

1. This is first and foremost a fire escape, to set the scene, I bought this property in 2006.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I bought the staircase, a proper factory built and designed fire escape staircase, [REDACTED] fitted it.

2. There is a need/shortage of rentable housing [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and being unable to actually find someone who will take responsibility for fire safety for this building, therefore, until such a time arises, responsibility lies with me.

3. Alcester Town Council deemed this to be 'an access, obtrusive and not structurally adequate' the fitted staircase is a fire escape staircase, that is what it was designed for and that is why it was fitted. It is an access, that is the nature of a fire escape, the type of door is in keeping with the type of property, it is there to allow the tenants a safe escape route in the event of a fire, it has no need to with-hold fire. As for 'overlook' every property in this neighbourhood overlooks another property, numbers 1 and 3 Meadow Road are more overlooked by numbers 5 and 7. Number 1 and 3 completely (100%) overlook each other's gardens, number 1 and 3 overlook my property to a greater extent than mine overlooks theirs. Of course, the fire escape has other advantages as any fire

escape would. Ventilation to help eliminate the damp and better access to the garden. This is the only location available to me for a fire escape.

4. There have been more positive comments than negative, [REDACTED]
5. It has been noted that the staircase is white, it can and will be painted, the LPA insisted that work halted.
6. It has been noted that the staircase has a platform and could be used as a balcony, the platform form is less than 1 square metre, this is not a balcony nor can it be used as such.
7. In the delegated report it notes 'there are also no other buildings or features in the area which cause overshadowing, loss of privacy or overbearing factors to the surrounding neighbouring properties' .. [REDACTED]
8. [REDACTED] letter states 'it is the only ex-local authority flat in Alcester or Stratford with a fire escape' this is nonsense. What [REDACTED] fails to appreciate is twofold. Firstly, he has a front door and a back door and secondly, he has complete control over the fire safety of his house. Every property on that estate, to my knowledge has two doors, it's normal. Even [REDACTED] in the one and only other flat in the building has two doors, one front and one rear, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] he does have a fire escape. My property has a blind stairwell, leading to what was the only exit which happens to be through the small building at the front which has been a serious fire risk for at least 5 years and remains so. Although after 5 years of water ingress, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] the repair concerned is so substandard it has served to do little other than hide the danger and make the property look worse.