

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 28/08/2025 5:53 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Land South Of White Post Lane White Post Lane Cobham Gravesend Kent DA13 9AX
Proposal:	Change of use of the land for the stationing of 8 mobile homes for gypsy and traveller use, erection of associated day rooms, soft landscaping and laying of hardstanding (part retrospective).
Case Officer:	Mr Ethan Bonthron

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] The Beeches Sole Street Cobham

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	I object to the application on the grounds that it is unacceptable development of the Green Belt. Up until very recently these grounds have been accepted by the Council and the Planning Inspectorate as valid and previous applications and appeals in relation to the site and related neighbouring sites refused. An Enforcement Notice in relation to this and an adjoining site was upheld by the Planning Inspectorate recently and remains in force. The planning permission granted on a neighbouring site to which the applicants refer was recently granted only because of the concession that grey belt rules apply (thus allowing other considerations to be taken into account). Gravesham Borough Council has not done a strategic assessment of the Green Belt (with the purpose of identifying Grey Belt land) as required by the National Planning Policy Framework 2024. This process would be subject to public consultation allowing input from local residents and others with an interest. This present application is the third application since the introduction of the grey belt rules in which an application for planning permission for a gypsy and traveller site has included the assertion that the land is grey belt. Thus the designation of grey belt land in the Borough is being decided ad hoc on a case by case basis. Unlike applications for housing and other bricks and mortar developments, decisions on gypsy and traveller sites are having to be made in the time span of weeks. This is a particular burden on rural areas and is not only both unsatisfactory and undemocratic but also results in approval being granted to the least appropriate of sites. The Council should not designate this or any further Green Belt land in the Borough as Grey Belt until a proper assessment has taken place and in a time frame which enables local residents to make properly researched and professionally informed representations. This present application is distinguishable, in fact, from the approved application on the neighbouring site, most notably in its size, its proximity to the road and the personal situation of the applicants.
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White Post Lane is a narrow lane with few passing places. As the previous history of the site proves, it is unsuitable for the size of caravans which arrive on the site and the heavy vehicles which often attend the site. These cause ongoing damage to the trees on either side of the Lane and frequently make it difficult for other road users to pass. On occasions they block the road for long periods of time. There are many elderly residents in Sole Street and the question of emergency vehicles being unable to obtain access through the quickest route is a concern.

Kind regards