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Standing up for Hertfordshire's countryside

Femi Nwanze Development Management East Hertfordshire District Council Wallfields Pegs Lane Hertford SG13 8EQ

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

19th January 2022 (by email)

Dear Ms Nwanze,

Application no. 3/21/2668/FUL Ash View Stables, Pegs Lane, Widford Retention of 1 additional static caravan and two additional parking spaces with associated infrastructure on an existing Gypsy site

I write with regard to the above application for what is effectively a retrospective application for an existing development and additional provision of accommodation for a registered Gypsy family. I note that the applicant's agent has emphasised the responsibility of the Council to provide for such developments and that there is a shortage of such provision in East Herts and the County as a whole.

CPRE Hertfordshire's concerns lie in the impact of such development on the countryside and rural life, particularly with regard to the designation of the area as Rural Area Beyond the Green Belt in the adopted East Herts District Plan. This designation seeks to limit development to reduce its impact and maintain the quality and characteristics of the countryside.

We, like other consultees, are concerned that there is the possibility of a gradual increase in the amount of accommodation in this area which would affect the openness of the countryside and the amenity it affords to residents and visitors. If the Council is minded to grant permission for this proposal, we would urge it to consider imposing conditions to limit the possibility of any future development beyond that permitted.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Berry Planning Manager

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