

HERITAGE STATEMENT INCLUDING LISTED BUILDING DETAILS.

Installation of Front Elevation Roller Shutter Door
14 High Street, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 9AG

1. Site and Heritage Designation

The application site at 14 High Street, Royston forms part of a **Grade II listed building**, recorded on the National Heritage List for England as:

“14 and 16 High Street, Royston” (List Entry No. 1174467), designated on 11 June 1976.

The listing recognises the building’s special architectural and historic interest. The property forms part of a single listed structure encompassing both Nos. 14 and 16, and therefore the significance of the asset derives from the building as a whole.

The site lies within the historic High Street of Royston, contributing to a coherent and traditionally developed townscape of heritage value.

2. Description of the Building

The building is a traditional mixed-use commercial property with a historic shopfront at ground floor level. The front elevation makes a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the High Street.

As a listed building, its significance derives from:

- Its historic fabric and architectural composition
- Its contribution to the continuity and character of the High Street
- Its role as part of a wider designated heritage asset (Nos. 14–16 combined)

The ground floor frontage is particularly sensitive due to its visibility and contribution to the streetscape.

3. Proposed Works

The application seeks consent for:

- Installation of a **roller shutter door** to the **front elevation** of the property

The shutter is proposed to improve the security of the commercial premises.

The shutter will be mounted to the front and will be a solid aluminium powder coated black, colour-matched to the existing shopfront.

4. Assessment of Significance

The significance of the listed building lies in its:

- Architectural detailing and historic fabric
- Contribution to the High Street streetscape
- Group value as part of the combined listing of Nos. 14 and 16

The front elevation is of high importance, forming part of the public-facing historic environment and contributing to the building's special interest.

5. Impact of the Proposed Development

The installation of a roller shutter at ground floor level on the front elevation has the potential to impact the character and appearance of the listed building, but only at night.

Potential impacts include:

- Alteration to the appearance of the historic shopfront
- Visual impact on the streetscape when the shutter is in use
- Possible loss of historic detailing if not sensitively installed

However, the degree of harm is dependent on the detailed design, siting, and operation of the shutter.

6. Justification for the Works

The proposed development is required to enhance the **security** of the premises, protecting against theft and vandalism. This is a reasonable and necessary requirement for a commercial unit located within a town centre.

Alternative measures have been considered; however, a roller shutter provides a practical and effective level of protection.

7. Mitigation Measures

In order to minimise harm to the significance of the heritage asset, the following measures are proposed:

- Use of a shutter design to reduce visual impact
- Colour black finish to match the existing shopfront
- Installation designed to avoid damage to historic fabric
- Reversible fixing methods where feasible

These measures aim to preserve the character and appearance of the listed building and its setting.

8. Conclusion

The proposed installation of a roller shutter has been carefully considered in the context of the significance of the Grade II listed building (List Entry No. 1174467).

While some limited impact may arise, this is justified by the need for improved security and is mitigated through sensitive design and detailing.

The proposal is therefore considered to preserve the special architectural and historic interest of the listed building and accords with relevant heritage policy.