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Date: 22nd July 2019

Application: SMD/2019/0409
Location: 25-27 Getliffe's Yard, Leek
Proposal: COU from Use Class A1 to Use Class A4 (drinking establishment)

The following comments should be considered in the light of the following:

- The National Planning Policy Framework states "Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments … create places that are safe … and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience";
- National Planning Practice Guidance which states that "Designing out crime and designing in community safety should be central to the planning and delivery of new development";
- The statutory obligation placed on local authorities to do all they can to prevent crime and disorder in accordance with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
- The 2006 CABE document entitled 'Design and Access Statements: How to Write, Read and Use Them', which states "Statements should demonstrate how development can create accessible and safe environments, including addressing crime and disorder and fear of crime."

Internal liaison took place with the Neighbourhood Policing Team and the Staffordshire Police Licensing Unit in relation to the previous (subsequently refused) application and neither expressed any concerns over those proposals at the time. This revised application, which effectively reduces the scale of the proposed venture again meets with no concerns from Staffordshire Police. Presumably certain Licensing conditions will be in place, which our Licensing Unit will contribute towards.

The adjacent Leek Bar and Grill licensed premises largely attracts a particular demographic who do not generally generate any problems. It is likely that this bar would attract a similar demographic and indeed many of those who would frequent the proposed bar will do so prior to or after their meal at the neighbouring eatery as the application suggests. The location of the proposed bar servery should enable staff to provide an excellent level of natural surveillance over the premises and patrons within and quickly identify any potential issues. The fact that the arcade is gated and locked with restricted access outside of operating hours reduces the potential for the premises to be attractive to offenders seeking to target it. Nevertheless, the doors/windows should offer a good level of attack resistance to further deter offending. If standard external doors which offer a proven level of attack resistance to a recognised manual attack resistant security standard cannot be installed, then the doors should be robustly constructed and appropriate British Standard locks installed. Laminated glazing certified to BS EN356:2000 at a suitable Resistance Class would be worthy of consideration by the applicant. Suitably alarming the premises would be advisable as a deterrent with a response initiated to any alarm activation.

Crime Prevention advice is given freely without the intention of creating a contract, and all comments and recommendations are site specific. Staffordshire Police and the Home Office do not accept any legal responsibility for the advice given.

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