
From: Hunton, Andrew
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Subject: 47No. Dwellings, Queens Park, Millom

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FAO Christie M Burns

Many thanks for your consultation dated 26th June 2026.

I wish to offer the following comments, which I have considered from a crime prevention perspective. It is evident from comments in the published Planning Statement (Item 5.2 – Planning Consideration) and the Design and Access Statement (Item 3.1 – Site Layout) that crime prevention measures have been incorporated into the design of this development, thus demonstrating compliance with Policy DS4 in this regard.

The dwellings are laid out to overlook the primary access road and associated communal spaces, without compromising privacy. Car parking provision is generally positioned to the front of dwellings (promotion of defensible space) and in dedicated bays towards the centre of the site, where it can be directly overlooked from the associated dwelling.

The Boundary Treatment drawing depicts how public and semi-private spaces shall be established to promote ownership. The use of landscaping elements is ideal for this purpose and contributes to BNG.

The choice and location of each plant species is important to ensure that views do not become obstructed, or the effects of street lighting impeded as the scheme matures.

Rear and side garden treatments are formed with 1.8m timber fencing to deter intrusion.

It is important that pedestrian rear access routes (usually for wheelie bin movements) are protected with matching full-height gates, fitted with locking furniture. These must be positioned adjacent to the front elevation of the associated dwelling, so that no intruder may approach the rear of these dwellings, potentially unobserved.

This drawing depicts the BNG Enhancement spaces, particularly to the rear of Units 1, 7 & 8 and to the rear of Units 11 – 24. These spaces lack ownership and may only be overlooked from the rear of the dwellings. I would prefer the dimensions of “Boundary 6” to be more substantial – with locking access gates - to deter intrusion to these spaces.

There is no information relating to the provision of street lighting (Item 5.2 m) in the Planning Statement. There is opportunity for the introduction of an innovative scheme in this semi-rural location, to promote confidence and reassurance in the Public Realm and to protect nocturnal wildlife and ‘Dark Skies’ attributes:

[Protecting Cumbria’s dark skies | Thorn Lighting, Cumbria County Council & partners](#)

Consideration must also be given to the provision of dwelling exterior lighting to front, rear and sides of dwellings, where appropriate. Sensitive low energy lighting is required to protect

vulnerable private spaces during darkness – and for the convenience of household tasks such moving wheelie bins during the winter months.

There is no information relating to the physical security of the dwellings.

I recommend the incorporation of all dwelling exterior doorsets (including patio and bi-fold types) certified to PAS 24:2022+A1:2024 and ground floor window products certified to PAS 24:2022+A1:2024, including a pane of laminated glazing (BS EN 356:2000) as appropriate.

Emerging crime trends

Item 5.2 of the Planning Statement refers to the implementation of sustainable energy technology, and the drawings depict the deployment of solar panels. It is surmised that other technology shall utilise ground or air source heat pumps and high-performance water cylinders. Crime trends occurring nationally reveal the theft of these items – invariably during the construction stage, prior to occupation.

I therefore recommend the deployment of a proprietary Property Marking product (e.g. a covert forensic fluid) to uniquely identify true ownership of this equipment. Consideration must also be given to the deployment of lockable cages for ground mounted components.

The theft of Electric Vehicle charging cables is also a growing threat. The Applicant should consider how home charger points shall be protected against crime.

By the adoption of all the security measures described above, the Applicant may wish to achieve Secured by Design accreditation for this development.

I shall be pleased to advise on any crime prevention queries arising from this application.

Best regards

Andy Hunton
Designing Out Crime Officer

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