Design and Access Statement

The design of this mezzanine floor and fire escape is for the purpose of adding addition locker space for the Police Officers at the Tactical Aid Unit within the Clayton Brook Complex; which is owned and used by the Greater Manchester Police. There are various buildings on site as a variety of uses, including firing range training and office space. The TAU building is the one that this access and design statement is for. The TAU building consists mainly of an arena, canteen, locker rooms (male and female) and offices. The arena is used for police officers to train in tactical police measures.

There is currently insufficient space within the existing locker rooms due to the fact that Greater Manchester Police are soon to relocate officers from another station and additional space is needed, which will be the use of the proposed mezzanine floor. In addition to this, the current space that is being used for lockers is inadequate due to the fact that they are housed in different areas of the building which are wholly unsuitable. This includes a male locker room which has to be walked through to get to offices by female staff and visitors to the building, a female locker room located in an old store room which also requires Officers of both sexes to walk through to gain access to the main arena and a male overspill locker located in a disused store area.

The total number of Officers who will need locker space is numbered at 130. The Police Officers store their kit within these lockers which will include; vests, boots, trousers, shirts etc.

There were other various designs that were evaluated by Greater Manchester Police, this one, however is the most economical as well as having the least impact on the surrounding environment. The proposed mezzanine floor will be erected above the current locker area and will therefore have less of an impact for the police officers in terms of adapting to a new area as well as the convenience of the lockers rooms being located adjacent to the training arena.

The mezzanine floor will be accessed by an internal staircase, galvanised steel, as well as a new fire escape, galvanised steel, erected on the outside of the building, to necessitate escape in the event of a fire.

Disabled access – Due to the nature of Greater Manchester Police's Tactical Aid Unit it is unlikely that those with physical disabilities will require use of these facilities; there are however alternative facilities on the ground floor if required. We have taken into account other disabilities: There will be contrasting colours for those who are partially sighted / visually impaired on; doors etc. Contrasting nosings on the stairs and lighting on the external escape staircase. Suitable escape signage within the mezzanine floor will be provided and the area will be wired into the main fire alarm system.

RLB

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