

Penny Thompson – Chief Executive
Brighton & Hove City Council
Grand Avenue
Hove

18th June 2015

Dear Penny

I am submitting the following letter under Council Procedure Rule 23.3 to be included on the agenda for the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee meeting of 7th July 2015.

Lack of decent coach parking facilities in the city is a significant problem and remains unresolved to this day. The previous Conservative Administration brought forward plans for a temporary coach park at Black Rock in March 2011 and Landlord's consent was granted by the then Cabinet Member. Unfortunately, these plans were shelved by the Green Administration following the local elections in May 2011.

The recent restrictions introduced to prevent coach parking in Roedean have been warmly welcomed by residents and local ward councillors but the need for a modern coach park with associated facilities remains.

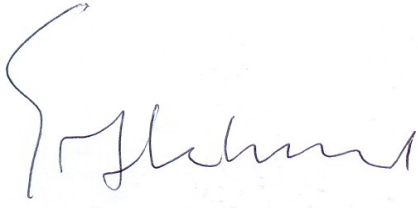
As traffic levels and visitor numbers to the city continue to increase it is becoming increasingly vital that this form of sustainable public transport is encouraged as much as possible. This will be brought to a head with the opening of the i360 observation tower in the Summer of 2016.

At the recent Economic Partnership meeting there was strong support amongst the local business community for the provision of proper coach parking facilities to help support and sustain the city's rapidly increasing visitor numbers.

The recently agreed Local Transport Plan 4 includes a commitment to: "Develop a strategy for managing and improving coach movements in the city, including coach parking and the use and quality of Pool Valley coach station." The date in the Local Transport Plan for this to be completed is between 2015/16 and 2018/19.

I am requesting that the new Labour Administration treats this matter as an urgent priority and that it is not left to the very last minute in 2018/19. I would like a clear timetable to be set out in a report to this Committee in October, preferably with a view to establishing a new coach park, either temporary or preferably permanent, during the Summer of 2016.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Theobald', written in a cursive style.

Cllr. Geoffrey Theobald