

External scaffolding

External scaffolding can seriously compromise the security of buildings and museum collections. The following can reduce the risk of burglary caused by scaffolding providing easy access, but the situation can be complicated by access from adjoining buildings or by the way that the ground falls or rises around the building. It is therefore important to take additional protective measures to secure apertures to the building which become more vulnerable as a consequence of the presence of the scaffolding. This might include temporary access considerations for contractors.

Specification

- the scaffolding needs to be fully enclosed by a plywood hoarding to a height of four metres and surmounted by barbed wire fixed to purpose made steel cranked extension arms. The facing must comprise 20mm exterior grade sheeting plywood fixed to 75mm x 100mm timbers. The timbers must be either clipped to the scaffolding by appropriate scaffold clips, or secured to a substantial stand-alone timber frame complete with adequate internal bracing to prevent collapse if attacked.
- all joints of the plywood facing to be tightly butted to prevent tools being used to prise them apart and each joint to overlap a post on the timber frame by 75mm.

Fixing

- 100mm annular ring shank nails at 150mm centres to be used to fix the plywood boards to the timber frame.
- the bottom of the hoarding to follow the contour of the ground leaving no gaps between the hoarding and the ground.
- where the hoarding abuts a building the plywood must be cut to closely match the contours of the building to prevent any gaps being formed.

Doors

- any doors let into the hoarding to be of exterior grade solid wood type fitted in a purpose built frame. The door and frame must be flush with the exterior face of the hoarding. Heavy duty 75mm x 100mm steel butt hinges are required to hang the door, the hinge pin being protected to prevent it being driven out.

- to provide convenient access and emergency escape during working hours a Yale latch type lock must be fitted. However, to secure the door when the site is no longer attended a heavy duty locking bar is to be fitted, secured to door and frame by bolts bolted through. The locking bar must conceal the bolt heads. A heavy duty close shackled padlock to be used to secure the locking bar. Depending on whether another means of exit is available, site security can be further enhanced by having the locking bar on the inside of the door.
- the cranked steel extension arms forming a V shaped top are to be fitted to the top of the boarding, each side carrying three lines of barbed wire with a barbed wire concertina approximately one metre in diameter secured at the V top.

Lighting

- the exterior of the hoarding to have floodlights (500w) angled out and towards the ground at a height of three metres from the ground and not more than four metres apart. These lights to be switched by 'PIR' detectors during darkness and positioned as far as possible out of reach.
- the inside of the scaffold must be adequately floodlit with floodlights angled inwards and up through the scaffold illuminating its entire height. These lights to be switched by photo-electric cell for illumination at night only.

Intruder Detection

- it is possible to provide detection equipment that can trigger an audible sounder, activate floodlights or alert guards. Protection equipment cannot be connected to the institution's intruder detection system to gain a police response, due to the likelihood of false calls.
- it may also be necessary to increase detection at any aperture to the building made more vulnerable by the scaffolding.

Contractors' Responsibilities

- the requirements of these specifications in no way absolves the contractor from Health and Safety or other statutory requirements.