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Alley Gate Review

Angela Corner, Head of Communities

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Information requested

1. Your organisation's awareness of / involvement in / experience of this community safety measure

2. Any feedback from tenants on their experiences of this community safety measure (e.g. issues that have arisen, complaints / compliments, value / effectiveness)

3. Any other views relating to this scrutiny topic from a Thirteen Housing Group perspective

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Your organisation's awareness of / involvement in / experience of this community safety measure - Summary

Thirteen has a limited number of alley gates within its housing portfolio

Due to mixed-tenure arrangements, Thirteen has limited direct involvement in the management of Stockton Borough Council's alley gates.

However, Thirteen work closely with Stockton Borough Council and Partners to address any community or resident related issues

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Colleague (anecdotal) feedback

Housing teams – they report alley gates can help to reduce crime, ASB and motorbike nuisance

Caretakers - Alley gates reduce and minimise the amount and frequency of fly tipping, but they don't prevent – need to do more work with communities/residents

The effectiveness of gates can be affected by access arrangements and gates not being consistently secured

Access arrangements need to accommodate ongoing maintenance and environmental management

This is generic insight – Happy to support a more detailed review however we would need street names of all locations

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Customer perception/ feedback

Online Survey sent to 60 of our involved customers who live across Stockton

We received 10 responses from the 60 customers invited to participate

Comments
“I think they should remain”
“They have a positive impact on the community”
“I think there should be more”
“People need to keep them locked”

Summary

“Despite the small sample size, customer feedback was broadly positive, with 80% reporting a positive overall impact.

However, experiences varied across individual measures."

Happy to support with a more in-depth customer consultation by specific gate/area level if required

Impact in your local area
20% no impact
40% positive impact
40% very positive impact

Perception of crime
60% no change
40% much better

Perception of ASB
10% much worse
40% no change
20% a little better
30% much better

Reduction of motorbikes
10% much worse
40% no change
50% much better

Reduction of fly-tipping
10% much worse
50% no change
10% little better
30% much better

Feeling safe
10% much worse
40% no change
10% a little better
40% much better

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Any other views relating to this scrutiny topic from a Thirteen Housing Group perspective

Alley gates alone may not address the underlying causes of crime, ASB and fly-tipping

For sustainability and maximum impact – Community engagement, involvement and codesign at a local level could be considered

Reviewing good examples of alleyway regeneration projects

1. Community ownership and involvement throughout
2. Communal activities
3. Good neighbour agreements
4. Reporting issues and ASB



Illustration purposes only

Summary

"Alley gates can be an effective community safety measure, but their long-term success depends on resident ownership, positive behaviours and wider neighbourhood improvements. Physical investment needs to be matched by investment in people and communities."