

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Considerations

KILBIRNIE TOWN CENTRE

Preliminary: 24 August 2009



What is CPTED ?

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) examines the relationship between the physical built environment and crime.

The philosophy underpinning CPTED is that:

- careful and considered design along with
- effective use and management of the built environment

can:

- reduce the incidence and fear of crime, and
- improve quality of life.

How is CPTED used in the Kilbirnie Town Centre Project?

Firstly:

1. Finding out about the incidence of crime and fear of crime in the project area
2. Conducting a physical inspection (CPTED Assessment) of the Kilbirnie Town Centre looking at safety and security factors.

Later:

3. Informing the design process for the upgrade
4. Applying CPTED principles during the design
5. Evaluating and fine-tuning the design as it develops.

Incidence of crime and fear of crime

What the Community said¹:

- Generally respondents don't feel unsafe
"Being a bus passenger I am there all hours of the day and night and have never felt unsafe."
- But a few places people said they don't safe are:
 - waiting to use money machines
 - areas outside TAB and pokies
 - walking past the bars - *"Kilbirnie has felt less safe since we voted it as a wet area"*
 - by the public toilets
 - library south entrance
 - alleyway between Coutts Street and Woolworths
 - in the mall and down beside the Post Office after dark
 - anywhere after 10 pm



1. Responses to Questions 8 and 9 from the Community Consultation Stage

Incidence of crime and fear of crime (continued)

What the **Police** said²:

- Generally a low crime area
- Minor disorder around bars
- Risky places:
 - near money machines
 - alleyway to the side of WINZ and ACC at night
 - alleyway between Coutts Street and Woolworths' car park
 - around the bus barns - due to isolation and poor standard of appearance
- More concerned about safe access across Rongotai Road
- Crime statistics:
(Due shortly)



CPTED Assessment

Physical inspection carried out during the day and at night

CPTED assessment criteria³:

- Informal and formal surveillance
- Safe movement and connections
- Clear and logical layout
- Physical protection
- Sense of ownership
- Quality environments
- Activity mix, 'eyes on the street'

3. Wellington City District Plan "Guidelines for Design Against Crime", and Ministry of Justice "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – Draft New Zealand Guidelines".

CPTED Assessment (continued)

CPTED Assessment presented in the form of a **SAFETY MAP**

High Risk

red shaded areas considered to be very risky

Marginal

orange shaded areas where people are likely to feel unsafe especially at night

Low Risk

unshaded areas considered to be low risk



places which contribute positively to crime prevention e.g. provide 'eyes on the street'

CPTED Assessment



- ✓ Predominantly low risk
- ★ Several activity generators 'eyes-on-street'
- Risky (convoluted) cross-block walkways
- Poorly lit areas
- Secluded unlit private year yards off public space
- Two entrapment spaces

CPTED Assessment



CPTED Assessment



Lighting

- Lighting is predominantly from road lamps (i.e. for vehicles). There is little amenity lighting for showcasing the town centre
- Walkways and lanes are minimally lit from adjoining buildings
- Many under-verandah lights, some street lights, and some ATM lights not working
- Sodium street lights give a gloomy orange tint and poor colour fidelity
- Under-verandah name signs contribute light and vitality where they exist (and are turned on)
- Spill light 'spilling out' from shop displays also contributes to safety and vitality e.g. Blockbuster, Farmers
- Lighting doesn't obviously increase in level and quality to signal when the town centre is being approached
- Private rear yards near public spaces are often dark and unlit
- Excellent scope for using lighting for revitalising the town centre and providing enhanced safety and security

