



HERTFORDSHIRE

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Prevention First

Alex Howard
North Herts Council
Planning Department
Council Offices
Gernon Road
LETCHWORTH
SG6 3JF

Date 25th September 2024

Our Ref: CPD 12542024

Your Ref: 3/24/1528/REM

Direct Line: 07590 461376

e-mail: mark.montgomery@herts.police.uk

Re: 3 to 5 Newells, Letchworth

Dear Alex,

Thank you for inviting me to comment on the proposal to develop the above site, I have studied the amended documents on the Council's planning portal and have the following comments to make.

- Further to my original letter on the 8th of August 2024. I am pleased to see the inclusion of 'hostile planting' in the landscaping plan as per my comments in my letter.
- I am disappointed that the applicant's have not engaged with the local Designing Out Crime

Hertfordshire Constabulary Headquarters
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Officer (DOCO) regarding building to the Police preferred minimum security standard that is Secured by Design (SBD). By doing so will reduce the risks of crime. For example, by achieving accreditation to SBD the risk of dwelling burglary can be reduced by over eighty percent compared to non SBD property. The added benefit of this was shown by Professor Ken Pease. In 2009 he wrote a paper on 'The Carbon Costs of Crime & Its Implications' ([Secured by Design – The Carbon Cost of Crime and Its Implications](#)). This showed that a dwelling burglary can produce two point five metric tonnes of carbon via the investigation, replacement of stolen goods and even the residents eventually moving as they no longer feel safe in that property. As SBD can give such large reductions in burglary this will have a massive reduction in the potential carbon footprint of the development.

As I said, in my previous letter, the Police are unable to fully support this application And I requested that an 'Advisory' be added to any grant of permission. "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

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