



LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM – 2ND OCTOBER 2008

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

GATING ORDERS UPDATE REPORT

Purpose of Report

1. To update the Forum on the progress of a proposed policy for the making of Gating Orders.

Background Information

2. A previous report was submitted to the Forum at its meeting of 12th June 2008 concerning the proposed development of a County Council policy on the use of Gating Orders. The report outlined the legislative framework under which such orders can be made and a draft policy for consideration and comment.

Progress

3. A report on the proposed policy on Gating Orders was submitted to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 5th June 2008.
4. The matter was subsequently referred to a Member Panel for more detailed consideration. When the Panel completes its investigations it will report its findings to Cabinet.
5. The Panel met on 23rd July 2008 and determined to carry out a site visit to Little Hill, Wigston, which is the location of several paths that Oadby & Wigston Borough Council has requested to be gated. A site visit was duly made on 20th August 2008.
6. The Panel will meet again to discuss the findings of the site visit and to take evidence from officers of other local authorities which have had experience of making Gating Orders.
7. There will be an opportunity for a member or members of the Local Access Forum to make comments to the Panel so that the Forum's views on this matter can be taken into account in the development of the Policy. The date of the Panel meeting has yet to be arranged.

Public Consultation

8. At its meeting in July the Panel requested that the Highways Transportation & Waste Management Department carry out a public consultation exercise to determine the public's views on a policy for Temporary Gating Orders.

9. An online questionnaire was duly placed on the County Council's website on 21st August 2008 and members of the public were invited to submit their views. Responses to the questionnaire have so far been limited. A copy of the questionnaire is attached to this report.
10. Members of the forum are invited to complete the questionnaire on line at http://www.leics.gov.uk/index/highways/road_pathway_maintenance/gating_order_s.htm or by completing the printed form and returning it to Nic Rowe, in the Department of Transportation & Waste Management at County Hall.
11. The Closing date for completed questionnaires to be submitted has been extended to 10th October 2008.

Recommendation

12. The Forum is asked to indicate what comments, if any, it wishes to submit to the Panel.

Officers to Contact

Nic Rowe Tel 0116 305 7494 nrowe@leics.gov.uk (Highways)
Piers Lindley Tel 0116 305 7087 nplindley@leics.gov.uk (Countryside Service)

Background Papers

Leicestershire Local Access Forum – Report of the Director of Highways on Gating Orders - 12th June 2008.

Proposed County Council Policy for the use of Gating Orders under section 2 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005.

Questionnaire "Have Your Say about Policy For Temporary Gating of Alleyways".
http://www.leics.gov.uk/index/highways/road_pathway_maintenance/gating_orders.htm

Appendices

Appendix – Gating Policy Questionnaire