



Local Policing Support Team

Your Ref: Y/152/20/RES

Our Ref: LM/ARU/21/03A

Date 21st January 2021

Contact Name: Lee Melbourne

Dear Mr Davis,

RE: Land at Bilsham Road Yapton

Thank you for your correspondence of the 18th of January 2021, advising me of a planning application for Approval of reserved matters (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) following the grant of Y/91/17/OUT for 250 No. dwellings with associated parking, road/footway/ cycleway provision, open space, landscaping, surface water attenuation & ancillary 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. 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: Y/91/17/OUT dated the 22nd of December 2017 and Our Ref: NW/ARU/17/039A dated the 16th of January 2018 to which all comments remain extant.

Mr Davis
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.

The development in the main has outward facing dwellings with back to back gardens which has created good active frontage with the streets and public areas being overlooked.

Where communal parking occurs within the development 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 apartment blocks - it will be imperative that access control is implemented into the design and layout to ensure control of entry is for authorised persons only. For additional information I refer the applicant to chapter 27 SBD Homes Version 2 2019.

Additionally, I recommend the postal arrangements for the apartments is through the wall or externally mounted secure post boxes. I strongly urge the applicant not to consider letter apertures within the apartment front doors. The absence of the letter aperture removes the opportunity for lock manipulation, fishing and arson attack and has the potential to reduce unnecessary access to the block.

Vulnerable areas, such as exposed side and rear gardens will need more robust defensive barriers by using walls or fencing to a minimum height of 1.8m. There may be circumstances where more open fencing is required to allow for greater surveillance. Close board fencing of 1.5 metre high, topped with 300mm of trellis can be useful in providing surveillance into an otherwise unobserved area and will offer a security height of 1.8 metres.

With regards to footpaths within the development - I direct the applicant to Chapter 8 paragraph 8.8 – 8.12 SBD Homes Version 2 2019 which offers guidance on footpath design.

With regards to landscaping - ground planting should not be higher than 1 metre with tree canopies no lower than 2 metres. This arrangement provides a window of observation throughout the area.

Finally, lighting throughout the development will be an important consideration and where it is implemented it should conform to the recommendations within BS 5489-1:2013.

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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