

## NPF4 Statement

### 100 Abbotseat, Kelso, TD5 7LP, New Boundary Fence

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to make my NPF4 Statement for the erection of a boundary garden fence.

- Visual Impact

There has not been any major change in the visual impact on the surrounding area as the fence has been kept to the same design and materials as every other fence in the surrounding area, to the point that some of our neighbours had not even noticed any change.

- Noise Pollution

The fence has made a significant difference to the amount of noise coming from the passing vehicles from both the A6089 (Kelso Bypass) and the Abbotseat service road which runs adjacent to the property.

- Vehicle Pollution

The fence also protects the garden from pollution from both passing vehicles on the Bypass but also from vehicles queuing to join the Bypass from Abbotseat.

- Environmental Benefits

The fence gives us the privacy and opportunity to develop the garden into a haven for Wildlife in an urban area by introducing flower beds with wild meadow flowers, pond and nesting boxes, this not only benefits the wildlife but also our own health and well being by creating a relaxed and peaceful environment.

- Health Benefits

The new fence now makes the garden a private area which we have never had the benefit of before as the garden is over looked by both pedestrians on the footpath that runs adjacent to the garden, passing traffic on both the bypass and the service road for Abbotseat. The difference in having a private space to relax and enjoy with our family especially during and after Covid 19 has been invaluable for both mental health and physical health and developing the garden further into a small wildlife haven can only be of more beneficial for all.

- Personnel Security

The new fence also gives us the benefits of security, both personally and to our property. Before the fence was erected we could not leave any personal belongings lying out in case they were stolen as they were in full view of anyone passing by, we can now let our pet dog out to run free without the risk of him either escaping or also being stolen. The biggest benefit to the added security is the fact that my wife feels safe sitting out in the garden as her roll of employment within the NHS is interacting with the public on a daily basis and she has been accosted several times by members of the public passing by and not always with a good outcome.

- Summary

When my wife and I decided to remove the old wire fence and dead hedge to replace it with a new wooden fence we tried to be as thoughtful as we could to both the surrounding area and the wildlife by choosing materials and design that matched all the other fences in the surrounding area, We left the hedge area in front of our house as the hedge was in a good condition and thriving with birds. We do understand that there are planning rules for a reason but we Knievel thought the restriction for height was for in front of our house and not for the garden to the side of the house, although I would like it to be noted the fence is 1.8m high not 2m as suggested by the officer in an earlier correspondence . I just hope you can take into account the fact that there are no issues with any of our neighbours about the fence and no issues with the roads department over safety.

Kind Regards

Mr Alan Hislop