

Councillor Ian Davey

King's House,
Grand Avenue
Hove
BN32LS

Councillor Anne Meadows
Chair of Adult Social Care & Housing
Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Via the Courier

Date: 21 December 2009
Our Ref: IAD/EB
Your Ref:

Dear Anne

I have been requested by a St Peters & North Laine resident and by The Brighton & Hove Leaseholders Association to ask the scrutiny committee if they will look into the possible use of Lease Mediation by Brighton & Hove City Council to resolve disputes with their leaseholders.

Lease mediation is an independent service that offers a less adversarial and mutually less expensive alternative to the usual dispute processes employed by the council. It provides an opportunity to arrive at a mutually agreeable resolution without the need to resort to the courts.

The value of this service has been recognised by Parliament who I have been informed recommend it as a way forward.

Following a protracted dispute Lease Mediation was used for the first time in the summer of 2009.

The Leaseholders Association, the resident involved and myself as ward councillor would like the council to consider adopting the use of this service as a default and politely request that the scrutiny committee ask for a report into its use so far and consider including a more in depth look into the leaseholders dispute process on their work programme.

I look forward to hearing the view of the committee.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Ian Davey
Green Group Deputy Convenor
Green Spokesperson on Transport

c.c. **Giles Rossington, Scrutiny Officer**
Ms. X

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Green Member for St Peter's & North Laine Ward