

CE/jd

11th December 2009

For the attention of Mrs B Thomas
Traffic Engineer
Highways & Parking
Network Management
Southampton City Council
45 Castle Way
Southampton SO14 2PD

Dear Mrs Thomas

**PROPOSED REVERSAL OF ONE-WAY SYSTEM, LYON STREET
YOUR REF: TSM/TID/BA/CA16.C2**

I refer to your letter dated 11th November 09, received on 18th November 09, concerning the reversal of traffic in Lyon Street. I have been at these offices for 17 years and have no problem with the existing one way on Lyon Street.

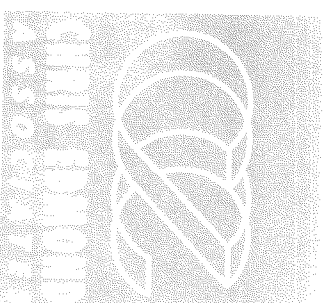
I and the staff of my office object most strongly to the proposed reversal of the one-way of Lyon Street as it is both an inconvenience to this Practice, impractical to local users and will be dangerous at the junction with the Inner Avenue which will, without doubt, lead to an accident.

It is a matter for the Police to enforce traffic regulations and to prosecute drivers. To my knowledge the Police have been on site on only 3-4 occasions over the last 3 years (during office hours). If the Police do not have enough manpower then enforcement cameras could be incorporated, the revenue of which would assist with the capital cost and would quickly deter users. It would be difficult to differentiate users with the conventional flash camera and hence it would need to be CCTV at both ends or, if costs allow a similar average speed device (to show continuous travel) as seen on motorways.

The principle reasons for objection are:

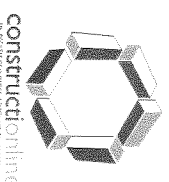
1. The turn into the Inner Avenue, at the top of Lyon Street, is 90° and there is no way of establishing the normal 6m turn at the pavement line. Hence access onto the Inner Avenue would be slow and dangerous to oncoming cars.
This would be exasperated by lorries and vans.
2. Visibility splay north up the Inner Avenue is very poor and does not comply to 2.5 x 90m set by Hampshire County Council.

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Much of the traffic exceeds 30mph, as the Inner Avenue is a duel carriageway at this point, and hence stopping distance allowance needs to be even greater.

3. It will not be possible to turn into Lyon Street from Onslow Road going north. Lyon Street enters into the road at an angle and would need a wide turning circle to gain entry, forcing traffic in Onslow Road to stop.
If you prevent the turn left from Onslow Road, going north, there is nowhere for my staff to do a u-turn to enter from the right.
Turning right, as already mentioned is dangerous, difficult and again would cause obstruction to the traffic.
4. Our staff would have to detour around Bevois Valley, rather than the simple journey down the Avenue and into Lyon Street.
5. On leaving the office to go north the staff would have to go around the Jurys Inn Roundabout and join severe congestion and be forced to join the long outbound queues along the Avenue. We are fortunate that the Bevois Valley route links directly to Thomas Lewis Way. Being forced into this traffic is both unfair on the staff of this office and totally unnecessary.
6. The location of the office is important to our visitors. It is straightforward to direct them to this location from the Inner Avenue. I do not want my clients trailing through Portswood and Bevois Valley and why should they. If they come down the Avenue they cannot turn left into Onslow Road, would have to turn left at Jurys Inn roundabout, go down Onslow road, be unable to effectively turn left into Lyon Street (acute angle) and hence could not effectively reach my office.
7. Turning right into Lyon Street from Onslow Road, a two way road, is often congested and would again be dangerous to slow impatient traffic going into the City.
8. The present access into Lyon Street from the Inner Avenue is one way and presents absolutely no dangers.

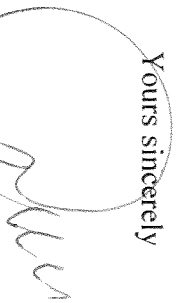
Clearly the proposal has not been thought through and is totally impractical, not to mention highly dangerous.

Although occasionally it is irritating that through traffic uses Lyon Street, it is not a problem or a significant nuisance. There is nothing wrong with the current situation, which is workable and safe. Why should local residents have to suffer for the default of a few?

I would hope that the Council would consider CCTV cameras, that they may be seen as some deterrent and could be used as evidence should the Police wish to pursue the matter against illegal drivers.

The reversal of Lyon Street would cut connection to this office by vehicles travelling north from the City (going north along Onslow Road) and severely inconvenience seven members of staff and jeopardise the viability of what has been a good location for our offices. This I trust is evident to you. In any event I would presume that the reversal of Lyon Street is dismissed as unviable.

Yours sincerely

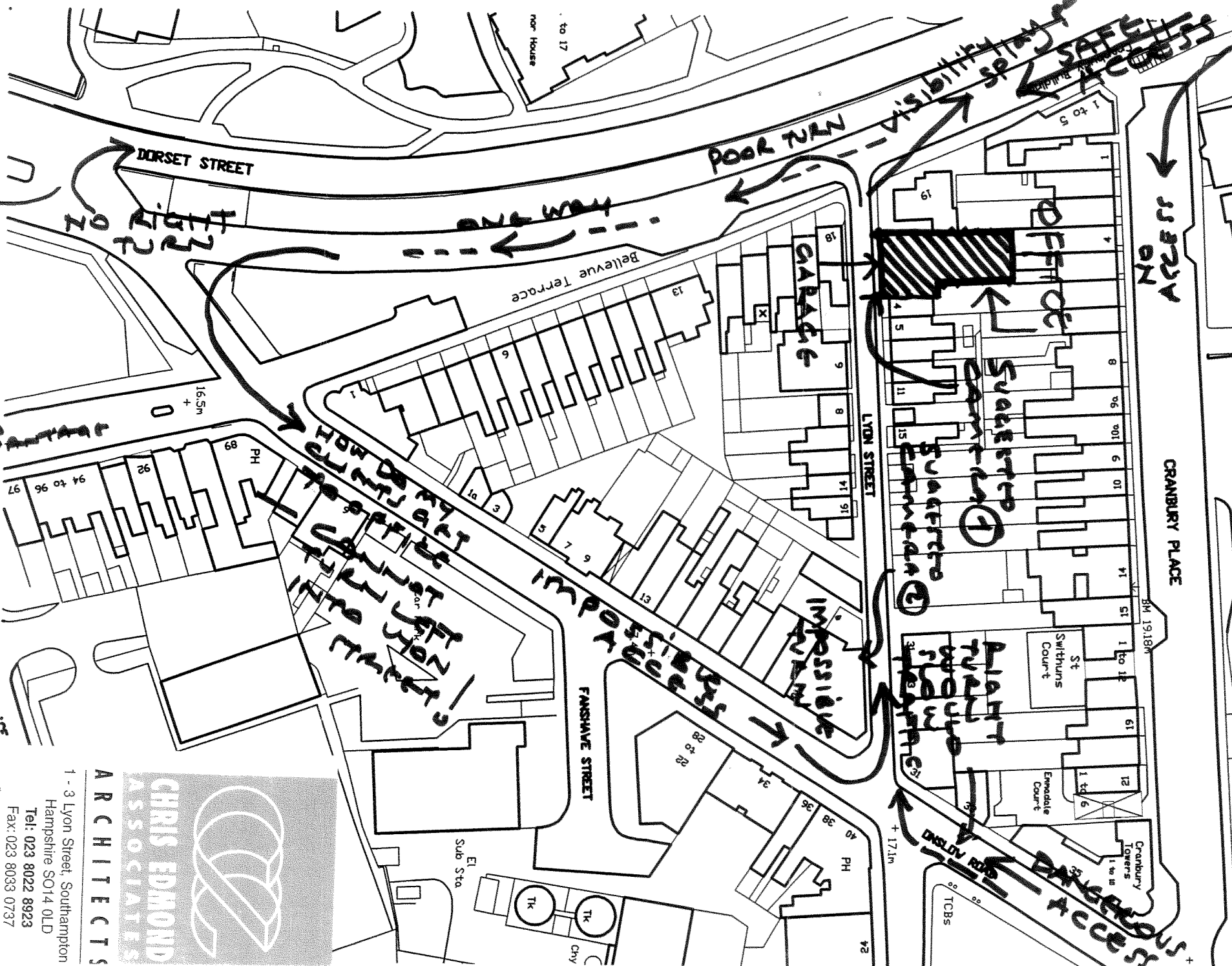


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WITH COMPLIMENTS