

Geoff Raw - Chief Executive
Brighton & Hove City Council
King's House

6 June 2016

Dear Geoff,

RE: ESTATE AGENTS' BOARDS REGULATION 7 AREA EXTENSION

I write with respect to the popular and successful introduction in 2010 of a ban on estate agents' boards in certain areas in the city that was introduced by the Council by means of a Regulation 7 Direction. The issue was highlighted by a member of the public, Caroline Lynch, at a meeting of the Economic Development & Culture Committee last year.

Ms Lynch specifically requested an extension of the ban to those Article 4 wards that are not currently covered and referred to the 2009 Student Housing Strategy which recommended this action. Although Ms Lynch's request was turned down, she was told that those carrying out a review of the Student Housing Strategy would be in touch with Ms Lynch with a view to making progress by alternative means. In the first instance, I would like an update on this specific point.

On the matter more generally, I would certainly like to see an extension of the area that is covered by the ban as do many residents and, indeed, the Brighton & Hove Estate Agents Association. As the Secretary of State noted when the Council initially applied for the ban, it should apply just to the streets which have been most affected by sub-division of properties and which are of greatest uniformity of townscape.

There are many streets around the Regulation 7 area, such as St Aubyns or Livingstone Road, which do satisfy the Secretary of State's criteria, that were left off for what appears to be administrative simplicity (they fell just outside, respectively, the Cliftonville and Hove Station Conservation Areas which are covered). These roads, and many others nearby, are permanently blighted by boards and would, therefore, be ideal candidates for inclusion.

I respectfully request that a review is carried out so that other roads which satisfy the criteria can be added to the area in question without further delay.

With best wishes



Cllr Robert Nemeth

