



# Council Policy Manual

## Safer Design

### Policy Objective

The objective of this policy is to ensure that City owned and managed public spaces are designed to make community members and visitors feel safe. This policy recognises that safer design principles minimise opportunities for crime and other anti-social behaviour.

### Policy Scope

This policy applies to all public places the City owns or has responsibility to care for, control and maintain, or that are acquired by or contributed to the City.

### Policy Statement

The City recognises the critical role design plays in improving community safety, both real and perceived, to create a welcoming and vibrant city. The City is committed to improving the quality of life for community members and visitors, especially vulnerable groups, by reducing fear of crime and facilitating positive community engagement. The application of safer design principles delivers such benefits.

The following principles for designing safe and welcoming public spaces, based on internationally recognised 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' principles, should be considered in the earliest stages of the design process. This includes:

- **Maximise natural surveillance** – locate and design public spaces that encourage activity and observation opportunities to enhance the overall feeling of safety and security
- **Clear space delineation** – use physical features to clearly define ownership and control of a space and to delineate private from public spaces
- **Ongoing maintenance** – ensure public spaces are fit for purpose and easy to maintain, increase feelings of safety and enjoyment for all users.

The City will carry out assessment, community consultation and audit of areas where increased safety risks may exist and ensure modifications incorporating safer design principles are made where it is considered necessary and reasonable to do so.

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