

Design Against Crime Solution Centre

BRIEFING PAPER

1.0 Vision

The Design Against Crime Solution Centre increases the use and effectiveness of design-led crime prevention knowledge across Europe, and establishes an international centre for innovation, best practice and training in human-centred, design-led crime prevention.

2.0 A unique partnership

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) and the University of Salford both have a great deal of experience in design-led crime prevention. The Design Against Crime Solution Centre co-locates the proven expertise of the University of Salford with the knowledge and skills of Greater Manchester Police. Together with the Greater Manchester Against Crime (GMAC) Data Hub, this strategic partnership creates a critical mass for innovative and evidence-based design-led crime prevention.

- ↘ Unlike most police forces, GMP's Architectural Liaison Unit (recently rebranded as Design For Security) is staffed exclusively by development professionals trained in crime prevention and dedicated to the role. This enables GMP to achieve a high level of engagement with design, development and planning professionals in the region. Manchester City Council has made it a formal condition of planning consent that GMP's Design For Security experts review all major applications.
- ↘ The University of Salford's Design Against Crime team has undertaken research into design-led crime prevention for ten years. Launched in 1999 with funding from the Home Office and Design Council, Design Against Crime at Salford has grown into a European-wide network of researchers, police and practitioners in design-led crime prevention, and is supported by the European Commission.
- ↘ GMAC is a collaboration between the ten Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships within Greater Manchester. The GMAC Data Hub combines data from police, probation, fire, ambulance and passenger transport services with socio-economic data in a geographic information system to help identify issues and target resources.

3.0 Building on excellence

The Design Against Crime Solution Centre builds on a foundation of excellence in research and teaching in the area of the built and human environment. In 2006, The Sunday Times identified the University of Salford as:

The gold standard centre of excellence in the built environment.

(The Sunday Times, 2006)



Recognised internationally as the UK's premier university for research in the built environment, the University of Salford has been top rated by the UK government since 1992 and is **currently ranked number one** for research power (Research Fortnightly Magazine, 2008). The University collaborates nationally and internationally with many organisations, and makes significant contributions to businesses, governments and communities. The University's proven track record of delivering excellence in this complex and critical area provides a solid foundation for the strategic partnership at the heart of the Solution Centre.

4.0 Solution Centre services

This ground-breaking initiative researches, designs and delivers a comprehensive range of services tailored to the needs of the police, Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP), design, development and planning professionals and their stakeholders. The Centre supports and enables the adoption of effective, evidence-based and design-led crime prevention by police forces across the UK and Europe. The Solution Centre promotes an innovative, human-centred approach, and since its inception, has sought to transform the nature of design-led crime prevention.

Design Advice Service – Delivered by GMP's **Design for Security** consultancy, crime reduction advice is targeted at the front-end of the design and planning process. GMP and Manchester City Council, with the support of the Home Office and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), have implemented a process that enables crime prevention design advice services to be funded directly by developers via the planning process. This releases much-needed funds for front-line policing.

Design Against Crime Resources – Through funded research projects, the University of Salford provides best practice case studies, guidance materials, and practical design interventions as well as running professional development events for designers, planners, police and other stakeholders.

Design Advisor Training – A university-accredited training programme is being developed to meet the needs of police forces in the UK and Europe for appropriately trained and professional Crime Prevention Design Advisors. This course will also service the CPD need of planners and development industry professionals.

Further information available on request. Please address any enquiries to:

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