

# Security

## Physical Protections

Physical protections provide the first line of defence against potential intruders, vandals and arsonists and form the vital security basis, enhanced by electronic detection and surveillance.

Good physical security will protect a building from both opportunist and premeditated attack.

### Managing the Risk

**Site Perimeter Fencing:** perimeter fencing should be robust and secure, with access gates being of similar standard; for example, 2-metre high steel palisade or metal weld mesh fencing, with gates of similar construction secured by a padlock complying with CEN EN 12320 (Grades 5-6). Masonry walls are also effective, but chain link and timber fencing provide only low level defences and should be regarded as a site demarcation rather than a security barrier.

- Inspected and maintained in good condition.
- Effective overnight or movement-activated external lighting should be provided to act as a deterrent to criminals, and/or to provide adequate illumination for CCTV surveillance equipment.
- External boundaries should be monitored (where appropriate) by approved CCTV surveillance equipment, alarm movement sensors, infra-red beams, vibration monitoring detection or permanent site guards.

**Building Security:** the first line of protection for a building is the external openings, such as doors, windows and rooflights.

- **Doors** – external doors should be robust and fitted with good quality locks or padlocks, at least to BS 3621: 2007 + A2: 2012 - Thief Resistant Lock Assembly - Key Egress or CEN EN 12320 (Grade 5-6). Vulnerable doors should be protected by external 1.6mm steel sheet, coach bolted through the door at 200mm centres; if a higher level of security is warranted, internal or external approved shutters need to be fitted as detailed below.
- **Note** – protection of designated fire doors must be agreed with the local Fire Authority prior to work being carried out

- **Windows** – are a common source of entry by criminals, and premises are only as secure as their weakest point. Vulnerable windows should as a minimum be protected by key operated window locks; if a higher level of security is warranted, internal or external steel bars should be fitted in accordance with the following specifications:
  - **Internal:** 19mm diameter at maximum 100mm centres passed through holes in and welded to tie bars of 50mm x 9.50mm flat steel, tie bars to be provided at 450mm intervals, tie bar ends to be splayed and grouted into masonry at least 50mm deep and not less than 75mm from the face of the brickwork.
  - **External:** bars to be welded to a frame of minimum dimensions 38mm x 6mm constructed of flat metal. This should be fixed to the brickwork (not the window frame) all around the opening using 76mm x 9.5mm Rawlbolts at intervals not exceeding 300mm. Alternatively, 2mm (12 gauge) expanded metal with a maximum mesh size of 75mm should be welded to an angle iron frame and fixed to the brickwork as above.
- Alternatively, approved shutters or grilles should be fitted.
- Roller shutters and retractable security grilles – should be approved, installed and maintained to Loss Prevention Council (LPC) Rules.

**Security Posts:** are effective in protecting premises against ram-raids (where criminals use a motor vehicle to attack windows, doors, and the building fabric itself), and restricting vehicular access. LPC approved fixed or telescopic bollards may be installed as appropriate.

**Internal Security Stores:** should be constructed to house high value and/or attractive goods, such as laptop computers and portable tools. Such stores should be of substantial construction, or formed from steel welded mesh on a steel frame; door openings should be secured by a padlock complying with CEN EN 12320 (Grades 5-6).

For further information please contact your local AIG risk engineer.

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