COUNCIL POLICY LV136 TREE CANOPY

KEY FOCUS AREA LIVEABILITY

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to preserve, maintain and enhance the Town's tree canopy to support a healthy urban environment, community wellbeing and ecological resilience.

This Policy applies to all trees owned or managed by the Town of Claremont within road reserves, parks, reserves and public open spaces.

Policy

The Town of Claremont commits to:

- Protecting and increasing tree canopy cover through strategic planting, care, replacement and preservation.
- Providing adequate resourcing and skilled personnel to maintain the Town's urban forest and deliver on canopy objectives.
- Using a consistent and strategic approach guided by the Street Tree Master Plan and Tree Management Guidelines for all Town tree-related activities.
- Ensuring the protection and preservation of mature, heritage, and significant trees as valuable community assets.
- Requiring developers and planners to adhere to tree protection measures and providing guidance to minimise impacts from development.
- Enforcing clear parameters around tree planting, pruning and removal in accordance with relevant legislation and Australian Standards.
- Removing trees only when assessed as dead, diseased or posing immediate safety risks by a qualified arborist engaged by the Town.
- Engaging and educating the community on the importance of tree canopy, encouraging participation in tree planting and care.
- Setting measurable targets to increase canopy cover and regularly monitoring and reporting on progress.
- Applying effective enforcement mechanisms, including bonds and infringements, to ensure compliance and protect Town trees.
- Providing built structures such as shade sails to outdoor public infrastructure to support urban cooling if natural canopy cannot be provided.

Document Control Box			
Legislation:	Local Government Act 1995		
	Local Government Regulations 1996		
Organisational:	Street and Reserve Tree Management Guidelines 2025		
	Street Tree Master Plan		
	Lake Claremont Management Plan 2024-2029		
	Australian Standards for Protection of Trees on Development Sites (AS 4970-2025)		
	Australian Standards for Pruning of Amenity Trees (AS 4373-2007)		
Version #	Decision:	OCM Date:	Resolution Number:
1.	Adopted	26 July 2022	091/22
2.	Modified	30 September 2025	144/25