

# **DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE: Planning for Community Safety**

## **CONSULTATION REPORT January 2017**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 This report accompanies the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) 'Planning for Community Safety' which will be submitted to DCC Planning Committee when considering adoption of the SPG for use in the determination of planning applications.
- 1.2 Supplementary Planning Guidance and Site Development Briefs should only be adopted by a local planning authority and, hence, regarded as a material consideration if they have been subject to comprehensive public consultation.

### **2. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

- 2.1 Consultation on the draft Supplementary Planning Guidance: Planning for Community Safety ran for 8 weeks from 3rd October to 28th November 2016. This was a public consultation and was open for anyone to respond. The consultation included the following:
  - Letters / emails were sent to contacts on the LDP database; public bodies; statutory consultees; local, regional and national organisations with an interest in the LDP; plus agents /developers, registered social landlords and statutory consultees (eg NRW, WG)
  - All County Councillors notified
  - All Denbighshire City, Town & Community Councils notified, together with neighbouring Counties, Town & Community Councils
  - Town & Community Councils received copies of the consultation documents and response forms
  - Local Council libraries and One-Stop-Shops also received hard copies of the consultation documents and response forms
  - The draft Site Development Brief was published on the Council's website, with electronic versions of the response form available to download
  - A press release was issued before the consultation period.

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### 3. CONSULTATION RESPONSES

- 3.1 A total of 7 written responses were received. Representations included comments from North Wales Police, Natural Resources Wales and the Canal and River Trust.
- 3.2 Copies of all responses are available from the Strategic Planning & Housing Team in Denbigh. A summary of each comment received, together with responses, are set out in the table attached.

### 4. CHANGES PROPOSED

- 4.1 After carefully considering the comments received, Officers are recommending several changes as set out in Appendix 1. The main changes proposed include:
- Reference to the use of landscape features and plant species/varieties to support native wildlife species
  - Reference to protected buildings/sites where maintaining the appearance and character must be balanced against community safety design objectives
  - Introducing a commitment to formally consult with the North Wales Police Designing Out Crime Officer on planning applications major developments and those where community safety issues may be an issue.
- 4.2 Proposed changes are shown as **highlighted** or ~~strikethrough~~ text in the attached draft SPG document.

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Name & Organisation	Summary of Representation	Council's Response	Changes Proposed
Sara Price Jones, Natural Resources Wales	Thank you for consulting NRW regarding the above. We do not have any comments to make on this specific consultation.	Comment noted	No changes proposed
Lizzie Webster, Ecology & Biodiversity Officer, DCC	<p>It is important to highlight the role of biodiversity in ensuring attractive community spaces and high-quality environments in general. As the draft SPG states, community safety should be designed into schemes from the outset. Bearing in mind the council's duties under the Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill, this is an obvious way to gain multiple benefits for biodiversity and people if being wildlife-friendly is promoted as part of the requirements.</p> <p>It would be useful, therefore, in section 5.9 Landscaping and Planting to add a sentence along the lines of:</p> <p>Preference should be given to incorporating landscaping features and plant species/varieties which are beneficial to native wildlife.</p>	Agreed.	Include additional sentence in paragraph 5.9 as follows: Preference should be given to incorporating landscaping features and plant species/varieties which are beneficial to native wildlife.

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Name & Organisation	Summary of Representation	Council's Response	Changes Proposed
Sandra Williams, Cyngor Tref Rhuthun	Trafodwyd y ddogfen gan aelodau Pwyllgor Cynllunio a Datblygu Cyngor Tref Rhuthun, ac er nad oedd unrhyw wrthwynebiad i gynnwys y ddogfen, nodwyd y gwrthdaro rhwng ceisio sicrhau diogelwch cymunedol a chwtogiadau ariannol sy'n golygu bod gwasanaethau'n cael eu torri e.e. dim adran Diogelwch Cymunedol mwyach.	Sylwadau wedi eu nodi.	Dim newidiadau yn cael ei gynig
Eirwen Godden, Llanfair DC Community Council	Supports the approach taken in the document.	Comment noted.	No changes proposed
Tony Hughes, Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB Joint Committee	Whilst planning for community safety is important, the Joint Committee would suggest that the document should acknowledge the need for a balance to be struck between designing for community safety and conserving and enhancing the character and appearance of sensitive areas such as the AONB, WHS, Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings. A section on 'Sensitive Areas' could be incorporated in Section 5 'Design Principles' which could highlight , for example, the importance of carefully designing landscaping, lighting and boundary treatments which are compatible with their surroundings, and the need to retain existing trees, hedges and other landscape features which contribute to the	Agreed.	<p>Include new paragraph 5.4 as follows: Within sensitive locations, such as Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and areas designated for their landscape or heritage value, careful consideration must be given to balancing community safety objectives with the need to conserve and enhance character and appearance.</p> <p>Replace paragraph 5.12 title 'Street lighting' with 'External lighting'.</p>

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Name & Organisation	Summary of Representation	Council's Response	Changes Proposed
	<p>character of an area. The committee welcomes the reference to conserving dark skies in para 5.12, but would suggest that this section should be retitled 'External Lighting' to clarify that it applies to all development and not just schemes which require street lighting."</p>		
<p>Tim Bettany-Simmons, Canal &amp; River Trust</p>	<p>Confirm that the Canal and River Trust have no comments to make on the document.</p>	<p>Comment noted</p>	<p>No changes proposed</p>
<p>David Williams, Designing Out Crime Officer, North Wales Police</p>	<p>In summary, would welcome the opportunity to be consulted on relevant planning applications, particularly for larger developments. This would allow for increased consideration of community safety issues through the design process.</p>	<p>Agreed. The SPG will be amended to include provision for formal consultation with the Designing Out Crime Officer as part of process of determining planning applications.</p>	<p>Amend paragraph 6.3 to read: The Council will consult with the Designing Out Crime Officer on full and reserved matters applications for major developments, and where crime and anti-social behaviour may be an issue by virtue of the location or use proposed.</p>

# Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance: Planning for Community Safety



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### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This note is one of a series of Supplementary Planning Guidance notes amplifying the Denbighshire Local Development Plan 2006 – 2021 (LDP) in a clear and concise format with the aim of improving the design and quality of new development. These notes are intended to offer detailed guidance to assist members of the public, Members of the Council, potential developers and Officers in the submission of and, consequently, in determination of planning applications.

### 2. Document Status and Stages in Preparation

- 2.1 The Council's Supplementary Planning Guidance notes (SPGs) are not part of the adopted local development plan. The Welsh Government (WG) has confirmed that following public consultation and subsequent Local Planning Authority (LPA) approval, SPGs can be treated as a material planning consideration when LPAs, Planning Inspectors and the Welsh Government determine planning applications and appeals. This SPG document was formally approved for consultation adopted by Denbighshire County Council's Planning Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016 15<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

### 3. Planning Policy

- 3.1 This SPG supports LDP policy RD 1 ('Sustainable development and good standard design'). This policy applies to all development proposals and states that development must '*Take account of personal and community safety and security in the design and layout of development and public/private spaces and has regard to implications for crime and disorder*'.
- 3.2 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) states that '*Crime prevention and fear of crime are social considerations to which regard must be given by LPAs in the preparation of development plans. They should be reflected in any SPG and may be material considerations in the determination of planning applications. The aim should be to produce safe environments through good design*'.
- 3.3 This is further supported by Technical Advice Note 12: Design (2016) which identifies community safety as one of the five aspects of good design.



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Figure 1: The 5 objectives of good design (TAN 12 'Design', Welsh Government)



### 4. Planning for Community Safety

- 4.1 TAN 12 sets out the objectives of planning for community safety as (i) ensuring attractive, safe public spaces and (ii) providing security through natural surveillance.
- 4.2 Although crime can never be completely eliminated, considering community safety at the design stage of development can significantly reduce the risks, and fear, of crime. Good design and attractive places can encourage a sense of 'ownership' amongst the local community, which contributes to well-being and quality of life. On-going maintenance of public spaces is also important in fostering a sense of community pride and reducing the risks of crime.
- 4.3 Planning for community safety is not about simply incorporating 'target hardening' measures (e.g. external shutters) in developments but instead utilising the design and layout to make crime harder to commit, easier to detect and increases the involvement of the local community in preventing crime.
- 4.4 Community Safety Partnerships were created in 1998 to develop and implement strategies and action plans to reduce crime and disorder.

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The Conwy and Denbighshire Community Safety Partnership Action Plan identifies priority areas, including reducing crime and disorder, and outcomes to improve 'designing out crime' and reduce opportunistic burglaries.

### 5. Design Principles

- 5.1 The principles of planning for community safety should be considered as part of the design stage and should be applied to all development types (e.g. residential, commercial, retail, community facilities etc.).
- 5.2 The design principles set out in this SPG are based on the UK-wide police initiative 'Secured by Design'. This project aims to improve community safety through good design and has published detailed design guidance for those involved in the design process. This guidance is available via the 'Secured by Design' website ([www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com)).
- 5.3 Creating and maintaining a high-quality environment is an important feature of good design and in planning for community safety. Buildings, public spaces, footpaths, landscaping and street furniture should be designed to last with minimal maintenance. Maintenance requirements should be considered at the design stage and provision for any future maintenance should also be established at an early stage.
- 5.4 Within sensitive locations, such as Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and areas designated for their landscape or heritage value, careful consideration must be given to balancing community safety objectives with the need to conserve and enhance character and appearance.
- 5.45 Layout & orientation of buildings

The layout and orientation of buildings can make a significant contribution to increased natural surveillance. Wherever possible, buildings should have clear views of neighbouring properties, public spaces, footpaths and play areas. With regard to residential development, careful consideration should be given to allowing unobstructed views without compromising the need for privacy. Blank frontages/gable ends facing onto public areas should be avoided. Including a mix of property types/uses can also contribute to increased occupation during different times of the day, for example providing residential units on upper floors within town centres.

Figure 2: Examples of crime prevention design ('Secured by Design')



The corner plot white dwelling in this illustration is orientated and overlooks the highway and public realm from both elevations. This approach avoids blank wall elevations facing onto the public realm which offers no natural surveillance and can attract vandalism.

This example shows an open space which benefits from natural surveillance provided by the orientation and overlooking from surrounding dwellings.



#### 5.56 Layout of roads, cycleways & footpaths

Well-used routes promote natural surveillance and can offer a heightened sense of safety. Vehicle and pedestrian routes should be clear, convenient and well-lit to ensure they are well-used. Public footpaths should avoid providing unobserved access to the rear of dwellings and other private spaces.

- 5.67 Well-designed streets encourage people to use them and make going outside a pleasurable and safe experience. In residential areas, the design of street layouts should encourage lower traffic speeds conducive to a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists. Street design should be inclusive, providing safe routes for all people regardless of age or ability, and particular consideration should be given to the need for safe walking routes to schools and other local facilities. Applicants should refer to Welsh Government TAN 12 'Design', 'Manual for Streets' (Department for Transport, 2007) and

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'Manual for Streets 2' (Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation, 2010) for guidance on best practice with regard to layout and design.

### 5.78 Communal areas

Public areas and play spaces should be located to allow supervision from surrounding buildings, with safe routes for those using these areas.

### 5.89 Boundaries

Boundaries between private and public areas should be clearly defined to show the areas of ownership and control by occupiers. Boundaries may be defined through various treatments, including fencing, planting, surface treatments etc and creating a 'fortress mentality' should be avoided. The front boundaries of properties should be open to view and robust boundary treatments used for the side and rear.

### 5.910 Landscaping & planting

Landscaping and planting can contribute to a high quality and attractive environment but should not impede natural surveillance and should avoid the creation of potential hiding places. Certain plant species can act as a deterrent for unauthorised entry and enhance boundary security, for example thorny shrubs. Preference should be given to incorporating landscaping features and plant species/varieties which are beneficial to native wildlife.

### 5.101 Parking

Vehicle parking should be open and well-lit, with communal parking ideally located in small groups close to buildings and, in residential developments, within view of active rooms (i.e. kitchens, living rooms). Public parking, for example within town centres, should incorporate clear signage for access/exits and traffic flow, surveillance measures and be well-lit. On-going maintenance of parking areas is also important in reducing the fear of crime and deterring graffiti, criminal damage etc.

5.112 Unsuitable or inadequate parking provision can pose a risk to pedestrian and road user safety, where it results in excessive on-street or unauthorised parking. This can also cause difficulties for access, and response times, for emergency vehicles. In residential

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developments, curtilage parking and garages should be provided as the most secure parking option wherever possible, preferably located alongside the dwelling. Development proposals should take account of the design requirements set out in 'Manual for Streets' (Department for Transport, 2007), and detailed guidance on parking provision set out in the Council's adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance 'Parking Requirements in New Developments' (2014).

### 5.123 Street External lighting

Lighting requires careful coordination to ensure it is adequate for visibility, particularly in vulnerable areas, but without creating nuisance or light pollution. Excessive or intermittent lighting can negatively affect local residents, wildlife and the extent of 'dark skies' in the county.

### 5.134 Climbing aids

Features such as boundary walls, bin/fuel stores, street furniture, flat roofs, balconies etc. can create the potential for gaining access to upper floors of properties and should be designed or located to ensure such opportunities are minimised.

### 5.145 Signage

Roads and buildings should be clearly named and/or numbered to identify ownership, define public and private spaces, and to provide assistance to occupiers and emergency services.

## 6. Planning Applications

- 6.1 Planning for community safety is part of good design and should be addressed at the early design stages of any proposal, and as part of pre-application discussions with the Development Management team. Proposals should respond to local circumstances by taking account of existing crime, anti-social behaviour, fear of crime and any other issues which may be affecting the safety and security of communities and property.
- 6.2 It is a statutory requirement for certain planning applications and listed building consent applications to be accompanied by a Design & Access Statement (DAS). Where a DAS is required, this provides a useful tool to communicate how the objectives of good design

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(including community safety) have informed the development proposal.

- 6.3 The North Wales Police ‘Designing out Crime’ Officer provides a valuable service to local authorities, architects and developers in advising on community safety and detailed design matters. The Council will consult with the Designing out Crime Officer on **full and reserved matters** planning applications **for major developments**, and where crime and anti-social behaviour may be an issue by virtue of the location or use proposed.

## 7. Other Matters

### 7.1 *Planning Obligations*

All development proposals should have regard to the principles contained within this SPG. In instances where concerns regarding a proposal cannot be overcome by through the use of conditions, the Council may require planning obligations. The Council has recently consulted on SPG on planning obligations, which contains additional guidance on measures that may be required to improve community safety (section 17).

### 7.2 *Building Regulations*

Welsh Government is currently considering the introduction of a mandatory standard, through Building Regulations, relating to residential security (‘Part Q’). This will focus on target hardening of windows and doors in new dwellings.

### 7.3 *Counter terrorism*

Some public areas can be a target for terrorist activity and large publically-accessible developments, or those adjoining such developments, should consider how protective security measures can be incorporated into the proposal design. Any measures incorporated should be proportionate to the risk and should not compromise the principles of ‘good design’. Further guidance on this has been published as part of the UK Government’s ‘Crowded Places’ agenda.

### 7.4 *Denbighshire initiatives*

The Council and its partners are currently engaged in various projects which aim to improve the appearance of public spaces, and will have a

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positive impact on community safety. Work is underway to tackle the appearance of identified 'eyesore' sites in the county, as well as initiatives to improve the public realm and built environment in West Rhyl.

### 8. Contacts

Development Management  
Planning and Public Protection  
Denbighshire County Council  
Caledfryn PO Box 62  
Smithfield Road  
Denbigh Ruthin  
LL16 3RJ LL15 9AZ  
Tel: 01824 706727  
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planning@denbighshire.gov.uk

Strategic Planning and Housing  
Planning and Public Protection  
Denbighshire County Council  
Caledfryn PO Box 62  
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LL16 3RJ LL15 9AZ  
Tel: 01824 706916  
Email: [ldp@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:ldp@denbighshire.gov.uk)

Designing Out Crime Officer – Conwy/Denbighshire  
North Wales Police  
Tel: 01745 588893  
Email: [david.williams8@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:david.williams8@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

# SPG - Planning for Community Safety

## Wellbeing Impact Assessment Report

This report summarises the likely impact of a proposal on the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Denbighshire, Wales and the world.

Assessment Number:	176
Brief description:	Supplementary planning guidance document which, once adopted, will be used in the determination of applications for planning permission. The SPG provides guidance (for applicants, Members and Officers) specifically on how community safety issues can be addressed through the design of new developments.
Date Completed:	22/02/2017 15:39:52 Version: 1
Completed By:	Claire MacFarlane
Responsible Service:	Planning & Public Protection
Localities affected by the proposal:	Whole County,



# IMPACT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Before we look in detail at the contribution and impact of the proposal, it is important to consider how the proposal is applying the sustainable development principle. This means that we must act "in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

## Score for the sustainability of the approach

Could some small changes in your thinking produce a better result?

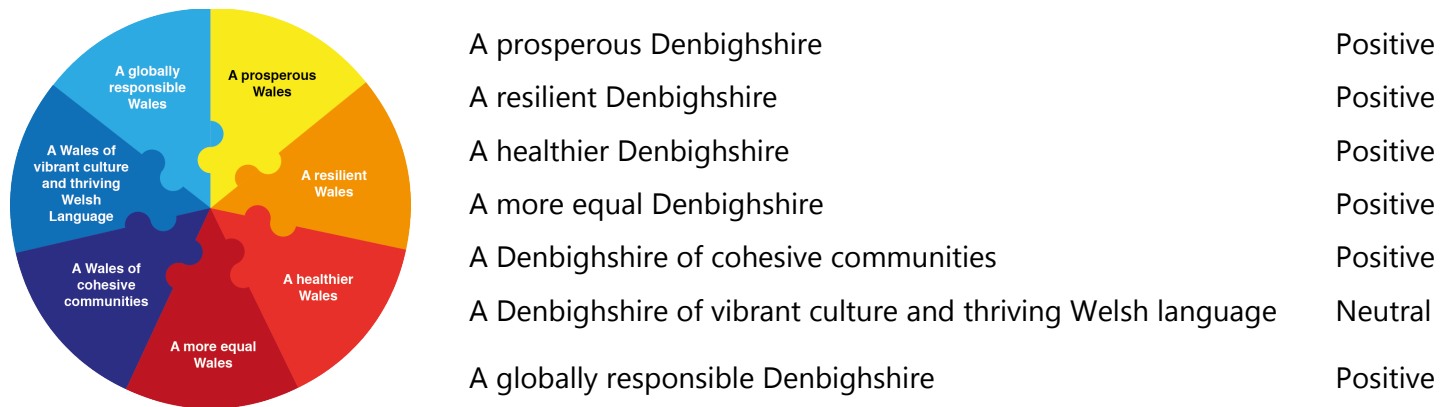
(3 out of 4 stars)



Actual score: 21/ 24.

## Summary of impact

Wellbeing Goals



## Main conclusions

On balance, the adoption of Supplementary Planning Guidance on Planning for Community Safety will have a positive impact on well-being in Denbighshire. Planning for Community Safety does not add additional burdens on developers or developments but is based on the principle of 'designing out crime' through utilising design and layout. Although crime can never be completely eliminated, well-designed buildings and places can reduce the risks, and fear, of crime; create attractive and pleasant environments; and provide convenient and safe routes for walking and cycling. This will contribute to increased activity levels, a high quality environment and vibrant and viable communities. Potential negative impacts relate to site-specific details, where there may be tensions between community safety objectives and the natural and historic environment. The SPG recognises these issues and the need to achieve a balance between competing interests. The SPG also promotes early consideration of community safety issues as part of the design process, and the importance of pre-application discussion with the Local Planning Authority in addressing site-specific concerns.

# THE LIKELY IMPACT ON DENBIGHSHIRE, WALES AND THE WORLD

## A prosperous Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Taking account of community safety issues through good design in new developments will lower the risk of, and fear of, crime. Good design creates attractive places, encourages use and a sense of 'ownership' by local communities, which in turn contributes to prosperous and viable places.

### **Positive consequences identified:**

Encouraging well-designed, safe and accessible developments will promote sustainable modes of transport by encouraging residents and customers to travel on foot.

Improving the quality and level use of private and public developments may contribute to more vibrant and prosperous communities, which have indirect benefits to local economies.

Designing new developments with consideration of improving community safety will improve their integrity, natural surveillance and reduce the risk of crime and subsequent damage to buildings and property.

### **Unintended negative consequences identified:**

### **Mitigating actions:**

## A resilient Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Community safety is considered to be one element of good design and, if considered at the early design stages, should lead to the creation of attractive buildings and spaces which respect and enhance the environment and biodiversity.

### Positive consequences identified:

Landscaping and planting can contribute to a high quality and attractive environment and certain species can act as a deterrent for unauthorised entry and enhance boundary security (for example thorny shrubs). New developments create an opportunity to introduce landscaping and planting where previously there was none and can also improve community safety through defining boundaries and private/public spaces. Designing attractive, convenient and safe routes to and through developments will encourage walking and cycling. Creating safe and attractive environments will encourage community use and 'ownership' of public areas, which may increase awareness of the environment and biodiversity.

### Unintended negative consequences identified:

Poorly considered planting can provide the potential for hiding places or may impede natural surveillance, which can provide opportunities for crime. Increasing external lighting to improve visibility may lead to increased light pollution. New landscaping and planting features may appear incongruous in the wider environment or introduce non-native species.

### Mitigating actions:

The extent of the impacts, both positive and negative, will largely depend upon the nature and location of each individual development and the opportunities for each site to contribute to enhancing the environment. The SPG provides guidance on the various issues developers should take into account as part of the design process and that these should be addressed as part of pre-application discussions. Larger developments will be required to demonstrate how community safety issues have been considered through submission of a Design & Access Statement.

The SPG makes specific reference to the need for careful coordination of external lighting to ensure it is adequate for visibility but does not negatively affect wildlife or create a nuisance. The document also highlights the need to avoid the creation of hiding places through planting and has been amended to include a preference for plant species which are beneficial to native wildlife.

## A healthier Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Taking account of community safety issues through good design in new developments will lower the risk of, and fear of, crime. Good design creates attractive places, encourages use and a sense of 'ownership' by local communities, which in turn contributes to increased activity and improved health and well-being.

### Positive consequences identified:

Developments where the public spaces benefit from increased levels of natural surveillance and are conveniently located will encourage outdoor activity by all age groups and walking/cycling.

Well-designed streets and public spaces offer an increased sense of safety and encourage pedestrian use, which make going outside an enjoyable experience and provide opportunities for social interaction.

### Unintended negative consequences identified:

If too much focus is placed on 'target hardening' (eg external shutters on buildings), this can lead to a 'fortress mentality' and heighten the perception of a place as unsafe and increase the fear of crime.

### Mitigating actions:

The SPG is based around the objectives of i) creating attractive, safe public spaces and ii) providing security through natural surveillance, and provides guidance to assist developers in how to address community safety issues through design. Consideration of community safety early in the design process is encouraged, as is pre-application discussion with the Local Planning Authority. Having an adopted SPG in place will raise awareness of the 'designing out crime' approach to new developments, and avoid the need for defensive 'target-hardening' measures being utilised.

## A more equal Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Community safety is one element of good design and includes the need to ensure developments are inclusive and provide safe, convenient access for all. This will encourage frequent use, leading to increased activity and social interaction which will positively impact on health and well-being.

### **Positive consequences identified:**

Well-designed places should be inclusive and provide safe routes for all regardless of age or ability. Safe, convenient and attractive places will encourage frequent use, leading to increased social interaction and outdoor activity.

### **Unintended negative consequences identified:**

### **Mitigating actions:**

The SPG makes specific reference to the need to ensure street design is inclusive for all users, and provides a safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists, through the layout of roads and footpaths and using design to promote lower traffic speeds.

## A Denbighshire of cohesive communities

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Taking account of community safety issues through good design in new developments will lower the risk of, and fear of, crime. Good design creates attractive places, encourages use and a sense of 'ownership' by local communities, which in turn contributes to both improved well-being and quality of life for local communities.

### **Positive consequences identified:**

Considering community safety at the design stage of development can significantly reduce the risks, and fear, of crime. Utilising design and layout features can help to make crime harder to commit and easier to detect. Good design and attractive places can encourage a sense of 'ownership' amongst the local community. On-going maintenance of private and public spaces is also important in fostering a sense of community pride and increases the involvement of the local community in preventing crime.

Planning for community safety should ensure attractive, safe public spaces and provide security through natural surveillance.

### **Unintended negative consequences identified:**

Too great a focus on physical deterrents and 'target hardening' (eg shutter, CCTV) to prevent crime can result in unwelcoming and unattractive environments.

### **Mitigating actions:**

The SPG is based around the objectives of i) creating attractive, safe public spaces and ii) providing security through natural surveillance, and provides guidance to assist developers in how to address community safety issues through design. Consideration of community safety early in the design process is encouraged, as is pre-application discussion with the Local Planning Authority. The SPG provides guidance on the various issues developers should take into account as part of the design process and that these should be addressed as part of pre-application discussions. Larger developments will be required to demonstrate how community safety issues have been considered through submission of a Design & Access Statement. Having an adopted SPG in place will raise awareness of the 'designing out crime' approach to new developments, and avoid the need for defensive 'target-hardening' measures being utilised.

## A Denbighshire of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Overall Impact:	Neutral
Justification for Impact:	Developments which are sensitively designed can make a positive contribution to the natural and built environment and enhance local distinctiveness. There may be locations however where the appearance and layout of new development is subject to restrictions due to the surrounding character and environment, and securing a design solution which meets community safety objectives is more problematic.

### **Positive consequences identified:**

Creating well-designed, safe and attractive places will encourage the use of buildings and public spaces and, if sensitively designed, can enhance existing built and natural environment.

### **Unintended negative consequences identified:**

Designing for community safety may conflict with, or be a greater challenge, in locations where the appearance and character of the surrounding environment is particularly sensitive (eg historic environment, protected landscapes).

### **Mitigating actions:**

The extent of the impacts, both positive and negative, will largely depend upon the nature and location of each individual development and the opportunities for each site to contribute to enhancing built heritage and culture. The SPG provides guidance on the various issues developers should take into account as part of the design process and that these should be addressed as part of pre-application discussions. Larger developments and those relating to listed buildings will be required to demonstrate how community safety issues have been considered through submission of a Design & Access Statement. The SPG has been amended to make specific reference to the need to balance community safety objectives with the need to conserve and enhance character and appearance in sensitive locations such as Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings and other areas designated for landscape or heritage value.

## A globally responsible Denbighshire

Overall Impact:	Positive
Justification for Impact:	Planning for community safety is based around the principle of utilising the design and layout of new developments to make crime harder to commit, easier to detect and increasing the involvement of the local community in preventing crime. This will positively contribute to North Wales Police's strategic priority of preventing crime and will also support the Conwy and Denbighshire Community Safety Partnership Action Plan in reducing crime and disorder, improvements to 'designing out crime' and reducing opportunistic crime.

### **Positive consequences identified:**

Taking account of community safety objectives in development design will help to reduce the risk of crime, which will support the strategic priority of North Wales Police of preventing crime.

### **Unintended negative consequences identified:**

### **Mitigating actions:**

The SPG has been developed in consultation with the North Wales Police 'Designing Out Crime' Officer and has been amended to include a commitment by the Local Planning Authority to formally consult with the DOCO on planning applications for major developments. This will ensure specific input, and increased awareness, on community safety issues before planning applications are determined.