



# Planter Box Guidelines

These planter box guidelines have been developed to encourage businesses and residents to green the City's town centres in a safe way that is mindful of accessibility. The installation of planter boxes that are designed and placed in line with these guidelines do not require approval from the City.

The guidelines ensure there is enough space for people to access the footpath with prams, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. It also ensures that the planter boxes are clearly recognisable for people with low vision, do not pose a trip hazard and maintain clear sightlines for pedestrians and vehicular traffic.

## Design Guidelines

### **Planter boxes are to:**

- ❖ Have a minimum height of 0.5m to avoid creating trip hazards for pedestrians and a maximum height of 1m (including plants) when in the vicinity of driveways and laneways to maintain clear lines of sight for pedestrians and road users;
- ❖ Have a maximum length of 1.5m to avoid creating access barriers to pedestrians;
- ❖ Be of a contrasting colour with the ground and their surrounds so they are visibly obvious during the day and night;
- ❖ Not cause damage to the footpath, trees or property;
- ❖ Be stable, durable, free of protrusions and sharp edges; and
- ❖ Be well maintained by the owner of the planter box to ensure they remain safe, tidy and attractive and are not used for signage purposes.

## Location Guidelines

### **Planter boxes are to:**

- ❖ Be located on the footpath in front of your own premise in the town centre;
- ❖ Be separated from one another or other street furniture by at least 1.0m to avoid creating access barriers to pedestrians;
- ❖ Be positioned against your property or along the kerb line, with a 60cm gap between the planter box and the edge of the kerb and allow a minimum pedestrian clearance of 1.8m;
- ❖ Be placed away from street corners and pedestrian crossing points to ensure clear sightlines;
- ❖ Be placed away from underground service access lids and not in front of loading, taxi, bus and disabled parking zones;
- ❖ Be allowed on fences and/or walls if firmly secured to withstand strong wind gusts and should not pose a trip hazard or cause sight obstruction for pedestrians and road users.

Planter boxes may have to be moved to allow access to utility service providers and the roads authority. In these cases, residents or businesses will be required to arrange removal or temporary storage and return of the planter boxes after the works have been completed. The City reserves the right to remove planter boxes if they are not well looked after or pose safety issues.