

## Alley Gating between Brownlow St & Eldon St

<b>Petition summary and background</b>	After many incidents in the alley as reported to police including graffiti, needles, street drinking and sleeping we ask for the alley to be gated to enable the children of Brownlow Street to be able to go into the rear alley without being visually offended and safe from harm.
<b>Action petitioned for</b>	We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our council to gate the back alley between Brownlow street and Eldon St.

Signed by 26 residents

Supporting emails received and listed below;

## Annex 6 Petition from residents

To whom it may concern,

I am the landlord of various properties in Eldon Street and the following all back on to the back alley behind Eldon Street, and I have had numerous problems with the back alley including, fly tipping on my property, people breaking into the garages to sleep and take drugs in them, vandalism and break ins to the property from the rear.

I have heard from at no. Brownlow Street that there is a proposal to gate the back alley and I would like to give my backing to this long overdue proposal, it would give peace of mind to many vulnerable home owners and tenants alike.

To Whom it May concern

My husband and I are the owners of Brownlow Street. It was our first home bought in about 1984 and there have been a number of problems with the back alley over the years.

We now let the property out to professional people.

at Number has told us about the proposal to gate the back alley.  
I confirm that and I are in wholehearted support of the proposal

## Annex 6 Petition from residents

Eldon Street

I am writing to show our support of the gating of the lane behind Eldon Street. We are the owners of a property in Eldon Street and we have had regular problems. Our garage is slightly set back, which means people regularly gather there to drink or take drugs, as they can be slightly out of view from anyone looking down the alleyway. This is very intimidating and means we are reluctant to use the garage in particular at night. We often have to clear away beer cans and used needles, as well as human faeces - someone regularly uses the space outside the garage as a toilet (probably because it is slightly out of view). I even on one occasion went into the garage early morning to find a homeless man (who had been kicked out of Arc Light the previous night for creating trouble) sleeping there. This was a very scary experience as a female on my own. We would very much like to see gates, so we can feel safe in our own garage. We have female students living in the property and we are not happy that the area is unsafe for them to use, especially as it could be so simply made safer with gates.

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Brownlow Street

We are happy to add our support to this request as it will hopefully make things much more pleasant for our tenants, in Brownlow Street. In the past we have found needles over the wall and under the window of Brownlow Street. There has been evidence in the alley (which is the approach to the entrance of Brownlow Street and the rear exit) of urinating etc., and on at least one occasion I have phoned the council about this. Tenants have been bothered by people pressing their doorbell 'for fun' and then running away, such that they often have to leave it unplugged. We have also in the past had paint thrown at and into the yard. In the past, the porthole window to the rear has been cracked by something being thrown at it, and it has had to be replaced. We once had lead stolen from the roof also. These are the things that spring to mind, and there are probably many more similar things that I have forgotten, not least because we don't actually live there, but try to provide really good accommodation for our tenants. If gating the alley where suggested will reduce the amount of 'nuisance', we will be delighted. There is, quite often, excess rubbish.

Along with neighbours and our children we have been around all of the houses that are occupied down the 3 affected streets with a clipboard and pen. We have had overwhelming support and have received 100% of the signatures from the occupied properties. I've shared my reasons in the application attached why we should have the gates but all of the emails are now copied in to this mail. Can I ask anyone else who has any bad experiences to share these as well simply by way of return to this email? I know a number of people have found needles thrown over their walls into their gardens who have very small children and have reported this to the police. We would all love to have a safe rear alley where the children could ride their bikes, we could paint over the terrible graffiti, and even gather as a community. We could really make something of the space for all ages and nice place to live.

## Annex 6 Petition from residents

- Brownlow Street I just wanted to share my previous bad experiences so as to support this cause. There are two specific incidents, the first being the presence of a stolen car abandoned in the alley outside my rear gate which I reported to the police. It looked, on first inspection, to have blacked out windows but when the police came and gained entry to the vehicle they discovered someone had actually tried to start it on fire and the windows were blackened from smoke! There's no need to point out just how badly that could have turned out if it had caught properly! The second incident was involving some older people drinking and generally loitering, again just outside my back gate in the alley, for what looked to have been several hours judging from the amount of empties surrounding them. I also called the police in this instance but by the time they came the 'revellers' had moved on.
- Sorry for not putting this in the first email. It was a long time ago but it highlights how long these problems have been occurring. I think it was new years eve 2008, our back yard was broken into, several items from our shed were stolen and all our patio furniture was set alight, destroying our pergola and climbing plants up the side of the building. This could have been much worse, as I'm sure you could imagine.
- Neville Terrace There are regularly homeless people sleeping in the garage doorway of the Parish Rooms on Neville Terrace ). Although I hate to see people having to sleep rough and have the greatest sympathy, I'm sure you can imagine how intimidating this is for us coming and going through the back with our bikes.