

## DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT

### Installation of Internal Retractable Security Grille Yorkshire Building Society, Worthing

#### 1. Introduction

This Design & Access Statement has been prepared in support of a planning application for the installation of an internally mounted retractable security grille at the Yorkshire Building Society branch in Worthing.

The proposal seeks consent for the installation of a manually operated concertina-style security grille within the recessed entrance lobby of the existing premises.

The proposed installation is intended to improve the management, safety and security of the premises outside operational hours whilst minimising impact upon the existing building and surrounding Conservation Area.

#### 2. Site Context

The application site comprises an existing Yorkshire Building Society branch located within Worthing town centre.

The property forms part of an established commercial parade characterised by modern retail and banking frontages at ground floor level.

The existing frontage consists of:

- aluminium framed glazing,
- recessed entrance lobby,
- contemporary fascia signage,
- modern commercial shopfront detailing.

The recessed entrance arrangement provides a sheltered alcove outside operational hours.

The site is located within a designated Conservation Area.



### 3. Design Principles

The proposed security solution has been specifically selected to minimise visual impact upon the existing building and surrounding streetscape.

The proposal utilises a retractable concertina-style lattice grille rather than a solid roller shutter system. This approach has been adopted to ensure the installation remains lightweight, visually permeable and discreet in appearance.

Key design considerations include:

- internal installation within the recessed entrance,
- retractable operation,
- visually open lattice construction,
- absence of external shutter housings,
- minimal intervention to the existing façade,
- reversible fixing methodology,
- dark powder-coated finish to reduce prominence.

The selected grille system is manually operated and reveal fixed internally within the entrance recess. The grille will remain fully retracted during operational hours and therefore will have minimal visibility within the street scene for the majority of the day.

### 4. Amount

The proposal relates solely to the installation of an internal retractable security grille within the existing recessed entrance lobby.

No extensions, enlargements or alterations to the overall footprint of the building are proposed. No changes are proposed to the existing fascia signage, glazing arrangement or wider frontage composition.

### 5. Appearance

The proposed grille comprises a lightweight retractable lattice security grille finished in a dark powder-coated colour.

The open lattice design maintains transparency and visual permeability across the frontage and avoids the visually dominant appearance commonly associated with solid external security shutters.

The grille has been selected specifically to minimise visual impact within the Conservation Area whilst maintaining operational security requirements.

Due to the recessed positioning of the installation and the retractable nature of the system, the proposal is considered visually discreet and proportionate to the existing commercial frontage.



## 6. Access

The proposed works do not alter existing pedestrian access arrangements to the premises during operational hours.

The grille will remain fully retracted whilst the premises are occupied and open to the public.

The proposal does not impact existing means of escape, circulation routes or accessibility arrangements. No changes are proposed to floor levels, thresholds or entrance widths.

## 7. Heritage & Conservation

The proposal has been developed with careful regard to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

The existing frontage is of a modern commercial character and does not comprise a traditional historic shopfront.

The proposed grille is:

- internally mounted,
- visually permeable,
- lightweight in appearance,
- reversible in nature,
- limited in physical impact.

The proposal has also been selected in preference to more visually harmful alternatives such as externally mounted roller shutters.

The works are therefore considered to preserve the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

## 8. Operational Need

The recessed entrance arrangement has resulted in ongoing management and operational concerns outside operational hours, including anti-social behaviour and unauthorised occupation of the entrance alcove.

The proposed grille will assist in the safe management and protection of the premises whilst maintaining an appropriate visual appearance within the town centre environment.

The proposal represents a proportionate and low-impact response to these operational requirements.



## 9. Conclusion

The proposed installation of an internally mounted retractable security grille has been carefully designed to minimise visual impact upon the host building and surrounding Conservation Area.

The proposal:

- preserves the existing character of the frontage,
- avoids harmful solid shutter solutions,
- remains visually discreet,
- is reversible in nature,
- provides operational and security benefits to the premises.

The proposal is therefore considered appropriate and acceptable in both design and heritage terms.

