HORSES, NO PROBLEM

Eastfield Park was "the best it has been for years" Croydon City Council's parks and garden's supervisor believes despite a visit from the mountain cattlemen and their horses.

However, Cr Stewart Somers was not so convinced and told the last Croydon Council meeting that after the mountain cattlemen had left there was "some evidence of horses and trucks" and that a "large area" of the car park had been "chopped up".

110

Cr Somers said he carried out his own inspection of Eastfield Park after the cattlemen left and admitted they had left it clean with "no papers and rubbish lying about".

He asked what the cost of "reinstating" the "chopped up" area would be or if it was expected to regrow naturally?

City engineer, Bob Craigie said there was "no more damage than what there would be after a gymkhana."

"The Superintendant of parks and gardens has.carried out an inspection, he is not worried about the state of Eastfield Park and there is no evidence of who did it," Mr Craigie said.

"The superintendant believes the condition is the best it has been for years."

Town clerk, Ron Burton, said he spoke to a member of the park's management committee who had not complained about damage to the park.

Mr Burton said he was told about 100 mountain cattlemen camped overnight in the park but had been "no problem at all."

Mayor, Cr Anne Patch said she was "under the impression" that camping on council reserves was prohibited.

Mr Bruton told her it was a matter for the Eastfield Park committee of management.

The mountain cattlemen and about 100 horses gathered at Eastfield Park this month for a protest rally into Ringwood.