

20 May 2025

Sir Gerald Ronson CBE
25 Grosvenor Street
London
W1K 4QN

Matt Jukes QPM
Acting Deputy Commissioner

New Scotland Yard
Victoria Embankment
London
SW1A 2JL

Commiss@met.police.uk

Dear Sir Gerald,

Thank you for your letter dated the 7th May 2025 on the Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre. I wanted to write back to you in my current capacity as Acting Deputy Commissioner but have considered your letter through the lens of my previous role and experience as Assistant Commissioner Specialist Operations. I understand the importance of your letter and the timing of it as the Holocaust Memorial Bill reaches report stage.

I agree with the sentiment in your letter. We know that for the Holocaust Memorial to go ahead in Victoria Tower Gardens that everyone, whether supporters or opponents of the location, would expect to see robust security arrangements.

I can reassure you that my colleagues within the Metropolitan Police and Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters, alongside many others have been working hard over a number of years on security. This has involved site assessments, the incorporation of best practice, learning from other countries and events and taking note of evolving technical security measures. The result is that a comprehensive suite of security plans has been identified for the Victoria Tower Gardens site.

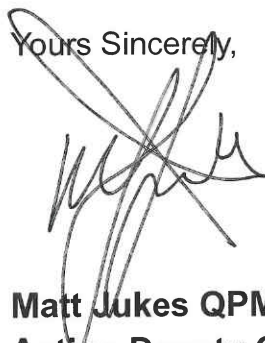
The scheme is planned to incorporate a robust search and screening regime, hostile vehicle mitigation and technical measures including CCTV. A range of security roles are planned to be in place at the location and nearby, and the plans for the site have had design adjustments to give stand-off from where visitors will be. I am happy to provide you with more detail should this be needed and am aware that a number of briefings have already been held on the arrangements with interested parties.

We have also had consideration to the potential public order context as we are aware that protest could take place ahead of, during and following the Memorial build. Although it is hard to say with certainty what the Parliamentary streetscape area will look like in future years, we judge that public order issues should be manageable. Should there be a protest, decisions would need to be taken on where protestors would be sited, but there is a good range of legislation and resource to allow protests to be dealt with effectively.

Overall, although security arrangements will need to be extensive, we consider that the proximity to Parliament brings as many benefits as risks from a security perspective. I look forward to discussing further with you.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours Sincerely,



Matt Jukes QPM
Acting Deputy Commissioner