

Forty Hall & Estate – Forty Hall Development HLF Project CCTV Proposal - Briefing

1. Background

Forty Hall has recently undergone a £4.5m refurbishment and redevelopment project, co-funded by Enfield Council and Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Security measures have been reviewed, including the upgrade of existing external CCTV camera provision surrounding the Hall and the main entrance. Enfield Council has presented the proposals to HLF who have recently agreed to include these costs in the Forty Hall Development Project subject to statutory permissions being granted.

This briefing paper outlines the scope of the proposals which will be submitted in planning permission and listed building consent applications in October 2012. Should the permissions be granted, the work is scheduled to take place in 2013.

2. Proposal

Security at Forty Hall has been a long term and major issue, especially lead theft and object theft when the building is not occupied by staff. Currently a number of external CCTV cameras surround the building, however these are over 10 years old. The proposal in this paper is to upgrade the CCTV around the Hall.

The Grade II Listed Gate Entrance, particularly the north pier, is often damaged by large vehicle accessing the site. As there is no CCTV coverage of this area, evidence of damage to the pillars by vehicles etc can not be recorded and individuals can not be pursued for financial compensation for the resulting repair works etc.

2.1 Scope of Works

The proposed works will improve CCTV coverage of the site, ensure all cameras have night vision capacity, higher quality image resolution and include the necessary equipment to link the external CCTV cameras to the 24/7 Remote Monitoring Centre at Claverings. There a network of PA speakers and motion detectors will also be included next to the cameras. The motion detectors alert the Remote CCTV Monitoring Team to unexpected activity on site. The PA speakers then allow the team to make announcements from the Monitoring Centre directly on site to dissuade suspects from scaling/entering the building etc. This equipment is often used by English Heritage to enhance their security measures.

The scope of works is as follows:

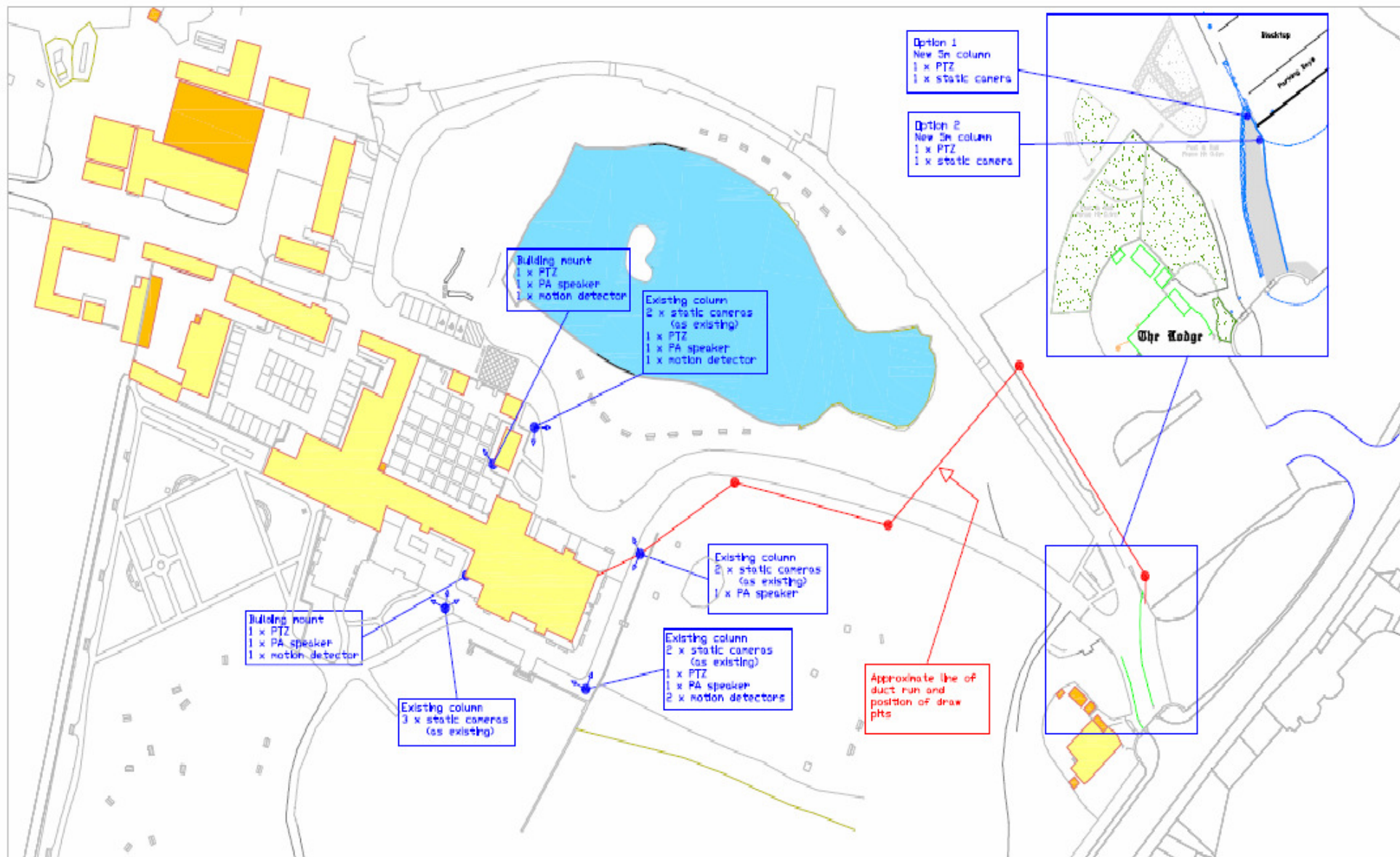
- Replace current 9x cameras positioned on CCTV columns surrounding the Hall with static cameras
- Add 3x pan & tilt cameras to CCTV columns surrounding the Hall

- Add 3x motion detectors to existing CCTV columns
- Add 3x PA speakers to existing CCTV columns
- Replace and reposition 1x camera on public toilet block to face and monitor the courtyard area; pan & tilt camera, add 1x motion detector and 1x PA speaker
- Add 1x pan & tilt camera to edge of southwest wall (back of Forty Hall), 1x speaker, 1x motion detector
- Add 1x 4.5m CCTV column to south corner of public car park (near main entrance), with 1x pan & tilt camera covering car park and approach drive towards the pond, 1x static camera covering main entrance gate.
- There will also be associated ground works to install the cameras & CCTV column for car park/main entrance as there is currently no electricity or cabling provision near this location. The proposed route this route does not go through the Schedule Ancient Monument Site, however, an archaeological watching brief will be in place for these works.

The makes of equipment are as follows:

- Static cameras - Genie GS550 IR Camera
- Pan & tilt cameras - MIC550 PTZ Bosch
- Motion detectors - Redwall SIP 3020/5
- PA speaker - Weatherproof Horn PH20/TC
- CCTV column - Altron AW15453

The site plan and duct route are outlined in the below drawing



3. Additional CCTV Positions & Options Considered

Planning permission is required for all 3 additional camera locations (car park, Forty Hall south-west wall and courtyard). Listed building consent is required for the courtyard and Forty Hall south-west wall cameras & associated equipment. The proposed locations are explained below as well as the other options considered and discarded.

3.1 Car Park/Main Entrance



CCTV Camera



CCTV Column

Location

There are 2 potential positions for this camera column. As part of the Forth Hall Parks for People HLF Project, a planning and listed building consent application will shortly be made to widen the north pier of the gate entrance. Until the outcome of that application is known the exact sighting of this CCTV column can not be finalised. However, the 2 positions proposed are both at the south corner of the car park and provide the same area of coverage. They are as follows:

- Option 1 will be relevant if the gate widening is not permitted and the current entrance layout and pedestrian routes remain the same. It will be positioned at the very end of the flower bed next to the car park.
- Option 2 will be relevant if the gate widening is permitted, the road widened and a pedestrian footpath introduced, all of which would

require the pole to be approx 1 metre further back towards the trees/hedges than Option 1.

Justification:

The static camera will provide vital surveillance of the main entrance gate which currently has no CCTV coverage, and is a particularly vulnerable area to the site. The pan/tilt camera will have capacity to alternate coverage of the main public car park and the approach drive leading from the car park in front of the pond. This will provide additional CCTV coverage. It will improve safety measures as incidents of car break-ins etc have occurred in this area.

The masonry of the Grade II Listed gate structure is frequently struck by vehicles accessing the site. The cost of repair over the past 5 years alone has amounted to £17,051. Lack of witness testimonials/CCTV footage means that the perpetrators can not be identified and pursued for compensation. This position is the most appropriate in heritage terms as it is not next to or on top of the listed structure. It provides relevant coverage whilst being sensitively sighted near surrounding high-level vegetation to reduce its visual impact on the area

Other Options Considered

- Install CCTV column with cameras directly opposite entrance (in either vegetation where the approach drives split, or replace existing signpost in tarmac). However this would only provide full coverage of the gate entrance, as due to foliage on the right hand side, the 2nd camera would not be able to cover the approach drive in front of the lake, nor would it have full coverage of the car park. The position of the column and cameras would be quite obvious and not in a sensitive location, as it would be one of the first features visitors would see when entering the Estate.
- Create 2 separate CCTV columns/position for the 2 cameras – one on the gate and one in the current proposed position to cover the car park and approach drive. The camera for covering the entrance would be very near the gate structure, and would impact on the heritage setting of this Grade II listed feature. This option also carries unnecessary amount of multi-positioned cameras impacting further on the surrounding environment.

3.2 Courtyard



CCTV Camera



Motion Detector



Speaker

Justification:

Replacing the existing camera with a new camera facing the courtyard area and towards the corner of the wall provide surveillance of the courtyard, which is not covered by the current CCTV camera, which is facing towards the Hall. This position will provide extra security in the area which will be refurbished as part of the Forty Hall Park – Landscape of Plenty HLF project. There are a number of glazed areas and access points in this courtyard area which are currently not monitored by CCTV, increasing the vulnerability of the courtyard. Replacing and increasing the capacity of the existing camera will resolve this issue.

Other Options Considered:

- Mounting a camera on a new column will involve digging a 1m³ hole in courtyard floor which will look out place, adversely affecting the aesthetic environment of the surrounding area.
- Rely on cameras located outside Forty Hall to cover the courtyard – these will not be able to view the courtyard area as the perimeter is obscured 90% by wall.
- Change camera position to café wall (courtyard's south-side). The eaves of the building would result in blind spots. The Café is also a historic building, and of more heritage significance than the public toilet building. There is a better position available (public toilet block) on a building of less historical significance and therefore locating the camera

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on the café building would not be appropriate or sensitive to the historic environment.

- Change camera position to south-west corner of courtyard (corner of café and banqueting suite). The eaves of the building would result in blind spots.

3.3.3 Forty Hall South-West Wall



CCTV Camera



Motion Detector



Speaker

Justification

The addition of a new camera, motion detector & speaker mounted on south side wall on Forty Hall building are required to provide surveillance of the back elevations of the Banqueting Suite, café and surrounding area of the Hall which are currently not covered by CCTV cameras and are prone to lead theft, attack and vandalism. The location increases security of this vulnerable area as the 3 existing cameras opposite the south-west wall can not provide coverage due to blind spots. It also increases the opportunity to identify suspects as the line of sight extends from the Hall up to walled garden entrance, therefore providing optimum views of the approach path

Other Options Considered:

- Install an additional camera on the existing CCTV Column – the view is obscured by trees and thick foliage which would require vegetation removal and will impact the surrounding ecological environment.

- Mount camera on the Banqueting suite south wall, however potential locations were not suitable or sensitive to the area. Locating the camera on the Banqueting Suite wall would also reduce the line of site to capture approaching suspects and would cover the back of the Banqueting Suite only, and not the area behind the café and leading to flat roof of the Hall.

4. Impact

It is acknowledged that the proposals include additional cameras on Forty Hall's Georgian section southwest wall and near the car park at the entrance. However, these are necessary to increase CCTV coverage and in turn security of the site. The equipment has been sensitively located and the visual impact on the Forty Hall building and surrounding environment reduced by obscuring the motion detector from view as much as possible, and grouping the speaker to other features already on the main west wall.

The impact of the car park main entrance pole and camera will be mitigated by the positioning of the pole near high-level vegetation to help the installation blend into the surrounding landscape and reduce visual impact.

The camera on the southwest wall can not be camouflaged, however, the proposed devices are designed with the heritage setting taken into account. The devices are designed to cause minimum stress to the fabric of the building, and holes will be drilled into the mortar rather than the brickwork wherever possible.

There proposed works do not necessitate any works associated with trees, hedges or shrubs. Location B for the car park/main entrance CCTV column will the reduction of the existing vegetation area (flower beds) in order to accommodate the increase in carriage way width and reinstatement of the pedestrian access, and native whip planting will be introduced to the reduced planting area on the north side. However this will be addressed in the statutory consents for the widening of the gates.

