



Illegal Clearing of Vegetation

KFA Natural and Built Environment

Status Council

Responsible Division Planning & Development Services

Objective To provide a clear direction as to the appropriate response by the City in the event of illegal vegetation damage on Council Reserves, particularly in respect to riparian or coastal foreshore areas.

Context

The City is committed to the effective management and protection of vegetation. Illegal damage to vegetation on public land occurs from time to time particularly along foreshore and coastal areas. Vegetation is damaged for a number of reasons, ranging from random vandalism to deliberately planned acts, which may be occurring for private benefit such as the enhancement of views. This policy aims to discourage unauthorised removal of vegetation through the use of signage.

Vegetation within the City is of high importance and is significant in terms of:

- Conservation values such as habitat;
- Erosion prevention;
- Visual amenity;
- Landscape protection;
- Shade provision;
- Wind buffer for resident and users of foreshore and coastal reserves;
- Cultural and historical significance; and
- Verge streetscape.

Statement

General

- The City may prosecute where an offender is identified who has caused illegal damage to vegetation on public land;
- The City will provide a mechanism to encourage community members to report illegal damage to vegetation on public land; and
- The City will provide a significant deterrent against future illegal damage to vegetation on public land.



- The City will pursue, in conjunction with a prosecution, any replacement costs for the vegetation and in the case of trees, their value in accordance with the City's Tree Register.

Related documentation

Nil

Related Local Law/legislation

Local Government Act 1995

Local Government Property Local Law 2010

Regulation No.5 of Local Government (Uniform Local Provisions)

Regulations (1996)

Environmental Protection Act (1986)

Related delegation

Nil

Review History

26 June 2012 (CP27.12)

23 June 2015 (CPS14.15)