

A J Brown DipTP MRTPI MIMgt
District Planning Officer

my reference DP/sw/C/66/94 and C/13/94

ask for Mr D Phillips

date 18th December 1997



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your reference

Councillor The Lord Newton
Chairman SPED Members Panel
Laughton Park Farm
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East Sussex BN8 6BU

Dear Councillor The Lord Newton

Re: **Special Panel : Mrs A Harris**

Further to the interview with officers on 17th December 1997, I am writing as requested by the Panel to enclose a copy of the letter dated 27th April 1995 sent by Mr J Griffin and referred to at page 39 of the transcript of Mrs Harris. (letter ref No.91).

As is apparent from its content, this letter was written by the officer in response to a telephone call received from a Mr Sturm purporting to be acting on Mrs Harris' behalf and who was a close friend/neighbour of Mrs Harris at that time. It was Mr Sturm who advised officers the caravan would be removed within 28 days.

Quite contrary to Mrs Harris' assertion to the Panel, the letter sent by Mr Griffin does not suggest at all that the Enforcement Notice has a 28 day period for compliance. Nor does the letter threaten "that we would be forcibly thrown out and dragged away within 28 days". What it actually says is that the Council would appreciate being informed when the caravan has been removed and receipt of Mrs Harris' confirmation that she would arrange for Mr Sturm to remove the caravan as this would avoid unnecessary costs to the Council in appointing contractors to carry out this work.

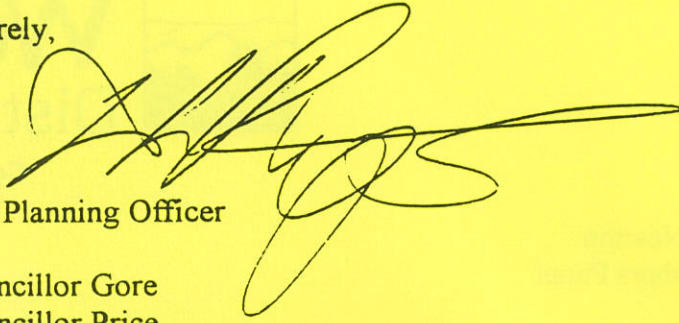
Mrs Harris' interpretation of the letter of 27th April, is described in her transcript to the Panel, is in my opinion grossly misleading. Having had the opportunity to look again at the Department files it does not appear that any reply was ever received from Mrs Harris to the two specific points raised in the letter of 27th April namely:-

- i). to inform the Council when the caravan was removed; and
- ii) confirmation that Mr Sturm would act for her in removing it.



I hope this reply satisfactorily addresses the Panel's question of officers in relation to Mr Griffin's letter.

Yours sincerely,



For District Planning Officer

c.c Councillor Gore
Councillor Price

