



Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department

Your Ref: BR/50/25/PL

Our Ref: LM/ARU/25/01A

Date 3rd April 2025

Contact Name: Lee Melbourne

Dear Ms Kersley,

RE: Milton Lodge 192 Hawthorn Road Bognor Regis PO21 2UX

Thank you for your correspondence of the 3rd of April 2025, advising me of a planning application for a change of use from supported living accommodation to 10 No residential units (Use Class C3), proposed rear extension following demolition of detached building, fenestration changes and associated works at the above location, for which you seek advice from a crime prevention viewpoint.

The National Planning Policy Framework demonstrates the government's aim to achieve healthy, inclusive, and safe places which are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of attractive, well-designed, clear, and legible pedestrian and cycle routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.

Although the level of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Arun District is average when compared with the rest of Sussex, additional measures to mitigate against any identified local crime trends and site-specific requirements should always be considered.

I have had the opportunity to examine the detail within the application and in an attempt to reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime I offer the following comments using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and from a Secured by Design (SBD) perspective. SBD is owned by the UK Police service and supported by the Home Office and Building Control Departments in England (Part Q Security – Dwellings), that recommends a minimum standard of security using proven, tested, and accredited products. Further details can be found at www.securedbydesign.com

Ms Kersley
Planning Officer
Planning Control
Arun District Council

Sussex Police Headquarters
Malling House, Malling, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2DZ

This planning application is seeking permission for a change of use from supported living accommodation to 10 residential units.

I would like to take this opportunity to direct the applicant or their agent to our website at www.securedbydesign.com where the SBD Homes 2025 document can be found. The Secured by Design scheme is a Police initiative to guide and encourage those engaged within the specification, design and build of new homes, and those undertaking major or minor property refurbishment, to adopt crime prevention measures. The advice given in this guide has been proven to reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime, creating safer, more secure and sustainable environments.

With regards to the proposed flats - from a crime prevention perspective, it will be imperative that access control is implemented into the design and layout to ensure control of entry is for authorised persons only. Tradesperson or timed-release mechanisms are not advised as they have been proven to be the cause of antisocial behaviour and unlawful access to communal developments.

With regards to postal arrangements - there are increasing crime problems associated with letter plate apertures, such as identity theft, arson, hate crime, lock manipulation and 'fishing' for personal items (which may include post, vehicle and house keys, credit cards, etc). I recommend the postal arrangements for the flats is through the wall or externally mounted secure post boxes as the absence of the letter aperture effectively reduces unnecessary access to the block.

With regards to any proposed cycle parking - research by the 'Design against Crime Centre' suggests that cyclists should be encouraged to lock both wheels and the crossbar to a stand rather than just the crossbar and therefore a design of cycle stand that enables this method of locking to be used is recommended. The minimum requirements for such equipment are as follows: • Galvanised steel bar construction (minimum thickness 3mm), filled with concrete; • Minimum foundation depth of 300mm with welded 'anchor bar'.

Lighting is an effective security measure and a useful tool for public reassurance in that it enables people to see at night that they are safe or to assess a developing threat and if necessary, identify a route they could take to avoid a potential issue. Recent events that have made national news and become the focus of concern over safety in public places means that there is merit in recognising the enormous value people place on being able to move around in public places at night under high quality lighting systems. Where lighting is implemented, it should conform to the recommendations within BS5489-1:2020.

Finally, construction sites often suffer from theft, criminal damage, arson, and anti-social behaviour, all of which can have a major impact on completion dates and overall development costs.

The SBD Construction Site Security Guide 2021 is designed to be risk commensurate and provides advice on how to secure the site from the moment the hoarding goes up until the moment the development is handed over to the client or end user. The advice is based on proven crime prevention principles that are known to reduce criminal opportunity by creating safer, more secure, and sustainable environments. It applies to all construction sites regardless of their size and is intended for all staff including security personnel.

It is also recommended that contact is sought by the developer with local Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) to establish good relations whilst the development is in the construction phase.

Further advice on construction site security can be obtained from the Secured by Design Website: www.securedbydesign.com/images/CONSTRUCTION_SITE_SECURITY_GUIDE_A4_8pp.pdf

Sussex Police Headquarters
Malling House, Malling, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2DZ

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to offer comments in response.

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 heightens the importance of taking crime prevention into account when planning decisions are made. Section 17 of the Act places a clear duty on both police and local authorities to exercise their various functions with due regard to the likely effect on the prevention of crime and disorder. You are asked to accord due weight to the advice offered in this letter which would demonstrate your authority's commitment to work in partnership and comply with the spirit of The Crime & Disorder Act.

Yours sincerely

Miss Lee A Melbourne
Designing Out Crime Officer
Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department
Sussex Police Headquarters

Sussex Police Headquarters
Malling House, Malling, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2DZ

West Sussex Police response

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF

www.arun.gov.uk

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<https://www1.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-finder>



From: Melbourne, Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 April 2025 14:45
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: ARU 25 01A - Milton Lodge 192 Hawthorn Road Bognor Regis PO21 2UX

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Dear Planning Officer,
Please find consultee comments as requested on the above application.
Kind regards,
Lee
Miss Lee A Melbourne (Pronouns She/Her/Hers)

Designing Out Crime Officer
Local Policing Service Improvement and Engagement Department
Sussex Police Headquarters
Amberley Block
Church Lane
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2DZ

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