been meeting almost weekly in Stevenage and the surrounding area for almost sixty years. To our knowledge, there has never been as much as a request from a member of the community for us to be quiet, let alone any formal complaints.

That said, we are very aware of the appalling behaviour of both car drivers and motorcyclists (not associated with our Club) in Stevenage and we are familiar with the terrible consequences of the car cruise on Monkswood Way last year.

The behaviour of irresponsible drivers and motorcyclists must be dealt with but the proposal to ban any convoy is, in our view, a draconian abuse of legal powers and an infringement on decent people's human rights to go about their business in a way that does not affect others.

In summarising the injunction, the Stevenage Borough Council website lists numerous activities that are already illegal. In fact, the only items on the list that are not already against the law are driving or riding in convoy, playing a radio and being a spectator.

It is clearly obvious the Police in Stevenage have failed to enforce laws that are already in place when dealing with antisocial vehicle behaviour.

The solution to the car cruise (and general antisocial driving and riding) issue is clearly enforcement of laws that already exist and not the implementation of an injunction that reinforces those laws. By implementing this injunction, you are not only stopping responsible people going about their business but are inadvertently banning work vehicles travelling together and events such as funeral processions.

Furthermore, the type of people who ignore the laws relating to the activities you list (driving or riding at excess speed, dangerously, racing or performing stunts, dropping litter, illegal drugs, urinating in public, being abusing or threatening, and obstructing the road) are the type of people that will ignore an injunction.

We request that you do not proceed with this injunction but simply use Council and Police resources to enforce laws already in existence, thus allowing law abiding motor vehicle users to go about their lawful business.

We are a local, non profit Club of about one hundred members who cannot afford to become involved in any legal action fighting this proposal. But we hope you agree that the issue is the illegal use of motor vehicles, not the currently legal use. For us as a Club, this injunction will potentially end almost sixty years of history.

Yours faithfully,

Stevenage & District Motorcycle Club
www.stevenageanddmcc.co.uk/the-club-today