

# Draft Tree Management Plan

## Background

The Strathbogie Shire Tree Management Plan: Urban and Rural Strategies provides the framework for the maintenance, renewal and risk management of all tree assets growing on Council owned and managed land. This includes trees within designated roads and other reserves in Strathbogie Shire.

Council's green infrastructure including its trees, is highly valued by the community and contributes greatly to the amenity of the built environment within the Shire, enhancing liveability, landscape character and biodiversity. Trees are also widely recognised for their contribution to reducing the impacts of climate change, improving water conservation and for their shade which can significantly reduce daytime temperatures.

It is acknowledged that despite their benefits, the presence of trees in public areas can create a degree of risk to people, property and services through loss of limbs or from total tree failure.

Tree management comes at a considerable cost in terms of plantings and maintenance, and can have significant impacts on infrastructure including drainage, construction projects, roads and footpaths.

Council's Tree Management Plan documents the management strategies Council has in place to ensure the longevity and quality of trees within our urban environments, as well as the risk management framework that will be applied to mitigate risk to the community as much as is reasonable and practicable.

Inspection intervals and response times are identified as part of our risk management framework, which includes:

- A robust risk rating framework and methodology for tree assessment and hazards which then link into maintenance and inspection programs
- Maintenance scheduling.

## The Engagement Approach

Our communications and engagement approach outlined a significant communications campaign to ensure the community was aware the Draft Tree Management Plan was out for community consultation and knew how to provide their feedback.

The plan focussed on the use of communications tools to inform the community and used a traditional consultation approach to ensure providing feedback was easy.

The Draft Tree Management Plan has been developed using feedback provided by participants in previous engagement activities – including deliberative processes used to develop our Council Plan – to ensure community input into its development.

Stage	Goal	Tools and methods
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate genuine stakeholder and community engagement to seek input to the draft plan.</li> <li>Provide clear communications to the community to ensure providing feedback is easy</li> <li>Provide timely information to the community and key stakeholders about the plan.</li> </ul>	<b>Communication tools</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media release</li> <li>Social media</li> <li>eNews story</li> <li>Advertising</li> <li>Website content</li> </ul> <b>Engagement methods</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share Strathbogie submission tool</li> <li>Letters seeking feedback</li> </ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform the community and stakeholders how their feedback informed the final Tree Management Plan</li> <li>Inform the community the plan is complete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media release</li> <li>Social media</li> <li>eNews story</li> <li>Advertising</li> <li>Letters to submitters</li> </ul>

## Depth of engagement

**Depth:** Consult

**Public participation goal:** To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions

**Promise to the public:** We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

## Participation and reach

- Five submissions were received on the Draft Plan.
- A further question on a topic outside the scope of the plan was also received. This has been responded to by the relevant officer and therefore it is not included in the findings section of this report.
- The project on [www.share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au](http://www.share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au) received 255 views from 190 visitors.

## What our community told us

- There was a consistent focus in the submissions on street tree planting, with a desire to increase the tree canopy throughout the Shire. We heard La Nina events meant that any planting done now would take advantage of high levels of soil moisture and rainfall.
- We heard protecting native vegetation to protect wildlife habitat was important, while at the same time our community said safety should be emphasised.

## Recommendations

It is recommended an inclusion in the Tree Management Plan outlining:

- Council's commitment to the street tree canopy across the Shire and the work being completed with the Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance and other Council's in our region.
- Council's commitment to the development of a significant tree register as an action of the Climate Change Action Plan to recognise and protect significant trees in our Shire.

It is also recommended Council develops a procedures manual to supplement and operationalise the Tree Management Plan. This plan will address questions around responsibility raised in one submission.

## Findings

From	Request to speak	Submission
Euroa resident	YES	<p><b>The climate science:</b> Council has accepted the climate science and recognised we are in the midst of a climate emergency which will impact our community and our environment.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> Council has access to considerable funding which can be used to support a tree planting program which will help our community deal with the urban heat island effect, heat impacts on vulnerable members of the community, and biodiversity challenges.</p> <p><b>Exemplary community support for tree canopy:</b> There is a clear commitment to tree canopy preservation and establishment in our shire.</p> <p>Council has in the last three years had the support of volunteer street-tree planters and three streets in Euroa and other streets across the shire are now developing canopy as a result of this committed community endeavour. Over a longer period of time Council has also had the benefit of committed community members contributing to the need to retain old trees in planning new developments.</p> <p>Council is also the beneficiary of the tireless work that the Strathbogie Forest group has done in supporting the need for protection of native forest in the Shire, demonstrating the interest in tree canopy, biodiversity protection, respectful engagement with Taungurung people in line with council's MOU, and the need to leave a climate - adaptive legacy for all the next generations.</p> <p><b>Actions Council should take</b> Council should address the challenges and build on this clear community commitment, undertaking the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reconvene the community street tree planters group as a matter of urgency and re-establish a street tree planting program across the shire. To do so would take advantage of the unusual climate change outcomes we are presently exposed to. Three back-to-back La Ninas mean that any planting done now would take advantage of high levels of soil moisture and rainfall.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the skills and expertise of the staff and volunteers at the Euroa Arboretum (which has recently been shortlisted in the Premier's Sustainability awards) to ensure we are planting appropriately for our region and to address urgent climate change challenges.</li> <li>• Recognise that we have some remarkable tree scapes in our towns around the Shire. For example - the yellow box street trees in Avenel and the plantings in Euroa at the oval and in Gobur St and along the Merton Road - are outstanding. This recognition should include establishing listings for some of the heritage trees. Other shires illustrate how this can be done. To do so would further enhance community understanding of the value of trees in our town environments and provide council with an opportunity to better communicate the science and the health and other co-benefits around climate change action and biodiversity protection. Schools could be actively engaged in this work.</li> <li>• Consider ways in which we can recognise some of the mighty trees which remain in the Strathbogie forest including some of the messmates and others that are hundreds of years old. Again this would provide Council with an opportunity to become a leading science and biodiversity communicator in local government settings and it would require very little effort to do it and get the information circulating. Advancing this leadership opportunity would also potentially set council up for further funding possibilities, making us the go to regional council in respect of such potential.</li> <li>• Establish a respectful dialogue with the Taungurung clans in line with the MOU which already exists about the number and status of culturally modified trees around the town of Euroa (and across the shire) with a view to joining with them as they build their cultural tourism potential. This dialogue could also be developed as a leading-edge example of local government working with First Nations people as we generate community understanding of the state wide treaty and truth telling process and the need for a thoughtful discussion about a 'yes vote' in response to the referendum which will flow out of the considered work that went into the Uluru Statement.</li> </ul>
Strathbogie Resident	YES	<p>The Shire of Strathbogie has a reputation for its lovely landscapes, with the Strathbogie Tablelands being one of the most spectacular. A sense of community, space and natural assets, such as rocky outcrops, tree lined streams and large areas of native vegetation are some of the attractions that draw visitors and new residents to our area.</p> <p>The community, particularly via our local Landcare group, have a proud history of planting native trees on farms, but there is always more work to do. The Shire's urban tree planting/streetscaping program is to be applauded, but we need to continue this work in all of our small townships, to increase the number of trees across the whole landscape – for healthy living and, especially, to do our part to combat Climate Change.</p>

		<p>It is so important that the Shire has its planting budget – we need to take advantage of this and plant as much as we can as soon as possible, due to the lag time for trees to grow to a robust size at which they can withstand drought and also provide shade for urban areas.</p> <p>This year we have a huge advantage – we have had great rainfall, soil moisture is high, and we have another La Niña weather system just ahead – this is the perfect time to plant more trees, so we need to commence as soon as possible – i.e. this Spring!</p> <p>There are huge benefits of planting trees in our urban landscapes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trees can reduce temperatures by up to 8°C • trees can reduce air conditioner use by 12-15% - this reduces the power bills for residents over summer, and very importantly, also decreases carbon emissions from our largely brown coal generated electricity.</li> <li>• trees reduce surface asphalt temperatures and vehicle cabin temperatures.</li> <li>• trees play a role in holding and absorbing water during more intense rainfall events.</li> <li>• trees improve human health, extend life spans, reduce violence and vandalism, lower blood pressure and save society on medical and social infrastructure costs.</li> <li>• trees improve property values.</li> <li>• trees provide habitat for our diverse and wonderful local wildlife species - these are enjoyed by people visiting our shire as well as by many residents.</li> <li>• community tree planting events bring us together, improve our mental health and our connection to our local towns – they of enormous social value, and they can empower ordinary people to commit to helping in the fight against climate change.</li> </ul> <p>Sadly, the Covid Pandemic slowed or halted many important community programs, and some of the goodwill and collaboration that goes hand-in-hand with these has faltered. Now is the time for the Shire to rebuild the successes of previous community planting days.</p> <p>We believe there is a huge need for an ongoing annual Streetscape Planting programme, to replace any trees lost and expand planting across all township areas where trees can be planted appropriately. This is a fantastic opportunity for the Shire to tap into the energy and commitment in our community, and to establish a lasting and productive partnership. Let's do it!</p>
Euroa Environment Group	YES	<p>Trees and landscape values are regularly listed amongst the key reasons people move to or visit Strathbogie Shire. And we have some corkers . . . the grand canopies of the Moreton Bay figs at the Euroa Showgrounds</p>

		<p>have been cooling show-goers for generations and the two towering Red Gums at Twomey's Bridge are lasting and spectacular landmarks on the Seven Creeks.</p> <p>As recently as last year, at Euroa's inaugural Music Festival, the event co-ordinator told organisers that the site of the Seven Creeks Reserve (amongst the River red Gums adjacent to the Memorial Oval) was the most spectacular natural setting she had managed for such a Festival.</p> <p>How lucky are we to be surrounded by such iconic trees. And there are plenty more . . . However, to make sure these old giants do not become isolated, we must ensure future planting programmes and tree renewal are given priority.</p> <p>It concerns us that we are already way behind in our streetscape planting programme. We have a healthy budget to address this – let's get cracking!</p> <p>This year we have the advantage of back-to-back La Niña weather systems. Let's take advantage of this wonderful, but rare occurrence. We know the many benefits of trees in the urban landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trees can drop temperatures by up to 8°C</li> <li>• trees can reduce air conditioner use by 12-15% which also decreases the carbon emissions from our largely brown coal generated electricity</li> <li>• trees reduce surface asphalt temperatures and vehicle cabin temperatures</li> <li>• trees play a role in holding and absorbing water during more intense rainfall events</li> <li>• trees improve human health, extend life spans, reduce violence and vandalism, lower blood pressure and save society on medical and social infrastructure costs</li> <li>• trees improve property values .</li> </ul> <p>These economic and social gains are extra to the ecological and physiological benefits that most of us cannot place a value on . . . So we can only urge Council to build on the successes of the community planting days we initiated in recent years.</p> <p>The Bury Street, Kennedy Street, Sutherland Street community plantings were undertaken just prior and during the Covid pandemic, with enormous goodwill and collaboration. Molly and the Euroa Environment Group are currently working on plans to reinvigorate this approach to streetscape plantings, as it builds and maintains lasting goodwill and community pride in our local urban landscapes.</p>
--	--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>When we undertook the 2020 plantings we did not want them to be “one-offs”. The plantings proposed for this spring must also not be one-offs. We must act now to schedule a regular planting programme, which fill the gaps (too common) in our streetscapes.</p> <p>There should be no gaps – we would like to set in place an annual Streetscape Planting programme, which is documented and celebrated. Council must set an annual target, based on attrition rates, and replacement capacity.</p> <p>We believe community-led plantings allow for at least 200 trees per town to be planted annually. We achieved that in 2020 with minimal exertion. Euroa Environment Group is happy to continue in its capacity as a partner with Council. We have the connections to the town “champions” and with their energy and commitment we can make this a lasting and productive partnership. Euroa used to have a reputation for its beautiful trees and shady streets. Let’s regain that reputation.</p>
Euroa resident	No	<p>Please exercise common sense and a high degree of care before destroying any tree /wildlife habitat, humans need to be educated that when they are not living in concrete jungles that they may be in the path of a falling limb, a swooping bird, a bit of duck poo on a path etc.</p> <p>Look after yourself, don’t destroy the nature that we have in this country town, just to replicate the jungle that increasing numbers of disenchanted city/suburban ex pats realise that they are missing.</p> <p>Be careful what you wish for.. . A project of nesting box creation and installation and permanent marking of nesting sites on a Council register and habitat would be useful for the birds and mammals and for future reference of developers and concrete enthusiasts.</p> <p>We also need to provide food sources for wildlife, so for every ratepayer, a gift of a native tree or shrub from the arboretum and an area each year to plant in would be a positive move, for example roadsides that need a clean up creek banks, even private land, all nature strips and around all parks and (sporting grounds, shrubs, not limb dropping trees).</p> <p>A nature park for kids would be well suited at the arboretum, not in our main park, and a footpath /bike track to arboretum should be a priority.</p> <p>Encourage people to exercise and benefit the whole community and extend our green areas.</p>
Ruffy resident	YES	<p>This plan describes the responsibilities of the Council in relation to a Tree Management Plan. I would like to see the following included:</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who is responsible for many of the actions? What data is collected? How will this data be used?</li> <li>• What procedures are referenced when completing many of the tasks?</li> </ul> <p><b>Plan review.</b> "This Plan will be reviewed every four years. Any revisions will be subject to community consultation and Council approval processes. The Plan may also be reviewed sooner based on emerging industry advice, audit or investigation outcomes. Council may at any time undertake an internal or third-party review to ensure that all management systems are in place for the delivery of the levels of service adopted by Council".</p> <p>How can a review be undertaken when the plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not detail documentation of assessments, investigation, reviews, inspections, remedial actions.</li> <li>• Does not specify reporting near hits/misses</li> <li>• Does not call for analysis of trends of tree health within the shire.</li> <li>• Does not record the after hours activities involving the management of trees on public roads.</li> <li>• Does not have a process of assessing the mode of failure of trees on public roads when they occur.</li> <li>• Does not reference the OHS Act and the need to conduct an incident or accident investigation following a safety incident on council controlled areas.</li> <li>• Does not specify continuous improvement objectives.</li> </ul> <p>There are no KPI's and thus no opportunity to measure whether the plan is working. Reviews must also be based on facts, data, audits, targets etc. There is no mention of continuous improvement processes.</p> <p>Comments pertaining to the body of the plan:</p> <p><b>Point 1 Definition – Arborist:</b> It is my assumption that the Strathbogie Shire Council has achieved Quality accreditation ISO 9000/9001. Therefore, I would expect that a professional arborist would only be engaged by Council if they comply with the requirements specified by the quality accreditation.</p> <p><b>Point 2 - 9.2 Rural Trees (gazetted public roads):</b> If Section 107 of the Road Management Act 2004 is to be included as a quote from the Act then it is essential that it is accurately quoted in its entirety. Quote "Section 107 of the act provides that a road authority (in this case Council) does not have a statutory duty or a common law duty to perform road management functions in respect of a Rob Jamieson 2 22 September 2022 public highway which is not a public road or to maintain, inspect or repair the roadside of any public highway (whether or not a public road), but does have the discretionary power to perform such functions. However, where a responsible</p>
--	--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>road authority has been notified of a hazard caused, or likely to be caused by roadside tree or vegetation, then it does have a duty to act. It is also noted that a responsible road authority may have duties or obligations in regard to trees and vegetation within the road reserve under other legislation or the common law.</p> <p><b>Point 3 - Significant Tree Register:</b> Who (position) is responsible and accountable for maintaining the significant tree register. This should be included in the plan. The objective of the register is to establish comprehensive tree asset management risk assessment and mitigation practices focused on delivering optimal outcomes while having regard to affordability, available resources, and the policies, priorities, and strategies of Strathbogie Shire Council. There should be a clause added here to emphasize community safety.</p> <p><b>What is the purpose of this inclusion?</b> For trees which have propagated themselves from seed there is no statutory obligation nor common law duty to inspect and/or maintain unless Council receives requests or evidence to suggest that they present an active risk to the public.</p> <p><b>What risk is implied here?</b> This is an unusual statement, as the majority of trees within the Strathbogie shire are natives and would have been self sown. Is this statement stating that the shire will only monitor trees that have been planted by Council?</p> <p><b>Point 4 - 13.2 Rural areas:</b> Council is responsible for clearing or pushing trees into the road reserve for biodiversity and habitat, when trees fall outside the road maintenance envelope, but within the road reserve onto the road pavement (refer to Appendix 2). This is a conflicting statement when the council is obligated under Section 43 of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 to 'take all practicable steps to prevent the occurrence of fires on, and minimize the danger of the spread of fires, on any road under its care and management'. Pushing excess trees and vegetation onto the road reserve is increasing the fuel load. This increase does not minimize the danger of the spread of fires. If a tree from the road reserve outside of the tree maintenance envelope, or from a private property falls onto a public road, Council MUST (Section 107 of the Road Management Act 2004 ) act in the interests of public safety to clear part or ALL of the fallen tree. However, Council has no responsibility or liability for any tree outside of the road maintenance envelope as defined in Strathbogie Shire Road Management Plan.</p> <p><b>Point 5 -14.2 Proactive maintenance scope: Rural areas:</b> Council's obligations to inspect and maintain roadside vegetation are set out in section 107 of the Road Management Act 2004. This statement needs to be verified. My reading of section 107 is there is no mention of inspections. Council's Road Management Plan states it must inspect and maintain, and has a liability for trees and roadside vegetation within a 'road maintenance envelope'. This is defined as the area from drain to drain and to a height of five metres (refer to</p>
--	--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p>Appendix 2). As such, Council is not responsible, nor does it have a liability, for any tree outside of the road maintenance envelope as defined in Strathbogie Shire Road Management Plan. In line with Council's responsibilities, where trees and vegetation present an immediate danger, they will be made safe and removed as soon as possible. Where residents report an unsafe (dangerous) tree (whether live, dead or diseased), it will be assessed, and appropriate remediation and or monitoring undertaken. What is the assessment process? Who will do it? Will a report be provided to the parties who have reported the unsafe or dangerous tree or trees? Is there a nominated time frame of the inspection to occur and report provided? These actions need to be included in the plan.</p> <p><b>Point 6 - 15.1 Risk framework:</b> To effectively identify and manage risks Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake tree inspections every 5 years with annual programs of tree maintenance works to be developed and documented based on the priorities identified in Council's tree risk assessment. Who (position) is responsible for managing the inspections? Will 5 year and then 1 year plans be documented and transparent to ratepayers.? How will the results of the inspections be documented? What will be the review process? Will the action plans from the review be made available to the ratepayers? Will a time period be set for the completion of the actions?</li> <li>• Document all Council tree incidents, actions and works and incorporate within Council's information systems. Is this a transparent database available to ratepayers? Who (position) is responsible for documenting this action?</li> <li>• Develop a standard "Tree Incident Report" with tree incidents documented and referred to Council's Manager Assets as soon as is practical. What is the expected time frame for this work to be completed? Will a monthly or quarterly report be prepared, highlighting number of incidence, severity and trends etc? What is required here are measures highlighting success or failure of the plan.</li> <li>• Ensure Council's Manager Assets reviews all tree incidents and document proposed actions. Who (position) is responsible for the review? How will the data collected be used? • Incorporate tree risk management issues and information into a tree asset database and management system Who (position) is responsible for managing this? What is the purpose for doing this?</li> <li>• Refer all works and events likely to impact on, or be affected by, Council trees, to Council's Manager Assets. What is the process and or procedure to ensure that this is done?</li> <li>• Ensure the degree of use and nature of the use is a major consideration in determining the location and species of trees to be planted. What does this mean?</li> </ul>
--	--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

		<p><b>Point 6 -15.2 Quantified tree risk assessment (QTRA):</b> In Table 1 Target Ranges for Property, Pedestrians and Vehicles, target range 3, there is an error. In the column vehicle traffic (number per day), 420 - 43 @43 kph should read 420 - 43 @ 60kph.</p> <p><b>Point 8 - 15.4 Inspection and risk assessment regime for rural areas:</b> It would be valuable to attach a link identifying specific road classifications within the shire.</p> <p><b>Point 9 - 15.4 Inspection and risk assessment regime for rural areas:</b> Table 9 Inspection Regime – rural roads. What is the logic for the inspection regime? Is there scientific evidence and conclusions to support this inspection regime?</p> <p><b>Point 10 -15.5.2 Rural Roads:</b> Inspection of trees on rural roads are performed in two modes as follows:  Mode 1 Inspection by service inspector (Council) for proactive maintenance (defect inspection)  Mode 2 Inspection by service inspector (Council) based on customer complaints or reports (reactive/safety inspection).  Is there a written procedure detailing the inspection criteria? Is recording, reporting and remedial actions included in this procedure? Consistency is paramount; a documented procedure will ensure that it occurs when responsible incumbents change.</p>
--	--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------