

Tree Management Policy

1 Document Information

Version Date <i>(Draft or Council Meeting date)</i>	28 April 2020
Author	Engineering Environmental Officer
Owner <i>(Relevant director)</i>	Director of Engineering & Technical Services
Status – <i>Draft, Approved, Adopted by Council, Superseded or Withdrawn</i>	Adopted by Council
Next Review Date	Within 12 months of new council election
Minute number <i>(once adopted by Council)</i>	20/04/10

2 Summary

Details Council's policy on trees and tree management in conjunction with electricity network authorities and Cabonne Local Environment Plan 2012.

3 Approvals

Title	Date Approved	Signature
Director of Engineering & Technical Services		

4 History

Minute No.	Summary of Changes	New Version Date
18/05/20	Readopted as per s165(4) 22.5.18	
20/02/10	Policy accepted for public exhibition	25/02/2020
20/04/10	Policy Adopted	28/04/2020

5 Reason

Establishes an intent for the management of trees on Council managed public space, property and reserves and to advise conditions of maintenance and replacement of trees, and to avoid interference with power lines.

6 Scope

Applies to the Cabonne Local Government Area

7 Associated Legislation

Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 Part 5

Cabonne Local Environment Plan 2012

Local Government Act 1993

Roads Act 1993

Civil Liability Act 2002

In accordance with Energy Network Authority

Planning for Bushfires guidelines (NSWRFS)

8 Definitions

NSWRFS – New South Wales Rural Fire Service

9 Responsibilities

9.1 General Manager

The General Manager is responsible for the overall control and implementation of the policy.

9.2 Directors and Managers

Directors and Managers are responsible for the control of the policy and procedures within their area of responsibility.

10 Related Documents

Document Name	Document Location
Cabonne Local Environmental Plan 2012	
Review of Environmental Factors regional and local road works	

11 Policy Statement

Cabonne Council has a duty of care to take reasonable measures within budgeted resources to manage risks arising from trees under Council control.

This tree management policy provides direction to ensure a balance between managing the risks to the community's safety and infrastructure, and acknowledgement of the significant benefit trees have within the landscape to the social, environmental, economic and cultural wellbeing of the community.

Tree Management

- Council will seek to retain and preserve trees that add value to the communities' amenity and identity.
- Priority will be given to public safety over amenity and environmental issues.
- Council will respond to customer requests through assessment of tree health and prioritisation on a risk basis.
- Areas of high public visitation such as footpaths, parks and reserves council will carry out tree maintenance works to ensure the health of trees and reduce public risk, these works will be carried out by qualified arborists works will involve:
 - Pruning minor
 - Limb removal
 - Total removal if deemed dangerous or lifeless, by qualified arborists and council's designated officer.

- Regional and local roadworks are duty bound to comply with an Australian Standard in relation to risk which involves tree works under the Roads Act 1993 Council carries out Review of Environmental Factors for these works to ensure compliance with various statutory requirements.
- Trees located beneath power lines shall be pruned by the electricity network authority in order to maintain statutory clearances. Cabonne Council shall determine if any action should be taken with regard to replacing an existing tree if it is deemed unsuitable to be beneath power lines.

Community Consultation and Notification

- Notification of tree removal will be provided to neighbouring properties notifying of removal of street trees a minimum of one month prior to scheduled tree removal
- Council will display tree removal notification for trees in parks and public places one month prior to scheduled tree removal on Council website and Social Media
- Notwithstanding, where tree removal is considered emergency works, consultation will be limited to direct engagement with neighbouring properties immediately prior to removal

New Trees

- Planting of new trees Council will consider appropriateness of the species to protect the wellbeing of the community as well as protection of property infrastructure.
- No planting of new trees within Council public space is permitted without consent of Council.
- Council has a tree management strategy outlining approved species suitable for the area.