

Estate Agent Boards –have your say.

Your views please on whether we need further controls

Estate agents' 'for sale or to let' boards on posts fixed to gate posts or railings are an all too common sight on our streets. Even in small numbers they can detract from views of the sea or of Regency houses with their curved fronts, railings, and balconies.

They also make a big impact in streets where there are a lot of flats because of the large number of boards involved. Some people don't mind them, and view them as a commercial necessity. Others feel they are no longer necessary or are visually intrusive - and should be removed or improved upon.

The council's environment committee believes our conservation areas would look better if there were additional planning restrictions over estate agents boards - particularly in the higher density central residential areas.

But the local association of estate agents asks its members to restrict boards to just one per property.

In the city's finest historic streets and squares – such as Brunswick Square and Lewes Crescent - there is already a ban on the fixing of 'for sale' flag boards to boundary walls or area railings.

The council, residents and estate agents all agree that this ban has improved the appearance of these streets.

The council is now looking to extend the controls to other residential areas of architectural or historic interest. But we would like to hear your views before finalising any proposals.

Please write to: Roger Dowty, Design and Conservation Manager, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, Hove BN3 3BQ. Or email conservation@brighton-hove.gov.uk.

Or you can simply tick one of the boxes in the panel below and return it to Roger Dowty at Hove Town Hall.

The council needs your responses by the end of February.

If you agree with any of the following statements, simply tick the appropriate box.

1. The local estate agents association has a voluntary code that allows just one board per property. This works fine and should remain.
2. Boards should be banned in all conservation areas.
3. Tighter controls are needed in particular streets or neighbourhoods. (please name them)

.....
.....

