

GSS24011 - Meade Hill Shul, 88 Meade Hill Road – Fences

PLANNING STATEMENT

Date – February 2024

Applicant – Meade Hill Shul

Proposal – Planning for Perimeter Security Fencing

Site Address – Meade Hill Shul, 88 Meade Hill Road, Manchester, M8 4LP

Location

This statement is to be read in conjunction with a planning application and plans for the erection of security fencing at Meade Hill Shul, 88 Meade Hill Road, Manchester, M8 4LP.

Background

There has been a significant rise in the security risk faced by public religious institutions. As a result of this high risk, appropriate building security is necessary. More information about the current risk level can be found here - <https://cst.org.uk/research/cst-publications>. The security of the building on this site is of particular importance because the synagogue facilitates daily prayer and is acts as a community centre for all ages, specifically children and the elderly.

Proposal

Erection of 2.5m welded mesh fencing according to the site plan.

Security

In recent years many synagogues, schools and other religious buildings have installed security measures, such as perimeter fencing. This fencing is now ever-present in the Prestwich area of Bury. The fence style is uniform across all sites in the area, including this one, and the routes of egress and ingress are commonly understood by all users. Examples include Holy Law Congregation, Heaton Park Shul, and The Prestwich Hebrew Congregation.

Timing

Due to the current political climate, there has been a rise in antisemitism, and the pressure to maintain security and safety to any religious site is of the utmost priority.

Summary

The following are the pertinent points in this statement.

- There is a very real danger present to this and other local religious institutions. Security and safety are a priority.
- Many other sites in the local area have the same style of security fencing.

We trust that the Officers and the Members of the Bury Council will acknowledge the opportunities this building provides and grant planning permission for the proposal.