

MPS STC SCO19 GRAVESEND

DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT 13 August 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

This design and access statement has been prepared by Clifford Tee and Gale Architects and Surveyors on behalf of Metropolitan Police Service

2. LOCATION

The site is located within the Metropolitan Police Specialist Training Centre (MPSTC) Wharf Road, Gravesend, DA12 2HN

It was opened in April 2003 and provides officers with firearms and public order training.

The Live fire building and site is under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Police. The Local Authority is Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1AU.

The original use of the site was for an aircraft fuselage for siege training now carried out elsewhere. The site is screened by an existing 5.34-metre-high blockwork wall.

The site is not within a conservation area but is within a flood risk zone. The ancillary building is elevated 1.2 metres above ground level, but the main building is at ground level and is deemed to be sacrificial.

3. USE

The concept is for a self - contained live fire site set within the existing training zones behind the range complex. The venue will not only consist of the skills house but also a support building offering teaching, shelter, washing and toilet facilities

The training building will be used for live fire exercises.

Firearms instructors are responsible for all elements of firearms and public order training and ensuring that training is carried out safely.

4. AMOUNT

The works comprise of the following:

Construction of a new two storey concrete training building to replace the existing live fire house to provide a more varied training facility for personnel in the use of firearms. The existing live fire accommodation will be retained as a training building. The external finish is to be fair faced concrete with stair and balcony configurations to represent differing building styles for training.

A small ancillary building to provide new toilet facilities kitchenette, instructors' office and operations room is part of the development. New walls are to be fair faced blockwork with a metal roof to match other buildings on the site.

5. LAYOUT

The main building is designed to provide a series of rooms with flexibility in some areas in order to alter the configuration of the spaces. The majority of the walls are to be concrete with ballistic steel and rubber linings internally and ballistic shutters over all external openings. The roof area provides enclosures for plant and storage and fixing points for abseil training.

6. ACCESS

The site is currently accessed via a gate from the main entrance off Wharf road via an existing estate road.

The access to the site will be managed during construction in order that Wharfe road will not be blocked at any time. Hindrance to the current activities of the complex will also be considered in order to minimise disruption to existing operations.

7. LANDSCAPE – Not Applicable