

**Email Received About Whether Planning Permission is Required for Shutters on Shops in the Conservation Area**

Hi [REDACTED]

I am writing to express my concern at the practice of fitting roller shutters on commercial retail premises in the town of Todmorden. They do not give a welcoming impression for the town and really only serve as a barrier for visitors and residents. Certain areas of Todmorden have designated conservation area status especially the town centre along the three main roads so unless I'm mistaken fitting of shutters should not be allowed or at the very least be subject to the planning permission process.

I cannot find any planning permission applications for roller shutters on commercial retail premises in Todmorden for at least 13 years and in that time a number of shops have fitted them. Water street, Todmorden's last remaining "shopping street" away from the main roads and large retail outfits is blighted by roller shutters and gives the impression of semi dereliction.

This town is not dominated by industry any more nor will it ever compete with neighbouring towns like Hebden Bridge for picturesque day trip shopping. It will and is becoming a residing town for people who work in Manchester and West Yorkshire cities due to its close proximity and improving transport links. All encouragement should be given to the town evolving and having bright interesting shops without shutters needs to be one of the attractive factors.

Has this issue to your knowledge been discussed at Town Council level and Calderdale Council level ?

Hope you agree.

Yours faithfully