

Secured by Design Impact Evaluation

What is 'Secured by Design' (SBD)?

- SBD is a flagship industry-UK Police initiative to design out crime through accreditation of security products and standards in the planning process.
- Designing out crime reduces the vulnerability of a property to crime by removing opportunities that may be provided inadvertently by the built environment through a range of criteria.
- The initiative is entirely self funded via the accreditation scheme which includes over 450 members with 1,000 security products, such as doors, locks and roofing thoroughly tested to meet our standards.
- Our direct experience and knowledge of the factors impacting crime, policing and crime prevention make SBD a standard which is respected by the security industry, local authorities and professional bodies.

Glasgow Housing Association

The Caledonian Environment Centre was commissioned by Glasgow Housing Association, Strathclyde Police and the Association of Chief Police Officers Crime Prevention Initiatives to carry out analysis of the impact of Secured by Design (SBD) door and window installation within GHA housing stock. The evaluation was also supported by the Scottish Government.

The primary aim was to investigate the impact of SBD installations on the level of crime, primarily housebreaking, in areas where the installations have been implemented; and to explore tenant and LHO perspectives on potential related effects.



Between 2003 and 2008, 39,000 GHA homes received SBD doors, and 11,000 homes received SBD windows. Of these, almost 8,000 properties received both SBD doors and windows.

A 'snapshot' evaluation of the impact of GHA's SBD door and window installation on the incidence of housebreaking and tenants perceptions and satisfaction with installations was undertaken in 2004/05. The research by Glasgow Caledonian University reported that in the area fitted with the new doors and windows:

- Total housebreaking crime decreased by 26%
- Attempted housebreaking decreased by 59%
- Theft by housebreaking decreased by 18%
- Residents / tenants felt safer in their dwellings leaving tenants with a more positive view of their property and of their area

Can 'Secured by Design' work in other locations?

- Following Nottingham's Secure, Warm, Modern scheme in 2008-09 at Bells Lane and Broxtowe estates, the number of burglaries fell by 42%; higher than the 21% decrease of burglaries in the city as a whole
- SBD estates in West Yorkshire outperformed the region as a whole on burglary dwellings offences, between August 2007 and July 2008 there were 19,701 burglaries, but just two at SBD properties
- SBD principles and techniques were used throughout the planning and construction stages for the Olympic Park, Village, and Westfield Shopping Centre, proving that iconic design can be safe too