



Local Policing Support Team

Your Ref: P/132/20/RES

Our Ref: LM/ARU/21/01A

Date 11th January 2021

Contact Name: Lee Melbourne

Dear Mr Cole,

RE: Land north of Hook Lane Pagham

Thank you for your correspondence of the 8th of January 2021, advising me of a planning application for Approval of reserved matters following P/30/19/OUT for 300 No. new homes, internal roads, footpaths & cycleways, car parking & landscaping. This application affects the setting of a listed building & falls within Strategic Site H SP2, CIL Zone 1 (Zero Rated) 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. With the level of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Arun District being average when compared with the rest of Sussex, I have no major concerns with the proposals, however, 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 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

I refer the applicant to previous correspondence from this office Your Ref: P/30/19/OUT dated the 2nd April 2019 and Our Ref: NW/ARU/19/09A dated the 2nd May 2019 to which all comments remain extant.

Mr Cole
Planning Officer
Planning Control
Arun District Council

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

I direct the applicant or their agent to our website at www.securedbydesign.com where the SBD Homes 2019 Version 2 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.

I was pleased to note that the orientation of the dwellings will ensure that all publicly accessible areas including the road layout and communal amenity space benefit from overlooking and good natural surveillance. Where communal parking occurs it is important that they must be within view of an active room within the property. An active room is where there is direct and visual connection between the room and the street or the car parking area. Such visual connections can be expected from rooms such as kitchens and living rooms, but not from bedrooms and bathrooms.

With regards to the area of play - I refer the applicant to Chapter 9 SBD Homes Version 2 2019. I would ask that consideration is given to surrounding the area of play with railings with self-closing gates to provide a dog free environment.

With regards to the cycle/footpath I direct the applicant to SBD Homes 2019 Version 2 which states that: Footpath design 8.8 Routes for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles should be integrated and assist easy, intuitive wayfinding through the application of inclusive design by increasing activity and therefore natural surveillance, a proven deterrent to crime and anti-social behaviour. 8.9 Public footpaths should not run to the rear of, and provide access to gardens, rear yards or dwellings as these have been proven to generate crime. 8.10 Where a segregated footpath is unavoidable, for example a public right of way, an ancient field path or heritage route, designers should consider making the footpath a focus of the development and ensure that they are: • as straight as possible; • wide; • well lit (see paragraphs 8.19 to 8.21); • devoid of potential hiding places; • overlooked by surrounding buildings and activities; • well maintained so as to enable natural surveillance along the path and its borders.

Additionally 8.17 states where footpaths run next to buildings or roads, the path should be open to view. This does not prevent planting, but will influence the choice of species and the density of planting. Public footpaths should not run immediately next to doors and windows, therefore defensive space should be created to separate a path from a building elevation. 8.19 suggests If a footpath is to be used 24 hours a day it should have all the required attributes as listed at paragraph 8.10 and be lit in accordance with BS 5489-1:2013. If the footpath does not have these attributes then its use should be deterred during the hours of darkness by not installing lighting.

With regards to the proposed landscaping - careful selection of plant species is critical in order not to impede natural surveillance and avoid unnecessary high maintenance. Trees on appropriate route stocks can provide a more reliable means of reducing the likelihood of reducing natural surveillance. Trees may restrict the performance of street lighting or cause damage by collision with branches and should not be located within 5 metres of a light source. Account must be taken of the effects of seasonal variations.

As a general recommendation where good visibility is needed shrubs should be selected to have a mature growth height no higher than 1 metre, and trees should have no foliage or lower branches below 2 metres which allows 1 metre field of view between them.

Finally, lighting throughout the development will be an important consideration and where it is implemented it should conform to recommendations within BS 5489-1:2013 SBD considers that bollard lighting is not appropriate as it does not project sufficient light at the right height making it difficult to recognise facial features and as a result causes an increase in the fear of crime.

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Thank you for giving me an opportunity to comment.

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
Sussex Police Headquarters

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