



**CCI**  
CUTTING CRIME  
IMPACT

## Factsheet

# Crime Prevention through Urban Design and Planning

(CP-UDP)

This Factsheet is based on research conducted for the state-of-the-art report on CP-UDP (CCI deliverable D2.5).



## Cutting Crime Impact (CCI)

CCI is an EU-funded project that aims to support law enforcement agencies (LEAs) as well as relevant local and national authorities (i.e. security policymakers) in reducing the impact of crime and, where possible, preventing crime in the first place. The CCI project supports preventative, evidence-based and sustainable approaches to tackling high-impact petty crime.

**CCI will design, develop and demonstrate toolkits relating to four focus areas:**



**Predictive Policing**



**Community Policing**



**Crime Prevention through Urban Design and Planning (CP-UDP)**



**Measuring and mitigating citizens' feelings of insecurity**

## What is Crime Prevention through Urban Design and Planning (CP-UDP)?

CP-UDP incorporates evidence-based design, planning and management measures within urban development proposals to prevent crime and reduce feelings of insecurity. CP-UDP seeks to embed protective physical features and encourage pro-social behaviours through the design of a location. CP-UDP advice is often delivered by staff working for LEAs or local authorities.

## Background to CP-UDP

**CP-UDP draws on scientific evidence, guidelines and approaches from a variety of disciplines, including:**

- The Chicago school of Sociology developed the zonal model of urban form and the ecological theory of social disorganisation that focused attention on offenders, and the places where problems of crime and incivility manifested.
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) focuses on reducing opportunities for crime and tackling feelings of insecurity. CPTED strategies aim to reduce victimisation, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts and foster a sense of community among residents so they can exercise control over their neighbourhoods.
- CPTED draws on Oscar Newman's concept of "Defensible Space" (1972), where physical characteristics—building layout and site plan—function to allow inhabitants to become key agents in ensuring security.
- CPTED considers not only the physical (concrete, bricks and mortar) and technical aspects of the urban space, but also the social and behavioural aspects.



Figure 1. The Crime Triangle

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- Situational Crime Prevention takes in consideration the elements that must be present for a crime to occur, the interventions that may prevent crime and the actors that should be involved in preventing crime, sometimes called 'capable guardians.'

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- Environmental Criminology focuses on environmental or contextual factors that may influence criminal activity: space, time, law, offender and target or victim.

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- Design Against Crime programme seeks to raise awareness amongst designers of their role in crime prevention, and provide practical guidance and examples to support them in their efforts to understand and improve security.

## CP-UDP experiences in Europe

### 1 . The Police Architectural Liaison Officer (ALO) Service in the UK

CP-UDP implementation differs significantly across different countries, here are some examples:

In 1989, the UK Association of Chief Police Officers established a crime prevention accreditation scheme called, 'Secured by Design', which initially focused on the design of homes and commercial buildings. The scheme promotes CPTED principles, and the use of building products that conform to security standards. Across the UK, Police Architectural Liaison Officers (ALOs) are employed by LEAs to assess building compliance to standard, as well as engage with architects, planners and developers on safety and security. Job titles have been altered over the years, and ALOs are often known as Crime Prevention Design Advisors (CPDA) or Designing Out Crime Advisors (DOCAs).

CCI LEA partner Greater Manchester Police (GMP) integrates crime prevention into the design and planning process in Greater Manchester in the northwest of England. In 1991, GMP appointed an architect as its first ALO. As the ALO service expanded, the practice of appointing to ALO roles to candidates from the development industry (architects, surveyors, planners, etc.) continued. This strategy was to become the foundation for the development of an ALO service unique in the UK. By the mid 2000s, four ALOs were reviewing over 2,000 applications at the planning committee phase, from across the ten local authorities in the Greater Manchester Metropolitan area (Davey and Wootton, 2017).

In 2005, Manchester City Council implemented a local planning condition for Secured by Design. This stipulated that all plans had to meet the standard of the UK accreditation scheme—but GMP lacked the resources to meet this requirement. With support from the Design Against Crime Solution Centre, an innovative architectural liaison unit was established by: (i) the Assistant Chief Constable of GMP; (ii) the Head of Architectural Liaison Unit at GMP; and (iii) the Head of Planning at Manchester City Council. The aim was to formally integrate CPTED advice within the planning process, influence designers much earlier in the design process and generate funding to employ additional staff to cope with additional demands on the service. This resulted in the innovation of the 'Crime Impact Statement' (CIS). The CIS fitted with the 'Impact Statement' model common for considering issues in the building development industry, such as the 'Environmental Impact Statement'. The CIS was designed to enable crime prevention to be considered at a much **earlier stage in a development project**.

## 2 . The French legislation system for urban planning:

The emphasis on CP-UDP was taken forward in 1995, when the LOPS (Act on Town Planning and Urban Renewal) was enacted. This legislation made it compulsory for large construction projects to conduct a security analysis of a proposed development's impact on crime: the ESSP (Public Safety and Security Study). The requirement for developers to conduct a security assessment of crime and fear of crime resulted in consultancies being established to measure geographical distribution of crime, crime trends and fear of crime.

The French Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition, has published two brochures on urban safety:

- User Safety and Urban Design: this publication reviews the principles to guide the integration of crime prevention in urban design.
- The contribution of safety reports to urban quality. Case studies show how safety reports have been implemented since 2007.

These case studies focus on questions such as: When would it be convenient to introduce safety reflections into the urban project? What are the minimum conditions for successful measures? How should local authorities, architects, urban planners and police work together to address safety and security?

## European standard:

The European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) is an association that brings together the National Standardisation Bodies of 34 European countries. CEN is responsible for developing and defining voluntary standards at European level in relation to various kinds of products, materials, services and processes. CEN has published a set of standards – the CEN 14383 series – on CP-UDP in general and on specific issues like dwellings, shops and offices, petrol stations, design and management of public transport facilities and the protection of buildings and sites against criminal attacks with vehicles. The series of documents can be purchased online from CEN or from each of the national standardisation bodies (often translated in their own national language).

## EU Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action:

As part of a European COST Action (2012 – 16), a set of national bibliographies was compiled for 22 European countries as well as an overview of International CP-UDP bibliographies (see <http://www.costtu1203.eu/downloads/cost-tu1203s-results/>). The research conducted with experts across Europe revealed that 19 European countries have either CP-UDP guidelines or policy documents—or both. The role of LEAs in CP-UDP varies across European contexts. In some countries, in the UK, LEAs lead on CP-UDP, whilst in the Netherlands, responsibility has shifted from LEAs to the local authorities. In some contexts (e.g. Vienna in Austria), LEAs play only a minor role in CP-UDP.

## Key message from CCI

Implementation of CP-UDP requires a multidisciplinary approach, as well as cooperation between different agencies (including police, local authorities, planners, crime prevention experts, housing associations, city centre managers).

Measures to improve implementation of CP-UDP should be focused on: (a) the points in the system where most benefit can be achieved; (b) the stakeholders most able to bring about change in a given context; and (c) the role of LEAs.

CP-UDP approaches promotes a range of interventions related to design, planning and management—from technological measures, through urban design to social initiatives.

CP-UDP measures have proven to be successful. The application of these types of measures has led to a significant decrease in property crimes across Europe (in particular car thefts, shoplifting and burglaries).

Relocation of crime—displacement— occurs much less frequently than is often supposed. The reverse effect is also apparent, whereby the scope of the measures is estimated to be much greater by offenders and potential offenders.



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