

Urgent Questions

14/07/2026

**Full Council
14 July 2026**

Urgent Question

Question from Cllr Vicky Edwards to the Leader of the Council Cllr Giles-Medhurst

On Friday 10 July 2026 councillors were notified via the weekly register of planning applications that an application had been validated for change of use of land for use as a residential caravan site comprising 2no. Gypsy/Traveller pitches on land South of Harthall Lane, Kings Langley.

The neighbour consultation expiry date for making representations in respect of this application is 27 July 2026. However, residents are often very nervous to submit representations in response to applications relating to provision of gypsy/traveller accommodation due to their fears of being identified as someone opposing the application.

This nervousness is demonstrated by the planning application to be considered by the planning committee this Thursday, to allow two static caravans per pitch on five of the pitches at the nearby Little Lily gypsy/traveller site. Only one objection has been submitted in respect of the proposal, but I was subsequently told by multiple residents that they wanted to submit objection representations but did not due to fears that their address would be disclosed alongside the comment.

Many other councils do not publish the addresses of individual members of the public who make representations on the publicly accessible planning portals. For example, this has been the policy of Dacorum Borough Council for many years, in particular to ensure compliance with data protection legislation. Councils are legally required to collect one's name and address when making a comment, so they know the comment comes from a real, identifiable person; however, these details can be redacted from public viewing.

Accordingly, to alleviate such concerns in respect of the application for a new gypsy site off Harthall Lane, can Three Rivers please urgently re-consider its policy of publishing addresses on the planning portal?

