

## Appendix 2: Letter of objection to the Frederick Place taxi rank from the North Laine Community Association.

Dear Ian Davey

I write to you on behalf of the North Laine Traders Association (NLTA), of which I am Chair. As you know we represent over one hundred individual businesses in a vibrant and essential part of the Brighton community. Our members have discussed and debated the new proposals for the Station Gateway Project ([http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/transport/station-gateway/Station\\_gateway\\_-\\_design\\_proposal.pdf](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/downloads/bhcc/transport/station-gateway/Station_gateway_-_design_proposal.pdf)) for some considerable time.

Earlier this week we raised the subject of the Project at our committee meeting and our conclusions were summarised as follows:-

- 1) Although the NLTA support the Council vision in making the Station a welcoming gateway to the City this should not be the detriment of the North Laine business area and the local community.
- 2) To our knowledge at present no business in the North Laine has supported the proposals whereas many have strongly opposed, especially in the area immediately south-east of the Station.
- 3) We note your undertaking to consult with the local community:

*‘We're also talking to residents and businesses about [changes to the current one way system in North Laine \[PDF 111kb\]](#) to accommodate the taxi rank proposals and reduce current amounts of through traffic.’*

We await the outcome of these consultations, bearing in mind your (Green Party) published policies for ‘greater public participation at all levels’, ‘bringing communities together rather than dividing them’ and support your party commitment that ‘people must be able to play an active part and hold their elected representatives to account’

- 4) The NLTA cannot see any benefit in these proposals (moving the taxi-rank into Frederick Place and changing the road pattern) for our area and business community, only a prolonged period of disruption.
- 5) We are disappointed that the NLTA's wish for better access from the Station via Trafalgar Street is not taken into account as part of the planning application. This would have been a real benefit to Station users and the North Laine business community, but words such as ‘are considering’ and ‘We hope’, on the above referenced proposal means that this is highly unlikely to proceed.

- 6) Wider transport restrictions at the Station which the Bus Company wants have not been ruled totally out.

In Summary improvements to the 'Station Experience' enabled by moving the taxi's and rank

should not be at the expense of the North Laine Area, both for local communities and businesses.

As our Ward Councillor, you know this is a very important part of Brighton & Hove and the area needs to be carefully looked after and nurtured.

The current proposals need re-visiting before you would gain our support.

Regards  
David Sewell

[www.northlaine.co.uk](http://www.northlaine.co.uk)  
Chair of the N.L.T.A.