



Do you know a DOCO?

» DESIGNING OUT CRIME

Officers (DOCOs), work closely with architects, developers and local authority planners on new-build developments and major refurbishments to design out crime at the drawing board stage. In this exclusive collaboration between Secured by Design and Warrior Doors, The Locksmith Journal presents the who, what, when, where, why and how of DOCOs...

1. A BLUEPRINT FOR SECURITY

Secured by Design (SBD) is the national police crime prevention initiative, that seeks to achieve sustainable reductions in crime to help people live and work in a safer society. We work in partnership with national and local government, British and European standards authorities, trade associations, the construction industry, manufacturers and many other organisations to reduce crime and the fear of crime by incorporating proven crime prevention

techniques into the built environment. Our work in local communities is carried out by a network of more than 200 SBD-trained police officers and staff in Police Forces across the country; known principally as Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCOs).

2. ACCEPTABLE IN THE EIGHTIES

SBD was created in 1989 following the housing boom of the 1960s-1980s when there was a huge and urgent demand for housing. Estates were built quickly and often cheaply with little consideration given to security. Escape routes were everywhere, anonymity was absolute and crime increased, particularly burglary. In response, the Police set up SBD to incorporate crime prevention into new developments. Today the DOCOs that we train work closely with architects, developers and local authority planners on new-build developments and major refurbishments to design out crime at the drawing board stage. We work



across a range of building sectors including housing, commercial, retail, mixed use, transport, health, education, sport, leisure and many others.

3. WINDOWS (AND DOORS, AND LOCKS) OF OPPORTUNITY

In addition, we seek to improve the physical security of buildings, by awarding our Police Preferred Specification to products, such as doors, windows and locks that are sufficiently robust to resist physical attack by casual and opportunistic burglars. To obtain this accreditation, products have to be certified by an independent, third-party UK Accreditation Service (UKAS) certification authority. This standard involves initial testing of products, regular re-testing and production audits to ensure standards are maintained over time as opposed to being tested only once. Our accreditation ensures compliance with the Building Regulations - Approved Document Q (Security), which became effective in England in October 2015.



4. LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

The advice given by the DOCO will be dependent upon the outcome of a crime risk analysis and an understanding of local crime occurrence. Consequently, specific measures recommended to address particular types of crime may vary from one site to another. DOCOs provide guidance on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), which seeks to deter crime by creating an area where burglars are more likely to feel noticed and challenged. For example, homes positioned with windows overlooking the street, vehicles and surrounding footpaths serve to maximise natural surveillance. Railings at the front of houses help define a front boundary whilst high rear fencing and robust gating restricts access to rear gardens. Restricting excessive permeability, such as an absence of alleyways and cut-throughs, minimises hiding places. In addition, different colours or textures on road surfaces or pathways along with rumble strips or brick pillars at the entrance to a site, help create the look and feel of an area where residents take pride in their homes and where neighbours know each other.

5. SBD IN PRACTICE

SBD has launched an initiative called National Building Approval, which seeks to make building security compliance simpler, quicker and cheaper for companies and organisations commissioning



new-build developments and major refurbishment schemes. A key benefit is that SBD takes on the administrative task of carrying out due diligence on the member company's supply chain. This is to ensure security standards for products are compliant with the Building Regulations in England and Scotland and/or meet the requirements set by SBD.

One such company that understands the importance of SBD products and the role of DOCOs in our everyday life is Warrior Doors...

6. WARRIOR DOORS

Warrior Doors is a Birmingham-based manufacturer of high-security door solutions. Typing 'Warrior Doors' in the Secured by Design website's approved products search box will throw up no less than 26 results. For many DOCOs, this tool is the 'bible' when it comes to seeking out SBD products and information regarding their use. Warrior Doors independently tests its doors to incredibly stringent and robust criteria, then have them certified to LPS 1175 or LPS 2081 standard by BRE, the industry's leading body; meaning DOCOs can have complete peace of mind when choosing a door that is fit for purpose, whether the planned project is for a high-end jeweler or a communal housing entrance. As manufacturers of high-security doors for over 20 years, Warrior Doors' experience combined with innovation for product design

and development means that its products offer maximum security without compromising on overall aesthetic or light getting inside to a building.

7. A SAFER FUTURE

Tens of thousands of residents have moved into new or refurbished homes designed to SBD crime prevention standards and continue to benefit from our high standards of security. Independent academic research from the Secure Societies Institute at the University of Huddersfield shows that new developments that include SBD crime prevention techniques in the built environment and SBD accredited products in the physical security of buildings can reduce crimes like burglary by up to 75% compared to equivalent non-SBD developments. Evidence suggests these figures are sustainable year-on-year and represent a significant reduction especially as most SBD developments are in social housing, many of which are in deprived areas. Less crime and anti-social behaviour reduces demand on the police service and assists local authorities. Having robust, accredited products means they will require less maintenance, repair and replacement.

www.securedbydesign.com
For more information on Warrior Doors please visit www.warriordoors.co.uk, or alternatively give the team a call on 0121 706 8400.