



**Philip Seccombe
Police and Crime
Commissioner
for Warwickshire**

**Decision Application WPCC20127
USE OF VOID PROPERTIES FOR
TRAINING BY THE DOG SECTION**

Application Date:	20/3/20	Name of Applicant:	Helen Minett Facilities & Health & Safety Manager
Application Decision Reference: WPCC20127			
1. Summary of the application			
<p>This application is to agree a process for the Dogs Training Section to make use of external void buildings on an ad hoc basis.</p>			
2. Background information:			
<p>The Dogs Section have a requirement to be able to make use of vacant properties for the training of Police Dogs and their Handlers.</p> <p>The team have been using the void buildings at Leek Wootton. However, to gain the best training, there is a requirement for properties that the dogs are not familiar with. The dogs familiarise themselves with properties very quickly so there is a requirement for different properties to provide the best training to the required standards.</p> <p>High Speed Two (HS2) have a variety of surplus buildings which they have are prepared to make available to the Dogs Section for training purposes.</p> <p>It is proposed that Warwickshire Police adopt a similar approach to agreeing the use of such void properties to that which is already being used by West Midlands Police. This consists of an indemnity agreement which is approved by solicitors plus a covering letter for each property. This could be rolled out for use on all properties which are being used with the owners' permission on an ad hoc basis. It is anticipated that the use will be for approximately two half days per week (possibly less) and can be used for several properties. It is estimated that the Dog Section will require the use of 15-20 properties during 2020 / 21.</p> <p>A draft indemnity and draft letter as used by West Midlands Police are attached. These documents have been checked by Warwickshire Legal Services.</p>			

HS2 will provide all relevant Health & Safety documentation to Warwickshire Police for the buildings to be used. Each building is inspected by the Dogs Section prior to use. The Dogs Section complete their own Health & Safety Risk Assessment before any training is undertaken.

Warwickshire Police hold Employer and Public Liability insurance.

3. Whether additional information/report is attached to support this decision application

YES / NO

List of additional information/report

- a) Draft indemnity
- b) Draft letter
- c)

4. Expected benefits (non financial)

This proposal would provide a more efficient way of accessing void properties for use by the Dog Section. Properties are often not available for very long as they are due for demolition so it is important that access can be agreed for their use as soon as possible. The increased availability of properties providing different experiences for the Dog Section will enhance the standard of training.

5. Impact of not approving the application

The lack of alternative properties available for use by the Dog Section reduces the value of the training due the dogs becoming over familiar with the environments.

6. Costs

Revenue: HS2 are offering the use of the void building at nil cost.

Capital: No capital costs

7. Savings:

None

8. Equality and Diversity Implications:

Nil

9. Treasurer's comments

There are no specific costs identified with adopting this approach to dog training. The arrangements will provide for enhanced training for the dogs and their handlers, which may result in significant operational benefits and may result in

future possible cost reductions. These benefits can be achieved at nil cost as outlined in this paper. The risk assessments, health and safety implications and insurance arrangements need to be kept under regular review to ensure they are comprehensive and provide appropriate coverage.

10. Legal/Monitoring Officer comments

This indemnity agreement has been reviewed and agreed by Warwickshire Legal Services.

The agreement will permit the use of void buildings controlled by HS2 Ltd to be used by the Warwickshire Police Dog section for essential training which will improve the operational effectiveness of the overall unit.

There are no cost implications associated with this decision.

Decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Agreed

PCC Signature:



Date of Decision:

24/3/20.

Warwickshire Police
Dog Training
Leek Wootton
Warwickshire
CV35 7QA

Use of Premises For Dog Training Purpose:

I confirm that the premises known as.....
.....
is authorized for the use by Warwickshire Police dog handlers for dog training purposes on an
ad-hoc basis with effect from:.....

I confirm that in the event of query the below named person should be contacted:
.....on telephone number/s.....

Emergency contact

I confirm that I , the undersigned have received the Form of Indemnity in relation to the use of
the above premises for Police Dog Training and authorsie training to commence from the
specified date and until further notice.

In the event that dog training will need to cease from.....
.....
notification shall be provided in writing to the Warwickshire Police dog Section.

Yours Sincerely

Signed Print name.....



POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR WARWICKSHIRE



To: HS2 Limited (07963188) (“HS2”)
Group Property / Corporate Finance
Great Minster House,
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

IN CONSIDERATION of your permitting the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire (“PCC”) (including the Chief Constable of Warwickshire and all persons under his control or supervision) to use the premises at [] (“the Property”) for dog training purposes only from [] or such other date as may be agreed between the parties and thereafter until further notice, the PCC HEREBY UNDERTAKES AND AGREES:

To indemnify HS2 against:

- a. Any liability for personal injury (whether fatal or otherwise);and
- b. Loss and/or damage to property (other than loss or damage caused by you)
- c. Any other loss, damage, costs and expenses

Which may arise during or in consequence of the exercise of this permission at the Property or anything done as a result thereof PROVIDED THAT such injury, loss, damage, costs or expenses are caused by the act of default or neglect of the PCC and PCC shall not be liable for loss of profits, business, revenue or goodwill, loss of savings (whether anticipated or otherwise) and indirect or consequential loss or damage.

The PCC will ensure that it maintains employer and public liability insurance in the form annexed to this agreement through the period of its use of the Property.

It is agreed that you may withdraw this permission at any time.

Dated this day of 2020

Signed.....

Name.....(print name)

Address: Office of the Police &
Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire
3 Northgate Street, Warwick CV34 4SP - Tel 01926 412322