

Public Questions

(a) Gypsy & Traveller Development Plan Document – Public Consultation

(i) Question from Sue De Luca, Clerk to the North Weald Bassett Parish Council

“The report to Cabinet dated 6 October and the draft consultation clearly states that the District Council will "consult widely with residents and that they anticipate a great deal of public interest also that they want to make sure that everyone can have their say through a properly structured debate". It also states that Town and Parish Councils will be encouraged to help provide feedback.

This can only be fulfilled if all residents are provided with copies of the consultation document and questionnaire. Obviously Parish & Town Councils have not precepted for the funds to provide these documents .

Therefore, I on behalf of the Members of North Weald Bassett Parish Council am asking that the District Council provide all those Parish & Town Councils (if they so request) who have potential sites for Gypsies and Travellers identified as being within their parish, with sufficient numbers of copies of the consultation document and questionnaire enabling them to be delivered to all homes in their parishes”.

(ii) Question from Mr David Jenkins

"Is it not premature, and will it not cause unnecessary concern and stress to the public , and waste public money, to go to the public with a consultation document that is premature, in that many of the 'potential' sites will be excluded by the Council once it has the results of its proposed site and environmental assessments?"

(iii) Question from Mr Paul Norris

“Will the Council please make available the audit trail leading to identification of the sites contained within this document as ‘potential’ sites, the removal of some sites considered to be unsuitable, and a list of those sites?”

(iv) Question from Parish Councillor Elaine Godwin-Brown, North Weald Bassett Parish Council

"Appendix 1 page 10 (of the Report to the Cabinet meeting on 6 October 2008) states that there has not been a single published research on whether house prices would go down or whether incidents of crime would go up.

How can the settled community be expected to give their views when there is no previous published research for them to refer to?"

(v) Question from Toby Godwin-Brown (Mr Godwin-Brown is unable to be present and has asked the Chairman of the Council to ask the question on his behalf in accordance with paragraph 9.7 of the Council Procedure Rules)

"Why is there no buffer zone around the sssi - specific site of scientific importance - (Woodside and Forest), when Government guidelines states that there should be?"