Greater Manchester Police
designforsecurity

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F.A.O.

24th Jan 2019

Dear Julia Robinson,

I refer to your request for a consultation for the above. We have reviewed the development and drafted the following short statement highlighting any issues and, a series of recommendations intended to reduce the risk of criminals being attracted to the property or the presence of the property being a factor in generating criminal activity.

Due to floor plans not being provided, we could not comment on the internal lay out of the proposal.

Risk Assessment

Having now conducted a site visit here are some concerns we have of the development:

- Having reviewed the site and plans provided, the only real concern we have is the overhang which has attracted anti-social behaviour as well as rough sleepers for the past few years.
- If in the future the client is in mind to create an outdoor space (seating area), we would recommend that crime prevention advice is required in the planning stage.

Recommendations to Improve Security

Physical Security

Doors and Windows:

- All external doors and ground floor windows should be certified to a Secured by Design recognised security standard (PAS 24 or LPS 1175).
- Any new glazing in external doors, ground floor or easily accessible windows should include at least one pane of laminated glass rated as P4A under EN 356.

Lighting:

- All aspects of the building, particularly doorways should be illuminated with dusk till dawn lighting.

Access Control:

- Any staff only areas should be access controlled, to prevent any unauthorised access.

CCTV:

- CCTV should be installed to all elevation of the property especially the front and rear.

CCTV systems (and lighting that support them) require regular cleaning and maintenance to remain effective. Where necessary cameras that are vulnerable to damage should be protected from attack either by relocation to a higher level and using a bigger lens to achieve the view required or through the fitting of a vandal resistant housing.

With regards to the retention of footage, the police prefer quality over quantity. The overall retention period should be dictated by what the system is designed to achieve, though it would be better to have good quality images over a 14-day period than poor ones over a 30-day period.

Procedures for recovery of recordings are recommended to be established (e.g. trained staff / the CCTV system instruction manual to be readily available). This is to ensure that the images produced will be of an acceptable standard that will allow for identification of an individual which will stand up to scrutiny in court.

Acceptable Standard - this generally requires a resolution of 720x576 pixels at a real time frame rate of 25 frames per second. (N.B. Both the camera and DVR must be capable of this – if the camera will only send low resolution images then it does not matter how high the resolution of the recording unit is).

Identification – One of three levels of field of view. To identify an individual, the image must capture no less than 120% of the field of view (at least from the top of the individuals head to their knees). The remaining two levels of field of view are 'Overview' and 'Recognition', which whilst effective for observational purposes, are less likely to result in the identification of a person/offender.
The intelligent placement of cameras helps to provide clear facial identification of individuals.

Alarm system:

- We would recommend that the premise is alarmed with a monitored alarm system.

Management & Maintenance:

- The success of the development will be dependent upon the effective management and maintenance of the site. A security management plan should include measures to deal with the following:

    - Frequent inspection and prompt repair of security features (e.g. lighting CCTV, signage, barriers, locks, fencing and rails).

    - Vegetation management

    - Regular litter and graffiti removal (if applicable)

I hope this is of use and please don't hesitate to contact us, if we can be of further assistance in relation to this matter.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely

Nasr Ul Haque Ba Hons
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Assistant Design for Security Consultant.
for and on behalf of Greater Manchester Police| Crime Prevention Team
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