**GATING DETAILS (as at November 2012)**

The Council has for a number of years provided a gating scheme for local residents. The schemes are resident led, and the ownership of gates transfers to local residents. The purpose of the scheme is to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and to promote the feeling of safety within our communities. LBE receive a large number of applications which are assessed and prioritised, with a short list of gating schemes progressed through to completion.   
(i) THEY spend time administering the scheme and trying to obtain resident consents (we know this in SPTRA);   
(ii) Delays from application to decision are unacceptable for residents. (eg new consents required when people move house)

LBE have been reviewing ways to improve the scheme to deliver it effectively to areas which will benefit most. Proposals will go to the LBE cabinet early in the New Year for cabinet approval.

The proposed improvements will include

(1) two application periods each year (the present on-going open application process may take up to a year)

(2) management of the application ‘window’ to ensure that resident consent is timely and accurate, and therefore deliver schemes in a more timely way

(3) work with the local Safer Communities Cluster teams to support targeted applications

(4) provide clearer guidance and time-frames so that the process is clearly understood

(5) to introduce a visual audit component to the application process, this helps schemes motivated by emerging problems rather than historical based on the present 3 year crime history indicator applied

LBE hope that the above will allow applications really ready for decisions and to announce new successful schemes in May 2013, and again in November 2013.

Under the old arrangements applications were accepted all year long, but with decisions waiting till late summer.

The proposals will therefore see new applications considered and determined quicker than the present arrangements

#*These note are based on correspondence with SPTRA in November 2012, from Mark Wilshire – LBE - Head of Regulatory Services*