

Mr Geoff Raw,
Chief Executive
Brighton and Hove City Council

24th April 2018

Dear Geoff,

Article 4 Direction for East Brighton Area.

We are submitting this letter under Council Procedure Rule 2.3 to be included on the agenda for the Tourism, Development and Culture Committee meeting on 21st June 2018.

We are writing to urge the committee to agree that the East Brighton Ward is evaluated for coverage by an Article 4 Direction in order to better manage the spread of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in the area and that work is undertaken to facilitate a request to the Secretary of State.

Local residents are becoming increasingly alarmed at the number of new HMOs being created with often small, terraced homes being converted with no planning consent needed and landlords taking full advantage of Permitted Development Rights to extend them.

At a recent public meeting organised by residents, concerns were expressed that the area is becoming unbalanced with family homes going to HMO landlords and rental profits placed before cohesive communities. Residents have seen the incremental intensification of HMOs in other areas of the city, including multiple changes of use from small to large HMOs and the effect this has had on immediate neighbours and the wider community.

In view of the fact that for the foreseeable future, private sector housing will continue to play a major part in meeting the housing needs of the city, we would request that the council urgently considers the pro-active expansion of Article 4 Direction alongside its other policies that seek to enhance the management and regulation of the sector.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Warren Morgan
Cllr Nancy Platts
Cllr Gill Mitchell

