

# Requested Management of Vegetation Within Public Reserves Policy

<b>Responsible Division</b>	Assets and Infrastructure
<b>Responsible Business Unit</b>	Parks and Environment
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Manager Parks and Environment, Environment Manager
<b>Affected Business Units</b>	Parks and Environment
<b>ECM Document Set ID</b>	4546567

## Purpose

This policy provides guidance on how requests from property owners or occupiers to manage vegetation within public reserves will be handled by the City.

## Scope

This policy covers management of vegetation within public reserves and not the management of trees which is covered under the Urban Tree Planting and Maintenance Policy.

## Definitions

**Vegetation** means any other plant that is not considered a tree.

## Policy Statement

1. An owner or occupier of a property adjacent to a public reserve can request vegetation within 10m of their property to be managed by the City to reduce perceived risk or impacts to their property.
2. A request can be for the removal, pruning and or replacement of vegetation and will be assessed on its merits by the relevant Director.
3. Requests to manage vegetation to improve views will not be considered.
4. Preference will be given to the preservation of vegetation that is considered as threatened species, or endemic to the local area, and or provides important habitat for local fauna.
5. Any vegetation that is approved to be removed will be replaced at the discretion of the relevant Director with species appropriate for the local area and environmental requirements.
6. Approved works will be undertaken by the City at the cost of the property owner who made the request. Pensioners are exempt from the requirement to pay for vegetation management requests under this Policy,
7. Any person who removes vegetation without the approval of the relevant Director will be prosecuted under the provisions of the relevant Local Government Regulations or Thoroughfares Local Law, and may be referred to Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCAs) if the removal has taken place within natural areas under their responsibility.
8. The City is to provide and maintain suitable firebreaks in accordance with the current order of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

## Related Legislation

*Bush Fires Act 1954*

*Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1995*

*Environmental Protections Act 1986*

*Thoroughfares Local Law 2020*

*Section 444 of Criminal Code WA*

## Related Documentation

*Urban Tree Planting and Maintenance Policy*

## Document details

<b>Relevant delegations</b>	Nil.		
<b>Risk evaluation</b>	Low		
<b>Strategic link</b>	Environment and Liveability Protect and enhance the City's natural environment and biodiversity, and encourage the community to participate in its protection		
<b>Council adoption</b>	25 November 2005	<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Reviewed/modified</b>	14 February 2006	<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Reviewed/modified</b>	18 October 2007	<b>Resolution</b>	
<b>Reviewed/modified</b>	19 April 2016	<b>Resolution</b>	12.1
<b>Reviewed/modified</b>	25 July 2023	<b>Resolution</b>	10.5.1.8
<b>Next review due</b>	July 2027		