



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Planning Department
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
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Staffs
ST13 6HQ

Early Intervention & Prevention Unit
Ground Floor, Block 9
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Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0YY

Date: 26th April 2021

Application: SMD/2021/0166
Location: 14 Cawdry Buildings, Fountain Street, Leek
Proposal: Alterations to shop frontage and demolition of part rear single-storey building

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";
- SMDC Core Strategy Policy C1 – "Require development proposals to incorporate high quality locally distinctive design features and layouts that will reduce crime and the fear of crime and support inclusive communities, particularly in terms of accessibility and functionality in line with the Council's Design SPD";
- The statutory obligation placed on local authorities to do all they reasonably 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."

The submission of the above planning application to enhance the shop frontage and bring it much more in line with many of the other retail and commercial premises on the street is noted. Such aesthetic improvements to the street scene are generally welcomed as collectively they can instil a greater sense of community pride and thereby discourage some forms of unwanted attention. In addition to aesthetic considerations, robust security will need to be built in from the outset.

It seems highly likely that the frontage alterations will be a bespoke joinery undertaking. As a minimum, it is recommended the entrance door (of suitably substantial wooden construction) should be secured by 2 BS3621 5-lever mortice deadlocks. The doorframe could be reinforced internally (if required) by short Birmingham bars, painted to match the frame accordingly. With regard to the replacement shopfront, installing glazing that provides a robust deterrent to intrusion and criminal damage is clearly advisable. To this end, the installation of laminated glass independently certified to the security standard BSEN356:2000 and to a relevant Resistance Class (agreed in discussion with the installer/glazier) is recommended.

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.

David Elkington
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