



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

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**Crime Impact Statement for Hotel & Spa, holiday accommodation,
wedding venue and car parking at Kirk Mills, Chipping.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Crime Impact Statement is formed based on local crime figures and trends, incidents reported to the police and community knowledge gathered from local policing teams. It is with this knowledge that the appropriate recommendations are site specific, appropriate and realistic to the potential threat posed from crime and anti-social behaviour in the immediate area of the development.

I would recommend the development be built to Secured By Design to reduce the likelihood of crime affecting the future visitors and residents. The scale, intended use and rural location could contribute to making this an attractive target for travelling criminals from other areas, which following completion, would be difficult and costly to address.

Crime Risks

Within the local area, crime in the last 12 month period includes burglary, theft and criminal damage.

In order to reduce the risk of crime and disorder at this site and wider community I would make the following observations and recommendations;

Hotel/restaurant/holiday accommodation and car parking areas

- The proposed layout of the facilities within the development should allow for good natural surveillance. To optimise this, it is essential that;

- Footpaths between facilities and around the complex are wide, open, well lit spaces that allow you to feel safe when moving through the different areas.
 - The lighting scheme should give good, clear, uniform coverage of all public areas, avoiding dark or secluded areas.
 - Landscaping schemes should be designed with natural surveillance in mind and it should not obscure lighting and/or CCTV.
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- External furniture, such as seating can be a magnet for anti-social behaviour. The presence and placement of such items should be given very careful consideration, reflecting on its future use and the effect on nearby housing (noise and nuisance), and the visual impact (littering, graffiti, damage) which can often result. When siting such items, they should be well overlooked and covered by the lighting scheme.
 - Car parking should always be open, with good lighting and natural surveillance. Landscaping should be kept at a low level so it doesn't provide cover for someone wanting to commit crime.
 - CCTV is recommended as it is likely cars will be parked up overnight, possibly containing valuables as the owners are away from home. The CCTV should be monitored within the hotel reception or security office where suspicious behaviour would be noticed and could be reported to police immediately. The data should be stored for 31 days before being destroyed, which would allow offences to be reported.
 - A vehicle barrier, restricting access especially at night (unless authorised via hotel reception or security) would be advantageous to reduce the risk of overnight car crime which is often committed in rural car parks targeted by travelling criminals from other areas. This point of entry should be covered by the CCTV, to both deter intruders and provide clear images of those who do, increasing the chance of identification and arrest.
 - The lighting scheme on the car park must be compatible with the CCTV to provide clear images.
 - The trailhead centre should provide secure cycle storage, ideally within the building or a secure compound adjacent to it. If this storage is located externally it should be covered by the CCTV system.
 - Consider a security 'base' within the trailhead building to enhance patrolling of this area.
 - The rear area of the holiday cottages could be vulnerable to crime as they back onto open countryside with no surveillance from elsewhere. External lighting would be recommended along with a barrier such as hawthorn hedging to restrict access to this area.
 - Enhanced physical security, such as PAS 24 doorsets and PAS 24 laminated ground floor windows would be recommended.

Residential Development (Outline stage)

- Consider ownership of spaces. The use of barriers both formal (railings, fencing) and informal (planting, change in surfaces) promotes a sense of responsibility for the space and helps to encourage a sense of community.
- Defensible space is essential for housing. A barrier to the front or exposed side of a house says 'this space is no longer public, you are now entering my space'. It gives the message that some form of permission or legitimate reason is needed to enter.
- The sides and rear of properties are most vulnerable in terms of burglary. A minimum of 1.8m fencing should protect these areas from intruder access, with a same height gate (lockable on the inside approximately 1m from the ground), situated as close to the front elevation as possible, to restrict access.
- The lighting scheme should give good, clear, uniform coverage of all public areas, avoiding dark or secluded areas.
- Cul de sac designs for housing developments are promoted as they encourage a sense of community, and also create a safer environment, less at risk of crimes such as burglary, car crime and damage. This is because the 'contained' design doesn't lend itself to passing traffic both pedestrian and vehicular. Therefore strangers don't blend in as they would on a through route. This fact alone would deter a would-be burglar as he is more at risk of being noticed, challenged or even caught.
Physical security is extremely important, but if a criminal can be deterred before even entering an area, they are far less likely to continue and more likely to move on in search of an easier target.
- Car parking for housing, where possible should always fall within the curtilage of the property it relates to. Where this is just not possible, parking areas should be close to and well overlooked by the properties they serve and well lit.

To achieve Secured By Design, the necessary physical security standards must be met – such PAS 23 & 24 external doors, ground floor laminated windows, low energy dusk to dawn external lighting at each external door (further requirements may be required).

If Secured by Design is being sought, the applicant should contact this office as soon as possible. More information can be found at www.securedbydesign.com.

If I can be of any further assistance/offer any further security advice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Emmett

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