

Delivering a Safe and Secure Olympic and Paralympic Games, London 2012

Introducing 'Secured by Design'

- Secured by Design is a flagship industry-UK Police initiative to design out crime through accreditation of security products and standards in the planning process
- Designing out crime reduces the vulnerability of a building to crime by removing opportunities that may be provided inadvertently by the built environment through a range of criteria such as better lighting
- The initiative is entirely self funded via the accreditation scheme which includes over 450 members with 1,000 security products, such as doors, locks and roofing thoroughly tested to meet our standards
- Our direct experience and knowledge of the factors impacting crime, policing and crime prevention make Secured by Design a standard which is respected by the security industry, councils and professional bodies

Delivering at London 2012

Secured by Design principles and techniques were used by the London Olympic Crime Prevention team throughout the planning and construction stages for the Olympic Park, Village, and Westfield Shopping Centre with each phase analysed to ensure it met our tough standards for safety.



- Working alongside artists and designers the Olympic Crime Prevention Team helped to deliver a beautiful venue and park underpinned by subtle but integral security planning measures
- Carefully designed CCTV placement, lighting, fences with clear strips and low plant growth at main routes acted as crime deterrents and ensured effective formal and natural surveillance were possible
- Internal routes were also designed to restrict opportunities for crime or terrorism and ensure rapid response and reinforcement if needed
- Taking a “whole crowd” security approach, meant plans were in place for every attendee to be safeguarded in the event of an emergency situation occurring
- Structural elements around the park were designed to inhibit collapse and reduce mass casualties
- User-friendly screening and automatic intruder alarm systems helped secure the premises even further, as well as tamper-evident door and window security meaning people could enter safely and efficiently
- Ensuring that the site was safeguarded against potential terrorist activity was imperative, as such venues and housing underwent blast testing and fitted with anti shatter glass
- A guiding principle of our work was ensuring a sustainable legacy for the site; applying security standards to the new housing stock will keep residents safe from crime and anti social behaviour for generations

Safe and Secure Games

- Secured by Design was an intrinsic part of the safe and secure delivery of the Olympic & Paralympic Games which demonstrated the best of UK design and sporting excellence
- Demonstrable proof that iconic, accessible and unconventional design can be safe and secure too
- Early planning meant that Secured by Design principles were delivered at relatively low cost, whilst maintaining high levels of security and safety
- During the games, crime was kept low and all major disorders or terrorist activities avoided
- Measures enable the public to enjoy the benefit of a prestigious and safe environment for years to come
- Secured by Design was delivered successfully, whilst other security elements of Olympic planning faced public scrutiny
- Secure and decent housing built for the future, ensuring the Olympic regeneration legacy is realised

National Olympic Security Coordinator and Metropolitan Police Lead for Safety and Security for London 2012, Chris Allison, commented that using Secured by Design in the planning process “significantly helped to enhance safety... and is much more cost effective than attempting to add on measures at a later stage”

What can we learn from London 2012?

- Secured by Design principles can be built in to any development, large or small as appropriate
- Secured by Design can lower operational and maintenance costs whilst increasing safety of sporting events and other major infrastructure projects
- Demand for iconic and unconventional buildings at major events does not have to conflict with security
- The UK is a world leader in security standards and design, and this should be promoted internationally

Can ‘Secured by Design’ work in other locations?

- The Cardiff City Stadium, built in 2009, adopted Secured by Design principles at the planning stage
- Following Nottingham’s Secure, Warm, Modern scheme in 2008-09 at Bells Lane and Broxtowe estates, the number of burglaries fell by 42%; higher than the 21% decrease of burglaries in the city as a whole
- In Glasgow, research demonstrated that total housebreaking crime fell by 26% while attempted housebreaking decreased by 59% at properties with new Secured by Design doors and windows.
- Independent research has consistently shown the project reduces both the levels and fear of crime

Secured by Design: Proud to Keep London Safe

Alan McInnes, General Manager of Secured by Design said:

“We are proud of the integral role that Secured by Design played in keeping London, its residents’ and guests safe, during the inspirational Olympic and Paralympic Games, London 2012”

“Our Olympic and Paralympic Venues truly demonstrate that designing out crime, preventing terrorist and criminal activities, does not stand in the way of innovative and beautiful design. With the spotlight on London, our initiative proved itself to be an astounding success and truly evidences the need for Secured by Design principles to underpin any large scale project in the UK and abroad”

