



## BUSINESS SECURITY

### CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED)

#### What is CPTED?

The definition of CPTED used by the National Crime Prevention Institute (NPCI) is “**the proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and an improvement in the quality of life**”.

*(Crowe, T.D. Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, 2nd Edition 2000, pg46).*

#### The design initiatives and principles can include:

- The layout and visual appearance of an area, including lighting and landscaping.
- The design, positioning and materials used for buildings and other physical structures.
- The interaction and encouragement of legitimate activities; and
- The ongoing management and maintenance of the particular space.

CPTED principles should be incorporated at the design stage of a development, but can be applied to existing developments and areas.

CPTED processes maintain that the physical environment can be manipulated to produce behavioural effects that will reduce the incidence and fear of crime thereby improving the quality of life. The behavioural effects can be accomplished by reducing the propensity of the physical environment to support criminality.

#### CPTED involves the design of physical space in the context of the:

- Needs of bona fide users and the normal and intended use of space.
- Predictable behaviour of both bona fide users and offenders.

A successful CPTED approach is appropriate if it recognises the designated use of the space and defines the crime problem incidental to, and the solution compatible with, the designated use. It incorporates crime prevention strategies that enhance (or at least do not impair) the effective use of the space.

For further business crime prevention information please visit [www.police.sa.gov.au](http://www.police.sa.gov.au) or contact your local police station.

