

Oliver Hoban

From: Hunton, Andrew
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To: Development Control
Subject: Discount Food Store, Preston Street, Whitehaven

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FAO Christopher J Harrison

Many thanks for your consultation dated 16th November 2023.

I wish to offer the following comments, which I have considered from a crime prevention perspective. It is evident from the published Planning and Retail Statement and the Design and Access Statement that crime prevention measures have been incorporated in to the design of this development:

Planning & Retail Statement

3.33 The overall site layout ensures the opportunities for crime and disorder are minimised with the site being open to achieve good natural surveillance. Low level shrubs ensure there are no hiding places within the site.

8.27 The proposed scheme also takes into account the needs of crime and safety. For example, the customer entrance has a high degree of glazing which will offer unobstructed views into and out of the building and provide good natural surveillance. Customer cycle stands are located in front of the northern elevation where good natural surveillance is available from both the building and car park. Finally, the surface car park and external public spaces are generally open and provide good uninterrupted sight lines with clearly defined through routes and circulation. Overall, design measures have been incorporated into the scheme to limit the opportunities for crime, and to reduce the risk of crime, disorder and disturbance occurring.

8.28 Overall, it has been demonstrated that the design of the proposed foodstore will be of a high-quality modern standard and sympathetic to the scale, form and character of existing surrounding structures. The design philosophy adopted, drawing upon a simple palette of contemporary materials, will ensure that the proposed development does not appear out of place in the context of surrounding land uses. Further, it has been shown that the development will improve the character of Client: ALDI Stores Ltd Report Title: Planning & Retail Statement October 2023 Page 47 the Site and bring new life along this stretch of Preston Street. **Finally, design measures have been incorporated into the scheme to limit opportunities for crime.** Compliance can therefore be demonstrated with Policies DM10 and DM11 of the Local Plan and emerging Policy DS6PU of the emerging Local Plan and design policies of relevance contained in the NPPF.

Security and Designing-out-Crime

8.66 The proposed discount foodstore has been designed with safety and crime prevention in mind. A number of physical security measures are proposed to reduce the opportunity for and perception of crime. This includes:

- Good natural surveillance across the car park;
- Cycle parking located in a location with good visibility;
- Well-maintained planting and vegetation; and,

- CCTV and alarm systems.

Design and Access Statement

The overall site layout ensures the opportunities for crime and disorder are minimised with the site being open to achieve good natural surveillance. Low level shrubs ensure there are no hiding places within the site.

This extensive detail demonstrates compliance with Policies DM10 and DS6PU to the Local Plan.

The Proposed Site Plan drawing depicts the deployment of 'Sheffield' stands to the cycle parking – in an 'active' location - and the deployment of bollards to create a physical stand-off around the store main entrance. These measures are considered as best practice to address cycle crime and resistance to burglary.

I recommend the incorporation of all exterior doors to be certified to LPS 1175 and glazing, including curtain walling, to include a laminated type (BS EN 356:2000) to resist forced entry and malicious damage.

The interior spaces should exhibit robust access controls, to prevent unauthorised entry to private offices / stores / staffroom, etc.

If police attendance is required to the intruder alarm, the system and appointed Alarm Receiving Centre must be compliant with National Police Chiefs' Council Security Systems Policy.

There is no information that suggests the applicant shall provide an Automated Teller Machine at the premises (associated crime risks).

Item 8.67 – Planning and Retail Statement:

As the development will comply with the requirements of Cumbria Police in terms of safety and security, it is considered to accord fully with the relevant Local Plan policies concerning safety and security.

Statement of Community Involvement

Preston Street, Whitehaven

October 2023

3.1 The applicant has been committed to engaging with the local community and stakeholders in developing designs for the new Aldi store, in acknowledgement of the value that thorough and effective engagement can add to planning applications. The project team have worked with key stakeholders and local residents on this basis.

Regrettably, the Constabulary was not consulted as part of the Community Involvement process.

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

Best regards

Andy Hunton
Designing Out Crime Officer



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