

I am writing regarding a very important issue Leicester City Council has raised regarding To Let boards in Leicester.

The council are planning to apply for a blanket ban on To Let boards in selected areas across Leicester, namely Clarendon Park, Knighton Fields, South Fields and the West End.

Details can be found on the council website at <http://consultations.leicester.gov.uk/city-development-and-neighbourhoods/to-let-boards-consultation> or by calling the COUNCIL ON 0116 4543012.

To Let boards are a vital means of advertising your property's availability. A huge number of enquiries come from potential tenants spotting boards in their preferred areas and calling the agent. Banning their use will slow down the renting of your property thus leading to longer void periods. In short this council policy WILL COST YOU MONEY.

The council are running a consultation on this policy which closes on 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2015. This consultation has not been adequately advertised, therefore many landlords and agents are not aware of the danger to their business.

Legislation is already available under the Town & Country Planning Regulations 2007. Instead of enforcing this to punish offending agents, the council are proposing an outright ban on all boards. Such a blanket ban will have a serious effect on your income for the faults of a few non-compliant agents.

Our concern is that if this scheme is implemented then it could also roll out to other area, even if you don't own properties within these areas, it's important you are aware.

It is imperative that your voice is heard to avoid the council introducing this policy through the back door. I would STRONGLY ADVISE you to contact the council immediately to object to the implementation of this policy. You can register your objections to the proposal by e-mailing Alan Beckett at [planning@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:planning@leicester.gov.uk) Alternatively, you can copy and paste the message below and email it to the council using the same email address.

FAO Alan Beckett

I am strongly against Leicester City Council's proposal to apply for to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for a Regulation 7 direction to ban To Let boards in the proposed areas of Leicester.

I believe that this proposal is unfair. A blanket ban punishes landlords and agents for the faults of a few non-compliant agents.

The proposal will have a serious detrimental effect on the letting of my property and therefore the rental income I receive. This may lead to passing on this added cost onto the tenant in the form of increased rent.

I therefore oppose the proposal ban and would urge Leicester City Council to fine non-compliant agents as an alternative.

Yours sincerely