



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT

CONSTABULARY

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Ms L. Wells
Planning Services
Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Way
Havant
Hampshire
PO9 2AX

Our ref: app/24
Your ref: APP/23/01078

15th February 2024 —

Dear Ms Wells,

FOWLEY COTTAGE, 46 WARBLINGTON ROAD, EMSWORTH, PO10 7HH

Thank you for your letter of the 31st January 2024 and the opportunity to comment upon the application. Having considered the application I have the following comments to make with reference to the prevention of crime and disorder (which includes Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)).

The National Planning Policy Framework makes clear the Government's continuing commitment to "create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion and resilience".

National Planning Practice Guidance advises, that planning has a role in preventing crime and malicious threats. It reminds Local Authorities of their obligations under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended), specifically, to exercise their functions with due regard to their likely effect on crime and disorder, and to do all they reasonably can to prevent crime, disorder and serious violence.

The guidance advises: "Planning provides an important opportunity to consider the security of the built environment, those that live and work in it and the services it provides." It continues, "Good design that considers security as an intrinsic part of a masterplan or individual development can help achieve places that are safe as well as attractive, which function well and which do not need subsequent work to achieve or improve resilience." "Good design means a wide range of crimes from theft to terrorism are less likely to happen by making committing those crimes more difficult."

Tackling violence against women and girls is a Government and a Police priority, creating safer public and private realms forms part of the strategy to tackle this violence.



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The plans show a footpath lined with hedging connecting the residential area with the beach. The footpath will allow members of the public to enter / leave the beach via the new development. There is very little natural surveillance of the footpath from the dwelling, this will reduce further after dark and the hedging will provide for entrapment. These attributes increase the opportunities for crime and disorder. To reduce the opportunities for crime and disorder this access should be controlled, perhaps gated at the beach end of the footpath. Some consideration should be given to the requirement for the footpath and, if required, only provide the footpath.

Lighting is known to reduce crime and disorder and reduce the fear of crime¹. A lighting plan is not supplied with the application. However, the design and access statement describes the lighting thus: "Low level down lighters are to be used through the site to gently light the street without causing light nuisance to residents, neighbours and the existing ecology on the site especially nocturnal pollinators etc." It is not clear whether "low level" refers to low intensity light or low in height, such as bollard lighting.

For the following reasons bollard lighting is not considered crime prevention lighting:

- The light is not at the correct level to provide for facial recognition
- The route is not evenly lit, the light is provided in a pool about the bollard with dark areas between the bollards
- The bollards can be easily damaged especially by moving motor vehicles
- The light from the bollards can be obscured, by planting or parked motor vehicles

Havant Local Plan, Policy CS8, advises that development should provide well lit footpaths, cycle ways and roads.

To reduce the opportunities for crime and disorder and reduce the fear of crime, lighting throughout the development should conform to the relevant sections of British Standard (BS) 5489-1:2020.

¹ Excerpts from the Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy:

1. I have had to change the way I live:
 - a. "I am too scared to go outside in the dark. In winter this means I don't go outside at all except at the weekend, as I work full time. If I am at work and finish at 7pm and have to walk to my car, I'm scared... I have a car because I'm too scared to walk the streets – [if] you push for more people to use public transport...you need to make the journey to and from bus stops safe first"
2. Violence against women and girls in public places:
 - a. "There needs to be greater recognition that women and girls often feel unsafe on the streets, especially at night or in parks or on commons etc. This is outrageous. These are our streets, parks, commons..."





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If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

S York
Designing Out Crime Officer

DISCLAIMER

This survey is based on information supplied by yourself and the current crime trends. I can only give a view on what measures might reduce the risk of crime and there can be no guarantee that the measures will prevent crime. The advice is given free with no intention of creating a contract. Neither the Home Office or Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary take any other legal responsibility for the advice given.



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