

URBAN FOREST POLICY

Policy Number:	4.1.9
Approved by	Council
Date Approved/Effective	17 December 2019
Date of Next Review:	1 October 2020
Related Policies:	Significant Tree Protection
Applicable to Unit(s):	Whole Organisation
Responsible Officer:	Manager Natural Environment and Parks Coordinator Open Space Planning & Support Coordinator Parks Services
Statutory Reference:	Nil

OVERVIEW

To establish policy for the management of the Urban Forest.

THE POLICY

This policy provides a framework of reference in relation to the management of trees in urban areas throughout the Shire generally, with particular reference to the following matters:

- Planting of new trees;
- Maintenance of existing trees;
- Removal of existing trees;
- Conflict with other infrastructure;
- Heritage trees;
- Risk management;
- Remnant native trees.

Principles

1. An acceptable level of risk to persons or damage to infrastructure, including buildings, streets, kerbs, footpaths, road users/vehicles and aerial and underground utilities.
2. To guard against the damage or unnecessary removal of trees in public areas.

Council has a Strategic Plan in place to support its policy position on urban trees (e.g. Open Space Plan 2014-2024). This Plan is available to staff via the Intranet. The responsibility to ensure that the maintenance and implementation of the guidelines accord's with Council's policy position is vested in the Manager Natural Environment and Parks. Any matter specifically requiring a Council determination shall be reported by the General Manager Built and Natural Environment.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Wellington Shire Council is committed to upholding the Human Rights principles as outlined in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)* and referred to in Council's Human Rights Policy. The Human Rights Checklist has been completed and this policy accords with Council's policy commitment to uphold human rights principles.

Related Documents

Type:	Details:
Procedure	Nil
Strategy	Open Space Plan 2014-2024