

 <p>NORTHERN AREAS COUNCIL</p>	<h2>TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY</h2>	Version No:	2.1
		Last Adopted:	19 March 2024
		To be Reviewed	March 2028

Type	Operational
Category	Operational Services
Responsible Officer	Manager Assets & Operations
First Issued / Adopted	20 May 2014
Review Period	4 years
Last Reviewed / Adopted	19 March 2024
Minute Reference	Carried 11479
Next review Date	March 2028
Applicable legislation	Development Act 1993 Development Regulations 2008 Electricity Act 1996 Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Heritage Places Act 1997 Highways Act 1926 Local Government Act 1999 Native Vegetation Act 1991 Road Traffic Act 1961
Related Documents	NAC Strategic Plan NAC Community Lands Management Plan NAC Public Consultation Policy NAC Tree Management Procedures
Public Consultation Required	No
File Reference	145.2.5

1. PURPOSE

The Policy provides the direction to manage, develop, protect and conserve the arboreal environment of the Council district, in a manner that is reasonable, consistent, promotes the principles of sustainable development, considers climate adaptation, and is within the resource allocation provided by Northern Areas Council.

The Policy will apply to all relevant Northern Areas Council operations and includes commitment to managing trees in a manner consistent with relevant legislative requirements.

2. POLICY

The Policy is intended to provide guidance in relation to general planting, maintenance and, if necessary, the removal of tree stock on Council's township managed land and roads and within the scope of relevant legislation.

3. SCOPE

The Policy shall apply on all roads and community land under the care, control and management of the Northern Areas Council and within the scope of legislation.

4. DEFINITIONS

Community Land	Means Local Government land classified as community land pursuant to the Local Government Act. Does not include roads or land excluded from Community Land classification.
Climate Change Adaptation	Adaptation is the principal way to deal with the impacts of a changing climate. It involves taking practical actions to manage risks from climate impacts, protect communities and strengthen the resilience of the economy.
Landscape	Used to describe a particular piece of geography located in the Council.
Planting	The installation of a tree at an identified site
Controlled Tree	(a) a tree, or a tree within a class of trees, declared to be regulated by the regulations (whether or not the tree also constitutes a significant tree under the regulations); or (b) a tree declared to be a significant tree, or a tree within a stand of trees declared to be significant trees, by a Development Plan (whether or not the tree is also declared to be a regulated tree, or also falls within a class of trees declared to be regulated trees, by the regulations).
Reserve	Includes parks, gardens, reserves, playgrounds, ovals, and other areas such as water retention locations.

Risk Management	Coordinated activities to direct and control an organisation with regard to risk (AS/NZ ISO 31000).
Road	Means a public or private street, road or thoroughfare to which public access is available on a continuous or substantially continuous basis to vehicles or pedestrians or both and includes - (a) a bridge, viaduct or subway; or (b) an alley, laneway or walkway.
Significant Tree	(a) a tree declared to be a significant tree, or a tree within a stand of trees declared to be significant trees, by a Development Plan (whether or not the tree is also declared to be a regulated tree, or also falls within a class of trees declared to be regulated trees, by the regulations); or (b) a tree declared to be a regulated tree by the regulations, or a tree within a class of trees declared to be regulated trees by the regulations that, by virtue of the application of prescribed criteria, is to be taken to be a significant tree for the purposes of the Act;
Strategic Plan	Identifies a Council's current objectives for the area over a period of at least 4 years (the relevant period).
Tree	A woody perennial plant, including palms that can have one or more trunks and a distinct elevated crown or lateral branches.
Tree Stock	A group or cluster of trees.

5. KEY PRINCIPLES

The key principles of the Tree Management Policy are:

1. Northern Areas Council reasonably manages tree stock on roads, community land and across the landscape within townships through planned removal, replacement and new plantings;
2. Effective maintenance, replacement and functional programmes for planting and preservation of tree stock;
3. Effective and efficient use of resources, allocated (as far as reasonably practicable) to maintain and manage tree stock across the Council township landscapes;
4. Meeting the requirements of the legislative framework;
5. Consideration of the provision of amenity, biodiversity and environmental sustainability;
6. Consideration of the ongoing impacts for and of external stakeholders;
7. Consultation with the community and promotion of the positive effect tree stock within townships will provide to the general landscape;

5. KEY PRINCIPLES (Cont'd)

8. Application of the principles of risk management to consider and minimise issues of conflict between the community and Northern Areas Council regarding tree stock.
9. Consideration of climate change adaptation strategies in planting and removal programs.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

This policy will be available for inspection at the Council office, 94 Ayr Street, Jamestown during ordinary business hours and available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's internet site: www.nacouncil.sa.gov.au

Copies will be provided to interested parties upon request.
Email: admin@nacouncil.sa.gov.au