

Appendix 4

Barbican Estate Security Committee

- Summary report

Introduction This summary report has been prepared by the Barbican Estate Security Committee (BESC) as an update for members of the Residents' Consultation and Barbican Residential Committees and in response to questions raised previously in respect of security and cleaning issues within the Barbican Estate during 2011.

Background The BESC is a sub committee of the Barbican Association's General Council – the Barbican Association being the official residents' association of the Barbican Estate. It is chaired by David Bradshaw C.C. and committee members consist of resident representatives (appointed by individual House Groups); Barbican Estate Officers and City of London Police officers.

The BESC has been active since the early 1990's and its prime remit is to monitor, discuss and respond to actual or potential security risks and crime in and around the Barbican Estate and to offer comments, suggestions and proposals concerning the better detection and reduction of crime and the enhancement of security for residents.

CCTV (closed circuit television)

The possibility of extending CCTV across the estate has been raised a number of times over the years; most recently in the Autumn period last year when two residents of Andrews House suggested that additional CCTV coverage was required on the podium at strategic locations and also to cover terrace block staircases.

This suggestion was investigated by the BESC in November 2011 and again in June 2012 when the following issues were reviewed:

- Barbican Estate Listing
- Costs
- Security and Crime levels
- Resident Survey results
- Door Entry Working Party Project
- Logistical Installation and Monitoring

A quotation for Podium Door entry CCTV was sought in response to a request from the Andrewes House Group to cover 12 staircase entrances at the podium level with the images monitored and recorded by the Estate Concierge in the Andrewes House Car Park Box. To achieve this, an installation cost of some £50,000 would need to be charged to Andrewes House residents (long lessees) directly as would the on-going annual Servicing and Maintenance costs, which would also be significant.

The costs and proposed scheme were considered by the Andrewes House Group Committee and rejected.

It was subsequently concluded that CCTV across the Podium as well as terrace blocks staircase entrances would not be required at this stage, however, the BESC will review the case for additional CCTV again if the installation of the proposed digital television cabling is successful, as there may well be advantages in linking the two.

Security / Crime

In a year that the City has had 5 major security events (Occupy London, London Riots, Student Riots, Olympics and Paralympics), the City of London and the Barbican Estate has continued to reduce its crime statistics.

There were no reported serious crimes such as an Assault, Murder, Burglary or Stolen Vehicles.

Cycle theft is still high in the City; however the Barbican Estate only had one bicycle taken this year.

City of London Police Crime Statistics – Sept 2011 to Sept 2012

Barbican Estate Incidents	Resident	Non-Resident
ROBBERY	0	1
THEFT FROM PERSON	0	1
BURGLARY (Attempted)	1	0
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	1	3
THEFT	1	1
DRUGS	0	1
DOMESTIC INCIDENT	1	0
FRAUD	2	0
TOTAL	6	7

City of London Police have commented that residents, workers and visitors to the City are safer than at any point in the last ten years. The City of London Police's crime summary figures show crime fell by four per cent in 2011/12.

Violent crime is down; the fifth consecutive year the City has seen a fall in the total of sexual offences, robbery and violence against the person.

The number of theft offences has also fallen, while motor vehicle crime is down 28 per cent.

Residents Survey Results – March 2011

For security, in the May 2009 survey, 82% was achieved in the good and very good level. In March 2011 residents rated security as 87% in the very satisfied and fairly satisfied categories. Security in the Barbican is under constant review and the Barbican Estate Office works closely with the City Of London Police.

	Performance March 2007	Performance May 2009	Performance March 2011
	Very Good & Good Categories		Very Satisfied & Fairly satisfied categories
Concierge Staff	89%	91%	91%
Security	78%	82%	87%

Cleaning and Bins on the Podium

Waste bins were removed from the City of London and the Barbican Estate some years ago now mainly due to the potential bomb threat of the IRA; however bins are no longer viewed as a security risk.

Although some bins have been successfully introduced into the Car Parks (where cleaning services have been reduced to meet required savings) it is recommended to continue with the Podium Cleaners and not to introduce more bins across the estate. By retaining the current number of podium cleaning staff, activity will be maintained for the entire week with the whole podium area being cleaned every day and high profile areas twice a day.

The current KPI (key performance indicator) figures show that podium cleaning is at 92% for Good and Very Good and the Cleaning Manager is also extremely pleased with the standards of cleaning achieved.

Recommendations & concluding thoughts

- No additional CCTV coverage is required at this time
- No additional bins are required provided the level and frequency of the existing podium cleaning staff is maintained.

Although the Barbican Estate has low levels of most types of crime, this is not necessarily reflected in individuals' perception of the risk of being a victim of crime. The BESC believes it is important to ensure adequate maintenance of existing lighting levels and lines of sight along the podium walkways and all entrances to the Estate to reduce both the fear of crime and act as a deterrent to opportunistic crimes. Measures to improve these should be considered in badly lit / obscured areas. Furthermore, when building works impinging on access routes to the Estate / podium walkways are approved, lighting and security factors should be given due consideration to ensure adequate lighting / security during the carrying out of the works. Consideration should also be given to improvements that may be required following the boarding up of vacant buildings on the Estate podium etc which may adversely affect existing provision.

Barbican Estate Security Committee

23 October 2012