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Planning Department
Council Offices
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☎ Direct Line: 07590 461376
✉ Email: mark.montgomery@herts.police.uk
Our Ref: CPD13232025
Your Ref: 25/02571/OP
Date: 16th December 2025

Re: BA1, BA2, BA3, BA10, Urban Open land West of A505 & Land West of North Road, Baldock

Dear Justin,

Thank you for inviting me to comment on the proposal to develop the above land. I apologise for the delay but I was awaiting a reply from our Planning Obligations Manager so we could submit one letter. I have studied the documentation on the council's planning web site and have the following comments to make.

- Given that this is a large development that could have a major impact on crime, disorder and the fear of crime I would ask that the project team engage with Hertfordshire Constabulary's Crime Prevention Design Service with a view to seeking to achieve accreditation to the Police preferred minimum security standard that is Secured by Design (SBD). This is a proven method of crime reduction and, by building to this standard will enable the following.
 1. Achieve enhanced compliance with part 'Q' (Security) of Building Regulations.
 2. Demonstrate that the issues of crime, disorder, and the fear of crime have been addressed as per both national and local Planning Policies.
 3. Compliance with the National Model Design Code – in relation to Public spaces.

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4. Compliance with the new Healthy Homes guidance for best practice.
 5. In addition, by achieving accreditation to SBD this can assist in Climate Control measures by reducing the potential carbon foot print of the estates over their life times (Professor Kan Pease – The Carbon Costs of Crime and their Implications 2009 – available on the SBD web site www.securedbydesign.com).
- I have also attached the response from our Planning Obligations Manager as Appendix One.

Given the concerns raised above the Police are not in a position to fully support this application, but we are not objecting to it. If, however, the applicants engage with Hertfordshire Constabulary's Crime Prevention Design Service with a view to ensuring that this site has appropriate security measures in place, then our position would change.

I would also ask that an 'Informative' be added to any grant of planning permission. The wording could read. "Prior to construction the applicant will contact the Hertfordshire Constabulary CPDS with a view to seeking to achieve accreditation to the Police preferred minimum security standard that is Secured by Design. Reason: To ensure that the development is compliant with both National and Local Planning Policies, in addition, this will also demonstrate the discharge of obligations under Approved Document 'Q' – Security of Building Regulations."

Yours faithfully

Mark Montgomery

Mark Montgomery

Crime Prevention Design Advisor

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