

DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of depositions from members of the public. Each deposition may be heard for a maximum of five minutes.

Depositions received:

(i) Deputation: Article 4 Direction for East Brighton Area

To express the deep concerns of East Brighton Area residents regarding the alarmingly rapid appearance of student HMOs in our traditional, cohesive family neighbourhoods.

To ask our councillors to take into consideration our extreme vulnerability given that the five Wards on our boundary have already been granted Article 4 Directions, making it inevitable that HMO landlords would seize the opportunity to move into our unregulated area. Landlords are also attracted by not only being able to rent to university students but by the Royal Sussex and teaching hospitals being on our doorstep.

With no planning permission required, landlords are taking full advantage of Permitted Development Rights to convert even small two-bedroomed terraced houses (some over a century old with all that entails in lack of soundproofing and suitability) into anything up to 5 and 6 bedroom HMOs.

With the problems we've encountered arising from some of the student HMOs that have already appeared, and having become aware of the negative impact the creeping intensification of student HMOs has had on other areas of our city, we are dismayed at the prospect of losing our own family neighbourhoods only for them to be added to the profitable, often extensive portfolios of HMO landlords.

Given the rate at which our family homes are being lost, we would ask that our councillors offer us the protection we urgently so need by recommending that East Brighton Ward be granted an Article 4 Direction.

Signed by:

Chris Curry Cliff (Lead Spokesperson)

Paul Grove

Michaela Webb

Louise Byrne

Alex Mancey-Barratt

Antony Baker

Andy Richardson

Annalisa Camden

Steve Chapell

Brian Oliver
Paul Skelly