



NORFOLK

CONSTABULARY

Our Priority is You

Planning Services
Comm & Env Services
Norfolk County Council

Norfolk Constabulary

Norwich Police Station
Bethel Street
Norwich
Norfolk
NR2 1NN

Ref: FUL/2024/0033

Tel: 101

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Date: 1st July 2024

www.norfolk.police.uk
Non-Emergency Tel: 101

Dear Mr Harriss,

Weston Longville: Pump Farm, Weston Green Road, Weston Longville, Norfolk, NR9 5LA: Change of use of dwelling and converted barn (C3 Use Class) to a temporary care home (C2 Use Class)

Thank you for your e-mail inviting comment on the above application. As a Designing Out Crime Officer my role within the planning process is to give advice on behalf of Norfolk Constabulary in relation to the layout, environmental design, and the physical security of buildings, based upon the established principles of 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design'.

I would encourage the agent to liaise with their client and consider incorporating Secured by Design principles into this proposal. Secured by Design aims to achieve a good standard of security for buildings and the immediate environment. It attempts to deter criminal and anti-social behaviour within developments by introducing appropriate design features that enable Natural Surveillance and create a sense of ownership and responsibility for every part of the development.

These features include secure vehicle parking, adequate lighting of common areas, defensible space and a landscaping and lighting scheme which when combined, enhances Natural Surveillance and safety.

Experience shows that incorporating security measures during a new build or refurbishment reduces crime, fear of crime and disorder. The aim of the Police Service is to assist in the Design process to achieve a safe and secure environment for residents and visitors without creating a "fortress environment".

There is a New Homes 2023 guide available from www.securedbydesign.com which explains all of the crime reduction elements of the scheme. Also, there is a very useful interactive design guide that illustrates the subject very well.

I appreciate that this application is for a "Change of Use" but it would be wise to consider the content of the "New Homes Guide" to make sound use of over thirty years' experience the Constabulary has had in providing appropriate information regarding home security.

The Government has reiterated that designing out crime and designing in community safety should be central to the planning and delivery of new development. Specifically, the Planning Practice Guidance on Design reminds practitioners that local authorities are duty bound to adhere to Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and exercise their functions with due regard to their likely effect on crime and disorder and do all that they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder.

The National Planning Policy Framework July 2021 also requires that: ***“Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive, and safe places which... are safe and accessible so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion....***

With this in mind:

The home should be designed to incorporate Section 2: Physical security elements of the Secured by Design Award. This section provides the ‘Police Preferred Specification’ for all physical security requirements for new or refurbished homes. It is separated into two sections; Section 2a reflects the requirements of the UK Building Regulations and Section 2b addresses bespoke new homes and existing homes. This provides external doorsets and windows intended to offer a level of security suitable for dwellings and other buildings exposed to comparable risk and intended to resist attack normally associated with the casual or opportunistic burglar.

If you should wish to discuss any of my comments, or require assistance with a Secured by Design application, then please do not hesitate to contact me. I am very keen to help in any way I can to provide a future venue that reduces the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime, creating a safer more secure and sustainable environment for future residents.

Yours sincerely



Designing Out Crime Officer
Norfolk Constabulary