

# Planning, Transportation and Economic Development



## Members Briefing

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014

**From:**

**Ext:**

**Title** *To Let Boards: Voluntary Code of Practice*

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The purpose of this briefing is to provide an update on the recently introduced code of practice for To Let Boards.

A code of practice for letting agents, attached, was introduced in November 2013 and its effectiveness is being monitored for a period of at least 12 months.

The code of practice is not intended to prohibit the use of To Let boards altogether and does not apply to For Sale signs.

Once the 12 month period has expired, the council will consider if the voluntary code is proving to be effective in :

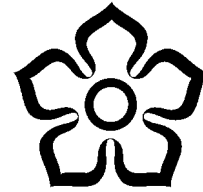
- reducing the number of To Let boards
- ensuring that boards are being displayed appropriately.

The introduction of the Article 4 Direction for houses in multiple occupation in August this year may have an impact on the number of To Let boards.

Further surveys will be carried out in September/October and it is proposed to provide a further report on the outcome of the monitoring period.

## Leicester City Council

### Voluntary Code of Practice on Lettings Boards



Leicester  
City Council

1. To Let' boards must be removed not later than 14 days from the date of the tenancy being granted or when the property is otherwise effectively taken off the market for the next academic year.
2. All To Let boards should be removed from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> January the following year
3. Boards for properties that are new to the market for the following academic year shall not be put up until 1<sup>st</sup> January of that year.
4. Signs may remain up for properties that are *either* unoccupied and immediately available *or* where they are being marketed other than in an annual let coinciding with the academic year, for example 'professional' lets.
5. Slips with 'Let', 'Let By' or similar wording may be used but must be removed along with the main board as under item 1.
6. Boards should be mounted on buildings and should not be placed on posts in the gardens or the grounds, with the exception of premises where the distance from the outer dwelling door to the back edge of the pavement is more than 5 metres or where a restrictive covenant in the freehold or the lease between the freeholder and leaseholder precludes attachment to the property.
7. Boards should be no more than 0.5m<sup>2</sup> in area.