



CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Agenda and Reports

for the meeting on

Tuesday, 6 October 2026

at 7.00 pm

in the Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

Our Adelaide.
Bold.
Aspirational.
Innovative.

CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Meeting Agenda, Tuesday, 6 October 2026, at 7.00 pm

Members – The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith

Councillor Freeman (Chair)

Councillor Martin (Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Noon and Councillors Abrahimzadeh, Cabada, Couros, Giles, Maher, Noon,
Dr Siebentritt and Snape

Agenda

Item	Pages
1. Acknowledgement of Country	
At the opening of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee meeting, the Chair will state:	
‘The City of Adelaide acknowledges the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Plains as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today.	
We acknowledge and honour their spiritual and cultural stewardship of this Country and recognise their deep and enduring relationship with its lands, waters, the sky, and all living things.	
We pay our respects to Kaurna Elders past and present and recognise the important role of emerging leaders in sustaining and strengthening culture.’	
2. Apologies and Leave of Absence	
Nil	
3. Confirmation of Minutes - 1/9/2026	
That the Minutes of the meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs held on 1 September 2026, be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.	
View public 1 September 2026 Minutes here .	
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	
5. Deputations	
Nil	
6. Workshops	
Nil	
7. Reports for Recommendation to Council	
7.1 Tree Management Policy	4 - 124
8. Reports for Noting	
Nil	
9. Exclusion of the Public	125 - 128
In accordance with sections 90(2), (3) and (7) of the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i> (SA) the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs will consider whether to discuss in confidence the reports contained within section 10 of this Agenda.	
10. Confidential Reports for Recommendation to Council	

10.1	Kerbside Waste Collection - Contract Renewal Update [S90(3) (b), (d)]	129 - 161
10.2	City East Housing Project [S90(3) (b), (d)]	162 - 175

11. Closure

Tree Management Policy

Strategic Alignment - Our Environment

Public

Tuesday, 6 October 2026

**City Planning, Development
and Business Affairs
Committee**

Program Contact:

Noni Williams, Associate Director
City Operations

Approving Officer:

Ilia Houridis, Director City
Shaping

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the updated Tree Management Policy (the Policy) as contained in **Attachment A**, which provides the overarching policy framework for the management and protection of the City of Adelaide's urban forest, including trees within the Park Lands, Squares and streets. The updated Policy reflects Council's current legislative and operational responsibilities, contemporary tree management practices and strategic objectives for maintaining a healthy, safe and resilient urban forest.

The Policy has been reviewed to ensure it provides a contemporary and clear framework for tree management that reflects current legislation, recognised industry standards, the City's strategic objectives and the increasing importance of trees to the City's environmental, social, economic, ecological, cultural and heritage outcomes.

The updated Policy strengthens the connection between tree management and the City's objective of achieving 40% tree canopy cover by 2035. It also provides greater clarity around tree replacement, useful life expectancy, tree risk, species and age diversity, climate resilience, habitat, cultural and heritage values, and the management of trees throughout their lifecycle.

A key principle of the updated Policy is that tree management requires a balance between the needs and condition of individual trees and the collective benefits provided by the urban forest. Tree management decisions will continue to be informed by risk, legislation, industry standards and professional arboriculture assessment, while recognising the environmental, ecological, cultural and heritage values that trees can provide.

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 13 October 2026 for consideration

THAT THE CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Approves the updated Tree Management Policy, as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee, held on 6 October 2026.
2. Rescinds the Park Land Olive Management Plan, as the management of olive trees is incorporated in the updated Tree Management Policy, contained in Attachment B to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee, held on 6 October 2026.
3. Notes that the updated Policy provides the overarching framework for the management of the City of Adelaide's urban forest and is supported by operational documents including the Tree Operating Guideline, as contained in Attachment C and Tree Risk Assessment Protocol as contained in Attachment D to Item 7.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee, held on 6 October 2026.
4. Notes that the updated Tree Management Policy will support the City of Adelaide's strategic objective of achieving 40% tree canopy cover by 2035 through continued tree planting, replacement of trees removed

for reasons such as replacement due to end of life, protection of existing trees and identification of additional planting opportunities.

5. Notes that the Tree Management Policy will be reviewed every four years, or earlier where legislative or operational change requires review, with the next scheduled review in 2030.
-

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Environment Supports Our Environment by strengthening sustainable tree management, protecting urban canopy and biodiversity, managing tree-related risks proactively and supporting Council's commitment to a greener, healthier city.
Policy	The Tree Management Policy and associated procedures will be updated as required to support consistent implementation and contemporary tree risk management.
Consultation	Input has been provided by relevant Council teams across business, events, policy, governance, infrastructure, planning and strategy.
Resource	The associated work is funded through existing operational budgets and can be delivered within current resources, with no additional funding or savings requiring redirection.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The updated Policy strengthens Council's risk-based approach to tree management, recognising that tree-related risks need to be managed alongside the significant environmental, social, ecological, cultural and amenity benefits trees provide. The City applies the International Society of Arboriculture's Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) methodology, with qualified arborists undertaking routine and ad-hoc assessments to identify and prioritise higher-risk trees. As tree risk cannot be completely eliminated, the Policy supports a reasonable, proportionate and practicable approach to managing risk while retaining the benefits of the urban forest. It also provides a framework for addressing longer-term risks arising from climate change, pests and disease, aging trees, infrastructure impacts and declining growing conditions.
Opportunities	Strengthens Council's proactive tree risk management, supports consistent decision-making and improves community confidence through clear, evidence-based processes and alignment with contemporary arboriculture practice.
26/27 Budget Allocation	General operating budget for tree maintenance is \$2,776,944
Proposed 27/28 Budget Allocation	Estimated general operating budget for tree maintenance is \$2,860,252
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The Policy will be reviewed every four years, or earlier where legislative or operational change requires review, with the next scheduled review in 2030.
26/27 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the updated Tree Management Policy (the Policy) as contained in **Attachment A**, which provides the overarching policy framework for the management and protection of the City of Adelaide's urban forest. The updated Policy reflects Council's current legislative and operational responsibilities, contemporary tree management practices and strategic objectives for maintaining a healthy, safe and resilient urban forest.

Background

2. Trees are an important and highly visible component of the City of Adelaide's public realm. The City's tree population contributes to the character and amenity of the city while providing shade, cooling, habitat, biodiversity and other environmental benefits. The management of this resource also involves balancing these benefits with the need to maintain safe and accessible public spaces and respond to changing environmental, infrastructure and community expectations.
3. City of Adelaide has established a range of policies, plans, guidelines and operational practices that support the management of its tree population. These have developed over time in response to changes in legislation, industry practice, tree management knowledge and the City's strategic priorities.
4. The current Tree Management Framework provides the overarching policy framework for the management of the City's trees. The Framework has been in place for a number of years and is due for review to ensure it continues to appropriately reflect the City's current tree management responsibilities, operating environment and strategic direction.
5. The review has also been undertaken in the context of increasing pressures on the urban forest, including climate change, extreme weather, pests and diseases, development and infrastructure requirements, as well as the need to maintain and increase urban canopy and tree health over the longer term.

Purpose and policy framework

6. The updated Policy establishes a clear overarching position for the management of the City's urban forest.
7. This provides a consistent, integrated approach to tree health, risk, maintenance, conservation and heritage significance.
8. It recognises that effective tree management requires consideration of individual tree condition and risk alongside the collective benefits of the urban forest. This provides a framework for decisions that considers safety and statutory requirements while also recognising canopy, amenity, habitat, biodiversity, cultural and heritage values.
9. The Policy is intended to remain an overarching policy document, with detailed operational processes and technical requirements managed through supporting documents such as the Tree Operating Guideline (**Attachment C**) and Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (**Attachment D**).

Strengthening canopy and tree replacement

10. The updated Policy reinforces the importance of maintaining and increasing canopy cover.
11. It establishes that trees removed through the City's tree management program will be replanted through an ongoing replacement program, while routine tree data collection and strategic planning will identify additional opportunities for new planting.
12. New plantings will focus on quality, diversity and resilience, including the use of quality tree stock, climate-ready species and best-practice planting techniques. Water Sensitive Urban Design and Biodiversity Sensitive Urban Design will also be integrated where appropriate.
13. This approach supports the City's objective of achieving 40% tree canopy cover by 2035 while recognising that maintaining canopy requires both the protection of existing trees and continuous replacement and new planting.

Managing trees throughout their lifecycle

14. The updated Policy introduces a clearer lifecycle approach to tree management through the consideration of Useful Life Expectancy (ULE).
15. ULE considers the period a tree can reasonably be expected to continue providing benefits at an acceptable level of risk under current site conditions. Understanding ULE supports forward planning for replacement and helps maintain a diverse age structure across the urban forest.

16. The Policy recognises that management objectives change as trees mature:
 - 16.1. Young trees are managed to establish sound structure and address future conflicts.
 - 16.2. Mature trees are managed to mitigate risk, manage site constraints and maintain amenity.
 - 16.3. Veteran trees are managed to reduce risk while retaining habitat and amenity values where practicable.
 - 16.4. End-of-life trees are removed or replaced when their useful life expectancy is reached, unless ecological, cultural or historic values warrant retention.
17. This provides a more balanced framework for decisions involving older or declining trees, recognising that tree age alone does not determine whether a tree should be retained or removed.

Climate resilience, biodiversity and habitat

18. The updated Policy strengthens the connection between tree management and climate resilience.
19. Management will support a diverse and appropriately aged urban forest, improve water availability and growing conditions, and increase the use of species suited to projected climate conditions. Pest and disease management will incorporate routine monitoring, species diversity, improved tree health and integrated pest management practices.
20. The Policy also recognises the ecological value of trees and identifies biodiversity and habitat as considerations in species selection and tree management.

Heritage and cultural values

21. The updated Policy recognises the importance of trees within the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout, including their contribution to nationally recognised heritage values through the National Heritage Management Plan (September 2024) provided as [Link 1](#) and Implementation Project – Designed Landscapes and Historic Plantings report, [Link 2](#).
22. It also recognises culturally significant trees that contribute to the City's sense of time, place and identity. These trees are recorded in Forestree and are managed in accordance with the same legislative requirements and best-practice standards that apply to other trees, while allowing additional resources to be allocated where appropriate to reflect their importance.
23. This provides a clearer basis for considering cultural, historic and heritage values alongside risk and tree condition when determining appropriate management responses.

Park Land Olive Management Plan

24. The City of Adelaide currently has a standalone Park Land Olive Management Plan (Olive Management Plan) as contained in **Attachment B**, adopted by Council 2 April 2001, that provides specific guidance for the management of heritage olive trees.
25. As part of the review of tree management, it has been identified that the management principles and considerations contained within the Olive Management Plan are appropriately incorporated into the updated Tree Management Policy. The updated policy provides a consistent framework for the management of all trees, while specifically recognising the cultural, historical and heritage values that may apply to individual trees, including heritage olive trees and groves.
 - 25.1. Heritage olive trees are both trees and heritage assets, so can be effectively managed through the existing Tree Management Policy and Heritage Management Plan.
 - 25.2. This provides a consistent, integrated approach to tree health, risk, maintenance, conservation and heritage significance.
 - 25.3. Updating a separate Olive Management Plan would largely duplicate existing policy requirements and create an additional layer of governance and documentation.
26. It is proposed that the Olive Management Plan be rescinded upon approval of the updated Tree Management Policy.

Governance and implementation

27. The updated Policy will be supported by existing operational and technical documents, including the Tree Operating Guideline and Tree Risk Assessment Protocol.
28. Implementation will continue to be overseen through the City's Arboriculture and Asset Management functions, with accountability through Executive and Council. The Policy will be applied in conjunction with relevant legislation, Council policy and recognised industry standards.
29. The updated Policy does not replace the technical assessment processes used by qualified arborists. Rather, it establishes the overarching principles within which those assessments and operational decisions are made.
30. The CEO has specific authority to make minor changes during the policy's currency, including "legislative, formatting, nomenclature or other minor changes."

Financial and resource implications

31. The updated Policy establishes the strategic and policy framework for existing tree management activities.
32. The Policy supports continued tree replacement, new planting, tree maintenance, risk management and improved growing conditions. These activities will continue to be managed through existing operational and capital planning processes and future budget considerations.
33. No specific additional funding is sought through this report.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 - National Heritage Management Plan (September 2024)

Link 2 - Implementation Project – Designed Landscapes and Historic Plantings report

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Tree Management Policy

Attachment B - Park Land Olive Management Plan

Attachment C - Tree Operating Guideline

Attachment D - Tree Risk Assessment Protocol

- END OF REPORT -

TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY

Date this document was adopted

CORPORATE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to present a clear overview of the City of Adelaide's approach to monitoring, managing, and enhancing its urban forest.

It identifies the key challenges and threats facing its urban forest, while highlighting opportunities to create a more resilient and sustainable canopy that meets community expectations. It also sets out the relevant legislation, standards, and guiding documents that underpin best-practice management of the urban forest.

STATEMENT

Introduction

Managing the urban forest requires balancing the needs of individual trees with the collective benefits they provide. The City of Adelaide is committed to applying industry best practice, operating within the regulatory framework that protects trees, and ensuring the benefits of the urban forest are sustained for future generations.

The urban forest is the collection of all trees within the built and natural areas of a city, town, or suburb. This includes street trees, park trees, and privately owned trees. Council-owned trees form a significant part of this wider forest and are managed collectively to ensure their sustainability and ongoing contribution to the community.

The urban forest in the City of Adelaide is made up of trees owned and managed by the City, including Park Lands, Squares and street trees. In addition, privately owned trees contribute to the overall urban forest, and the benefits trees provide. However, private trees are not managed by the City.

Data on the urban forest includes information about overall canopy cover, collected using remote sensing equipment (LiDAR) and information on individual trees using Council's tree asset management system.

Benefits

Trees provide wide-ranging benefits to the City of Adelaide, including:

- **Economic:** Increase property values, reduce energy costs, support retail activity, and improve public health.
- **Social and health:** Enhance wellbeing, reduce stress, provide shaded places for gathering, and encourage social interaction and activity.
- **Amenity:** Enrich the city's visual character, mark the seasons, offer screening and privacy, and create focal points.

- **Environmental:** Provide shade and cooling, reduce heat island effects and wind speeds, improve air and water quality, stabilise soils, and sequester carbon.
- **Ecological:** Offer habitat and food for wildlife, supporting biodiversity.
- **Cultural and historical:** Represent connections to First Nations peoples, mark cultural events, and highlight significant places in the city's history.

Challenges

Trees are living organisms that grow, shed, age, and eventually die. They are vulnerable to pressures such as urban development, infrastructure works, climate change, and emerging pest and disease threats. They may also fail or cause risks and hazards.

- **Climate change:** Rising average temperatures, reduced rainfall, and more hot days above 36°C will stress species poorly suited to future conditions or already growing in sub-optimal urban environments.
- **Pest and disease:** Increased movement of people and goods, combined with urban stressors and climate change, heightens pest and disease risks.
- **Development impacts:** New developments and infrastructure upgrades can reduce available growing space and damage tree roots.

Opportunities for improvement

Key opportunities to strengthen and sustain the urban forest include:

- **Climate-ready planting:** Trialling new species resilient to heat, drought, and pest pressures.
- **Expanding canopy:** Identifying new planting locations and opportunities.
- **Innovative design:** Applying solutions such as Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and Biodiversity Sensitive Urban Design (BSUD).
- **Extending tree life:** Improving soil volumes, planting spaces, and growing conditions to prolong useful life expectancy.
- **Building capability:** Recruiting qualified arboriculture staff and supporting ongoing professional development.
- **Infrastructure adaptation:** Reducing tree impacts from electricity infrastructure through aerial bundled cabling or undergrounding powerlines.

TREE MANAGEMENT

Legislation and standards

To manage and enhance the urban forest, the City of Adelaide will adhere to the following legislation and guiding documents.

- Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016
- Local Government Act 1999
- Landscape SA Act 2019

The management of trees will adhere to current industry standards and best practice to ensure they are correctly managed and appropriately protected on development sites.

This includes:

- Australian Standards for pruning of amenity trees, protection of trees on development sites and tree quality for landscape use.
- Arboriculture Australia Minimum Industry Standards for tree pruning, tree removal, tree inspection for access and work, tree support systems, environmental arboriculture, tree health and maintenance, tree risk assessment and tree valuation.

Increasing canopy cover

Increasing and maintaining a sustainable urban forest canopy cover requires consistent and continuous tree planting. New tree plantings will continue through a replacement program when trees are removed.

Additional tree planting opportunities will be identified through routine tree audits and strategic planning efforts that support the City of Adelaide's goal to achieve 40% tree canopy cover by 2035.

The success and long-term health of tree plantings will be improved by sourcing high-quality tree stock, applying both proven and innovative planting methods, and using effective ongoing establishment techniques.

Increasing tree canopy cover also includes preserving existing trees by:

- **Protecting trees** during public events, infrastructure upgrades and both public and private development projects.
- **Improving growing conditions** around established trees to support their long-term health.

URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT:

New tree planting

Tree planting in the City will focus on replacement, opportunity, quality, diversity, and innovation:

When managing new tree planting the following should be considered:

- **Replace:** Trees removed will be replanted through an ongoing replacement program.
- **Identify opportunities:** Routine data collection in streets and Parks, along with broader strategic planning, will highlight new planting sites.
- **Use quality stock:** All trees will meet AS2303 *Tree stock for landscape use*.

- **Select resilient species:** Planting will prioritise diversity, climate readiness, and pest and disease resistance.
- **Plant to best practice:** Works will follow the City's planting specification, with enhanced growing environments and innovative techniques applied where suitable.

Apply innovative design: Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and Biodiversity Sensitive Urban Design (BSUD) will be integrated where possible.

Urban forest diversity

A resilient and sustainable urban forest relies on strong diversity of both species and age. This diversity helps the forest adapt to climate change, pest and disease threats, and other urban challenges.

Species will be selected to balance site conditions, diversity, resilience and habitat value:

When managing diversity the following should be considered:

- **Match to site conditions:** Consider available space above and below ground, proximity to communication and utility infrastructure, legislative requirements, and climate suitability.
- **Build climate resilience:** Select and trial species that are tolerant of projected climate conditions (using climate analogues) and less prone to pests and diseases.
- **Improve diversity:** Strengthen ecosystem resilience, reduce pest and disease risk, and create more adaptable and visually interesting urban landscapes.
- **Enhance biodiversity:** Prioritise species that support natural habitat opportunities in suitable locations.

Tree valuation

Tree valuations are increasingly important for protecting trees, raising awareness of their value, and supporting improved management.

- The City of Adelaide determines tree values using a method consistent with *Minimum Industry Standard 506 Tree Valuation*.
- Tree valuations are undertaken as part of routine tree audits, on an as-required basis.

Useful Life Expectancy

The useful life expectancy (ULE) of a tree is the number of years it can be expected to provide benefits at an acceptable level of risk under current site conditions.

Maintaining a mix of tree ages ensures that large numbers of trees do not reach the end of their ULE at the same time. This helps sustain canopy cover, spreads

replacement costs, and reduces sudden losses. In some cases, habitat value may extend or increase a tree's useful life expectancy.

Understanding remaining ULE helps us plan for replacement and new planting. Age diversity will be supported through consistent and continuous planting programs.

Tree management objectives shift as trees mature, with pruning and care tailored to each stage:

- **Young trees:** Apply formative pruning to improve structure, accommodate site constraints, and reduce future conflicts.
- **Mature trees:** Prune to mitigate risk, manage site constraints, and enhance amenity value.
- **Veteran trees:** Manage the gradual, natural process of decline in aging trees, reduce risk, and preserve amenity and habitat values.
- **End-of-life trees:** Remove or replace when useful life expectancy is reached, unless ecological, cultural, or historic values warrant retention.

Additional considerations:

- **Prioritise risk:** Management will focus on trees with elevated risk ratings.
- **Support health:** Trees may require supports, pest and disease treatments, or soil amendments at different life stages.
- **Maximise benefits:** Trees provide greater and longer-lasting value when managed appropriately across their lifespan.

Tree pruning and removal

Pruning and removal of Council-owned trees will be carried out within legislative, policy, and industry frameworks to prioritise safety, amenity and tree longevity:

- **Legislative compliance:** Works will meet the requirements of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (regulated and significant trees, with planning consent as required) and the *Local Government Act 1999*.
- **Policy alignment:** All activities will follow the City of Adelaide's Tree Management Operating Guideline, with priority given to risk management and providing safe clearances for thoroughfares, signage, and infrastructure.
- **Scope of works:** Trees will not ordinarily be pruned or removed in response to customer requests or new developments unless they meet policy criteria. This does not limit Council's authority or obligation to act where a tree presents an unacceptable risk to public safety, or where legislative requirements or urgent operational circumstances require action, regardless of whether a customer request has been made.
- **Standards and expertise:** Works will comply with industry standards and be undertaken or supervised by trained, experienced arborists.

- **Objective:** Management practices aim to extend the useful life expectancy of Council-owned trees.

RISK MANAGEMENT:

Tree-related risk status

The City of Adelaide uses the International Society of Arboriculture's (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ), an industry-recognised methodology endorsed for assessing tree risk. Tree risk ratings are recorded during routine audits and ad-hoc assessments by qualified arborists trained in TRAQ. These ratings assist in prioritising tree works, with higher-risk trees addressed before those assessed as lower risk.

When managing risk across the urban forest, the following principles apply:

- **Trees provide essential benefits:** they contribute significantly to community wellbeing and environmental health.
- **The statistical likelihood of harm from tree failure across the urban forest as a whole is low:** this does not mean that individual trees cannot present elevated risk, and Council's risk management program is specifically designed to identify and address those trees through systematic inspection and prioritisation.
- **Risk cannot be eliminated:** trees are living structures that may shed branches or fall during severe weather, and society must accept this to continue gaining their benefits.
- **Duty of care applies:** tree risk is managed in a way that is reasonable, proportionate, and practicable.

Trees in high-use areas are inspected more often than those in lower-use zones. Information supports both individual tree care and whole-of-forest management, including:

- Risk management (pruning or removal)
- Pest and disease monitoring
- Planning replacement of aging trees
- Identifying new planting sites and opportunities

Preparing for a warming climate

The urban forest will be managed to remain sustainable under future climate conditions by:

- **Balancing tree ages:** Monitor and replace over-mature trees, ensuring continuous replenishment with younger plantings.
- **Enhancing water availability:** Support tree health with permeable surface treatments, Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD), additional irrigation systems and expanded water truck programming.

- **Strengthening resilience:** Combine adaptive management with diverse planting to reduce vulnerability to climate stressors, pests, and diseases.

Pest and disease management

The movement of people and goods, combined with a changing climate, increases the risk of pests and diseases in the urban forest.

These risks will be managed by:

- **Monitoring:** Conducting routine audits using Forestree tree inventory software.
- **Diversifying:** Increasing species diversity and selecting climate-ready, pest-resistant species.
- **Strengthening health:** Optimising growing conditions for both new and existing plantings.
- **Managing sustainably:** Applying integrated pest management practices rather than relying solely on chemicals.

HERITAGE AND CULTURAL MANAGEMENT:

National Heritage

The Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout are listed as a National Heritage Place under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*. Tree management activities — including removal, planting, pruning, maintenance, and infill planting — have the potential to affect this listing.

The National Heritage values include historic plantings and designed landscapes that reflect the contributions of successive City Gardeners. These values are expressed through:

- Groves and avenues of trees
- Gardens and plantations
- Open areas with small copses
- Perimeter and shelterbelt plantings
- Specimen trees
- Designed and natural vistas
- Remnant pre-colonial native vegetation

Culturally Significant Trees

Beyond nationally listed heritage trees, the City of Adelaide recognises a range of culturally important trees. These trees contribute not only to the urban forest but also to the City's sense of time, place, and identity. They are recorded in Forestree, Council's tree asset management system.

Management of culturally significant trees follows the same legislative requirements and best-practice standards applied to all trees. However, additional resources may be allocated to reflect their importance.

Future plantings near these trees will be designed to complement and respect their heritage values.

Protecting Kauria and Colonial Heritage

The Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout include archaeological and cultural sites protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* and the *Heritage Places Act 1993*. Damage or disturbance to these sites can result in significant penalties for individuals and Council, as well as reputational harm.

Council identifies areas with a high likelihood of archaeological or cultural significance before any works are undertaken.

National Trust of South Australia – Significant Trees Register

Administered by The *National Trust of South Australia* which is a community based NGO. It identifies and recognises individual trees (or groups of trees) that are considered significant.

It is non-statutory recognition. Being listed does not automatically protect the tree under law, but it raises public awareness and can influence planning decisions. Protection may still come under state laws (e.g. regulated/significant tree provisions in the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*) or local council policies.

OTHER USEFUL DOCUMENTS

Related documents

- **Tree Operating Guideline (TOG)**
- **Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP)**
- City of Adelaide Developments and Applications resources
- Protecting Trees in the Adelaide Park Lands During Events
- Fees and Charges Policy
- Greening Technical Specifications
- Integrated Climate Strategy 2030
- Pest and Disease Management Plans
- Street Tree Planting Policy/Advanced Tree Planting Standard

Relevant legislation

- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988
- The Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005
- Electricity Act 1996
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- Heritage Places Act 1993
- Highways Act 1926

- Landscape South Australia Act 2019
- Local Government Act 1999
- Native Vegetation Act 1991
- Planning and Design Code
- Planning, Development, and Infrastructure Act 2016
- Water Industry Act 2012

GLOSSARY

Throughout this document, the below terms have been used and are defined as:

Amenity – A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character and pleasantness of an area, e.g. trees, old buildings, and other features of the environment.

Arboriculture – The art, science and practice of managing trees in the built environment for social, economic, environmental and aesthetic benefits. Arboriculture is distinct from forestry, which manages trees at a forest scale.

Asset ID – A unique identifier assigned to a tree or other asset in Council's Forestreet management system.

Biodiversity Sensitive Urban Design (BSUD) – An approach to urban design that incorporates habitat, connectivity, and ecological values to support biodiversity in urban environments.

Canopy cover – The proportion of land area covered by the overhead spread of tree canopies, measured using aerial photography or LiDAR.

Council-owned tree – A tree located on land managed by the City of Adelaide, including streets, Park Lands, Squares, and reserves.

Culturally significant tree – A tree recognised for its cultural, historic, or social importance (including links to First Nations peoples, historic events, or community identity). These are recorded in Council's tree asset management system and managed in line with heritage values.

Customer request – A request by a resident or ratepayer within the City of Adelaide for a street or Park Lands tree to be assessed, managed, removed, or planted.

Forestreet – The City of Adelaide's GIS-based tree asset management system, which records tree locations, attributes, inspections, and management actions.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – A sustainable approach to managing pests and diseases that combines monitoring, cultural practices, biological controls, and minimal use of chemicals.

Minimum Industry Standards (MIS) – Technical standards published by Arboriculture Australia that define accepted practices for pruning, removal, risk assessment, tree valuation, and related arboriculture activities.

Park Lands – The Adelaide Park Lands, including Squares, formal gardens, and natural areas, which are publicly owned and form a ring of green space around the city.

Planting – The installation of a tree at an identified site on public land under the control of the City of Adelaide, including roadways, Council-owned reserves, or Council-owned/leased property.

Qualified arborist

AQF Level 3 (Certificate in Arboriculture) – A person trained to undertake practical tree works in accordance with AS4373–2007 *Pruning of amenity trees*.

AQF Level 5 (Diploma of Arboriculture) – A project arborist responsible for assessment, reporting, tree protection measures, and certification. Competency is based on training, qualification and/or equivalent experience, in line with AS4970–2009 *Protection of trees on development sites*.

Regulated tree – A tree within a regulated tree overlay that has a trunk circumference of 1.0 m or more (measured at 1.0 m above ground) or, for multi-stemmed trees, trunks with a combined circumference of 1.0 m or more and an average circumference of at least 310 mm. Regulated tree requirements are defined under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Reserve – Parks, gardens, playgrounds, ovals, river corridors, detention basins and similar open spaces under the control and management of the City of Adelaide. Reserves are classified as:

- Urban address
- Formal Park
- Sport and recreation
- Woodland
- Riparian

Retrenchment (natural retrenchment) – The gradual process of crown reduction in aging trees, where branches are shed and new shoots develop closer to the trunk. This conserves resources and can extend tree longevity while providing habitat.

Significant tree – A tree with a trunk circumference of 2.0 m or more (measured at 1.0 m above ground) or, for multi-stemmed trees, trunks with a combined circumference of 2.0 m or more and an average circumference of at least 625 mm. Defined under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Species diversity – The variety of tree species (at family, genus, and species levels) within the urban forest. Diversity reduces vulnerability to pests, diseases, and climate stress.

Street tree – A Council-owned and managed tree growing within a road reserve.

Tree – A mature long-lived, woody, perennial plant greater than 3 m in height that has one or relatively few stems or trunks.

Tree pruning – The process of removing branches (or roots) using approved practices to achieve a specific objective, in accordance with MIS308 *Tree Pruning*.

Tree removal – The felling and disposal of a tree in accordance with criteria outlined in this framework and legislative requirements under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Tree risk assessment – A systematic process to identify, analyse, and evaluate the likelihood and consequences of tree failure. Assessments are carried out by qualified arborists using industry-recognised methods such as TRAQ, QTRA, or VALID, consistent with MIS501 *Tree Risk Assessment*.

Tree valuation – The process of determining the monetary value of a tree based on baseline market values, tree quality, social, environmental, and ecological factors, in line with MIS506 *Tree Valuation*.

Urban forest – All trees (public and private) growing within cities, towns, or suburbs, contributing social, economic, environmental, and ecological benefits.

Urban forestry – The art, science, and practice of managing trees and forest resources in and around urban areas for the benefit of people and ecosystems.

Useful Life Expectancy (ULE) – The number of years a tree is expected to continue providing benefits with an acceptable level of risk under current site conditions.

Veteran tree – A tree that has reached a great age relative to others of the same species. Veteran trees often display features such as cavities, deadwood, and retrenchment, and they have high habitat, cultural, or heritage value.

Verge – The strip of land between the roadside kerb and the footpath, typically containing grass, garden beds, and/or street trees.

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) – An approach to urban planning and engineering that integrates water cycle management (stormwater, groundwater, and wastewater) into urban design to improve water quality, reduce runoff, and support vegetation.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Governance and Review

The Tree Management Policy will be overseen by the City of Adelaide's Arboriculture and Asset Management teams, with accountability through the organisation's Executive and Council. Implementation will be guided by Council policy, legislative requirements, and recognised industry standards.

As part of Council's commitment to deliver the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan, services to the community and the provision of transparent information, all policy documents are reviewed as per legislative requirements or when there is no such provision a risk assessment approach is taken to guide the review timeframe.

This Policy document will be reviewed every **four** years unless legislative or operational change occurs beforehand. The next review is required in **2030**.

Review history:

Trim Reference	Authorising Body	Date/ Decision ID	Description of Edits
ACC2019/84203	City Infrastructure and Public Works Committee	19/11/2019	Review document, update data content and format.
ACC2009/24042	City Infrastructure and Public Works Committee	18/03/2014	Review document, update data content and format.
ACC2009/24042	City Infrastructure and Public Works Committee	01/05/2009	Date created.

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PARK LAND OLIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN



**Prepared By
Strategic and Environmental Planning Department
Corporation of the City of Adelaide
March 2001**

CONTENTS

PREPARATION OF MANAGEMENT PLAN	4
OLIVE TREE LOCATIONS	5
CORPORATE STRATEGIES.....	5
Environmental Management Plan - Local Agenda 21	5
The Park Lands Management Strategy	5
HISTORY	6
CULTURAL REQUIREMENTS	9
Climate	9
Soil.....	9
Fruit	9
Pruning	9
Fertilising.....	10
Pests and Diseases	10
Insects	10
Fungi	10
Control of fungi.....	10
Bateria	10
Insecticides and herbicides	11
IRRIGATION	13
FERTILISERS	13
PRUNING.....	14
TREE REMOVAL.....	15
REPLACEMENT PLANTING	15
HARVESTING	16
Means of Harvesting	16
IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS	17
Park 6.....	18
Parks 7 and 8	19
Park 11.....	22
Park 12.....	23
Park 13.....	25
Park 13.....	26
Park 15.....	27
Park 15 Olive Grove	28
Park 15 Individual Specimens	29
Park 16.....	30
Park 16 Olive grove	31
Park 16 Individual Specimens	32
Park 20.....	33
Park 22.....	34
Park 23.....	35
Park 24.....	36

CONTENTS

Park 27	37
Park 27 Olive Grove East of Gaol Road	38
Park 27 Olive Grove East of Railway Underpass.	40
Park 27 Olive Grove North East of Police Barracks.....	41
Park 27 Individual Specimens	43
Brougham Gardens	44
Palmer Gardens	44
Hurtle Square	44
Whitmore Square	44
BIBLIOGRAPHY	46
APPENDIX A	47

Preparation of management plan

In preparing this management plan consideration has been given to:-

- The continued well being of the olives trees addressing cultural requirements such as irrigation, fertilising, pest control and pruning
- Council's ability to allocate resources, both financial and personnel, to the management of these trees
- The recommendations of the Park Lands Management Plan and the Environmental Management Plan; and
- Proposals suggested by interested individuals including recommendations that Council should irrigate, fertilise and spray the olive groves to increase their yield.

This management plan therefore seeks to address the means by which these trees can be efficiently and effectively managed to improve their health and fruit set without comprising our commitments to the Park Lands Management Strategy and the Environmental Management Plan.

The olives trees located within Park 1, the City of Adelaide Golf Course, are not considered to be of cultural significance and the management of these trees will be addressed by City Businesses as part of the Golf Course portfolio.

Olive Tree Locations

Olive trees are located throughout the Park Lands and Squares as individual specimens, small groups or plantations as indicated in Appendix A.

- Olive plantations are located in Parks 7, 8, 15, 16 and 27.
- Individual specimens or small groups are located in Parks 1, 6, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 22, 23 24 26 and 27, Brougham Gardens, Palmer Gardens, Hurtle Square, Whitmore Square.

Corporate Strategies

Environmental Management Plan - Local Agenda 21

This plan endorsed by Council early in 2000 outlines Council's Environmental Policy and its vision for the protection and enhancement of the environment.

Strategies identified within the plan that impact on the management of the Olive Groves include:-

Proposed Action Plan – Water which identifies the following aims:-

- Minimise reliance on Torrens or mains water for the Park Lands and City squares
- Reduce water mains consumption

Biodiversity Action Plan which aims to optimise Park Lands biodiversity by revising horticultural standards to:-

- Minimise the use of chemicals
- Implement a change in management philosophy to use herbicides as a last, rather than first resort, review criteria for herbicide use; and
- Develop a strategy for reducing the use of herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers.

The Park Lands Management Strategy

The plan identifies the Olive Groves located in Parks 7, 8, 16 and 27 as being of Post Colonial Cultural Significance due to their identification with major developments associated with the history of the City, and the State, from colonisation to the present.

Recommendations from these reports will be addressed in the individual management plans as recommendations may vary for each area.

History

The first olive trees in Adelaide were planted by George Stephenson in 1838 who promoted olive cultivation as just one of a number of crops that could have provided a diversified agricultural base for the economy of the new colony. From his writings it is clear that Stephenson advocated the planting of olive trees in the optimistic belief that some future generation would be able to solve the problem of how to profit from them.

Records show that no attempt was made to make oil and no successful commercial extraction occurred until approximately 30 years after the first plantings.

In 1844 with the assistance of nurserymen such as John Bailey and the patronage of the South Australian Company olive trees were imported and a program of propagation and planting undertaken.

The Adelaide City Council from circa 1856 established many of the early plantings, and by the 1890's 30,000 trees were located in the Park Lands. The site of the first planting is unknown, however by 1878 the largest concentration of trees was between Port Road and Slaughterhouse Road not far from the Adelaide Gaol. This area had previously been used as a dump for the city's excrement and slaughterhouse refuse. Other plantations were located on either side of Unley Road, in the eastern Park Lands between the Racecourse and the Botanic Gardens, Light Square, Hindmarsh Square, South Terrace, Brougham Place and Mann Terrace.

Records indicate that the Adelaide Goal plantation was established circa early-mid 1860's, the Mann Terrace plantations in 1856, and East Terrace the majority would date from the early 1870's.

The first pressing occurred during 1864 but was unsuccessful, as the oil was rancid, apparently the olives were still green when collected. The first successful commercial press occurred in 1870 at the Adelaide Goal with 3000 gallons of oil being produced.

In 1875, Samuel Davenport proclaimed to the Adelaide Chamber of Manufactures in South Australia: -

“A few and favoured parts of the globe can grow the olive
those parts that can should grow the olive. South Australia
can, therefore South Australia should grow it.”

Records indicate that by 1883 most of the olive trees were 'going back to their wild state' and were infested by the circlio beetle, and a French expert was hired to prune and restore 6500 trees. Approximately 2,000 litres of oil was made from the Park Land olives however Council staff neither picked the fruit or made the oil. In 1887, 26≤ 19s.3d was made from the sale of the salad oil. Most of the olive crop was sold on the tree to the highest bidder, during the 1880's approximately 5⊥ per tonne was received with the fruit having an excellent reputation for its quality and purity.

By 1890 South Australia was producing 6000 gallons of oil and at that time domestic demand exceeded production and by 1907 18,000 gallons was being produced.

However local demand for oil slumped during the late 1890's with Adelaide goal-produced oil being stockpiled. In 1911 the Corporation accepted an offer from Messrs Crompton's to buy the entire olive crop for five years. A separate contract was also entered into to maintain all the olive plantations for seven years. In 1928 the crop was still being sold on a yearly contract basis.

In later years olive oil produced was being used primarily for industrial purposes, including uses such as a lubricant or a wool scourer. Little promotion was done to encourage its use as a culinary product.

In recent years the olive crop has been offered for annual tender. However, during 1999 City Businesses undertook an initial feasibility study into the commercial production of the olives with the assistance of the South Australian Research and Development Institute and submitted a report to the Strategy and Policy Committee on 17 January 2000. The recommendation that Council prepare a Nutrition Analysis, Property Assessment Survey and a business plan for the commercial operation of the olive groves and subsequent production of olive oil retail product was not accepted and Council at its meeting on 2 August 1999 instructed in part:-

That

- *Council Administration negotiate the annual purchase of the Park Land olives at a fair price from the licence holders; and*
- *The Administration oversee the production of a premium quality bottled oil from the olives, to be used as a corporate gift by the Council to promote the City of Adelaide and the Park Lands; and*
- *That any surplus be available for purchase by the public, the proceeds of such sales to benefit the homeless of the City.*

The Strategy and Policy Committee at its meeting on 13 March 2000 instructed in part:-

That

1. *The usual process of advertising for quotations for the harvesting of olives be undertaken with a requirement that a predetermined volume of olives be made available to Council to be pressed and the olive oil bottled for gifts; and*
2. *Harvesting of the existing groves and the practice of implementing appropriate care and maintenance of the trees to maximise yields, the replacement of deceased trees and general infilling of irregular shaped groves be continued.*

The Manager Horticulture as part of the 2000/2001 budget process submitted a strategic initiative for consideration. This proposal sought funding of \$31,600 to effect corrective pruning, dead wooding and removal of suckers to existing olive trees. Funding was not approved.

Council then at its meeting on 7 August 2000 instructed:-

That:

1. *A report be brought forward assessing the feasibility of establishing a program to maintain and harvest the Olive Groves; and*
2. *The Acting Chief Executive liaise with Councillor Ventura and Doctor Berlingiera to provide assistance in the preparation of such report.*

Cultural Requirements

Generally Olive trees are drought hardy and can be commercially viable for over 100 years.

Climate

Olive trees grow best in areas with a cool winter and a hot summer as most varieties require a winter chilling of 10-20C to stimulate flower production and fruit set.

Ideally a rainfall of about 500mm per year is required for commercial production.

Soil

Olives will tolerate a large range of soil conditions but prefer a neutral to alkaline soil type. Very heavy soils that hold water after wet periods or excessively sandy soils that do not retain moisture are not suitable.

Olives can produce well on soils with low fertility, in fact highly fertile soils and high rates of nitrogen fertiliser are undesirable, as the olive will produce excessive shoot growth with many small sized fruit.

Fruit

Fruit is produced on one-year-old wood found on the outer periphery in the presence of adequate sunlight, fruit will not be produced in full shade.

A dominant feature of the olive tree is its tendency to bear alternate crops. Under normal dryland conditions the olive will produce a large crop of smaller fruit one year and the following year set a very small crop.

The amount of fruit set will be reduced if there is:-

- a mild winter
- insufficient water over the winter months or during flowering
- hot winds that damage the flowers possibly causing substantial flower; or
- insufficient soil moisture which will reduce shoot growth and carbohydrate production and if severe enough cause the fruit to shrivel.

Pruning

Trees should be kept open in the centre allowing adequate light into the centre, which encourages a good fruit set. Branches that hang low to the ground should be removed along with any dead branches or branches that cross over in the centre of the tree.

Pruning will induce new growth close to the cut primarily by increasing the amount of nitrogen remaining to each remaining growing point thus a few cuts on large diameter wood can cause excessive localised growth of shoots. Well distributed cuts on small-diameter wood spreads the stimulus over the entire tree.

Fertilising

In commercial groves after the first year a yearly application of a well rotted manure or pea straw (or nitrogen) is recommended during autumn/winter, with superphosphate applied every 3-5 years.

Pests and Diseases

Insects

Black scale, reduces fruit bud formation and causes leaf drop, reducing sugar content and increasing the acidity of the fruit. The presence this scale is generally indicated by a sooty appearance on the leaves and twigs due to a fungus that grows on the honeydew, excreted from the scale.

Olive scale results in defoliation and misshapen fruit, reducing sugar content and increasing the acidity of the fruit. The presence this scale is generally indicated by a sooty appearance on the leaves and twigs due to a fungus that grows on the honeydew, excreted from the scale.

Olive lace bug, a small sap sucking insect that lives on the underside of the leaves and whose presence is indicated by rusty-yellow spots on the upper side of the leaves. Reduces the vigour of the tree.

Black Vine Beetle, lives in the top soil during the day and feeds on the foliage during the night chewing around the margins of the leaf.

Control of insects and scale

All of the above predators may be controlled by the use of insecticides, however this may also remove some of the natural predators such as parasitic wasps and lacewings.

Fungi

Anthraxnose, may be problem in late spring with symptoms not becoming apparent until the fruit begins to ripen at which point an indented, soft rot marks the fruit.

Olive Leaf Spot, causes dark lesions to appear on the leaves which fall prematurely retarding productivity.

Control of fungi

These fungi can be controlled by the application of fungicides.

Verticillium wilt, Armillaria root rot and Phytophthora root rot cannot be controlled by other then removing the tree and roots. Olives that suffer root damage are more susceptible to Phytophthora and Verticillium.

Bateria

Olive Knot, reduces productivity and causes the fruit to have an off taste. Symptoms include galls or knots that appear on the twigs and stems near wounds such as cracks or pruning cuts.

Insecticides and herbicides

Council in recent years has actively reduced its use of insecticides and herbicides by modifying cultural practices or the use natural predators.

Increasing uncertainty is arising with regards to the use of chemicals particular with regards to the accumulative effects in the soil. There are also concerns with these chemicals entering the food chain particularly with regards to our native birds and possums. As noted in the PIRSA report native birds are abundant in these groves

The PIRSA recommends in their report that the following spraying should be undertaken

To control the Black Scale/Sooty Mould

- During December spray trees with refined petroleum oil in water, this will act as a smothering agent to the crawlers and eggs.
- A second spray of light summer oil or white oil is required in March /April, a complete coverage is required as the oil acts as a smothering agent and is not systemic.

White oil requires an off label permit for use on olives, and whilst safe, the PSIRA recommends night application to cut down exposure to the public.

Ant control

- Place an ant control chemical around the base of the trees.

Olive Beetle

- Control by the application of a systemic insecticide such as Chlorpyrifos or other systemic.

The report notes that pruning will affect the number of insects and assist with fruit harvesting while increasing yield and quality of the fruit and oil.

The following comments are made with respect to the above PSIRA recommendations

- The Corporations Biodiversity Action Plan aims to optimise Park Lands biodiversity by revising horticultural standards to:-
 - Minimise the use of chemicals
 - Implement a change in management philosophy to use herbicides as a last, rather than first resort, review criteria for herbicide use; and
 - Develop a strategy for reducing the use of herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers.
- Council has actively reduced its use of chemicals within the Park Lands. Given the accessibility of the Olive Groves to the public, their use for recreational purposes, the abundance of fauna feeding in them, and the close proximity of creeks and barbeques the increased usage of chemicals is not favoured.

- Chlorpyrifos is highly toxic to birds, fish and honey bees, and is moderately toxic to pets and livestock with a Poison Schedule of 6. Council has actively reduced its use in the Park Lands and it is now only used on the golf links.
- The proposal to spray at night is not supported as this would be seen as a covert operation by Council.
- A parasitic wasp is currently being trialed for the control of the Olive Beetle however this biological agent is not yet commercially available.

It is therefore proposed that spraying will not be undertaken in the Park Lands but appropriate pruning techniques will be employed and the use of biological control agents pursued.

Irrigation

At present the Park Lands olives are not irrigated and nor to the best of our knowledge have they ever been with the exception of the frontages to Parks 7 and 8 where irrigation was installed as part of the road realignment.

Given that Council has indicated that they are not interested in commercially harvesting these trees (and works will be programmed to improve the health of these trees) it is not proposed to modify the watering application of these groves for the following reasons:-

- The Corporation's Environmental Management Plan calls on Council to reduce its water usage; and
- Were irrigation to be provided the overall maintenance costs associated with maintaining these areas would rise due to increased mowing frequency, increased weed growth and irrigation system maintenance requirements.

In areas such as Park 27 there is a high risk of any irrigation system being damaged due to overflow car parking being permitted in the Grove at peak times and its use for horse agistment.

Fertilisers

The application of a mulch or fertiliser would assist in fostering improved vigour in the trees.

However the following factors need to be considered in determining the appropriateness of these treatments:-

- The Biodiversity action plan which aims to optimise Park Lands biodiversity in the City by:-
 - minimise the use of chemicals; and
 - Develop a strategy for reducing the use of herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers.
- Water is not available to water a application of fertiliser in
- Run off associated with the application of fertiliser increases the likelihood of blue green alga forming in the Torrens Lake.
- Mulch when applied to the correct standard
 - suppresses the growth of native grasses
 - is difficult for people to walk through and collects litter. Syringes etc cannot be readily observed within the mulch.
 - is perceived by many residents/visitors to be unsightly, distracting from the aesthetic appeal of many landscapes.

It is therefore proposed that fertiliser will only be applied when effected replacement tree planting occurs as we are not seeking to produce a commercial crop.

Pruning

Tree pruning will be effected to facilitate improved health of the trees without compromising their amenity value or for safety reasons.

Pruning induces new growth close to the cut and a few cuts on large diameter wood can cause excessive localised growth of shoots. Therefore pruning will ideally be effected to ensure well distributed cuts on smaller diameter wood spread over the entire tree.

Trees should be kept open in the centre as adequate light into the centre encourages a good fruit set. Dead branches or branches that cross over in the centre of the tree should be removed.

Pruning effected, as a general rule will:-

- Remove all suckers and deadwood
- Remove all branches that hang low to the ground
- Remove crossed branches within the centre of the tree, where such removal will not significantly affect the trees canopy
- Ensure clearance for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians where appropriate.
- Ensure sight lines for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians where appropriate
- Ensure public lighting is not compromised.

Where new trees are planted formative pruning will be effected on an annual basis for 5 years. Pruning will thereafter be effected as part of the normal maintenance of the grove.

To maximise the effectiveness of the pruning undertaken, in the olive groves, the following program is to be effected:-

Year 1 – removal of all suckers and dead wood

Year 2 – open up centre of tree and reduce height where excessive lop sided growth has occurred

Year 3 – thin out adventitious growth

The olive groves will then be pruned as required as part of the normal Park Land tree pruning program.

Tree Removal

The Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and (Private) Other Purposes) Act 1986 Section 51 classifies olive trees to be of class 5d, subsection 57(2). This classification requires that all olives not planted and maintained for domestic or commercial use throughout the whole of South Australia be controlled and kept controlled except where The Commission (subject to such conditions as the Commission thinks fit) exempts a person from the requirements of the subsection.

Trees within the olive groves will be removed when:-

- Dead
- Structurally unstable or unsafe
- Infected with Verticillium wilt, Armillaria root rot or Phytophthora root rot
- Less than 50% of the viable crown remains

Trees and seedlings located in all other areas will be removed or managed according to the management proposals set out below to reflect the character endorsed in the Park Land Management Strategy.

Replacement Planting

It is anticipated that the existing Olive Groves will be maintained and replanted to reinforce the existing layout.

In areas where individual or small groups of trees exist replacement planting will be effected using the tree specie nominated in the Master Plan for those parks.

Although many new olive varieties, such as Verdale, are commercially available these tend to be smaller in form, have a shorter life span and are heavier fruited. It is therefore proposed that replacement planting, in the Olive Groves, will be effected using the existing tree variety to preserve the cultural significance of these groves.

Replacement plants will be cultivated from suckers removed from the existing trees. These will need to be grown on until of an appropriate size for planting in the Groves, estimated to be 2 to 3 years.

Replanting will be effected during early to mid autumn, the year following removal of the tree stump to minimise the risk of virus transfer et cetera. Formative pruning will commence immediately.

Harvesting

The Olive crop within the Park Lands has for many years been offered in its entirety by public quote.

However many requests are received each year from members of the public requesting permission to collect a bucket of olives for personal use which cannot be accommodated due to the contract. It is evident that members of the public persist in collecting olives from the Park Lands despite publicity given to the fact that the crop has been sold.

Early in 2000 a large number of the South Australian oil producers listed in the yellow pages were contacted to determine if they were interest in offering a quote for the crop. The majority of the Companies spoken to indicated that they would not be interested as the crop could not be mechanically harvested and to harvest by hand would be too time consuming and expensive.

In recent years, the successful tenderer has not harvested the olive crop in its entirety with harvesting mainly occurring in Parks 7, 8 and 27.

It is therefore proposed that:-

- the plantations located in Parks 7,8,15,16 and 27 be offered to tender
- three separate quotes be called for, that is Parks 7 and 8, Parks 15 and 16, and Park 27 to ensure a larger proportion of the fruit is collected; and
- the public retain the right to collect the fruit from all other trees.

Means of Harvesting

The olive trees located within the Park Lands are unsuitable for mechanical harvesting, and the pruning required to facilitate this form of harvesting would decimate the trees.

In recent years commercially available air vibrators have been developed which allows the fruit to be removed from the trees with minimal damage. The use of this apparatus should be encouraged.

Harvesting by traditional means (beating the tree etc) can cause damage to the trees and leaving them more susceptible to pests and diseases. It is therefore recommended that this means of collection within the Park Lands be discontinued.

Implementation of Management Plans

It is anticipated that the management plans will be progressively implemented using the Corporation's current staff complement.

Work will be effected as listed below:-

Removal of individual olive trees from Park 6, 11, 20, 22 and 24 to be progressively implemented and completed by July 2005. These trees are not considered to be historically significant.

Pruning of individual trees in the City Squares, Park 12 and Park 13 to be progressively effected as part of routine maintenance work within each park and completed by June 2005.

Pruning of the olive groves will be effected using the nominated three year cycle.

The propagation of replacement trees from suckers will be undertaken as part of the pruning program.

Management Plan:**Park 6**

Located in North Adelaide and bounded by Robe Terrace, Kingston Terrace East, Lefevre Terrace and Medindie Road. This park is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species and sporting activities located in the eastern corner. The Park Land Management Plan recommends the creation of an educational interpretive trail with further regeneration of native vegetation and woodland planting and that the 'rural' fringe character should be enhanced. A master plan is to be prepared within 5 years.

Currently usages within the Park include the agistment of horses, a bridal track, playground, cycle tracks, sports fields and two landcare sites.

Adjoining land uses are predominantly residential.

Olive tree locations

A few olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that all olive trees in this park will be progressively removed.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years of being poisoned.	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Will be effected as per the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan: **Parks 7 and 8**

Located in North Adelaide and bounded by Mann and Park Terraces these Parks contain some of Adelaide's earliest olive tree plantings. The Park Land Management strategy identifies these areas as a predominantly cultural landscape with exotic species, which should be reinforced as an amenity/habitat corridor.

With approximately 670 olive trees and various other species located at the southern end this park has no formal recreation areas however joggers and walkers will be observed. A stormwater creek and cycle path bisect the park and native grasses are to be found in the understorey.

Adjoining land uses are primarily residential and commercial. However Park 6 which adjoins to the north is used for organised sports and horse agistment whilst Park 10 to the south is used for organised sports.

Condition of Trees

During November 1999 the trees were inspected by Primary Industries and Resources SA who reported as follows:-

Existing cultivars

The older trees, 358 number, are believed to have been planted circa 1856 and are of an unknown cultivar and may possible be an old European cultivar such as Manzanillo or a cultivar such as Mission, Kalamata or Soury Dour.

The younger trees have been planted at various times within the last 10 years and are of the Verdale cultivar.

Tree health

The younger trees have been considerably damaged caused by the Olive Beetle and Black Scale is also evident.

The older trees have scale infection and some Sooty Mould.

Harvesting of fruit

These trees have regularly been harvested as part of the annual olive permit. The PIRSA have advised that presently the expected yield of the trees would be 20 tonnes. However this could be increased to 25-30 tonnes if the trees were correctly managed and following maturity of the younger trees a yield of 30 tonnes plus could be anticipated.

Management Plan:
Parks 7 and 8

It is anticipated that these trees will be retained and the management plan effected to ensure their continued health.

Replacement planting will be effected as required using a variety to be selected following consultation with the PIRSA.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree. Pruning will be effected for sight lines along cycle paths, foot paths and road ways and for clearance of public lighting.	
Fertiliser	Due to the existence of native grasses in the understorey it is proposed that fertiliser application will occur only when planting replacement trees.	
Spraying	The use of sprays for insect and mould control will not be permitted	
Irrigation	The perimeters of these parks are currently irrigated using an automatic irrigation system. It is not proposed to extend this system as this would affect the native grasses and substantially increase the maintenance costs associated with maintaining the park (ie increased mowing and greater weed growth).	

Management Plan:
Parks 7 and 8

Replacement Planting	Shall be undertaken as required to reinforce the grid nature of the plantings. The tree specie used shall be nominated following consultation with the PIRSA	
Review	Trees will be inspected 12 months after completion of the entire pruning program to ascertain health. If it is determined that health has not improved the application of fertilisers in late spring will be considered but only as a last resort	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when dangerous or 75% dead and replacement planting effected the following planting season following removal of the existing stump.	
Harvesting	This crop shall be offered for public tender however mechanical harvesting will not be approved. Harvesting techniques that may cause damage to the trees will not be allowed however the use of commercially available is acceptable.	

Management Plan:**Park 11**

Located in North Adelaide either side of the River Torrens between Hackney Road and Frome Road. This area is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species and that this area be a amenity/habitat corridor with a master plan to be prepared within 1-2 years.

Currently usages within the Park include the University of Adelaide sportfields, Archery, running and cycling path, fitness station, Corporation Nursery, Adelaide Zoological Garden, Botanic Gardens, Royal Adelaide Hospital and various university buildings.

Adjoining land uses are predominantly residential, commercial and educational..

Olive tree locations

A few olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that all olive trees in this area will be progressively removed.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years of being poisoned except where located on the river bank where they will be permitted to remain for stability reasons. .	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Will be effected as per the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan:
Park 12

Located in both Adelaide and North Adelaide this park encompasses the areas bounded by North Terrace, Frome Road, King William Street, Pennington Terrace and Sir Lewis Cohen Avenue. This area is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a cultural landscapes and gardens, exotic species. The area is identified as an amenity/habitat corridor with the existing sport fields to be retained and a master plan to be prepared within 1-2 years.

Currently usages within the Park include the University of Adelaide, University of South Australia, Torrens Parade Ground, Cross of Sacrifice, Peace Park, Naval Gardens, Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden, Art Gallery, Library, Museum, restaurant, rowing sheds, sportfields, archery, running and cycling path, fitness station, Corporation Nursery, Adelaide Zoological Garden, Botanic Gardens, Royal Adelaide Hospital and various university buildings.

Adjoining land uses are predominantly hospitals, entertainment and educational.

Olive tree locations

Olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that the existing olive trees will be retained and maintained for their aesthetic appearance but replacement planting with Olives will not occur upon their demise.

Fruit will be available for collection by residents.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. Additional pruning will only be effected to improve the aesthetic value of the crown. Pruning for sight lines along cycle paths and road ways and for clearance of public lighting will be effected.	

Management Plan:
Park 12

Fertiliser	Fertiliser will only be applied as part of the normal maintenance program for the park.	
Spraying	The use of sprays for insect and mould control will not be permitted.	
Irrigation	Supplementary watering will only occur where part of the parks standard maintenance.	
Replacement Planting	Replacement planting will occur in compliance with the master plan	
Review	Trees will be monitored as part of the normal maintenance program of the park.	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit.	

Management Plan:

Park 13

Located in the eastern Park Lands and bounded by Botanic Road, Hackney Road, Rundle Road and East Terrace. This area is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a cultural landscapes and gardens, exotic species. The area is identified as having open spaces and a amenity/habitat corridor with a master plan to be prepared within 5 years.

Currently usages within the Park include petanque, barbeques and major events such as the Festival of Arts, Adelaide Fringe and the International Horse Trials. Footpaths and a creek also bisect the park.

Adjoining land uses are predominantly Park Lands, commercial, residential and entertainment.

Olive tree locations

Olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that the existing olive trees will be retained and maintained for their aesthetic appearance. Upon their demise replanting will occur as recommended in the master plan.

Fruit will be available for collection by residents.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. Additional pruning will only be effected to improve the aesthetic value of the crown. Pruning for sight lines along cycle paths and road ways and for clearance of public lighting will be effected.	
Fertiliser	Fertiliser will only be applied as part of the normal maintenance program for the park.	
Spraying	The use of sprays for insect and mould control will not be permitted.	

Management Plan:
Park 13

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Irrigation	Supplementary watering will only occur where part of the parks standard maintenance.	
Replacement Planting	Replacement planting will occur in compliance with the master plan	
Review	Trees will be monitored as part of the normal maintenance program of the park.	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until the trees are removed	

Management Plan:

Park 15

Located on the eastern side of Adelaide this park is bounded by East Terrace, Wakefield Street, Bartels Road and Dequetteville Terrace with the olive grove is located in the south western corner immediately behind the Glover Playground however specimens may be found scattered throughout the park. The Park Land Management strategy identifies this area as a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species however some of Adelaide's earliest olive plantings may be found within the groves.

This park is extensively used by CBC College who hold the permit for the sports fields and tennis courts, and for events such as the V8 and Le Mans car races and the Adelaide International Horse Trails. In addition to the playground the park also contains a creek and a heavily used bicycle track. The bicycle track, Horse Trials and students from the College all pass through the olive grove, as do joggers.

Adjoining land uses are educational, residential and commercial.

Condition of Trees

During November 1999 the trees were inspected by Primary Industries and Resources SA who reported as follows:-

Tree health

Very large trees with many dead limbs and suckers. Black scale, sooty mould and Olive Beetle are all evident.

Harvesting of fruit

These trees have been part of the annual olive permit but have not routinely been harvested by the successful tenderer. The PIRSA have advised that presently the expected yield of the trees located within the grove would be 5 tonnes, however this could be increased to 10 tonnes if the trees were correctly managed.

Works Program

It is anticipated that the trees located within the grove will be retained and the attached management plan effected to ensure their continued health. Individual trees located throughout the park will progressively be removed to comply with the Park Lands Management Strategy.

Replacement planting will be effected as required using a variety to be selected following consultation with the PIRSA.

Management Plan:
Park 15 Olive Grove

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree. Pruning for sight lines along cycle paths and road ways and for clearance of public lighting will be effected.	
Fertiliser	It is proposed that an application of fertiliser will occur only when planting replacement trees.	
Spraying	The use of sprays for insect and fungii control will not be allowed due to the heavy use of this area by casual and formal users.	
Irrigation	With the exception of the playground this park is not irrigated and it is not proposed to extend this system.	
Replacement Planting	Shall be undertaken as required to reinforce the grid nature of the plantings. Replacement planting will occur in the season following removal of the tree (and its stump). The tree specie used shall be nominated following consultation with the PIRSA	

Management Plan:
Parks 15 Olive Grove

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Review	Trees will be inspected 12 months after the completion of the entire pruning to ascertain health. If it is determined that health has not improved the application of fertilisers in late spring will be considered but only as a last resort.	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	This crop shall be offered for public tender however mechanical harvesting will not be approved. Commercially available clappers may be used. Harvesting techniques may not cause damage to the trees.	

Park 15 Individual Specimens

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years.	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Replacement planting will be effected to comply with the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan:

Park 16

Located on the eastern side of Adelaide this park is bounded by East Terrace, Wakefield Street, Fullarton Road and Greenhill Road with the olive grove located in the north western corner between Wakefield Road and Flinders Street. However individual specimens may be found scattered throughout the park. The Park Land Management strategy identifies this area as a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species with the exception of the racetrack, which is identified as a cultural landscape

With approximately 350 olive trees in the grove this park is extensively used for various events of international and local significance as well as school sports. A land care group does operate south of the racecourse. In addition to there is a fitness trail, bicycle track and creek the area is extensively used on a casual basis for the exercising of dogs and jogging

Adjoining land uses are predominantly residential and commercial.

Condition of Trees

During November 1999 the trees were inspected by Primary Industries and Resources SA who reported as follows:-

Tree health

350 very old, large trees with a dark canopy. Large dead limbs and suckers are present. Black scale, sooty mould and the Olive Beetle all evident.

Harvesting of fruit

These trees have been part of the annual olive permit but have not routinely been harvested by the successful tenderer. The PIRSA have advised that presently the expected yield of the trees located within the grove could reach 20 tonnes plus if the trees were correctly managed.

Works Program

It is anticipated that the trees located within the grove will be retained and the attached management plan effected to ensure their continued health. Individual trees located throughout the park will progressively be removed to comply with the Park Lands Management Strategy.

Replacement planting will be effected as required using a variety to be selected following consultation with the PIRSA.

Management Plan:
Park 16 Olive grove

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood shall be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree. Pruning for sight lines along cycle paths and road ways and for clearance of public lighting will be effected.	
Fertiliser	It is proposed that a application of fertiliser will occur only when planting replacement trees.	
Spraying	The use of sprays for insect and mould control will not be permitted.	
Irrigation	Supplementary watering will only occur where part of the parks standard maintenance.	
Replacement Planting	Shall be undertaken as required to reinforce the grid nature of the plantings. Replacement planting will occur in the season following removal of the tree (and its stump). The tree specie used shall be nominated following consultation with the PIRSA	
Review	Trees will be inspected 12 months after the completion of the entire pruning to ascertain health. If it is determined that health has not improved the application of fertilisers in late spring will be considered but only as a last resort.	

Management Plan:
Park 16 Olive Grove

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	This crop shall be offered for public tender however mechanical harvesting will not be approved. Commercially available clappers may be used. Harvesting techniques may not cause damage to the trees.	

Management Plan
Park 16 Individual Specimens

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years.	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Replacement planting will be effected to comply with the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan:
Park 20

Located in the south Park Lands this park is bounded by Peacock Road, South Terrace, Greenhill Road and Unley Road. This area is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species and that this area be a amenity/habitat corridor. A master plan is currently being prepared.

Olive tree locations

A few olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that all olive trees in this area will be progressively removed and replanting effected as recommended in the Master Plan..

Dates may be amended to comply with the recommendation of the Master Plan.

Action	Works To Be Effectuated	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years.	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Replacement planting will be effected to comply with the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan:
Park 22

Located in the south Park Lands this park is bounded by Goodwood Road, Anzac Highway and Greenhill Road. This area is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species and that this area be a amenity/habitat corridor. A master plan is currently being prepared.

Olive tree locations

A few olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that all olive trees in this area will be progressively removed and replanting effected as recommended in the Master Plan..

Dates may be amended to comply with the recommendation of the Master Plan.

Action	Works To Be Effectuated	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years.	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Replacement planting will be effected to comply with the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan:**Park 23**

Located in south west corner of the Park Land bounded by Railways, west Terrace, Anzac Highway and Burbridge Road. This area is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species and that this area be a amenity/habitat corridor with a master plan to be prepared within 1-2 years.

Currently usages within the Park include the West Terrace Cemetery, playground, cycle track, sportsfields detention basin and wet lands area.

Adjoining land uses are predominantly commercial.

Olive tree locations

A few olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that all olive trees in this area will be progressively removed.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years.	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Replacement planting will be effected to comply with the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan:
Park 24

Located in the western Park Lands and bounded by West Terrace, Glover Road, Burbridge Road and Railways land. This area is identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species and that this area be a amenity/habitat corridor with a master plan to be prepared within 1-2 years.

Currently usages within the Park include Adelaide High School, Ellis Park and the hosting of special events. The western boundary of the park forms a detention basin.

Adjoining land uses are predominantly commercial.

Olive tree locations

A few olive trees are scattered throughout the Park

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that all olive trees in this area will be progressively removed.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Tree Removal	Trees are to be progressively removed and stumps poisoned. Stumps are to be removed within 2 years.	To be completed by June 2005
Seedlings	To be removed immediately upon identification	
Replacement planting	Replacement planting will be effected to comply with the Master Plan.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until removal.	

Management Plan:

Park 27

Located in the west Park Lands this park is bounded by Port Road, North Terrace, Montefiore Road, War Memorial Drive and Park Terrace. There are three olive groves, one east of Gaol Road, one east of the railway underpass adjacent to the river and one located north east of the Police Barracks. However individual specimens may be found scattered throughout the park. The Park Land Management strategy identifies this area as a predominantly natural landscape with indigenous species with the exception of the racetrack, which is identified as a cultural landscape

This park is extensively used for various events of international and local significance and organised sports. High casual usage of the Park also occurs in relation to picnics, social gatherings, the exercising of dogs and jogging and cycling. A kiosk operates during school holidays and week ends and several areas are used for the agistment of the SA Police greys. The olive grove adjacent to the Police Barracks is also used for overflow car parking during peak times.

The PIRSA noted that a large number of native birds are present in these trees.

Works Program

A separate Management Plan has been prepared for each of the olive groves within this park.

In summary the trees located in the groves adjacent to the police barracks will be retained and replanted whilst the remaining olives will be replanted in accordance with the anticipated master plans.

Management Plan:**Park 27 Olive Grove East of Gaol Road**

Trees located within this grove will be retained and replanted as required. However as SA Police Greys are permanently agisted in this area spraying will not be effected nor will the olives be made available for collection either by contractors or the public.

Replacement planting will be effected as required using a variety to be selected following consultation with the PIRSA.

No report was prepared regarding the health of these trees by PIRSA.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree.	
Fertiliser	It is proposed that an application of fertiliser will occur only when planting replacement trees.	
Spraying	The use of sprays will not be permitted.	
Irrigation	Irrigation shall not be provided.	
Replacement Planting	Shall be undertaken as required to reinforce the grid nature of the plantings. Replacement planting will occur in the season following removal of the tree (and its stump). The tree specie used shall be nominated following consultation with the PIRSA	
Review	Trees will be inspected 12 months after the completion of the entire pruning to ascertain if further works are required.	

Management Plan:**Park 27 Olive Grove East of Gaol Road**

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	This crop will not be available for harvesting.	

Management Plan

Park 27 Olive Grove East of Railway Underpass.

These trees are heavily shaded by adjoining park trees and hence do not flower well.

The trees located within this grove will be retained and the attached management plan effected to ensure their continued health. However as trees are removed due to damage or demise replanting will be effected as nominated in the Master Plan (to be prepared).

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree.	
Fertiliser	No fertilising occurs in this area due to the proximity of the river and abundance of adjoining native trees.	
Spraying	The use of sprays will not be permitted.	
Irrigation	Irrigation shall not be provided.	
Replacement Planting	Replacement planting will occur in compliance with the master plan	
Review	Trees will be monitored as part of the normal maintenance program of the park.	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until the trees are removed	

Management Plan:**Park 27 Olive Grove North East of Police Barracks.**

This grove is located adjacent to the agistment and exercise areas of the SA Police greys and is also used for overflow car parking during period of peak usage in the Park.

Condition of Trees

During November 1999 these trees were inspected by Primary Industries and Resources SA who reported as follows:-

Tree health

350 very old, large trees with a dark canopy. Large dead limbs and suckers are present. Black scale, sooty mould and the Olive Beetle all evident.

Harvesting of fruit

These trees have been part of the annual olive permit but have not routinely been harvested by the successful tenderer. The PIRSA have advised that presently the expected yield of the trees located within the grove could reach 20 tonnes plus if the trees were correctly managed.

However should the Adelaide Goal be retained to the Corporation consideration could be given to including these trees in programs associated with activities.

It is anticipated that these trees will be retained and the management plan effected to ensure their continued health. However spraying in this grove can not be supported due to the use of this area by the public, its proximity to playgrounds and picnic areas and its use as a overflow carpark.

Replacement planting will be effected as required using a variety to be selected following consultation with the PIRSA.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree. Pruning for sight lines along cycle paths and road ways and for clearance of public lighting will be effected.	

Management Plan:**Park 27 Olive Grove North East of Police Barracks.**

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Fertiliser	It is proposed that an application of fertiliser will occur only when planting replacement trees.	
Spraying	The use of sprays for insect and mould control will not be permitted.	
Irrigation	Water is not available within this area..	
Replacement Planting	Shall be undertaken as required to reinforce the grid nature of the plantings. Replacement planting will occur in the season following removal of the tree (and its stump). The tree specie used shall be nominated following consultation with the PIRSA	
Review	Trees will be inspected 12 months after the completion of the entire pruning to ascertain health. If it is determined that health has not improved the application of fertilisers in late spring will be considered but only as a last resort. However consultation with the SA Police will be necessary to ensure the health of these animals is not compromised.	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	This crop shall be offered for public tender however mechanical harvesting will not be approved. Commercially available clappers may be used. Harvesting techniques may not cause damage to the trees.	

Management Plan:**Park 27 Individual Specimens**

The trees located within this grove will be retained and the attached management plan effected to ensure their continued health. However as trees are removed due to damage or demise replanting will be effected as nominated in the Master Plan (to be prepared).

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree.	
Fertiliser	Fertiliser will only be applied as part of the normal maintenance program for the park.	
Spraying	The use of sprays will not be permitted.	
Irrigation	Supplementary watering will only occur where part of the parks standard maintenance.	
Replacement Planting	Replacement planting will occur in compliance with the master plan	
Review	Trees will be monitored as part of the normal maintenance program of the park.	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until the trees are removed	

Management Plan:

Brougham Gardens

Palmer Gardens

Hurtle Square

Whitmore Square

These areas are identified in the Park Land Management Strategy as having a cultural landscapes and gardens with exotic species. Master plans to be prepared within 5 years for each of them.

These parks are used on a casual basis however larger events are hosted within them.

Adjoining land uses are predominantly commercial and residential.

Olive tree locations

Olive trees are scattered throughout the Squares.

Works program

To comply with the recommendations of the Park Lands Management Strategy it is proposed that the existing olive trees will be retained and maintained for their aesthetic appearance. Upon their demise replanting will occur as recommended in the master plans.

Fruit will be available for collection by residents.

Action	Works To Be Effected	Time frame
Pruning	All basal sucker growth and dead wood to be removed. The canopy shall be selectively opened up by the judicious removal of branches to minimise the regrowth of excessive localised shoots without compromising the aesthetic value of the tree.	
Fertiliser	Fertiliser will only be applied as part of the normal maintenance program for the park.	
Spraying	The use of sprays will not be permitted.	

Management Plan:
Brougham Gardens
Palmer Gardens
Hurtle Square
Whitmore Square

Irrigation	Supplementary watering will only occur where part of the parks standard maintenance.	
Replacement Planting	Replacement planting will occur in compliance with the master plans	
Review	Trees will be monitored as part of the normal maintenance program of the parks.	
Removal	Trees shall be removed when damaged beyond repair, dangerous or have deteriorated to a point where their appearance detracts from the park.	
Harvesting	The public may collect the fruit until the trees are removed	

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Appendix A



Tree Management Operating Guideline

Definitions.....	2
Relevant Policy.....	6
Legislation.....	6
Species Selection	6
Tree Stock Selection	8
Site Selection for Planting.....	8
Planting Methods	9
Establishment and Early Maintenance.....	12
Cultural Practices for Tree Health.....	13
Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) for Tree Health	14
Tree Pruning Practices	14
Clearances Requirements	16
Tree Removal Procedures	17
Tree Removal and Development	18
Pest and Disease Management.....	19
Woody Weed Management	19
Tree Risk Assessment	20
Public Liability and Tree Risk Management.....	21
Tree Protection on Public Development Sites.....	23
Tree Protection on Private Development Sites.....	24
Managing Trees Damaging Property	24
Trees on Private Land	25
Trees and Road Safety.....	26
Tree Support Systems	27
Forestree.....	28
Tree Data Management	28
Customer Service Requests.....	29
Trees and Traffic.....	30
Lighting in Trees	31
Tree Valuation	32
Tree Data Collection and Management.....	32
Public Consultation and Notification	32
National Heritage Listings	35
National Trust of South Australia – Significant Trees Register.....	35
Culturally and Historically Significant Trees	36



Supporting Fact Sheets and Plans.....	37
References	38

Introduction

The City of Adelaide is the local government authority responsible for the square mile of the city centre, North Adelaide and the surrounding Adelaide Park Lands.

One of Adelaide's defining features is its extensive urban forest, shaped by Colonel William Light's original design, which placed the city within a ring of green Park Lands. The City of Adelaide manages more than 70,000 street and Park Lands trees, which provide shade, biodiversity and character to the city.

These trees are central to the city's liveability, helping to reduce urban heat, support habitat and enhance the health and wellbeing of the community. The council has long-term strategies in place to grow canopy cover, diversify species, and ensure that Adelaide's trees remain resilient in the face of a warming climate.

The City of Adelaide will implement tree management outcomes utilising the following Operational Guidelines.

Definitions

Regulated Trees

Trees within a designated regulated tree overlay that have:

- A trunk circumference of 1 m or more; or
- Multiple trunks with a combined circumference of 1 m or more and an average circumference of 310 mm or more (measured 1 m above natural ground).

Significant Trees

Trees within a designated regulated tree overlay that have:

- A trunk circumference of 2 m or more; or
- Multiple trunks with a combined circumference of 2 m or more and an average circumference of 625 mm or more (measured 1 m above natural ground).

Any tree identified in the **PlanSA Planning and Design Code Part 10 – Significant Trees (Adelaide)** is also considered significant.

Tree-Damaging Activity

Any activity that adversely affects a regulated or significant tree may constitute a tree-damaging activity under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.

Maximum penalty: \$120,000.



Exemptions

Exemptions apply under the regulations, including:

- Trees within 3 m of an existing dwelling or in-ground pool, except for:
 - *Agonis flexuosa* (Willow Myrtle)
 - *Angophora* spp.
 - *Corymbia* spp.
 - *Eucalyptus* spp.
- Trees listed as exempt species on the SA Planning Portal.
- Trees declared under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019.
- Trees requiring Native Vegetation Council consent under the Native Vegetation Act 1991.
- Trees planted for woodlots, orchards, or plantations.

Qualified Arborist

- **AQF Level 3 – Arboriculture**
Trained to perform tasks required by AS 4373–2007 (Pruning of amenity trees).
- **AQF Level 5 – Diploma of Arboriculture**
Required for tree assessments, reporting, specifying protection measures, and certification in line with AS 4970–2009 (Protection of trees on development sites).

Under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (s.119), significant trees must be assessed by a qualified arborist holding a **Diploma of Arboriculture (AQF Level 5)** or a higher recognised qualification.

Emergency Work on Trees

Immediate action required to prevent imminent harm.

Urgent Work on Trees

Work required promptly but can be planned and undertaken within seven days.

Designation of Park Lands

The *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005* defines the Adelaide Park Lands as including:

- The land commonly known as the Adelaide Park Lands,
- The six city squares (Victoria, Light, Hindmarsh, Hurtle, Whitmore and Wellington),
- Brougham Gardens and Palmer Gardens.

The Minister may also designate certain roads or parts of roads as part of the Park Lands. Excluded from the Park Lands are Parliament House and Old Parliament House (including surrounding land), as well as Government House and its grounds.

Trees located within the Park Lands (including Park Lands roads and squares) are defined and recorded as Park Land trees. Trees outside these boundaries are recorded as street trees.

Street Trees

Street trees are those growing outside the Park Lands roads and squares.

Exceptions

The following will also be considered street trees:

- Trees adjacent to the building alignment surrounding Victoria, Light, Hindmarsh, Hurtle, Whitmore and Wellington Squares.
- Trees on North Terrace within 1.5 m of the back of kerb.
- Trees on Frome Road (between North Terrace and Albert Bridge) within the designated road lane segment or within 1.5 m of the back of kerb.
- Trees on Kintore Avenue (between North Terrace and Victoria Drive) within the designated road lane segment or within 1.5 m of the back of kerb.
- Trees on Victoria Drive within the designated road lane segment.
- Trees on King William Road (between North Terrace and Brougham Place) within 1.5 m of the back of kerb.

Legislative Framework

Local Government Act 1999

- *Section 221(2)(e)*: Altering a public road includes planting, interfering with, or removing vegetation on the road.
- *Section 232*: Before planting vegetation on a road, Council must consider:
 - Environmental and aesthetic impacts,
 - Road use, construction and potential interference with infrastructure,
 - Road safety, and
 - Any other relevant matters.
 If plantings may significantly impact residents, nearby businesses or advertisers, Council must also follow its public consultation policy.

Council By-Laws

- Trees on reserves and in the Park Lands are subject to controls under *City of Adelaide By-Law No. 3 of 2024 – Local Government Land By-Law* (section 4.1.5).

Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016

- Any council-owned tree may also be classified as a regulated or significant tree under this Act.



Trees as Heritage

The City of Adelaide contains places of cultural and heritage significance for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. These include remnants of Indigenous landscapes, places of ongoing meaning for the Kaurna people, and sites linked with the history and development of South Australia from colonisation to the present.

A tree's heritage value is not determined by size alone. Trees may be considered significant for their:

- Aesthetic value
- Location (for example, as part of an avenue or focal feature)
- Historical or cultural significance
- Role in providing habitat or food for native fauna
- Flowers, foliage colour or form
- Physical qualities
- Rarity of species
- Structural form

Management Approach

Where applicable, heritage trees will be managed in line with:

- The *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (regulated and significant trees)
- The *Heritage Places Act 1993*
- Best-practice tree management standards, including:
 - AS4373 *Pruning of Amenity Trees*
 - AS4970 *Protection of Trees on Development Sites*
 - MIS308 *Tree Pruning*
 - MIS310 *Tree Support Systems*
 - MIS312 *Environmental Arboriculture*
 - MIS313 *Tree Health and Maintenance*
 - MIS501 *Tree Risk Assessment*
 - MIS506 *Tree Valuation*

Where practicable, historic trees will be preserved and replanted in recognition of their cultural significance. Adjacent future planting will be designed to protect the integrity of these trees and avenues.

Examples of Heritage Trees

- War Memorial Oak at Creswell Gardens (*State Heritage Place*)
- Mann Terrace Olive Plantation (*State Heritage Place*)
- Moreton Bay Fig adjacent to the King George V statue
- Moreton Bay Figs at Adelaide Oval

- Avenues such as Carriage Walk in Tuthangga (Park 17) (*not listed as a heritage item but valued for cultural contribution*)

The olive groves in Kuntingga (Park 7), Parnguttilla (Park 8), Pakapakanthi (Park 16) and Tulya Wardli (Park 27) are of post-colonial heritage significance. Replacement planting in these groves will continue to use the same tree varieties to preserve their cultural and historical value.

Relevant Policy

- Tree Management Policy (TMP)
- Tree Operating Guideline (TOG)
- Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP)

Legislation

- *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*
- *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Regulations 2017*
- *Local Government Act 1999*
- *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*

Species Selection

Tree species selection is influenced by a wide range of factors, including:

- Tree size and suitability to site conditions and limitations
- Proximity to infrastructure (overhead and underground services, crossovers, intersections, sight lines)
- Species tolerance to local environmental conditions and climate suitability
- Growth performance, form, foliage and seasonal features
- Contribution to aesthetics, character and public amenity
- Habitat provision and biodiversity values
- Commercial availability
- Contribution to overall species diversity
- Relationship with character precincts (as defined in the ADM – Greening / Green City Plan)
- Adjacent land uses and heritage buildings (including features such as decorative lighting)
- Significant landscape features, views, vistas and integration with urban elements (pedestrian lighting, access points, driveways, WSUD elements).

The City of Adelaide recognises the important role of trees in creating a high-quality urban environment and seeks to maximise planting opportunities across the city. Planting will consider precinct character, best practice, programmed maintenance and broader urban design principles.

To strengthen species diversity and ensure the long-term sustainability of the urban forest within the City of Adelaide, it is desirable to increase the range of tree families, genera, and species. Diversity benchmarks commonly used internationally and within Australia include the following:



Explanation	Santamour (2004)	Sydney (2013)	Melbourne (2012)	Example
One Plant Family should represent no more than the recommended percentage	30% family	40% family	20% family	Myrtaceae which includes, Eucalypts, Bottlebrushes, Tea Trees and other Australian Natives
One Genus should represent no more than the recommended percentage	20% genus	30% genus	10% genus	<i>Angophora</i> , <i>Corymbia</i> , <i>Eucalyptus</i> are all Genus of Eucalypts in the Myrtaceae Family
One Species should represent no more than the recommended percentage	10% species	10% species	5% species	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> , <i>E. cladocalyx</i> , <i>E. leucoxylon</i> and <i>E. microcarpa</i> are all South Australian Species of the Genus <i>Eucalyptus</i>

A typical species diversity profile in metropolitan Adelaide shows a high proportion of Myrtaceae (commonly 40–50% – refer to your own data), with a particularly strong representation of the genus *Eucalyptus*. This reflects both their natural predominance in the region and their suitability to local soils and climate. These proportions often exceed the diversity targets outlined above.

The City of Adelaide will not set a specific diversity target for the existing tree population, as doing so may compromise other objectives such as canopy cover. Instead, improved species diversity will be pursued primarily through new planting programs. Families and genera with disproportionately high representation will be retained, with their dominance gradually balanced over time through natural attrition and targeted replacement.

Strategies to improve species diversity include:

- Replacing street trees at the end of their life with species that increase local diversity.
- Using new planting projects as opportunities to establish a higher diversity of species.
- Regularly auditing the urban forest species mix and aligning planting programs to improve diversity.
- Trialling new species within the city, monitoring their performance and expanding their use where suitable.

The City of Adelaide urban forest is currently dominated by:

Tree families

- Myrtaceae – 56.1%
- Casuarinaceae – 6.2%



- Fabaceae – 5.8%

Tree genera

- *Eucalyptus* – 49.1%
- *Casuarina* – 4.6%
- *Acacia* – 4.5%

Tree species

- *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gum) – 16%
- *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* ssp. *leucoxylon* (South Australian Blue Gum) – 12%
- *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (Sugar Gum) – 7%

Tree Stock Selection

All purchased tree stock shall be inspected by the designated Arboriculture Officer to confirm quality and suitability for planting. Stock quality must align with accepted industry standards and comply with **Australian Standard AS2303: Tree Stock for Landscape Use**.

To ensure the availability of suitable families, genera, and species, tree stock should be pre-ordered well in advance. Where required, contract growing arrangements should be initiated **3–5 years ahead of planting programs** to secure supply.

Site Selection for Planting

Council tree planting programs will follow these guidelines:

Planting Priorities

- Focus planting in play spaces, school zones, transport hubs and corridors, pedestrian and cycling routes, event spaces and wildlife corridors.
- Explore opportunities to expand planting spaces using engineering solutions such as verge protuberances, roadway cut-outs and footpath realignment.

Site Preparation

- Ensure adequate growing media and soil volume to support mature trees. Contaminated or unsuitable soil (construction rubble, waste, chemicals, insufficient depth) must be removed and replaced before planting.
- Confirm underground service locations before all new or replacement plantings.

Regulatory Requirements

Tree planting must comply with relevant legislation and guidelines, including:

- *Electricity Act 1996*



- *Highways Act 1926*
- *Water Industry Act 2012*
- DPTI Operational Instruction 19.8 (*Trees in Medians and Roadsides in the Urban Environment*)
- *Local Government Act 1999* Section 232 (planting on roads), which requires Council to consider:
 - Environmental and aesthetic factors
 - Road use, construction and infrastructure impacts (including potential use of structural soils or strata cells)
 - Road safety
 - Other relevant matters
 - Public consultation, if impacts on residents, businesses or advertisers are likely.

Species Selection and Replacement

- Before replacing a dying tree with the same species, confirm with Infrastructure team that the species is still appropriate for the site.

Planting Methods

All trees must be planted in accordance with the following guideline.

Timing

Tree planting will be undertaken during the planting season (May–September), when temperatures are lower and rainfall is higher. This minimises losses from heat and water stress.

General Requirements

The planting location must accommodate the root mass and provide conditions that encourage root growth into surrounding soil. Many tree failures and physiological disorders can be traced back to poor planting practices.

Planting Recommendations

- **Tree selection:** Assess each tree for health and structure. Reject trees with poor foliage distribution, damage, trunk instability, co-dominant leaders or poor unions. Unsuitable trees are to be returned to the nursery.
- **Planting hole:** Excavate a square, shallow hole with sloping sides, 2–3 times the width of the root ball. Depth must be no greater than the root ball height.
- **Root ball:** Remove all bags, pots or wrapping. Inspect for root density and girdling roots.
- **Placement:** Gently lower the tree onto undisturbed soil, ensuring it is straight. If a northing guide is marked on the root ball, orient it to face north. The top of the root ball must be flush with ground level.



- **Watering basin:** Form a 75 mm berm around the tree or install a compostable water well to capture water.
- **Backfilling:** Use excavated soil to backfill. Firmly compact the soil around the root ball so the tree is stable.
- **Mulching:** Apply 75 mm of organic mulch, extending beyond the hole and overlapping undisturbed soil. Mulch must not touch the trunk.
- **Staking:** Install two timber stakes with flexible ties. Ties should stabilise the tree during wind but allow some lateral movement.
- **Finishing:** Remove all tags and foreign objects from the stem and branches. Fill the water basin immediately after planting.

Size and Category Guidelines

- **Park Lands / Reserves:** Minimum 45 L container stock.
- **Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) sites:** Tube stock or 45 L stock as appropriate.
- **Streets:** Trees 1.8–2 m tall at planting.

Categories for planting sites will vary (e.g. Park Lands, reserves, streets, WSUD), and the correct specifications must be applied to each.

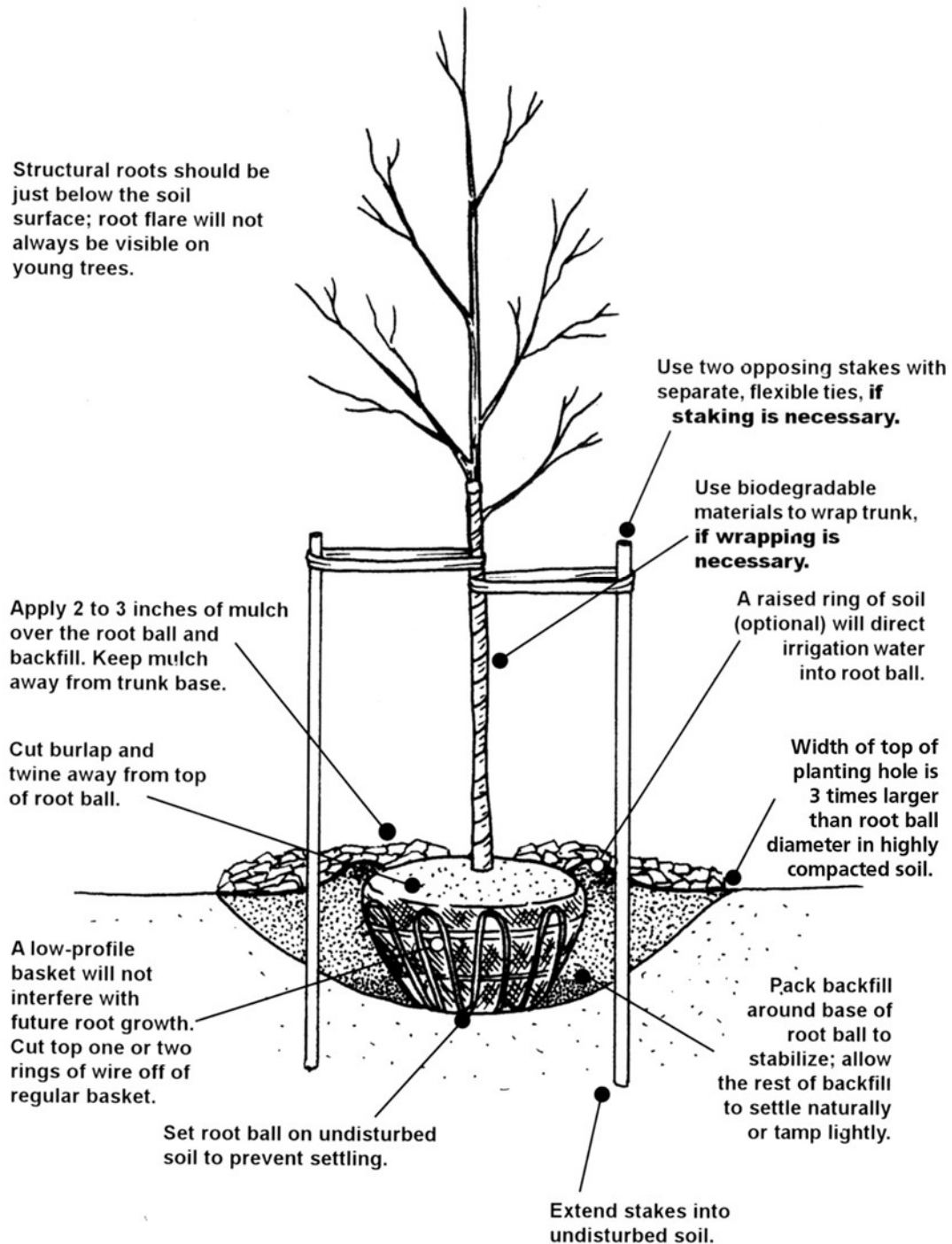
Design Drawings

The following standard drawings should be referred to when specifying tree planting:

- Tree Planting – Protuberance with structural soil cell
- Tree Planting – Garden Bed
- Tree Planting – Median
- Tree Planting – Footpath
- Tree Planting – Protuberance without structural soil cell

Tree Planting Diagram

Structural roots should be just below the soil surface; root flare will not always be visible on young trees.



Establishment and Early Maintenance

The City of Adelaide and its planting contractors will carry out maintenance to support the healthy establishment of new trees. Contractors or CoA are responsible for the first **12 months**, while CoA continues establishment care for up to **3 years** following planting.

At the Time of Planting

- Formative pruning is only undertaken where necessary to remove damaged or defective parts.
- Mulch is applied at a depth of 75 mm using specified materials.
- Staking is used only where required to provide support and must not damage the trunk or branches.

Watering and Soil Care

- Trees will be watered in line with industry best practice, site conditions and species requirements.
- Mulch levels will be topped up as needed to maintain a 75 mm depth.
- Fertiliser will be applied where appropriate to support establishment.
- Weed control will be carried out, including spraying and removal within Greenwells.

Tree Health and Replacement

- The health of all trees will be monitored, with treatment applied as needed.
- Dead or failing trees planted within the establishment period will be replaced.

Stakes, Ties and Infrastructure

- Tree stakes and ties will be checked regularly to ensure they remain secure and supportive without causing damage.
- Ties must be loosened as the stem diameter increases.
- Stakes and ties should be removed within 12–24 months of planting.
- Greenwell bowls and infiltration infrastructure (WSUD) will be maintained to ensure they remain clean and functional.

Ongoing Maintenance

- General site tidiness will be maintained, including the removal of litter and foreign materials.
- A formative pruning program to encourage good tree structure will commence from 2–3 years after planting, in line with **AS4373: Pruning of Amenity Trees** and **Arboriculture Australia MIS308: Tree Pruning**.



Maintenance Timeline

Stage	Activity	Frequency / Timing	Notes
Year 0 (planting)	Formative pruning (only to remove damage/defects)	At planting	Limited to essential cuts
	Mulching	At planting	75 mm depth
	Staking	At planting (if required)	Must not damage tree
Year 0–1	Watering	Weekly / fortnightly	In line with industry best practice
	Weed control	Ongoing	Within Greenwells
	Stake and tie checks	Regularly	Adjust as stem diameter increases
	Replacement of dead stock	As required	Responsibility of contractor
Year 1–2	Stake and tie removal	12–24 months	Remove once tree is stable
	Continued watering	As required	Adjusted to conditions
	Mulch top-ups	As needed	Maintain 75 mm
	Health monitoring	Ongoing	Replace failing stock if within establishment period
Year 2–3	Begin formative pruning program	2–3 years	In line with AS4373 and MIS308
	Continued health checks, watering, and mulch maintenance	Ongoing	Managed by CoA
	General site tidiness	Ongoing	Litter and debris removal

Cultural Practices for Tree Health

Cultural practices play an important role in improving the long-term health and resilience of trees. These practices include irrigation, mulching, weed management and, in some cases, fertilisation.

Irrigation

- *Active irrigation* systems are more commonly used in parks and reserves to provide regular water supply.
- *Passive irrigation* can be achieved through Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) features, which help capture and direct rainfall into the root zone.

Mulching

- Improving soil quality and microbial activity.
- Maintaining stable soil moisture levels.



- Reducing surface soil temperatures around the tree.
- Providing protection from compaction and weed competition.

Weed Management

- Weed removal should be carried out as required, with a preference for hand tools to avoid damage to tree roots and soil.
- Where herbicides are necessary, they must only be applied in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and during suitable weather conditions to minimise risk.

Fertilisation

- Fertilising mature trees is generally not required under normal conditions.
- Fertiliser may be applied in response to health concerns, such as during climatic stress or following root disturbance.
- Before applying fertiliser, soil or foliar testing should be undertaken to identify specific nutrient deficiencies.
- Amendments should only be added where test results confirm a need.

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) for Tree Health

Simple strategies to improve tree health and sustainability include redirecting stormwater runoff for beneficial use. Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) applications support a greener, healthier, and more liveable city by enabling trees and other plants to access additional stormwater, while also reducing the volume of runoff entering the drainage system.

Common WSUD applications include:

- Rain gardens
- Permeable surfacing materials
- Water table inlets and kerb cut-outs
- Verge detention tanks
- Infiltration pits

These treatments should be considered in the design of new planting pits and streetscape upgrades. While they involve an upfront cost at installation, they are typically cost-effective over the three-year establishment period by reducing labour and equipment requirements for manual watering. In addition, tree health benefits are achieved through a more consistent and natural supply of soil moisture.

Tree Pruning Practices

Pruning of Council-owned Street trees will be undertaken in accordance with the objectives, standards, and legislative requirements set out below.



Objectives of Pruning

Pruning will be carried out to:

- Improve tree structure and mitigate risk.
- Provide suitable clearances.
- Minimise negative impacts on tree health.
- Preserve or support the ecological value of the tree.
- Maintain appropriate lines of sight for safety and access.

Qualifications and Standards

- All pruning must be conducted or directly supervised by qualified arborists holding at least **Certificate III in Arboriculture**.
- Works must comply with industry best practice standards, including:
 - **AS4373 – Pruning of Amenity Trees**
 - **Arboriculture Australia MIS308 – Tree Pruning**
- Exemptions to these requirements may be granted in specific circumstances at the discretion of Council's Arboriculture Officer.

Regulated and Significant Trees

- Where extensive pruning of a regulated or significant tree is required, either to mitigate unacceptable risk or for other approval purposes, **Development Approval** must be obtained before works proceed.
- In emergency and urgent situations, pruning may be undertaken without prior approval in accordance with **Section 136 (Urgent work in relation to trees)** of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Risk Management

- Trees identified through the City of Adelaide's **Tree Risk Assessment Protocol** as presenting unacceptable risk to public or private safety will be managed appropriately to mitigate this risk.
- The extent and priority of management actions will be determined by Council's Arboriculture Officer.

Consultation and Specialist Input

- The Arboriculture Officer may seek advice from a qualified Consulting Arborist (Diploma in Arboriculture) to determine tree condition or management requirements for individual trees or groups of trees.



Pruning Frequency and Scope

- The frequency and extent of street tree pruning will be determined and approved by Council's Arboriculture Officer, based on risk, tree health, and site requirements.
- City of Adelaide's **Tree Risk Assessment Protocol** is the primary tool for determining frequency.

Clearances Requirements

Council will prune street trees to maintain suitable clearances and lines of sight, in line with safety, access, and legislative requirements.

Footpaths

- 2.4 m above the edge of footpaths.
- 2.7 m above the centre of footpaths.

Roadways

- 2.7–3.0 m above the kerb line.
- 5.0 m above the centre of non-arterial roads.
- 6.0 m above the centre of arterial roads, where possible (refer to Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) standards and the *Road Traffic Act 1961* for variations).

Private Property Clearances

Pruning in relation to private property will only be undertaken where:

- A tree is in direct contact with a building or dwelling.
- Reasonable pedestrian access within front gardens or other private open space is restricted.
- A minimum of 3.0 m clearance above private crossovers is required.
- A minimum of 5.0 m clearance above commercial crossovers is required.

Sight Distance and Visibility

- Clear lines of sight will be maintained for vehicles exiting private and commercial driveways.
- For Council-owned Road assets, sight distances must comply with Australian Standards, Austroads Standards, and Council Standards for signage and traffic devices.
- For DIT-owned roads, sight distances must comply with Australian Standards and Austroads Standards, including the *Austroads Guide to Traffic Management – Part 10: Traffic Control Devices* (Section 6.3.7 “Letter Size and Legibility”) and DIT's *Operational Instruction: Trees in Medians and Roadsides in the Urban*



Environment. Reviews for DIT assets will be undertaken by the Senior Traffic Engineer.

- Clear sight lines must also be maintained along walking and cycling routes.

When Tree Pruning Will Not Be Undertaken

Tree pruning will not be undertaken for the following reasons:

- To reduce normal tree litter such as bark, flowers, fruit, or leaves.
- To address personal aesthetic preferences.
- To improve solar access to buildings, private open space, solar panels, or pool heating systems.
- To improve or facilitate private views.

Tree Removal Procedures

Council will only undertake tree removal in the following circumstances.

Permitted Removal

- **Unacceptable risk:** The tree poses an unacceptable level of risk as assessed by a qualified arborist under the City of Adelaide **Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP)**, and no reasonable pruning options are available to preserve the tree.
- **Dead or diseased trees:** The tree is dead or severely diseased, with a short useful life expectancy at the site, and no reasonable remedial options exist. (Dead trees of locally indigenous species may be retained in appropriate reserves for habitat value. Pruning may be carried out to manage risk levels.)
- **Development works:** Removal is necessary to facilitate public space or infrastructure development where no reasonable design alternative exists to retain the tree.
- **Site suitability:** A tree is determined by Council's Arboriculture Officer (or a qualified Consulting Arborist) to be inappropriate for the site, due to future size, weed potential, or conflict with surrounding structures or infrastructure.
- **Structural damage:** The tree is causing, or is likely to cause, substantial damage to a structure of significant value. Such claims must be supported by a suitably qualified engineer's report. For private property damage, Council will determine responsibility for commissioning the report and may also seek independent advice.
- **Regulated or significant trees:** Removal of a regulated or significant tree requires **Development Approval**, unless emergency or urgent works are necessary to mitigate unacceptable risk. In such cases, Council may act under **Section 136 – Urgent work in relation to trees** of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.
- **Specialist input:** The Arboriculture Officer may seek advice from a qualified consulting arborist (Diploma in Arboriculture) to determine if a tree meets the criteria for removal under relevant legislation.



Not Permitted for Removal

Tree removal will not be undertaken for the following reasons:

- Normal levels of tree litter such as bark, flowers, fruit, or leaves.
- Dissatisfaction with the tree's aesthetic qualities.
- Blocking of solar access to buildings, open space, solar panels, or pool heating systems.
- Preference for a different tree species by a resident or ratepayer.
- Obstruction of private views.
- Perceived growth performance provided the tree is growing at an acceptable rate.

Tree Removal and Development

Design Alternatives

Council-owned trees will not be removed to facilitate public or private development projects unless all reasonable design options to avoid tree removal have been fully considered and demonstrated.

Applicants must show that the following alternatives have been assessed before a tree removal application will be considered:

- Alternative crossover location.
- Alternative underground service alignments.
- Adjustments to building setbacks.
- Alternative building footprints.
- Alternative footing designs.
- Alternative fencing designs and/or locations.
- Modified cut/fill activities and placement of retaining walls.

Regulated and Significant Trees

Where a regulated or significant tree is proposed for removal to facilitate development:

- The appropriate planning approvals are required, and planning consent must be granted prior to any tree removal works.
- The application must demonstrate that all reasonable design alternatives have been considered and found unsuitable.

Compensation for Council Trees

If Council agrees to the removal of a Council-owned tree, compensation may be sought for:

- The amenity value of the tree determined using an industry-accepted Amenity Tree Valuation Method adopted by the City of Adelaide.



- The tree removal costs.
- The tree establishment costs for a replacement tree, either at or near the site, or at an alternative location.

Assessment Process

Applications for tree removal associated with development will be assessed through the Development Application process, not via a Tree Management Request.

Pest and Disease Management

Building species diversity across the urban forest is one of the most effective strategies for improving resilience to pests and diseases.

Monitoring and Identification

- Regular, proactive **tree audits** will form part of Council's monitoring regime to detect emerging pest and disease issues early.
- Correct identification of pests or diseases must be undertaken by qualified experts, as accurate diagnosis is critical to ensuring appropriate and timely treatment.

Management Approach

- Pest and disease management will follow an **integrated pest management (IPM)** approach rather than relying on a single treatment method.
- IPM strategies may include:
 - Biological controls (e.g. predatory insects).
 - Chemical controls (insecticides and fungicides) applied as necessary.
 - Improving the growing environment around affected trees.
 - Selecting disease-resistant species or cultivars for new plantings.
- All management will be assessed on a case-by-case basis or implemented in response to a known or emerging threat.

Prevention through Diversity

- A diverse population of families, genera, and species will help mitigate the impacts of pest and disease outbreaks, reducing reliance on reactive treatments.

Woody Weed Management

Definition and Context

Woody weed trees may include both exotic and native species when they occur outside their natural range and compete with locally indigenous vegetation. In South Australia, weeds are formally declared under the **Landscape South Australia Act 2019**. These



plants are considered threats to primary production, natural environments and public safety.

Legislative Framework

- Under the **Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016**, any tree belonging to a plant class listed in the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* is exempt from the definition of regulated or significant trees.
- This means such trees can be managed or removed without **Development Approval**.

Management Requirements

- The *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* prescribes different levels of control for declared plants, which may include:
 - Prohibition on sale or movement.
 - Requirements for control (e.g. pruning, containment).
 - Requirements for removal.
- Not all declared species must automatically be removed. Management actions will depend on the prescriptions outlined in the legislation.

City of Adelaide's Approach

- The City of Adelaide will manage declared woody weeds in line with the provisions of the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019*.
- Management will be undertaken responsibly and proportionately. Where a species does not pose a significant weed threat in a particular setting, and retention is consistent with legislative requirements, a conservative approach will be taken to preserve the tree.

Tree Risk Assessment

The City of Adelaide manages tree-related risks in accordance with the **Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP)**. The TRAP provides guidance on risk assessment methodology, decision-making processes, and reporting requirements.

Methodology

- The City will utilise an industry-endorsed risk assessment methodology to ensure consistency and accountability.
- For most assessments, the preferred method will be the **Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)**.
- In certain circumstances, alternative methodologies may be applied, such as **Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA)** or **VALID**.

Application of Risk Assessments



A UNIQUE TEAM CREATING AN EXTRAORDINARY CITY

The City of Adelaide acknowledges the Kaurna people as the Traditional Owners of the Country where the city of Adelaide is situated, and pays its respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

- Where tree works are required to mitigate identified risks, guidance will be taken from this document (*Tree Management Operational Guideline*).
- All decisions will balance the need to manage risk with the significant environmental, social, and economic value that trees provide.
- The City will act reasonably and proportionally in response to risks, ensuring that risk management actions are appropriate to the level of risk identified.

Under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, emergency or urgent works may be carried out on regulated or significant trees if required:

- To protect people or buildings, or
- In other prescribed urgent circumstances.

If such work is undertaken:

- The relevant authority must be notified in line with the regulations.
- The work must cause the least possible damage to the tree.
- Except where exempt under the regulations, the landowner must apply for the appropriate development authorisation as soon as practicable, and within the prescribed timeframe.

Public Liability and Tree Risk Management

The City of Adelaide has a responsibility to minimise public liability exposures by managing risks associated with trees. This includes reducing risks from natural and other hazards and mitigating potential impacts on people, property and services.

Key Areas of Tree Risk Management

- Development and planning activities that affect trees and their growing environments
- Tree planting and establishment practices
- Receipt and management of civil liability claims
- Tree maintenance, including addressing pedestrian trip hazards at tree bases
- Risk of personal harm from tree or branch failure
- Risk of property damage from tree or branch failure
- Risk of service disruption caused by tree or branch failure
- Resolution of disputes relating to encroaching trees and vegetation from private property

Legislative Context – Local Government Act 1999 (Section 245)

1. A council is not liable for damage to property resulting from:
 - The planting of a tree in a road; or



- The existence of a tree growing in a road (whether planted by the council or not).
- 2. However, liability may arise if:
 - The owner or occupier of adjacent property has made a written request for Council to take reasonable action to avert a risk of damage from a tree; and
 - Council has failed to take such reasonable action.
 - In this case, Council may be liable for damage that would have been prevented had reasonable action been taken.

Tree Risk Assessments

- Tree risks are documented during scheduled inspections recorded in Council's tree management system (Forestreet) using the Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP).
- Where necessary, works are scheduled and undertaken within recommended timeframes, subject to available resources.

Events in the Park Lands

City of Adelaide provides Event facilitators with a guideline for **Protecting Trees in the Adelaide Park Lands During Events**.

- The Park Lands host many public events, which create additional tree risk considerations.
- Trees normally assessed as low risk may become moderate or high risk during events if infrastructure is placed beneath or near them or visitation increases.
- Event infrastructure should be located clear of trees wherever possible.
- Council will undertake risk assessments of trees within and immediately adjacent to event areas in accordance with the Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP).

Personal Harm

Enquiries relating to injuries caused by trees should be referred to Council's Risk and Governance Team.

Property Damage

Enquiries regarding alleged damage to private property by Council-owned trees must:

- Be made in writing, and
- Include details of the problem and any supporting evidence.

These will be considered in line with Council's processes (see section *Trees Damaging Property*).

Trees in Footpaths and Roadways



The City of Adelaide is responsible for maintaining footpaths and roadways across the City and Park Lands as safe and functional networks.

- **Infrastructure Maintenance** manages civil maintenance.
- **Horticulture teams** monitor and manage tree growth and undertake reporting and maintenance actions to ensure safety and functionality.

Risk Identification and Maintenance

Risk identification and management are embedded in horticultural maintenance programs, with prescribed actions and frequencies documented in the Horticultural Maintenance Guidelines.

Service Standards

Construction and maintenance of footpaths and roadways follow defined standards for:

- Inspection and condition evaluation
- Risk assessment
- Prioritisation of maintenance and improvement works
- Methods for construction, repair and maintenance

Mitigating Root Impacts

To reduce root disturbance and improve root zone conditions:

- Structural load-bearing tree root volumes should be provided to accommodate pavement and live loads from pedestrians and vehicles.
- Where higher loads are expected, soil-supporting modules (Strata Cells) or structural soils must be used (see section 5.4.1 *Street Tree Planting*).

Tree Protection on Public Development Sites

Integration into Design

The City of Adelaide will ensure tree protection is incorporated into all public design projects where trees may be in conflict with proposed works. Early engagement with both internal and external stakeholders is essential.

Embedding tree protection requirements from the earliest stages of project design reduces the likelihood of conflict and minimises the risk of tree damage.

Development Approval

- Where tree-damaging activity involving **regulated or significant trees** is unavoidable, **Development Approval** will be required (noting that some exemptions apply).



- The determination of what constitutes tree-damaging activity will be guided by definitions provided under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (Regulated and Significant Tree Overlay).
- A **Development Application** must be lodged with the City of Adelaide Planning Department, demonstrating compliance with the relevant Performance Outcomes of the Planning and Design Code and justifying why tree-damaging activity is necessary.

Project Arborist Oversight

- All public development projects where trees may be impacted will be routinely monitored by a **qualified arborist (Diploma of Arboriculture)**, recognised as the *Project Arborist*.
- The Project Arborist may be a Council staff member or an external contractor, and will:
 - Provide technical guidance in accordance with **AS4970: Protection of Trees on Development Sites**.
 - Conduct regular site audits to ensure tree protection measures established at project commencement are being followed.

Tree Protection on Private Development Sites

Assessment of Development Applications

The City of Adelaide will exercise due diligence on private development sites where regulated, significant, or Council-owned trees may be affected by proposed works.

- All relevant development applications will be assessed to ensure such trees are not adversely impacted before planning consent is granted.
- Tree protection requirements will follow the guidelines set out in **AS4970: Protection of Trees on Development Sites**.

Compliance Monitoring

- During approved works, Council's **compliance officers** will undertake inspections to ensure tree protection measures are implemented and maintained.
- Where non-compliance is identified, appropriate enforcement action will be taken in line with Council procedures and legislative provisions.

Managing Trees Damaging Property

General Approach

The City of Adelaide will act reasonably and responsibly where it can be clearly demonstrated that a tree is the primary contributor to property damage.

Evidence Requirements



- Where damage to private property is not clearly observable to, or within the expertise of, Council's Arborist, it is the **responsibility of the property owner** to demonstrate the damage and its direct link to the tree.
- Evidence may include:
 - **Structural damage** – a written report, with photographic evidence, from a suitably qualified structural engineer.
 - **Plumbing damage** – a report from a licensed plumber, supported by evidence of the cause.
 - **Root-related damage** – excavation and exposure of roots to confirm their involvement.
- These reports must be obtained and funded by the property owner and submitted to Council.
- Council may also commission its own independent assessment through a qualified contractor.

Council's Response

- If evidence substantiates that a tree is the primary contributor to damage, Council will act to reasonably mitigate the issue.
- Mitigation measures may include:
 - Crown pruning.
 - Root pruning.
 - Engineering solutions to protect both the tree and the affected infrastructure.
- Where no reasonable alternative solution is available, **tree removal may be required**. If the tree is regulated or significant, planning consent is required before removal or other tree-damaging activity can proceed.

Claims for Compensation

- Claims seeking reimbursement for repair costs to infrastructure can be submitted to Council.
- All claims will be assessed under the **Local Government Association Mutual Liability Scheme (LGAMLS)**.

Trees on Private Land

The City of Adelaide manages all vegetation, including trees, located on Council-owned land. Vegetation within private properties, institutions or government agency land is the responsibility of the respective owner or occupier.

Overhanging Trees

Where private trees overhang Council property, footpaths or roadways, responsibility remains with the property owner. Owners must prune branches when requested.

Council Powers – Local Government Act 1999, Section 254



Council may order an owner or occupier to:

- Remove overgrown vegetation
- Cut back overhanging branches
- Remove a tree where growth creates, or is likely to create, danger or difficulty for public use, or where it is unsightly and detracts from local amenity

If the order is not complied with, Council will undertake the remedial work and recover costs from the owner or occupier.

Disputes Between Neighbours

Council does not intervene in disputes between neighbours over private trees, nor is it responsible for issues where private tree roots extend under Council land and cause problems on adjoining properties.

The Legal Services Commission of South Australia provides advice in its booklet “*Trees and the Law – A Guide for Neighbours*” to help resolve private tree disputes.

Trees and Road Safety

In addition to their aesthetic, social and environmental value, roadside tree plantings can also deliver safety benefits. Research shows that traffic speeds are reduced in the presence of trees, particularly where planting creates a sense of narrowing or enclosure through vertical structure and canopy overhang.

To achieve these outcomes, the City of Adelaide will ensure all street tree planting complies with statutory requirements and relevant road safety standards.

Standards and Guidelines

All new street tree plantings will comply with:

- Australian road safety standards
- *Austroads Guide to Road Design*
- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) tree planting guidelines
- *DPTI Operational Instruction 19.8 – Trees in Medians and Roadsides in the Urban Environment* will guide tree placement, with consideration of:
 - Underground and overhead services
 - Adjacent land uses and heritage buildings (including structural and decorative lighting)
 - Significant views, features and access points (driveways, street lighting, street furniture)
- Existing street character

Variations and Approvals



- Any variance from the offsets in *Table 4.1, Operational Instruction 19.8* will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, supported by a comprehensive road safety risk assessment (per Section 3 of the Instruction).
- In accordance with *DPTI Operational Instruction 20.1*, Council must obtain DPTI approval prior to planting trees within or along DPTI-managed road corridors. This applies to both new and replacement plantings.

Design Considerations

The City of Adelaide will consider the inclusion of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) tree pits in street tree planting to support tree health and provide

Tree Support Systems

Purpose

Trees are naturally well-engineered, self-supporting structures. In some cases, however, particularly with older trees where structural integrity may be reduced, support systems may be installed to enable tree retention. These systems are considered where the **ecological, social, or cultural values of a tree** are significant enough to warrant retention despite structural limitations.

Assessment and Decision-Making

- The Council Arborist will evaluate the benefits of retaining the tree against the **viability, cost, and ongoing maintenance** of a support system before recommending this option.
- The need for a support system and its design must be determined by an **appropriately qualified and experienced arborist (Diploma of Arboriculture)**.

Standards and Installation

- Tree support systems will be designed and installed in accordance with **MIS310 – Tree Support Systems**, which provides guidance on the appropriate selection of technique and installation methods.
- Installation and associated pruning works must be carried out by arborists with at least **Certificate III in Arboriculture**.

Regulated and Significant Trees

- Where support structures are installed on regulated or significant trees in combination with pruning, this may be considered **tree-damaging activity** under legislation.
- In such cases, **Development Approval** may be required prior to works being undertaken.
- additional environmental benefits.



Forestree

The City of Adelaide manages its tree assets using Forestree, a specialised GIS-based tree management system. Forestree contains detailed records for every Council-managed tree, including location, species, size, condition, useful life expectancy, and risk rating. This information is continually updated through routine inspections and maintenance works and some of this information is available to the public through Council's website.

Forestree supports customer service by providing accurate and timely information when residents make enquiries or lodge requests about trees. When a customer contacts Council, their enquiry can be linked directly to the specific tree record in Forestree. This ensures that arborists and field staff have immediate access to the tree's history, current condition, and any previous works undertaken. The system helps Council respond consistently, track progress, and provide updates to customers in a transparent way.

By integrating asset data with customer service, Forestree enables the City to make informed decisions, prioritise works, and communicate clearly with the community about how trees are being managed across the urban forest.

Tree Data Management

The City of Adelaide uses data collection to guide urban forest management.

Tree assets are recorded in Forestree, Council's tree asset management system which includes the following information:

- Asset ID and location
- Botanical and common names (family, genus, species)
- Dimensions (height, spread, trunk measurements)
- Condition (health and structure ratings)
- Age class and useful life expectancy
- Risk rating and management requirements
- Heritage or cultural significance

Monitoring

Alignment with the Policy will be supported by data from the asset management system, which records tree inventory, risk ratings, and management actions. Progress will be tracked using key indicators such as:



- Progress toward the 40% canopy cover target by 2035.
- Trends in tree health, diversity, and useful life expectancy.
- Numbers of new plantings, replacements, and removals.
- Timeliness of responses to tree risk works.
- Community satisfaction with tree management.

Customer Service Requests

Community members are encouraged to report concerns such as fallen branches, storm damage, overhanging limbs, or signs of disease and pests through Council's Customer Service portal.

Once a request is lodged, council staff assess the situation against safety, risk, and environmental priorities. Urgent hazards, like fallen trees blocking roads or footpaths, are dealt with immediately.

This process helps balance community expectations with long term sustainability of the urban forest. By responding to requests while also planning for future growth, Council will protect public safety and ensure that trees continue to provide benefits for generations to come.

All non-urgent requests are assessed within five business days and maintenance tasks, such as routine pruning or formative care, are scheduled as part of the broader tree management program.

Requests should include, where possible:

- Name and contact details of the applicant.
- Location of the tree, including whether it is on private property or public land (e.g. reserves, streets, roads).
- Basic details of the tree, such as species, approximate height, canopy spread, and trunk circumference.
- Description of the issue (see examples under risk triage).

Risk Triage

The following items are common triggers for risk triage and further assessment:

- cracking
- leaning
- hanging or broken branches
- root lift
- dieback
- bark damage
- fungal growth
- proximity to structures



- proximity to people or high-use areas

Assessment Process

Tree management requests will be assessed by Council's Arboriculture team. If further investigation is required, an Arboriculture team member will attend site and:

- Assess the tree against the pruning and/or removal guidelines outlined in this manual.
- Record relevant details in Council's tree inventory system (staff must be trained in effective use of the GIS system).
- Document management recommendations and action them according to Council's tree management timeframes and assessed risk levels.
- Arrange for the applicant to be notified in writing of the outcome of the assessment and any works to be undertaken.

Follow-Up Actions

- Once tree works are completed, the tree inventory system will be updated to reflect the works.
- If a more detailed or specialised assessment is required, the matter will be referred to a qualified consulting arborist (Diploma of Arboriculture).
- For regulated or significant trees, major pruning or tree removal cannot proceed until a development application has been lodged and approved.

Trees and Traffic

In addition to their aesthetic, social and environmental value, roadside tree plantings can also deliver safety benefits. Research shows that traffic speeds are reduced in the presence of trees, particularly where planting creates a sense of narrowing or enclosure through vertical structure and canopy overhang.

To achieve these outcomes, the City of Adelaide will ensure all street tree planting complies with statutory requirements and relevant road safety standards.

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- Adjacent land uses and heritage buildings (including structural and decorative lighting)
- Significant views, features and access points (driveways, street lighting, street furniture)
- Existing street character

Variations and Approvals

- Any variance from the offsets in *Table 4.1, Operational Instruction 19.8* will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, supported by a comprehensive road safety risk assessment (per Section 3 of the Instruction).
- In accordance with *DPTI Operational Instruction 20.1*, Council must obtain DPTI approval prior to planting trees within or along DPTI-managed road corridors. This applies to both new and replacement plantings.

Design Considerations

- The City of Adelaide will consider the inclusion of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) tree pits in street tree planting to support tree health and provide additional environmental benefits.

Lighting in Trees

The City of Adelaide will consider written applications for the temporary installation of bud lighting in street trees. Preference will be given to the use of up-lights.

Assessment and Approval

Applications will be assessed on:

- Public liability requirements
- Potential impacts on tree health
- The tree's current condition, age and structure

Applicants will be notified of Council's decision in writing. Temporary installations will generally be approved for a maximum of three months (typically the festive season). Longer installations may be considered on request.

Installation Requirements

- Bud lighting must be installed in a way that does not damage the tree or restrict growth and expansion.
- Installations are strictly temporary.

Enforcement

If bud lighting remains in place beyond the approved period:



- Council will request removal by the applicant within four weeks.
- If not removed, Council will remove the lighting and return it to the property owner. The condition of lighting after removal cannot be guaranteed.

Tree Valuation

A Minimum Industry Standard has been developed outlining the core principles of an effective tree valuation method, which can be found in *MIS506 – Tree Valuation*.

The City of Adelaide uses City of Melbourne Tree Valuation method.

Tree valuation will be carried out on an as-required basis for individual tree assessments by a suitably qualified arborist from the Arboriculture team or an external consultant. The arborist must hold a Diploma in Arboriculture or an equivalent qualification.

Tree valuation may also be used to guide bond amounts, where the City of Adelaide may request bond payments in situations where developments may adversely impact council trees. Bond valuations will be derived from the sum of the amenity and ecological services values, plus the removal or replacement costs.

For certain trees which hold significant cultural, historic or scientific value, their value may not be calculated by any prescribed method. In these instances, the calculation used to reach the final value will be transparent, if arbitrary.

Tree Data Collection and Management

The City of Adelaide will undertake systematic tree assessments in accordance with confluence zones defined in the City's *Tree Risk Assessment Protocol*. These assessments provide an evidence base for managing the health, safety, and sustainability of the urban forest.

Public Consultation and Notification

Under **Section 232 of the Local Government Act 1999**, before planting or authorising the planting of vegetation on a road that may significantly impact residents, nearby businesses or advertisers, Council must follow the relevant steps in its public consultation policy.

Adelaide City Council Street Tree Planting Policy specifies that:

Public consultation will be undertaken (in line with Council's Communication and Consultation Policy and the *Local Government Act* community land provisions) for:

- Proposed tree species in streets
- Tree removals
- New tree planting
- Pest and disease management actions

Any proposed change to established street tree species will first be conveyed to all Councillors, with reasons provided, before proceeding to consultation.



Activities Not Normally Considered to Have Significant Impact

The following are generally not regarded as requiring consultation under Section 232:

- Selection of indicative street tree species listed in **Appendix A** (based on the 2018 Council-endorsed ADM palette).
- Isolated replacement plantings of the same species (“like for like”), where no complaints about the existing species have been received.
- Replacement with a new species where planting of that species is already substantially underway in the street or locality, and previous consultation has occurred.

Levels of Consultation

Council will consult on street tree planting at two levels:

1. Program-wide Consultation

- Council’s strategic and operational tree planting programs will be publicly notified.
- Interested persons will have **21 business days** to make submissions or request further consultation.

2. Local Consultation

- Local landowners and occupiers will be consulted directly regarding specific proposed planting activity in their area.

Delivery of Strategic Tree Planting Programs	
Notification - Forward planting program	<i>Council will publicise the tree planting program or other vegetation planting proposal by notice in:</i> A newspaper circulating state-wide A newspaper circulating locally Customer Centre Council’s Libraries & Community Centres Council's Internet website. <i>The notice will include:</i> Identification of land for which management plan(s) are proposed on community land Where the proposal can be viewed Email address for electronic copy of proposal Invitation for submission(s) to Council providing at least 21 days Address to send submission(s).
Inspection	Information will be displayed at: Customer Centre Libraries & Community Centres Online.
Submissions	Submissions will be accepted by Council in writing by:



	Lodging at the Customer Centre Email Completing the website submission form. Council staff will: Acknowledge receipt of submission(s) Advise when persons can inspect a report on consultation Advise when the matter will be considered by Council Advise where Council Resolutions can be inspected.
Consideration	Council staff will consider the submissions, prepare a report on consultation and, if appropriate, prepare a revised proposal. Council staff will submit the received proposal and report on consultation to Council's elected members for consideration.
Decision	The matter will be determined at a meeting of Council's elected members.

Operational Tree Planting Programs	
Notification - Specific planting activity	Council will undertake consultation at a detailed level, with local landowners and occupiers with respect to specific proposed planting activity. Council will send letters to: owners/occupiers of land abutting the road; where planting is to occur. persons who have previously made submission(s) in relation to the forward planting program and have requested further consultation.
Submissions	Submissions will be accepted by Council in writing by: Lodging at the Customer Centre Email Completing the website submission form via "Your Say" on CoA's public website. Council staff will: Acknowledge receipt of submission(s) Advise when persons can inspect a report on consultation Advise when the matter will be considered by administration.
Consideration	Council staff will consider the submissions and where appropriate prepare a revised proposal.
Decision	If proposed action is supported by a majority view of the respondents: Decision delegated to Council staff based on Appendix A, Street Tree Species Proposed replacement (Indicative) species.

National Heritage Listings

The Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout are listed as a National Heritage Place under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*. Tree management activities, including removal, planting, pruning, maintenance, and infill planting — have the potential to affect this listing.

The National Heritage values include historic plantings and designed landscapes that reflect the contributions of successive City Gardeners. These values are expressed through:

- Groves and avenues of trees
- Gardens and plantations
- Open areas with small copses
- Perimeter and shelterbelt plantings
- Specimen trees
- Designed and natural vistas
- Remnant pre-colonial native vegetation

Where possible, these features are digitally mapped in Forestree, Council's Tree Management System, although records are not exhaustive.

All tree management actions must be guided by:

- The *Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout National Heritage Management Plan*; and
- The *Historic Plantings Management Plan*.

If works are not clearly addressed in these plans, staff must seek advice from Council's Park Lands and Heritage Teams before proceeding.

National Trust of South Australia – Significant Trees Register

Administered by The *National Trust of South Australia* which is a community based NGO. It identifies and recognises individual trees (or groups of trees) that are considered significant for reasons such as:

- Age or size
- Aesthetic or landscape value
- Historical or cultural associations
- Rarity of species or outstanding example of a species



It is non-statutory recognition. Being listed does not automatically protect the tree under law, but it raises public awareness and can influence planning decisions. Protection may still come under state laws (e.g. regulated/significant tree provisions in the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*) or local council policies.

Register of Significant Trees within the National Trust of Australia
<https://trusttrees.org.au/>.

Trees can be nominated for inclusion in this register using the nomination form online at
<https://www.trusttrees.org.au/>

Culturally and Historically Significant Trees

The City of Adelaide contains places of cultural significance to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. These include remnants of indigenous landscapes and sites of continuing importance to the Kaurna people and places linked with the history and development of South Australia from colonisation to the present.

A tree may be considered culturally significant based on factors such as:

- Historical or cultural importance
- Aesthetic value
- Location (for example, as part of an avenue or focal point)
- Provision of habitat or food for native fauna
- Flowers, foliage colour or form
- Physical qualities
- Rarity of species
- Structural form

Remnant Trees

Some trees within the City may pre-date colonisation and be considered remnant vegetation. These trees can hold cultural and spiritual significance for Aboriginal people of the Adelaide region. Consultation with local Kaurna representatives is essential to help identify these trees and to guide their ongoing management.

Preservation and Consultation

Where practicable, culturally significant trees will be preserved and replanted to maintain their importance to the City. Future planting nearby will be designed to protect the integrity of these trees and avenues. The City will also consult with Kaurna representatives to ensure remnant trees are managed in a culturally appropriate way.

The Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout include archaeological and cultural sites protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* and the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.



Damage or disturbance to these sites can result in significant penalties for individuals and Council, as well as reputational harm.

Council identifies areas with a high likelihood of archaeological or cultural significance before any works are undertaken. For any tree planting project involving new excavation, the planning team must seek advice from Council's Park Lands and Heritage Teams before proceeding.

Comparison of Heritage Protections for Trees in South Australia

Category	Administered by	Legal Status	What it Protects	Trigger for Protection / Action	Example
National Heritage List (Heritage Places)	Australian Government (<i>EPBC Act 1999</i>)	Statutory – Federal law	Entire places of national heritage significance (may include trees, landscapes, buildings)	Any action likely to have a <i>significant impact</i> on heritage values must be referred for federal approval	Adelaide Park Lands & City Layout
National Trust of South Australia – Significant Tree Register	National Trust SA (community NGO)	Non-statutory – recognition only	Individual trees or groups of trees with cultural, historical, scientific or aesthetic value	Listing has no direct legal effect but may influence planning decisions	Moreton Bay Fig listed by National Trust
Regulated & Significant Trees (SA law)	SA Government (<i>Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act 2016</i>)	Statutory – State law	Individual trees that meet size thresholds or are listed in the Planning & Design Code	Any tree-damaging activity (removal, major pruning, etc.) requires development approval unless exempt	Large River Red Gum with trunk cir

Supporting Fact Sheets and Plans

The City of Adelaide has developed a series of useful fact sheets for employees and contractors.

- Tree planting pit design specifications



- Tree pruning clearances
- Tree pruning techniques
- Protection of trees on development sites

References

- Tree Risk Assessment Manual *Second Edition*, (2017) International Society of Arboriculture.
- Location SA Map Viewer, Accessed on 08/08/2024 via:
<https://location.sa.gov.au/viewer/?map=hybrid&uids=138>
- Australian Standard AS4373: *Pruning of amenity trees*
- MIS308: *Tree Pruning* (Arboriculture Australia)
- MIS501 *Tree Risk Assessment* (Arboriculture Australia)
- MIS310 *Tree Support Systems* (Arboriculture Australia)
- MIS506 *Tree valuation* (Arboriculture Australia)
- AS4373 *Pruning of amenity trees*
- AS4970 2303 *Tree stock for landscape use*



City of Adelaide – Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP)

Introduction	2
Purpose.....	2
Tree Biology and Mechanics	2
Method.....	3
Levels of Inspection	3
Safety Considerations.....	4
Application by the City of Adelaide	4
Order of Inspection.....	7
Risk Matrix.....	8
Levels of Risk and Required Mitigation	9
Mitigation Options	10
Delegation and Elevation of Work	10
Managing Your Own Risk	10
Community Feedback.....	11
Record Keeping	11
GIS System.....	11
Responsibilities of the Arboriculture Officer.....	12
Inspection Frequencies.....	12
Event Responsibility for Tree Risk in the Park Lands.....	13
Relevant Policy	14
Legislation.....	14
References	14
Appendix A - Category 2 roads with large trees	14
Glossary.....	16



Introduction

Tree risk management is the application of policies, procedures and practices to identify, evaluate and communicate risks associated with trees. Where unacceptable levels of risk are identified, it extends to mitigation and monitoring measures. Risk mitigation and management will be supported by the City of Adelaide's Tree Management Operational Guideline, **AS4373: Pruning of Amenity Trees**, **MIS308: Tree Pruning**, and other recognised industry standards.

Tree risk assessment sits within the broader framework of tree risk management. It involves the systematic processes used to identify, analyse and evaluate tree risk, with risk determined by both the likelihood of an event occurring and the severity of its potential consequences.

It is not realistic to eliminate all risk associated with trees. The aim of an effective tree management program is to maintain risk at an acceptable level while preserving the many benefits trees provide. It is also important to note that what may be perceived as high risk by a member of the public may not align with the professional assessment of a qualified arborist.

Tree risk assessment for the City of Adelaide will be undertaken in accordance with the Tree Risk Assessment Protocol (TRAP) to ensure a consistent, systematic and transparent approach to identifying and managing tree risk.

Purpose

The City of Adelaide Tree Risk Assessment Protocol provides guidance to Council employees, contractors and arboriculture consultants on the operational aspects of managing the City's trees. It serves as a reference document for Council officers, operational staff and external specialists, defining the processes and application of the City's chosen tree risk assessment methodology, while aligning with the provisions of **MIS501: Tree Risk Assessment**.

All trees in public areas carry some level of risk. To remove risk entirely would require removing every tree from the City, a response that is neither sensible nor sustainable, as it would also remove the many benefits trees provide. The City of Adelaide therefore accepts that some level of risk must be tolerated.

In managing tree risk, Council balances its duty of care with the social, environmental and economic benefits of its urban forest. Risk mitigation is applied in a way that is reasonable, proportional and practicable. Importantly, the overall risk of injury from tree or branch failure remains low, and Council's approach reflects this in a balanced, evidence-based manner.

Tree Biology and Mechanics

The City of Adelaide requires arboriculture staff and contractors to hold a minimum **Certificate III in Arboriculture** to apply this risk assessment protocol, a sound understanding of tree biology and mechanics underpins all inspections.



Tree assessors will apply knowledge of:

- **Wood decay processes**, including progression and compartmentalisation of decay
- **Symptoms of health decline**, pests and pathogens
- **Species-specific traits**, including typical responses to defects or environmental stressors
- **Tree mechanics**, particularly the severity and location of defects in relation to roots, trunk, branches and surrounding site conditions

Industry experience, which varies among assessors, supports more in-depth evaluation of species characteristics and response patterns.

In addition, untrained staff and members of the public may assist by reporting notable tree features or concerns that could indicate potential risk issues, which will then be assessed by qualified arboriculture staff or contractors.

Method

The City of Adelaide applies the **International Society of Arboriculture's (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)** methodology. TRAQ is an industry-recognised, endorsed, qualitative tree risk assessment system. Its qualitative approach is advantageous as it is straightforward to apply and produces outcomes that can be more easily understood by non-specialists.

Other accepted and industry-recognised methods include **VALID** and the **Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA)** system.

Qualifications

All City of Adelaide staff and external contractors undertaking TRAQ inspections must:

- Hold a minimum **Certificate III in Arboriculture (or equivalent)**, and
- Hold the **ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification**.

Levels of Inspection

The TRAQ methodology provides three levels of inspection, with the level selected according to the scope of work, site sensitivity and tree history.

- **Level 1 – Limited Visual Inspection**
A broad visual assessment of a tree or population of trees, conducted from a specified perspective, to identify obvious defects or conditions. Typically used to identify trees with imminent or probable likelihood of failure.
- **Level 2 – Basic Assessment**
A detailed visual inspection of a tree and its surrounding site, synthesising information collected. This is the most common assessment, ground-based and requiring inspection around the entire tree.



- **Level 3 – Advanced Assessment**

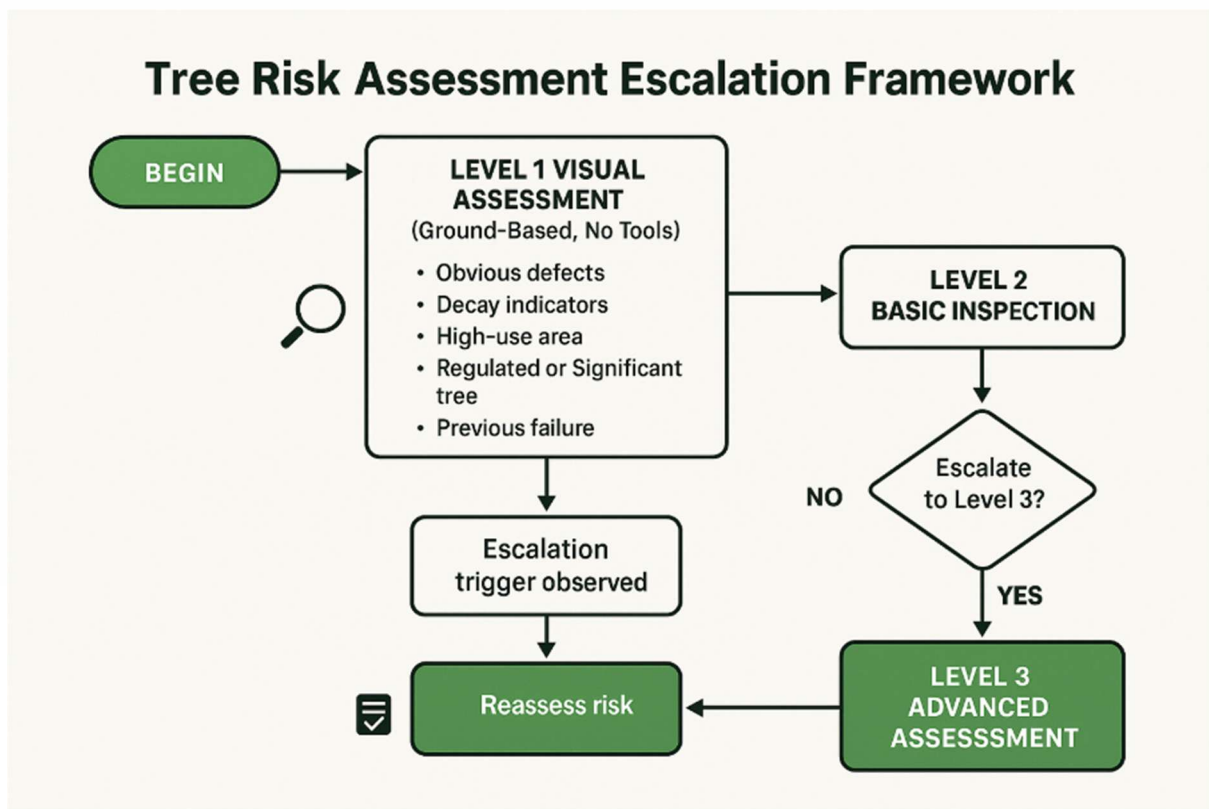
A targeted, detailed assessment of specific tree parts, defects, targets or site conditions. Typically undertaken in conjunction with or following a Level 2 assessment where additional information is required.

Safety Considerations

Inspectors must prioritise site safety for both themselves and the public during assessments. Where necessary, exclusion zones should be established immediately or the requirement communicated to the appropriate authority.

Application by the City of Adelaide

- **In-house:** City of Adelaide arboriculture staff with the relevant qualification and training may conduct Level 1, 2 and 3 inspections.
- **External contractors:** Appropriately qualified arborists may be engaged to conduct any level of inspection as required.



Inspection Frequencies

Tree risk levels vary depending on a range of factors. Risk may be higher where trees are large and overhang areas with high occupancy rates. To manage tree assessments efficiently, the City of Adelaide will prioritise inspections in areas where large trees coincide with higher-use zones.



Confluence Zones

Inspection frequency is determined by the *zone of confluence*, which reflects the relationship between:

- **Target occupancy** (frequency of people or vehicles beneath/near the tree), and
- **Consequence of failure** (generally higher where trees are larger).

Note:

- Trees less than 4 m tall are generally assessed for plant health only and are not subject to formal TRAQ risk assessment. This default may be departed from where site conditions, observable structural defects, complaint history, or target occupancy warrant a formal risk assessment, at the discretion of a qualified arborist.
- Large trees are defined as those taller than 15 m.

High Confluence Zones – Annual Inspection

Large trees + constant/frequent occupancy. Includes:

- Playgrounds
- Squares
- High-volume congregation points
- High pedestrian traffic areas (e.g. Adelaide Oval, Rundle Mall, North Terrace)
- Major roads with large adjacent trees (see Appendix A)
- Buildings

Also included: Trees of significant cultural or amenity importance.

Medium Confluence Zones – Biennial Inspection

Large trees + occasional occupancy. Includes:

- Seating areas
- Exercise equipment zones
- Barbecue areas
- Busy pathways
- Sporting facilities and ovals

Low Confluence Zones – Inspection every 4 years

All remaining trees in lower-use occupancy zones. Includes:

- Occasional-use pedestrian paths and roadways
- Maintained but unserviced portions of Park Lands (without facilities that encourage pedestrian congregation)

Note: Trees in areas of very low confluence (rare occupancy) will not be risk-assessed unless circumstances require.

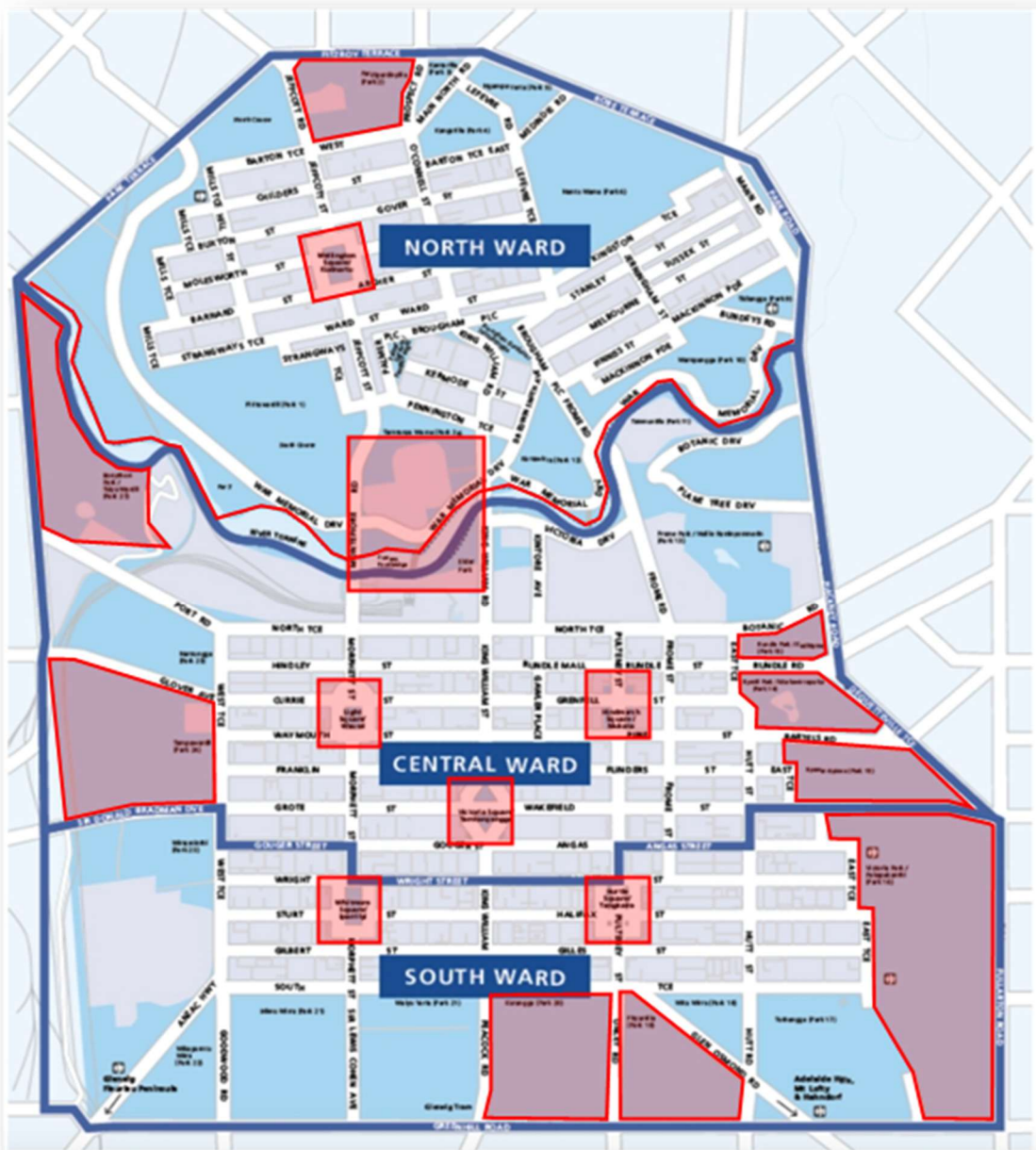
Zones of Elevated Occupancy

Several high confluence zones have been identified on the map below, including the River Torrens walking path, Adelaide Oval and a number of city parks that attract consistently high levels of foot traffic.

- **Very High Occupancy:** 300,000+ annual visits
- **High Occupancy:** 200,001–300,000 annual visits

Updated visitation data for the Park Lands, including total visitation and activity breakdowns (organised sport, events, informal recreation), is available through the **Park Land Usage – Total Visitation dataset** published by the Government of South Australia (data.sa.gov.au). This dataset is typically updated every three years and provides the most reliable reference for assessing occupancy levels.





Order of Inspection

The first factor considered in the risk assessment process is the likelihood of impact at the site where a tree is located.

- Where the likelihood of impact is assessed as Very Low, no further risk assessment is generally required under this protocol. This assessment is made at the time of inspection and may be revisited if new information arises, including complaints, observable defect changes, nearby works, weather events, or changed site occupancy.



A UNIQUE TEAM CREATING AN EXTRAORDINARY CITY

The City of Adelaide acknowledges the Kaurna people as the Traditional Owners of the Country where the city of Adelaide is situated, and pays its respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

- If the likelihood of impact is assessed as Low, Medium or High, the assessor will proceed with the next stage of the process, considering the likelihood of failure of the subject tree.

This process aligns with the TRAQ methodology and applies the following matrices:

1. Risk Matrix 1 – Likelihood Matrix

- Combines the likelihood of failure with the likelihood of impact.

2. Risk Matrix 2 – Risk Rating Matrix

- Combines the result of Risk Matrix 1 with the consequence of failure to derive a final risk rating for the tree.

Risk Matrix

The TRAQ system uses two interrelated matrices to determine a final tree risk rating. These combine the inputs of:

- **Likelihood of failure**
- **Likelihood of impact**
- **Consequence of failure**

All inputs must be assessed within the timeframe established for the inspection. Assessment timeframes are aligned with inspection frequencies, which are determined by the zone of confluence.

Matrix 1 – Likelihood Matrix

This matrix combines:

Likelihood of Failure (X) Likelihood of Impact

The outcome identifies the combined likelihood of failure and impact, which is then carried forward into the second matrix.



Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impact			
	Very low	Low	Medium	High
<i>Imminent</i>	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
<i>Probable</i>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely
<i>Possible</i>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
<i>Improbable</i>	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely

Matrix 2 – Risk Rating Matrix

The Risk Rating Matrix combines the output from Matrix 1 (Likelihood of Failure and Impact) with the Consequence of Failure to determine the final risk rating.

Matrix 2 Calculation:

Likelihood of Failure and Impact (X) Consequence of Failure

This matrix defines the overall level of tree risk. Definitions of the qualitative terms used (e.g. “Low,” “Moderate,” “High”) are provided in the **Glossary**.

Likelihood of failure & impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
<i>Very Likely</i>	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
<i>Likely</i>	Low	Moderate	High	High
<i>Somewhat likely</i>	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Unlikely</i>	Low	Low	Low	Low

Levels of Risk and Required Mitigation

The output of the TRAQ matrices provides an overall risk level: **Extreme, High, Moderate or Low**. The City of Adelaide manages risk to a level that is acceptable or tolerable for the given site and circumstance.

Different tree risk assessment systems use varying terminology. For the purpose of this protocol, the following terms are considered equivalent:

TRAQ Rating	Comparable Terms	Interpretation
Low	Acceptable	No action generally required
Moderate	Tolerable (with mitigation)	Requires management to reduce risk
High	Unacceptable	Requires prompt mitigation or removal of risk
Extreme	Unacceptable	Requires prompt mitigation or removal of risk



Priority Ratings and Timeframes

Where mitigation is required, actions are assigned a priority rating with associated timeframes:

- **Urgent – within 7 days**
 - Applied where immediate risk is identified.
 - For regulated or significant trees, urgent works may be undertaken under *Section 136 – Urgent Work in Relation to Trees* of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*. Approval from the Planning Department is sought once the risk has been mitigated.
- **High – within 3 months**
- **Medium – within 6 months**
- **Low – within 12 months**

Mitigation Options

Risk mitigation measures may include:

- Tree pruning
- Tree removal
- Cable and bracing
- Establishing exclusion zones
- Improving growing conditions
- Tree monitoring

Where resources do not allow immediate resolution of an unacceptable risk, temporary mitigation (such as bunting or exclusion zones) may be implemented until full works can be scheduled

Delegation and Elevation of Work

In addition to the cyclic auditing of City of Adelaide trees, customer requests relating to potential tree risks will be investigated by an authorised officer. These include the **Technical Officer Arboriculture, Work Group Leader Arboriculture, Tree Protection Officer Arboriculture**, or other delegated staff.

All inspections will be conducted in line with the procedures outlined in this protocol. Details of the assessment and any recommended or completed mitigation will be recorded in the City's asset management system.

Where required, inspections may be elevated to more experienced or senior staff, or to external contractors, to ensure appropriate expertise is applied to the assessment and risk management process

Managing Your Own Risk

While the City of Adelaide has an obligation to reasonably manage tree risk, residents and visitors also play a role in managing their own safety. Most injuries and fatalities



associated with tree failure occur during or immediately after severe weather events. Limiting time spent outdoors during these periods reduces the likelihood of being impacted by falling trees or branches.

Community Feedback

The City of Adelaide manages more than 70,000 trees across its jurisdiction, with a dedicated team of staff responsible for their care, maintenance and risk management. Routine inspections are undertaken by trained Council employees through active assessments, which include Level 1, 2 and 3 TRAQ assessments. These cover only a portion of the tree population.

The broader tree population benefits from both active cyclic assessments and incidental observations by Council staff, contractors, and the public. Public reports submitted through Council's Customer Service portal are a valued complement to formal inspection programs and where necessary are reviewed by qualified arborists in accordance with the triage process described in this protocol.

Encouraging more observers increases the effectiveness of identifying and managing tree risk. The City of Adelaide therefore welcomes members of the public to participate by reporting tree concerns through the Customer Service online portal.

- Requests should only be submitted for non-risk issues where trees meet the relevant criteria for works such as pruning or removal (see the *Tree Management Operational Guidelines*).
- Where elevated levels of risk are suspected, these reports can be submitted for an initial desktop assessment by a Council Arborist, who will determine the need for further assessment and set priorities accordingly.
- Every tree inspected in response to a customer request will receive, at minimum, a Level 1 risk assessment.

Record Keeping

All tree assessment outcomes will be recorded in Council's asset management database to support effective tracking and long-term management of tree assets.

Records will include (but are not limited to):

- Tree location
- Species identification
- History of tree works and interventions
- Risk assessment outcomes and condition notes

GIS System

To support effective management, the City of Adelaide collects, maintains and analyses tree data using Forestree, the City's Geographical Information System (GIS) for tree management.



- Council's tree database is maintained within Forestree.
- The system will be managed and updated by qualified staff or contractors trained in its effective use.

Responsibilities of the Arboriculture Officer

The Arboriculture Officer is responsible for maintaining and overseeing the integrity of Council's tree data and ensuring professional standards in arboriculture assessments.

Key responsibilities include:

- Collecting and integrating existing tree data
- Entering data for newly planted trees
- Updating records following pruning, removal or other works
- Analysing tree data to inform planning, reporting and operational priorities
- Ensuring that assessments requiring advanced professional expertise—such as street tree risk assessments or tree protection advice during development—are undertaken by staff holding a Diploma of Arboriculture (or equivalent qualification)

Inspection Frequencies

Tree risk levels vary due to multiple factors. Risk is generally elevated where trees are large in size and located in areas with high occupancy rates. To ensure efficient and effective tree assessments, the City of Adelaide prioritises inspections in areas where these conditions intersect.

Inspection frequency is determined by the zone of confluence, defined as the relationship between:

- **Target occupancy** (frequency of people/vehicles under or near a tree), and
- **Consequence of failure** (typically greater for larger trees).

Definitions:

- **Large trees** are those taller than 15 m.
- **Small trees** less than 4 m will not be risk-assessed, regardless of occupancy, but will be assessed for plant health.

High Confluence Zones – Annual Inspection

Large trees + constant/frequent occupancy. Includes:

- Playgrounds
- Squares
- High-volume congregation points
- High pedestrian traffic areas (e.g. Adelaide Oval, Rundle Mall, North Terrace)
- Major roads with high traffic volumes and large adjacent trees (see Appendix A)
- Buildings



Also included: Trees of significant cultural or amenity importance.

Medium Confluence Zones – Biennial Inspection

Large trees + occasional occupancy. Includes:

- Seating areas
- Exercise equipment zones
- Barbecue areas
- Busy pathways
- Sporting facilities and ovals

Low Confluence Zones – Inspection Every 4 Years

All remaining trees in all occupancy zones. Includes:

- Occasional-use pedestrian paths and roadways
- Maintained but unserviced areas of Park Lands without pedestrian congregation points

Note: Trees in very low confluence areas (rare occupancy) will not be assessed unless specific circumstances require.

Event Areas – Assessment Prior to Every Major Event

Areas that are typically occasional or rare use but become frequent to constant occupancy zones during events.

Inspections will be carried out by suitably qualified arborists prior to the event. Following assessment, the City may:

- Undertake risk mitigation (e.g. pruning), or
- Require event organisers to alter site design to exclude high-risk target areas.

Risk assessments must be conducted with sufficient lead time for:

- Inspection and reporting
- Approval of recommended works
- Completion of mitigation before event set-up begins

Event organisers must provide adequate notice and will bear the costs of additional assessments and mitigation.

Event Responsibility for Tree Risk in the Park Lands

When an event leases an area of the Adelaide Park Lands, the event organiser assumes responsibility for risks associated with trees within the leased area. While the City of

Adelaide undertakes regular tree inspections and risk management in accordance with its Tree Operating Guideline, it cannot eliminate all tree-related risk.

Event organisers are required to:

- Acknowledge and accept that some level of tree risk is inherent within the natural Park Lands environment.
- Provide and implement a weather policy that sets out reasonable safety measures during severe weather, including postponement or cancellation of activities where appropriate.
- Allow sufficient lead time for Council to conduct pre-event tree risk assessments, and to undertake or require mitigation works where necessary.
- Meet the costs of tree risk assessments and any associated mitigation works identified prior to the event that are not related to normal Park Lands use.

The City of Adelaide will support event organisers by providing the outcomes of recent tree inspections and, where required, conducting additional risk assessments before major events. Where unacceptable risks are identified, mitigation will either be undertaken by the City or the organiser may be directed to adjust event layout to avoid high-risk areas.

Relevant Policy

- Tree Operating Guideline
- Tree Management Policy

Legislation

- *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*
- *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Regulations 2017*
- *Local Government Act 1999*

References

- Tree Risk Assessment Manual *Second Edition*, (2017) International Society of Arboriculture.
- Location SA Map Viewer, Accessed on 08/08/2024 via: <https://location.sa.gov.au/viewer/?map=hybrid&uids=138>
- Australian Standard AS4373: *Pruning of amenity trees*
- MIS308: *Tree Pruning*
- MIS501 *Tree Risk Assessment*

Appendix A - Category 2 roads with large trees

Category 2 roads are defined by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport as roads that experience annual average traffic volumes >10,000 vehicles per day on roads with <60km/h speed limits and 3,000 vehicles per day on roads with >60km/h speed limits. All roads within the City of Adelaide are identified as Category 2 roads (Location SA Map



Viewer). Below is a list of Category 2 roads that have large trees located adjacent them (High confluence).

- Fullarton Road
 - Between Wakefield Street and Greenhill Road
- Glen Osmond Road
 - Between South Terrace and Hutt Road
 - Between Hutt Road and Greenhill Road
- Goodwood Road
 - Between South Terrace and Greenhill Road
- Peacock Road
 - Between South Terrace and Greenhill Road
- Hutt Road
 - Between South Terrace and Glen Osmond Road
 - Between Glen Osmond Road and Greenhill Road
- Unley Road
 - Between South Terrace and Greenhill Road
- Anzac Highway
 - Between South Terrace and Greenhill Road
- Sir Donald Bradman
 - Between West Terrace and Railway Terrace
- Wakefield Road
 - Between East Terrace and Dequetteville Terrace
- Bartells Road
 - Between East Terrace and Dequetteville Terrace
- Rundle Road
 - Between East Terrace and Dequetteville Terrace
- Botanic Road
 - Between East Terrace and Dequetteville Terrace
- Montefiore Road
 - Between Pennington Terrace and War Memorial Drive
 - War Memorial Drive and North Terrace
- Jeffcott Street
 - Between Pennington Drive and Fitzroy Terrace
- East Terrace
 - Between Carrington Street and Angus Street
- Greenhill Road
 - Between Anzac Highway and Goodwood Road
 - Between Goodwood Road and Peacock Road
 - Between Peacock Road and Unley Road
 - Between Unley Road and Hutt Road
 - Between Hutt Road and Glen Osmond Road
 - Between Glen Osmond Road and Fullarton Road
- King William Street
 - Between South Terrace and Gilbert/Gilles Streets
 - Between Gilbert/Gilles Streets and Halifax/Sturt Streets
 - Between Halifax/Sturt Streets and Carrington/Wright Streets
 - Between Carrington/Wright Streets and Angas/Gouger Streets
 - Between Angas/Gouger Streets and Wakefield/Grote Streets
 - Between Wakefield/Grote Streets and Flinders/Franklin Streets

- Between Flinders/Franklin Streets and Pirie/Waymouth Streets
- Between Pirie/Waymouth Streets and Grenfell/Currie Streets
- Between Grenfell/Currie Streets and Rundle Mall/Hindley Streets
- Between Rundle Mall/Hindley Streets and North Terrace
- Frome Road
 - Between Melbourne Street and War Memorial Drive
 - Between War Memorial Drive and Victoria Drive
 - Between Victoria Drive and North Terrace
- War Memorial Drive
 - Between King William Road and Golf Course Road
 - Between Golf Course Road and Montefiore Road
 - Between Montefiore Road and Park Terrace
- King William Road
 - Between Pennington Terrace and War Memorial/Sir Edwin Smith
 - Between War Memorial/Sir Edwin Smith and Victoria Drive
 - Between Victoria Drive and North Terrace
- Jeffcott Street
 - Between Pennington Terrace/Montefiore Hill and Barton Terrace West
 - Between Barton Terrace West and Fitzroy Terrace
- Hutt Street
 - Between Bartels Road and Flinders Street/Flinders Street East
 - Between Flinders Street/Flinders Street East and Wakefield Street/Road
 - Between Wakefield Street/Road and Angas Street
 - Between Angas Street and Carrington Street
 - Between Carrington Street and Halifax Street
 - Between Halifax Street and Gilles Street
 - Between Gilles Street and South Terrace
- Hutt Street/Carrington Street intersection

Glossary

TRAQ – Levels of Risk

The *TRAQ Risk Rating Matrix* uses four categories to define levels of risk: Extreme, High, Moderate, and Low. These categories communicate the level of risk and help guide recommendations for mitigation and inspection frequency. The priority for action depends on the risk rating and the risk tolerance of the tree owner or manager.

- **Extreme:** Failure is imminent, with a high likelihood of impacting the target, and consequences are severe. Immediate mitigation is required, which may include restricting access to the target zone.
- **High:** Consequences are significant and failure/impact is very likely or likely, or consequences are severe and likelihood is likely. Mitigation is recommended within the manager's risk tolerance. In populations, these trees are second in priority only to extreme-risk trees.
- **Moderate:** Consequences are minor and failure/impact is very likely or likely, or likelihood is somewhat likely with significant or severe consequences. Mitigation



or monitoring may be recommended, depending on the manager's risk tolerance. These are a lower priority than extreme or high-risk trees.

- **Low:** Consequences are negligible and likelihood of failure/impact is low, or consequences are minor with a somewhat likely failure. Mitigation is generally not required, though low-cost works may be considered. Monitoring is usually sufficient.

(Dunster et al., 2017, Tree Risk Assessment Manual, 2nd Ed., ISA, p.132)

TRAQ – Likelihood of Failure

The likelihood of failure is based on tree defects, structural condition, expected loads, site conditions and weather. Timeframes must be specified to give the rating meaning.

- **Imminent:** Failure has started or is expected in the near future, regardless of weather.
- **Probable:** Failure may be expected under normal weather conditions within the specified timeframe.
- **Possible:** Failure may be expected only under extreme weather conditions.
- **Improbable:** Failure is not likely under normal conditions and may not occur even in extreme weather.

(Dunster et al., 2017, p.102)

TRAQ – Likelihood of Impact

This describes the likelihood that a failed tree or tree part will strike a target. It depends on occupancy rates in the target zone and any protective factors.

- **High:** The failed part is likely to impact the target (constant target, no protection, direction of fall toward target).
- **Medium:** Impact is possible but not certain (e.g. people in a frequently used area where the fall direction may or may not be toward them).
- **Low:** Impact is unlikely (e.g. occasional-use areas, frequently used areas with partial protection, or constant targets with strong protection).
- **Very Low:** Impact is highly unlikely (e.g. target outside the zone of fall, rare occupancy, or protection from intervening trees/structures).

(Dunster et al., 2017, p.42)

TRAQ – Occupancy Rates

Occupancy rate is the proportion of time one or more targets are present in the target zone.

- **Constant:** Target is present nearly all the time (e.g. buildings, highways with continuous traffic, busy shopping streets).
- **Frequent:** Target zone is occupied a large part of the day or week (e.g. suburban streets, daytime car parks, busy sidewalks).
- **Occasional:** Target is present irregularly or infrequently (e.g. country roads, low-use trails, or fields used for special events).
- **Rare:** Target zone is seldom used (e.g. remote trails, fenced-off areas).



Occupancy may also be influenced by weather. For example, fewer people may use parks during heavy storms, while road traffic may increase as people avoid walking or cycling.
(Dunster et al., 2017, p.40–42)

TRAQ – Typical Weather Conditions

Tree risk assessments are conducted under the assumption of normal and typical weather conditions, which may include storms. Most tree failures occur during adverse weather (e.g. high winds, heavy rain, ice or snow), and these conditions must be factored into risk assessment.

(Dunster et al., 2017, p.52)



Tuesday, 6 October 2026

City Planning,
Development and Business
Affairs Committee

Program Contact:

Rebecca Hayes, A/Chief
Operating Officer

Public

Approving Officer:

Anthony Spartalis, A/Chief
Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), states that a Council may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting if the Council considers it to be necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to receive, discuss or consider in confidence any information or matter listed in section 90(3) of the Act.

It is the recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer that the public be excluded from this City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee meeting for the consideration of information and matters contained in the Agenda.

For the following Chief Executive Officer's Report seeking consideration in confidence

10.1 Kerbside Waste Collection - Contract Renewal Update [section 90(3) (b) & (d) of the Act]

10.2 City East Housing Project [section 90(3) (b) & (d) of the Act]

The Order to Exclude for Items 10.1 and 10.2:

1. Identifies the information and matters (grounds) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
2. Identifies the basis – how the information falls within the grounds identified and why it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public.
3. In addition, identifies for the following grounds – section 90(3) (b), (d) or (j) of the Act - how information open to the public would be contrary to the public interest.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 10.1

THAT THE CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (b) & (d) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 6 October 2026 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 10.1 [Kerbside Waste Collection - Contract Renewal Update] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

This Item is confidential as it contains commercial information of a confidential nature relating to current EOI submissions from contractors and ongoing negotiations regarding the extension of the current contract.

The disclosure of information in this report could reasonably be expected to prejudice Council's commercial position and confer a commercial advantage on third parties ahead of the RFT process.

Public Interest

The City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the disclosure of this information could prejudice ongoing commercial negotiations and reduce competitive tension ahead of the RFT release.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 6 October 2026 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 10.1 [Kerbside Waste Collection - Contract Renewal Update] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (b) & (d) of the Act.

ORDER TO EXCLUDE FOR ITEM 10.2

THAT THE CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

1. Having taken into account the relevant consideration contained in section 90(3) (b) & (d) and section 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 6 October 2026 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 10.2 [City East Housing Project] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

This item contains certain information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which could reasonably expect to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting business, prejudice the commercial position of the Council in respect to its assets and strategic land holdings, and that of adjacent landowners.

The disclosure of information in this report could reasonably prejudice the position of Council and third parties as it includes specialist information including legal advice provided to Council and others on a confidential basis.

Public Interest

The City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the disclosure of this information may result in release of confidential information of Council and adjacent landowners that are of a financial, legal and strategic nature.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee dated 6 October 2026 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 10.2 [City East Housing Project] listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) (b) & (d) of the Act.
-

DISCUSSION

1. Section 90(1) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act) directs that a meeting of Council must be conducted in a place open to the public.
2. Section 90(2) of the Act, states that a Council may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting if Council considers it to be necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to receive, discuss or consider in confidence any information or matter listed in section 90(3) of the Act.
3. Section 90(3) of the Act prescribes the information and matters that a Council may order that the public be excluded from.
4. Section 90(4) of the Act, advises that in considering whether an order should be made to exclude the public under section 90(2) of the Act, it is irrelevant that discussion of a matter in public may -
 - (a) *cause embarrassment to the council or council committee concerned, or to members or employees of the council; or*
 - (b) *cause a loss of confidence in the council or council committee; or*
 - (c) *involve discussion of a matter that is controversial within the council area; or*
 - (d) *make the council susceptible to adverse criticism.*
5. Section 90(7) of the Act requires that an order to exclude the public:
 - 5.1 Identify the information and matters (grounds) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
 - 5.2 Identify the basis – how the information falls within the grounds identified and why it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public.
 - 5.3 In addition identify for the following grounds – section 90(3) (b), (d) or (j) of the Act - how information open to the public would be contrary to the public interest.
6. Section 83(5) of the Act has been utilised to identify in the Agenda and on the Report for the meeting, that the following reports are submitted seeking consideration in confidence.
 - 6.1 Information contained in Item 10.1 – Kerbside Waste Collection - Contract Renewal Update
 - 6.1.1 Is not subject to an existing Confidentiality Order.
 - 6.1.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (b) & (d) of the Act
 - (b) information the disclosure of which—
 - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
 - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest
 - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which—
 - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
 - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest
 - 6.2 Information contained in Item 10.2 – City East Housing Project
 - 6.2.1 Is not subject to an existing Confidentiality Order.
 - 6.2.2 The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is section 90(3) (b) & (d) of the Act
 - (b) information the disclosure of which—
 - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
 - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which—
 - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
 - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -

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