



## In the South London Coroner's Court

### Inquest touching the death of COLETTE HUGHES

### Regulation 28 : Report to Prevent Future Deaths

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#### RESPONSE OF HAMMERSON PLC

1. Following the conclusion of the Inquest into the death of Colette Hughes, and pursuant to the provisions of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, Schedule 5, Paragraph 7 and the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013, Regulations 28 and 29, the Senior Coroner issued a Report to Prevent Future Deaths to Hammerson plc dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.
2. This is the response to that Report on behalf of Hammerson plc.
3. In relation to the top level of the Centrale public car park we have identified the following measures that can be taken in response to the concerns of the Senior Coroner:-
  - 3.1. We are making access to the parapet walls to the corner of the car park from which Colette Hughes fell (Level 3) more difficult with 'hostile planting' being introduced which in particular will assist in preventing access. For an example of how hostile planting is introduced see Appendix A.
  - 3.2. Generally to prevent the lower (less than 1.8m) level walls on levels 3 and 3A (rooftop level) which are under 1.8m in height potentially being used by members of the public to lever themselves up onto the perimeter ledge, we are installing similar hostile planting which will prevent access in those areas where the potential fall distance is over 5 metres i.e. beyond the next car park level.
  - 3.3. In order to prevent cars from parking close to any lower level parapet walls we are installing vehicle stopping barriers along the floor adjacent to the walls in the relevant locations. This will prevent cars being used as a step up to a perimeter wall by members of the public (Appendix A).



**Hammerson**

**Hammerson plc**  
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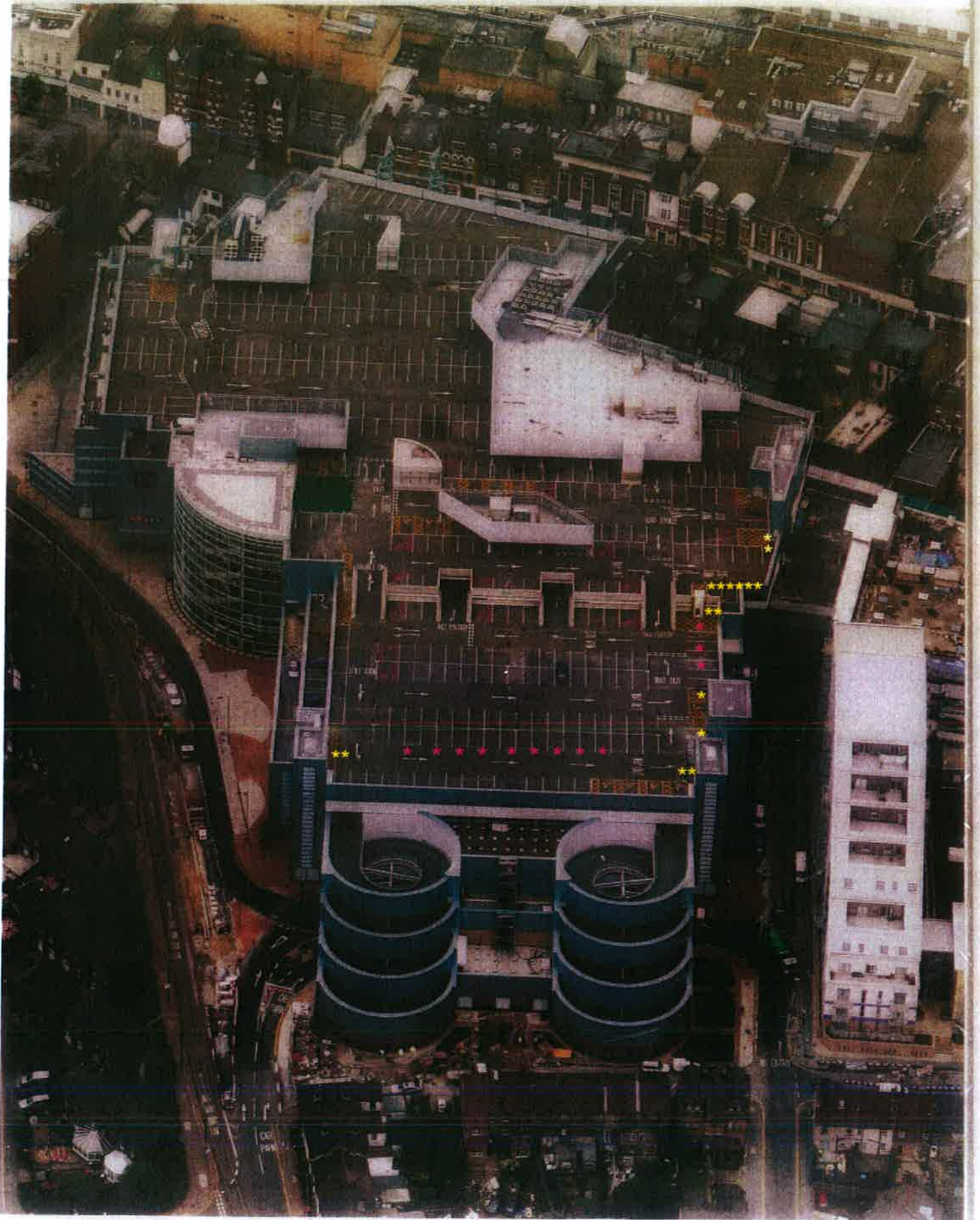
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4. These measures will be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015.
5. Following receipt of the Report we commissioned structural engineers to advise on the feasibility of raising the height of the parapet walls on levels 3 and 3A. Their report (received on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2015) in summary advised how this could be achieved but would involve regulatory planning and building regulations approval. This is currently being explored.
6. The measures set out in paragraph 3 have been submitted to the enforcing authority for health and safety at the Borough of Croydon who will be revisiting the Centre at the end of September 2015.

**for and on behalf of Hammerson plc**

**20<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

Appendix A



Key = Hostile planting

Key = fixed vehicle stops