



Designing-out crime in the (Lancaster Gate) Community Centre

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Community centre crime risks

Opportunities to commit crime

- New building, fixtures, fittings and equipment
- \$6.1 million in funds provided for construction
- Targeting people working in and using the centre

Motivated individuals

- Financially-motivated individuals
- Individuals with personal reasons for offending
- Risk-taking and recreational criminal motivations

Absence of capable guardians

- Police
- Security guards
- Centre staff
- Public users





Community centre crime risks

Planning and funding

- Misappropriation of government grant funds

Construction

- Theft of building materials and fittings
- Damage to building during construction

Building

- Damage to building, damage to heritage, graffiti, theft of fittings and equipment, vehicle theft and damage, theft of and damage to plants

Services

- Non-delivery of services, alcohol and drug abuse, noise, Internet misuse, theft of cash, theft of equipment used in programs

Personal and violent crime

- Assaults on staff and centre users, robbery





Environmental crime prevention

1-Increasing the effort required to offend

- Target hardening, access control, deflecting offenders, controlling facilitators / tools

2-Increasing the risk of apprehension

- Entry-exit screening, formal surveillance, surveillance by employees, natural surveillance

3-Reducing the rewards of offending

- Target removal, identifying property, removing inducements, rule setting

4-Reducing the provocations that encourage offending

- Dispute avoidance, arousal and temptation reduction

5-Removing excuses that are used to justify offending

- Publicity of rules, appeals to conscience, aiding compliance

6-Avoiding counter-productive consequences

- Understanding crime displacement effects of prevention strategies



Community centre crime risks	Crime prevention by <i>increasing the effort required to offend</i>	Crime prevention strategy
Building damage Theft of equipment Internet misuse Personal crime	Target hardening	Fences and gates Locks Encrypted Internet
Internal damage Theft of equipment Violent crime	Access control	Registration of users Access passes/cards Equipment registers
Personal crimes Theft of equipment	Deflecting offenders	External music Good lighting Busy, well-used centre
Theft of equipment/tools Graffiti	Controlling facilitators / tools	Securing tools and equipment Staff monitoring of users Good lighting



Community centre crime risks	Crime prevention by <i>increasing the risks of apprehension</i>	Crime prevention strategy
Night-time crime Theft of equipment Personal theft Violent crime	Entry / exit screening	Perimeter fences Access passes/cards CCTV External lighting
Night-time crime Theft of equipment Personal theft Violent crime	Formal surveillance	24/7 Security guards Security patrols Police / CCTV Good lighting
Personal / violent crime Building damage	Surveillance by employees	Live-in centre manager Staff reporting
Violent crime Building damage Theft of equipment	Natural surveillance	Reporting by members of the public Reporting hotlines



Community centre crime risks	Crime prevention by <i>reducing the rewards of offending</i>	Crime prevention strategy
Theft of equipment Personal theft Internet misuse Centre fraud	Target removal	Securing equipment at night Securing cash Internet encryption
Theft of equipment Personal theft	Identifying property	Equipment branding Equipment registers Room numbering
Graffiti Building damage Personal violence	Removing inducements	Restricted publicity of crimes at the centre Quick graffiti removal
Personal theft Violent crime Theft of equipment	Rule setting	Centre procedures Centre information Community education



Community centre crime risks	Crime prevention by <i>reducing provocations</i>	Crime prevention strategy
Personal violent crime Graffiti, building damage	Dispute avoidance	Staff training Centre rules and policies
Theft of equipment Personal theft Graffiti, building damage	Arousal and temptation reduction	Secured equipment Dedicated graffiti walls
Community centre crime risks	Crime prevention by <i>removing excuses</i>	Crime prevention strategy
Centre fraud Noise, Internet misuse	Publicity of rules	Centre newsletters Clear policies & advice
Building damage Theft of equipment	Appeals to conscience	Prompt repairs Community publicity
Centre fraud Noise, Internet misuse	Assisting compliance	Ease of use Clarity of policies



Conclusions

Effective crime reduction approaches

- Ensure that nearby buildings are renovated – a safe environment
- Have people present at the centre to monitor activities
- Use good levels of lighting, using tamper-proof lights
- Use appropriate fencing and entry-exit controls
- Have simple and quick registration of users of the centre
- Clean-up graffiti and repair of damage quickly
- Secure wireless Internet networks and register users

Approaches to avoid

- CCTV, especially if poorly designed, unmonitored and under-funded
- Inadequately trained centre staff
- Placing conflicting centre activities next to each other
- Creating dark places and locations where offenders can hide



Conclusions

Designing-out crime in advance

- Provide an adequate crime reduction budget in the project design
- Use research evidence when deciding which measures to adopt
- Inform and educate the community about what has been used and why

Effective reporting of incidents and assessment of risks

- Have simple and clear procedures for people to report problems
- Involve Council, security officers and police
- Carry out regular risk assessments to isolate new problems
- Provide feedback to centre staff of resolution of problems
- Provide information and support to victims of crime

Monitoring and evaluation

- Ensure that what has been put in place is effective in reducing risks of crime – by monitoring and evaluation