



Subject:	Alleygating Programme – Phase 5
Date:	19th March 2021
Reporting Officer:	Ryan Black, Director Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Alison Allen, Neighbourhood Services Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the next steps in the progression of Phase 5 of the Alleygating Programme.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- note the contents of the report and agree the next steps; and- agree the funding allocation model across the city
3.0	Main Report
	Background
3.1	Members will be aware that the Council has delivered to date four phases of the alleygating programme across the city which has seen the installation of 1081 gates with both Council funding and funding from external funders.

3.2	<p>The total number of gates per area is currently:</p> <p>North – 307</p> <p>South – 278</p> <p>East – 250</p> <p>West – 246</p> <p>Total – 1081</p> <p>Capital Programme Commitment and Funding Allocation Model</p>
3.3	<p>Members will be aware of Councils' decision as part of the 21/21 rate setting process that £500,000 will be made available from the Capital Programme for Alleygates Phase 5 across Belfast.</p>
3.4	<p>Members are asked to consider how the total budget of £500K is allocated across the city.</p>
3.5	<p>It is not possible at this stage to give an approximate price for an average gate as there have been significant fluctuations in the steel market and this will need to be formally priced by the supplier in due course. This information will be provided to Members at Area Working Group stage.</p> <p>Alleygates Evaluation / Future Planning</p>
3.6	<p>Members will be aware that People and Communities Committee have already agreed, that Council engage a suitably qualified contractor to under a review of the Alleygates Programme to date, specifically exploring the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the benefits of the scheme within neighbourhoods and how the overall scheme performs against Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles • to review the current selection process and identify potential future options for selection of Alleygate locations taking in to account what has worked well and what could be improved to date • to examine if there has been any reduction in crime / return for investment in areas where there has been intense Alleygate installation • to examine whether there have been any long-term impacts or reduction in crime within gated areas in general • to identify opportunities to maximise the benefits of alleygating by working closer with other partners in the context of wider neighbourhood regeneration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to make recommendations about how to maximise the benefits and opportunities from the Alleygate Project, taking into consideration other Council work streams and external strategies • to consider the longer-term impact of the continuous alleygating investment to date in the city
3.7	It is more important to note that with the level of demand and Member priority attached to alleygating, that a medium-long term planning process and financing strategy will now begin to assess need and plan for a more significant roll out across the city following Phase 5.
3.8	Members of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee are asked to note that this evaluation, and the future planning process, will be progressed simultaneously with Phase 5 Alleygates (as per the standing Phase 4 criteria).
	Process for Agreeing Gate Locations
3.9	Members should note that the demand for gates throughout the city far outweighs the £500,000 available and, therefore, as part of the Full Business Case approval, it will be necessary to identify those areas to be considered for alleygating in order of evidenced need.
3.10	The agreed process for Phase 4 Alleygates recognised that official statistics do not always fully represent actual need, as crime and anti-social behaviour is often under reported in some of the areas of greatest need across Belfast.
3.11	Therefore, the process for agreeing the final list of streets to be gated was revised by the previous Health and Environmental Services Committee to include Area Working Group consideration of the evidence of need based on official statistics. Area Working Group Members would then use their local knowledge to enrich this evidence of need before making a formal recommendation to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
3.12	Before any engagement can take place with Area Working Groups in relation to potential gate locations, the Outline and Full Business Case must be developed to take this through to a fully committed capital project.
3.13	This combined with the time needed to complete the statistical analysis needed to inform Area Working Group discussions will mean it may be Autumn 2021 before Officers are in a position to bring forward reports to Area Working Group for discussion on potential gate locations.

3.14	Additionally, previously experience indicates that it can take a number of Area Working Group meetings to agree a final list of gate locations to be recommended to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
3.15	<p>It is therefore not possible to give a detailed timeline at this stage, but for Members information the indicative timeline is provided below. Please note the timeline commences at the point at which Strategic Policy and Resources Committee/Council have agreed the gate locations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start - Gate Locations Agreed by SP&R and Full Council - Month 1 – Regulatory and Community Consultation Commenced - Month 3 – Regulatory Consultation Completed - Month 4 – Community Consultation Completed - Month 5 – Legal Preparation - Month 7/8 – Notice of Intention Advertised - Month 8/9 – Clarification of Objections - Month 9 – People & Communities Committee Consideration of Traffic Regulation Order - Month 10 – Full Council Approval of Traffic Regulation Order - Month 10 – Gates Ordered - Month 12/13 – Gates Manufactured and Installation Commenced - Month 14 to 16 – Phase 5 Gate Installation Programme rolled out across the city
3.16	Members should note that experience has also shown that not all agreed gate locations can be brought forward at the same time to Traffic Regulation Order stage due to objections as part of the community consultation process, not meeting the legal threshold of evidenced ASB to enact the legislation with further work needed and site suitability issues. Phase 4 Alleygates was brought forward to Traffic Regulation Order stage in four sub phases.
3.17	<p>Members should also be aware timelines may be further delayed if the disruption caused by Brexit to supply chains for Alleygates material/parts continues and that orders must be placed with the contractor no later than 30 April 2022 due to current contract end timescales.</p> <p><u>Financial implications</u></p>
3.18	<p>Financial implications are detailed in the body of the report.</p> <p><u>Equality, Good Relations Implications and Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.19	An Equality Screening will need to be completed on Alleygates Phase 5 in due course.
4.0	Documents Attached
	None