

Businesses that apply Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies can reduce crime around their property.

## Design out crime at your business by maintaining your premises

Maintaining the building exterior and surrounds indicates that the business is active and well-managed, helping to deter crime (as neglect can attract criminal activity). For example, a business owner might regularly repair any damage to the property to avoid the appearance of abandonment.

The maintenance of a space is an important factor in a successful CPTED strategy. Clean, tidy areas contribute to the creation of pride, a sense of ownership and territoriality. Strewn rubbish

and over loaded rubbish bins, broken glass and empty alcohol containers, graffiti and damage to infrastructure creates a perceived view that an area lacks maintenance and care, resulting in a greater concern of general and personal safety. The visual appearance of these areas is significantly reduced by what may be perceived as an apparent lack of control, maintenance and care.

### Good maintenance



**Figure 1:** Good example of maintaining an area for clear lines of sight and purpose of guiding vehicle access

### Poor maintenance



**Figure 2:** Abandoned trolleys detract from presenting as a well-managed area and sense of ownership