

Balancing access needs with barriers – Forestry Commission (Scotland)

It is important to ensure that barriers and other types of physical installations do not restrict those with a right of access. One particular gateway was a hotspot for fly-tipping but a right of access was required to be maintained for horses. A metal barrier was installed with the centre section low enough to allow horses to step over but which prevented vehicular access. The cost of the barrier was £350, and fly-tipping incidents have reduced.

At another location where the Forestry Commission in Scotland has had a regular fly-tipping problem, there was a need to allow ample space for a lorry to pull safely off the carriageway, whilst, at the same time, blocking access to a site off a main road that was a fly-tipping hotspot. To achieve this, the Commission installed two sets of gates, one near the roadside edge that is kept locked at all times except when large vehicles need to enter for specific operations. When access is required, the outer gates are left open whilst the inner gates are locked. The inner gates cost around £250, while the outer gates cost was £450. Small amounts of fly-tipping appear from time to time but the problem is greatly reduced with the double gating system.