Gravesham Borough Council

Private Rear Alleyway Clearance

- Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Councils have no statutory duty to clear waste from private land.
- The Street Cleansing Team will not collect waste or rubbish from private land, private rear accessways or unadopted accessways.
- As a courtesy, the Street Cleansing Team may agree to collect rubbish placed at the entrance of a private alleyway (at the curtilage with the public highway) provided it meets inspection and ownership criteria.
- All fly-tipping reports regarding private rear alleyways must be reported to the Environmental Enforcement Team via the Council fly-tipping report form in the first instance before any action or collection takes place.
- If a resident is insistent that the alleyway is the responsibility of the Council, the relevant alleyway will be checked via the Land Registry to verify the exact boundary lines and to confirm ownership status.
- If the alleyway is confirmed as private land, a designated officer from Waste Management must conduct an initial site inspection of the accessway to assess safety, accessibility, and the volume/nature of the waste.
- If approved during inspection, waste collection will be scheduled strictly from the alleyway entrance only. It will be for the reporter or local residents to move the waste to the agreed collection point.
- Before work commences, agreement on the volume, nature and collection point of the waste must be agreed with Waste Management.
- No personnel or vehicles shall remove waste from any private alleyway land beyond the designated collection point at the entrance to the private accessway.