

# Environmental Visual Audit of All Saints & William Knibb Area Kettering

## For the Purposes of the Safer Streets Application

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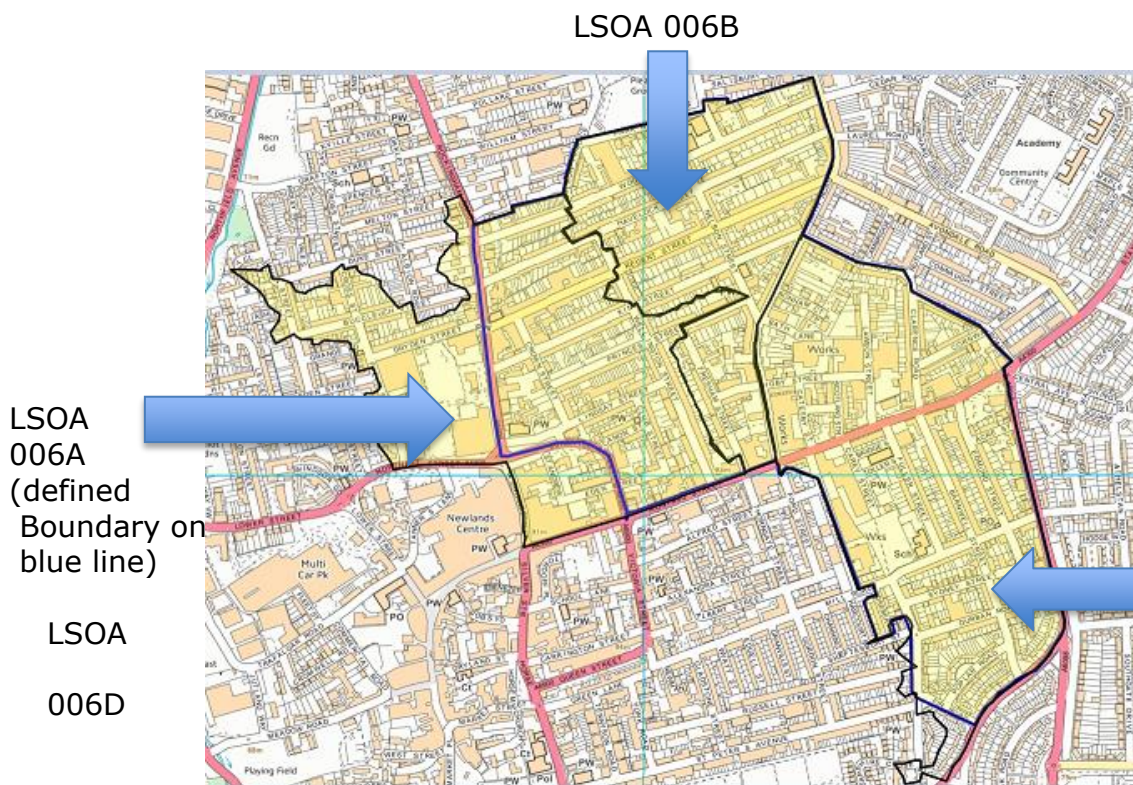
# Introduction

Last year, Kettering Borough Council worked in partnership with the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner's office and Northamptonshire Police to deliver a successful Safer Streets Project, including the Kettering Borough CCTV extension, a comprehensive Alleygating scheme and security improvements to 1,110 dwellings. We have constructed the below supporting evidence, to build on the community momentum and ownership in area as result of these improvements, whilst avoiding deflection onto other coterminous areas.

Kettering Borough Council have achieved the Purple Flag award- [Click here](#), as a result of regeneration of the Town Centre. However, the residents of William Knibb Ward LSOA 006D experience high acquisitive crime levels as a result of being located on the periphery of the town centre, where crime prevention interventions are less prominent.

006A and 006B is a highly densely populated area, containing Victorian Terraced style housing which is made up of HMOs, private rented and some local authority housing stock. The southern edge of the 'All Saints' Ward (004A), abuts the new identified area (006B), where we are seeing early signs of deflection as a result of our past interventions. Our ambition is to avoid deflection by improving the physical environment into 006D with further Safer Streets funding.

All Saints Ward in Kettering has historically seen stubborn high Neighbourhood Crime levels over the past 20 years. This is due to the structure and physical nature of the buildings that can provide opportunity for offenders to move around the area undetected, allowing opportunist crime to take place.



## Summary of Recommendations

Our ambition guided by our analysis is to reduce ..... offences over three years down to ..... over the same period. We will achieve this by using proven access control techniques and improved formal surveillance, which also provides strong evidence of success in tackling vehicle crime. We have thought pragmatically around the crime prevention activities that will have the greatest impact for the community whilst enabling us to draw tangible outcomes for the Home Office.

1. Extension of Kettering Borough Council's extensive monitored CCTV system to cover the area of this audit, filling in gaps where CCTV is missing and to build on the work already achieved through the previous safer streets scheme, match funded by Kettering Borough Council.
2. Alleygating to specific areas identified within the EVA
3. Jointly funded Door replacement programme to reduce most likely point of entry. Replace existing UPVC front doors and patio doors with SBD composite front doors PAS 24 patio door sets to KBC properties
4. Upgrade identified car parks to 'Park Mark' standard
5. Significant signage in the area, around behaviour change, nudging the community to better security housekeeping and to deter offenders
6. Where CCTV extension is simply not possible, consider strategic use of Ring Doorbells, supported by robust evidence of previous success on page
7. Brick up access control leading to flats on Bath Lane. This will create a cul de sac to reduce the access control.
8. KBC will match fund with a mass Graffiti clear up programme.
9. Improve street lighting to reduce car crime on streets with on street parking. Provide lighting at front of properties with on street parking
10. Set up NHW & Street Watch schemes throughout area
11. Install Cyclepods bike racks in car parks across the area. Conduct BikeRegister cycle marking events and provide Sold Secure D locks to cycle owners
12. Conduct vehicle crime awareness events, supplying tamper proof number plate crews and Thatcham car alarms to residents.

### Local Policing Perspective

Kettering suffers adversely from County Lines due to close proximity to the Midland Mainline to St Pancras, London). The area suffers heavily from advertise heroin and crack cocaine use and this drives this acquisitive crime levels. Northants Police and partners have successfully launched the HACCA (Heroin and Crack Cocaine Action) to address the root causes of offending. Many offenders committing the acquisitive crime are local, therefore OPFCC believes proven situational crime prevention measures within the identified will have a significant effect in reducing the crime levels.

A high percentage of these properties are private rented on short term tenancy. These are proportionately cheaper rent and due to the size of the properties, attract unscrupulous tenants that sub-let and divide rooms. Houses of Multiple Occupancy have therefore emerged, which fuels the transient population, which we also believe has a knock on effect with the SAC levels. Sadly one example of this, saw a drug related murder. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-northamptonshire-47639493>. The attracts the Polish and Lithuanian community.

### Kettering Borough Council perspective

In line with current events around safety of the community, particularly women's safety, Kettering Borough Council have already identified parks as a risk area in the our first bid, therefore extending the CCTV system to cover our prestige Green Flag Awarded park- [click here](#) . This park had high crime levels, including drug dealing, robbery and sexual assault. Thanks to last year's Safer Streets Funding, we have already improved formal surveillance, alongside other proven interventions and with the full consultation with 'Friends of Rockingham Road Park- <http://www.forrpp.org.uk/>

We have an established group, which consists of key partners, including; Housing, Neighbourhood Policing Team, Community Safety, Anti-Social Behaviour Team, the Outreach team, Ward Councillors and local businesses. Regular engagement takes place within the community and with schools, both at primary and secondary level to deliver key community safety messages, educate and raise awareness amongst our communities.

Kettering Town Centre borders the identified area has recently seen significant crime reduction and proactive policing operations and it is likely that these have and will continue to deflect criminal activity into this area.

This bid has been constructed with the support from a working group consisting of Police, Local Authorities, Community Safety Partnerships, Fire and Rescue and Housing Providers.

## Wood, Regent, Havelock, Nelson Street- 006B and 006A

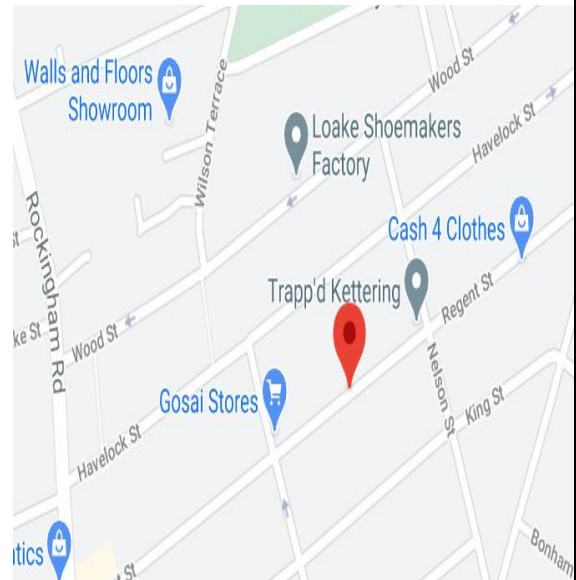
### Data- March 2018- March 2020

LSOA Kettering 006B reaches the crime rate benchmark for all neighbourhood crime, residential burglary & robbery.

124 neighbourhood crimes were recorded between 01/04/2017 and 31/03/2020, accounting for 18% of the overall figures for the cluster.

#### Top 3 Streets (volume of neighbourhood crimes):

<b>Havelock Street</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>(24% of LSOA)</b>
Residential Burglary	21	(13% of LSOA)
Vehicle Crime	14	(8% of LSOA)
<b>Regent Street</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>(17% of LSOA)</b>
Residential Burglary	18	(9% of LSOA)
Vehicle Crime	7	(4% of LSOA)
<b>Wood Street</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(14% of LSOA)</b>
Residential Burglary	10	(5% of LSOA)
Vehicle Crime	9	(5% of LSOA)



**Overview-** Extremely high levels of crime in recent years, involving high levels of acquisitive crime and secondary crime types, such as violent offences, including murder and Arson. Wood Street, Havelock Street and Regent Street repeatedly receive police attention due to the nature and volume of offences, couple with poor environmental design and lack of formal surveillance.

This is the epicentre for many of the crime issues in Kettering. The identified streets abut the boundary line for last year's safer streets area (004a)- the crime levels go hand in hand with one another due to their coterminous location.



### Issues identified

**CCTV-** There are blind spots in the Town's CCTV capabilities across the area. A few cameras have been identified, but there are significant gaps that need to be addressed.

**Poor physical door security-** Due to mix of private, social housing and council properties there is plethora of different types of doors and windows, offering poor physical security.

**On street parking-** exacerbates the level of vehicle crime in the area but also provides anonymity to offenders, increasing their likelihood to commit Burglary as well as vehicle crime.

**Alleyways-** leading to rear of properties. Some has already been gates/doors installed, but they are old with locks not fitting properly therefore rendered useless.

Safer Places considerations around Alleygating include:

- Have the consequences of the number and nature of all connections been considered? **Yes, we can achieve a balance between permeability and security**
- Do all routes lead to somewhere people want to go? **It is unlikely we would be granted permission to gate all Highways as some are a main thoroughfare. It is primarily the alleyways that run behind the houses that we would target for Alleygating.**
- Are all routes necessary? In terms of residents getting their bins in and out, emergency access then yes. **However, these can be controlled with a comprehensive Alleygating Scheme**
- Do routes provide potential offenders with ready and unnoticed access to potential targets? **Yes.**
- Will pedestrians, cyclists and drivers be able to understand which routes they should use? Yes- there would be little effect to those passing through. **It's around the back of the dwelling where access control would be restricted.**
- Is it easy to understand how to travel through an area? Yes relatively. **These are straight roads, which lead to the Town Centre and or Train Station depending on which direction travel from.**



A typical view of the terraced streets Within LSOA006B. No defensive space to Dwellings. On street parking



Where alleygating has been installed we're seeing less crime and cleaner alleyways

Alleygates have been installed, preventing illegitimate access around the back of the houses (image left). Since the Alleygating scheme implementation, the Alleyways are immaculate with no recorded Burglary to date. These Alleygates have made a real impact on Burglary and vehicle crime is also down.

Diagram of alleyways, not to scale



### **Recommendations-**

- **Alleygating** new and/replace tired looking gates.
- **Extend Borough CCTV**, with match fund from KBC to plug the gaps of surveillance.
- **Improve physical security- significant door** replacement programme required
- **Dissemination of Video doorbells** where appropriate and to compliment any CCTV extension Borough extension.



## Bath Road and Bath Lane- 006D (north part), and surrounding streets

### Overview-



Bath Road is the through route across the south of the estate which provides access to the commercial areas. It is a popular through route due to being used as a short cut to the North of the town, without going through the town centre itself. It is a densely populated area, with more Victorian terraced houses.

### Issues identified



Bath Lane leads off Bath Road (image) right, which gives access to the Wicksteed engineering site, which leaves this a vehicular turning area, with no other use, other than street drinking, drug taking and prostitution. The Broken Window Syndrome is in full effect here, with the extensive graffiti on show, despite Councils best efforts to on top of the cleansing. The leaky cul-de-sac design due to a pedestrian path, coupled with



flats identified to the left of the above image, that has an 8ft perimeter wall and gap large enough to allow a small vehicle through. This poor environmental design exacerbates the challenges around maintaining and policing the area. There is also not formal surveillance along this pinch point.

### Recommendations

- ANPR cameras on Bath Road
- Extending the Borough CCTV system (image right-possible location looking up from Bath Road and behind Bath Lane)
- Alleygating
- Target Hardening/Door replacement
- Video Doorbells



## Rockingham Road, Wellington Street, Kings Street, Lindsay Street (LSOA 006A)

### Data- March 2018- March 2020

LSOA Kettering 006A reaches the crime rate benchmark for all neighbourhood crime, residential burglary, robbery & vehicle crime.

376 neighbourhood crimes were recorded between 01/04/2017 and 31/03/2020, accounting for 54% of the overall figures for the cluster.

#### Top 3 Streets (volume of neighbourhood crimes):

<b>Rockingham Road</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>(36% of LSOA)</b>
Vehicle Crime	49	(13% of LSOA)
Residential Burglary	37	(10% of LSOA)
Robbery	21	(6% of LSOA)
<b>Lindsay Street</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>(10% of LSOA)</b>
Vehicle Crime	16	(4% of LSOA)
Residential Burglary	15	(4% of LSOA)
<b>Wellington Street</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>(6% of LSOA)</b>
Vehicle Crime	16	(4% of LSOA)
Residential Burglary	6	(2% of LSOA)



### Overview-

Rockingham Road is a main arterial route into the town showing highest proportions of Neighbourhood Crime. ANPR cameras would work well to monitor traffic in and out of the town, as well as access into the William Knibb and All Saints residential areas.

### Issued identified

Wellington Street is a long one-way road from the Town Centre circular, that leads into smaller terraced streets, such as Lindsay street. We have already identified a camera here which Kettering Borough Council plan to upgrade imminently. However, there are still blind spots identified that need to be addressed to provide sufficient coverage at the other end of Wellington Street.



ANPR cameras would also be effective on Montague Street and Eskdail Street as it's the main thoroughfare into the town, but coterminous with resident streets.

The streets identified above attract a lot of street drinking and drug dealing/taking due to close proximity to the town centre and night time economy. These identified streets off Rockingham and Montague Street provide the perfect haven for crime to flourish due to the lack of formal surveillance and poor environmental design.

### Recommendations-

- ANPR cameras on Montague Street and Eskdail Street
- Extending the Borough CCTV system (image right- possible location looking up from Bath Road and behind Bath Lane)
- Alleygating
- Target Hardening/Door replacement
- Video Doorbells

## Poplar Road, Durban Road, Sydney Street, Barnwell Road and Fuller Street

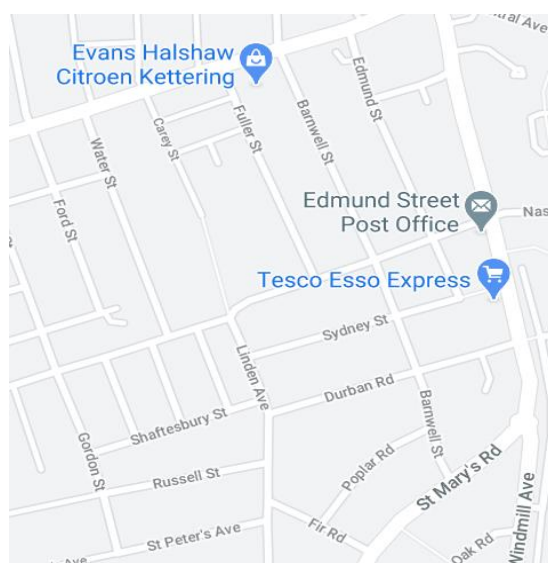
### Data- March 2018- March 2020

LSOA Kettering 006D reaches the crime rate benchmark for all neighbourhood crime, residential burglary, robbery & vehicle crime.

199 neighbourhood crimes were recorded between 01/04/2017 and 31/03/2020, accounting for 28% of the overall figures for the cluster.

#### Top 3 Streets (volume of neighbourhood crimes):

<b>Stamford Road</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>(23% of LSOA)</b>
Vehicle Crime	26	(13% of LSOA)
Robbery	11	(6% of LSOA)
<b>Mill Road</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>(16% of LSOA)</b>
Vehicle Crime	16	(8% of LSOA)
Robbery	9	(5% of LSOA)
<b>Durban Road</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>(6% of LSOA)</b>
Residential Burglary	6	(3% of LSOA)
Vehicle Crime	5	(3% of LSOA)



### Overview-

This area is like the other LSOAs in terms of environmental design, but the roads are wider, enabling cars to be parked on the road itself, leaving the footpaths free for pedestrians, providing more natural surveillance. However, the on-street parking issue remains, and vehicle crime is therefore high on the agenda.



### Identified issues

During the EVA, we noticed that some doors in this area were old, basic wooden doors with glass panels and single Yale locks- as we know these aren't recommended locking systems for any doors. This is a notorious design with Kettering Borough Council doors and are in desperate need of replacement, particularly within LSOA006D

**CCTV-** A few cameras have been identified, but there are significant gaps that need to be addressed. We have identified the locations in the table below.

All Lighting – Balfour Beatty in the county (PFI Bid) is excellent as a result of recent upgrades. LSOA 006D is no different- lighting is adequate.



Image left- This pocket park has become a crime hotspot due to the constant drinking and drug taking throughout the day and all of the night. It is located at the top of Mill Road, close to the town centre. There is a lack of formal surveillance, but the park is well maintained by the council daily due to the constant issues.

Image right- this image from Albert Street, looks down the pedestrian path from the nearby flats on Alexandra Road. These flats are a sheltered accommodation scheme, that have been blighted by drug dealers over the past few years. The local policing team are regular visitors and have deterred some of the dealings, but visible policing can only stop crime when they are present. We need to improve formal surveillance here



Another view of the flats from Albert Street

### **Recommendations-**

- Matched funded door replacement programme.
- Behavioral insight- latest crime prevention ideas around vehicle crime prevention and nudge techniques.
- Extending Borough
- Communal Door replacements required

## CCTV feasibility survey

To maximise formal surveillance within particularly areas. The strategy is to improve formal surveillance/ increase the chances of offenders being caught. CCTV will help address both 'All Neighbourhood crime' prevention whilst having a further impact on associated crime and environmental issues.

Fixed camera extension programme within the identified area with Wi-Fi back to Newlands (central monitoring station). CCTV will be an extension to the existing monitored CCTV system. CCTV System complies with the National Security Inspectorate Code of Practice NCP 104.3 (Design, Installation and Maintenance of CCTV Systems) including the requirements of BS EN 50132-7: 2012.

Image right- plenty of screens, room and staff available to monitor the additional cameras from the Newlands Centre. We visited the central monitoring station to identify the blind spot, to formulate the response required around CCTV positions to provide the best coverage possible and plug any gaps.

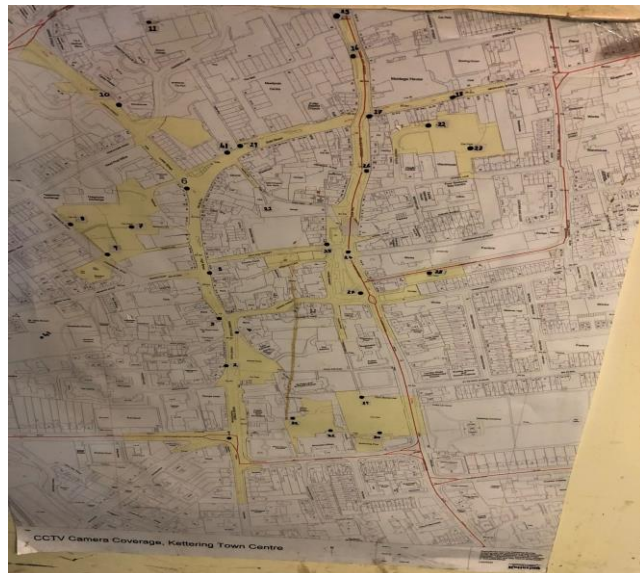


### Feasibility Study

This has been carried out by the CVL, the existing CCTV service provider to explore the extension of the secure wi fi networks across the town, allowing for additional cameras to be installed with minimal disruption to the local residents.



This chart show cases existing town centre locations in the town



### ANPR cameras

We have identified a number of routes that ANPR would be beneficial to them as these are the main routes to be used by most vehicles travelling through the town centre. Although we have some ANPR capability we have noticed a gap in our provision that needs to be addressed as these routes are used by organised crime gangs as part of the HACCA /County Lines, which impacts acquisitive crime. This is known locally as the Citadel.

### Inductive Costs

We have liaised with the Force ANPR Manager to provide costs and provisional site surveys.

- £1500 per site for electrical prep (replacement of lamp columns)
- £5000 per camera
- £500 per install

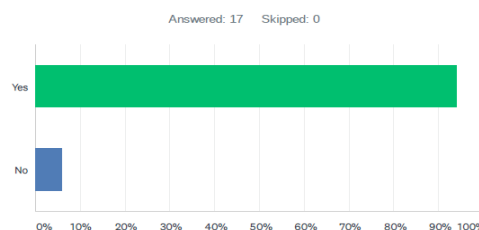
## Video Doorbell Evidence

Last year, Northants OPFCC were successful in obtaining a proportion of Safer Streets funding to spend on video doorbells. Following implementation, Kettering borough Council ran a survey to all 36 residents (since then 63 have been installed) who have received a free video doorbell. Whilst only 17 have replied back so far, the evidence around the reduction in the fear of crime have been overwhelmingly positive.

Security Ring Doorbell Feedback Survey

SurveyMonkey

Q1 Does the Ring Doorbell help increase your feeling of safety?

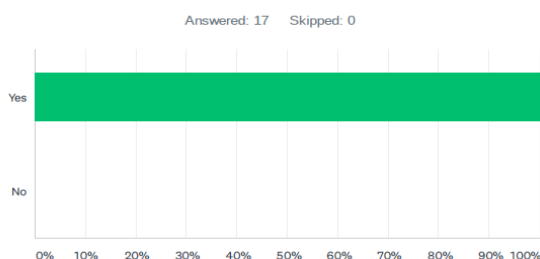


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		94.12%	16
No		5.88%	1
TOTAL			17

#	ANY COMMENTS?	DATE
1	Wasn't fitted as no wifi in the house	1/18/2021 11:01 AM
2	Knowing who is at the door, especially if not expectef	1/13/2021 4:44 PM
3	I know immediately if anyone is close to my front door, and as I am elderly it gives me peace of mind.	1/13/2021 3:37 PM
4	Being able to see who is at the door really helps	1/13/2021 1:31 PM

Q2 Do you feel this type of investment into the area can help reduce crime alongside other crime prevention measures?



Northants may look to add this as an intervention into 2021/2022 bid submission, but we note a revision on the 'What Works Toolkit' (downgrading the intervention suggestion 'no evidence that the intervention works').

ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		100.00%	17
No		0.00%	0
TOTAL			17

#	ANY COMMENTS?	DATE
1	It acts as a deterrent, and could make anyone think twice about doing anything	1/13/2021 3:37 PM
2	Excellent device, especially for the vulnerable and elderly.	1/13/2021 2:21 PM

We do understand the background complications around the use of Video Doorbells, but we have offered these cameras to clients in the kettering area with a supporting disclaimer to prompt proper use of the doorbells, reiterating the ICO guidance around CCTV.

Northants OPFCC and Kettering Borough Council can evidence the use of a Secured by Design approved video doorbells products can gain results, particularly reducing the fear of crime and reducing neighbourhood crime across the identified LSOAs

In light of the above, we may intend to include the use of video doorbells on a small scale on this bid, and will be looked upon favorably, particularly where we can evidence some great work for a proportionately small amount of funding (10k, 60+ video doorbells installed into a high acquisitive crime area, coupled with a robust CCTV extension programme in other areas of the LSOA).

**Recommendation** - Strategically install 60 Video Doorbells across all 3x coterminous LSOAs. Targeted plan focuses on particular houses closes to points of access that cannot be gated and repeat victims of crime within the LSOA. See Video Doorbells for more evidence.

## Reasons to consider this bid

- Highly suitable for 'situational prevention' activities due to type of Environmental Design. The Victorian Housing Terracing House exacerbates the SAC levels and also the need for Houses of Multiple Occupancy.
- Kettering Borough Council have already made huge strides in addressing the access control issues, but due to limited funding they have been unable to complete all the prevention measures required within the LSOAs.
- This area benefits from excellent community relations with the local Councillors and Police leads. We have partnership support from the OPFCC, local Police and full backing from the local community.
- Kettering suffers adversely from 'County Lines' due to close proximity to Kettering Train Station (the Midland Mainline to St Pancras). The area suffers heavily from advertise heroin and crack cocaine use and this drives this acquisitive crime levels. Northants Police and partners have successfully launched the HACCA (Heroin and Crack Cocaine Action) to address the root causes of offending. Many offenders committing the SAC are local (little inertia), therefore OPFCC believes proven crime prevention measures within the identified will have a significant effect in reducing the SAC levels.