



**Customer and Workforce Services  
Directorate**

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Our reference C/EMK  
3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2012

Dear

**Petition – Request for the Clutter and Obstructions on the Highway to be Removed**

I refer to the above petition which you submitted to the Cabinet Member (City Services) meeting on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2011. Following the end of the call-in period, I write to confirm that at this meeting Councillor Harvard took account of the issues that you and the petition organiser raised regarding the request to remove the clutter and obstructions from the highway.

Councillor Harvard was informed about the concerns raised in other Forums regarding the obstruction of the footways by street clutter including the A-boards which could present an obstruction to pedestrians, especially those who had visual, physical or mental impairments.

Attention was drawn to the current programme of works in the City Centre which included a project to 'declutter' streets by removing unnecessary signs, posts, rails and bollards. Currently the City Council did not have a formally adopted policy regarding A-boards although the Highway Inspectors asked businesses to remove or re-position A-boards causing an obstruction to the footway.

Councillor Harvard was informed that some Highway Authorities had chosen to permit or licence A-boards with clear directions regarding their placement on the footway. In light of comments received, the Council had commenced a review and was looking to develop a policy to either prohibit the use of A-boards or set conditions for their use and licensing. He gave approval for the Traffic and Network Management Team to continue this policy work and to report back to a future Cabinet Member meeting within four months. You will be



invited to attend this meeting. He also asked that the Highway Inspectors continue to remove or re-position A-boards which obstruct the footway.

No doubt you will inform the petitioners accordingly. I am sending a copy of this letter to  
for her information.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number.

Yours sincerely

Liz Knight  
Governance Services Officer

Copy to: