

Report to Shaw & Crompton District Executive

Shaw Road Alleygates Petition Report

Officer Contact:

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9th October 2018

Required Decision:

Note the position and agree the recommendation of the Petition Panel.

1. Community Safety Services to carry out a feasibility survey to establish if the current gates could be reset further back from the highway.
2. If the survey concludes that it is possible, full consultation with all affected residents will be carried out, in line with current policy.
3. No actions are taken that compromise the security of the site and so we would not consider the option for us to remove the gates.

1 Alley Gate Scheme 701: 276 – 392a Shaw Road

- 1.1 A petition was received by Oldham Council on 29th August 2018
- 1.2 This petition states: 'This is to say that the people who sign this petition do not like or want these gates near the garage site they are dangerous, with cars going in and out & other cars parking on both sides. They are too near the road.' Sic.
- 1.3 This scheme was installed at the request of residents after issues with youths causing ASB at this location and incidents with people going up and down the back looking in gardens for scrap metal. The scheme was given approval in 2011 and was funded by the District Partnership.
The land upon which the gates are installed is un-adopted, which means that the Local Authority do not have responsibility for the maintenance or upkeep of the land and under the current gating policy, the Local Authority would not install gates at this location.

2 Petition Panel

The Petition Panel, made up of the Ward Members, Community Safety Services and the Director met on Wednesday 19th September.

Before the meeting, the Community Safety Officer visited the site and made the following recommendations:

OPTION 1:

That the gate remains in situ. The gates provide valuable security to the site through effective access control. The gates restrict access to the garage site for youths, reducing ASB at this location and also prevent opportunistic thefts/burglaries to the rear of the dwellings which are encompassed by the scheme.
Furthermore, whilst the scheme affords protection to 51 households, only 5 households have raised an objection to the scheme. Less than 10% of the properties affected.
The current position of the gates would allow for a large estate vehicle to be pulled off the road safely, whilst the driver opened the gates.

OPTION 2:

That the gates be removed, which will allow unfettered access to the site. This may have a detrimental impact in terms of ASB and acquisitive crime at the site and it may be prudent to write to all residents affected by the scheme to determine their support for it remaining in situ, before pursuing this course of action.

OPTION 3:

That we seek to set the gates further back. This course of action should be discussed with the affected residents at Shaw Road as there were vehicles parked securely behind the infill panels on either side of the gate, which I assume belong to these properties.
Recessing the gates, would mean these properties would have to park their vehicles in front of the gates and they would lose some of the current security that these gates afford them.

3 Recommendation of panel

1. Community Safety Services carry out a feasibility survey to establish if the current gates could be reset further back from the highway.
2. If the survey concludes that it is possible, full consultation with all affected residents will be carried out, in line with current policy.

No actions are taken that compromise the security of the site and so we would not consider the option for us to remove the gates.
