

Verge Maintenance Policy

Objectives

To provide clarification on verge maintenance responsibilities between owners / occupiers and the Town

The Town will carry out verge maintenance in accordance with this policy.

Scope

This policy applies to maintenance of selected road reserves and does not apply to private roads.

Definitions

Term	Definition
<i>Verge</i>	The verge area is the portion of land (road reserve) between the edge of the road and the adjacent property boundary.
<i>Undeveloped Land</i>	Land from which the native vegetation has been cleared but on which no further substantial development has taken place.
<i>Mowing / slashing</i>	Activity pertaining to cutting of grass and vegetation. Cut grass is spread and left on site.
<i>Median</i>	Central area of road, not normally intended for use by traffic, which separates carriageways for traffic travelling in opposite directions
<i>Fire Hazard</i>	A material, substance, or action that increases the likelihood of a fire occurring
<i>Public Road</i>	Any road or street open to, or used by, the public.
<i>Town Land</i>	Land owned or in the care, control and management of the Town

1. Managed Roads and Reserves

Managed roads contain two categories as listed:

a) Primary and District Distributor roads

- i) Guildford Road (full length)
- ii) Lord Street (eastern side between Esther St and 26-26B)
- iii) Walter Road East (full length)
- iv) Morley Drive verges and median island (full length)
- v) Collier Road (Railway Pde to Grey St /Jackson St intersection)

b) Local Distributor roads

- i) West Road (Old Perth Road to Railway line)
- ii) Old Perth Road (West Rd to Guildford Rd)

c) Reserves

All verges fronting a Town maintained reserve or public open space

2. Verges on other roads

Maintenance of verges on roads not covered in Clause 1 (Managed Roads and Reserves) are the responsibility of the adjacent landowner. The Town will only consider requests for maintenance of unirrigated verges where:

1. The Town determines sightlines for pedestrian traffic safety are compromised
2. The Town determines that the verge is a fire hazard
3. The owner/occupier can demonstrate an inability to undertake mowing due to disability or other medical condition, meeting the criteria under the '*Verge maintenance Assistance Program*'.

Requests for maintenance in these circumstances will be required annually with a maximum of two services per year. Each subsequent year's service will be subject to a new request and Town approval.

The Town may use herbicide to maintain verges to reduce the need for ongoing mowing / slashing, particularly where costs are increased due to traffic management or access is difficult.

3. Undeveloped land owned or vested with the Town

Undeveloped land owned by or vested to the Town will be maintained by the Town to reduce its risk as a fire hazard.

Document responsibilities:			
Owner:	Director Infrastructure and Sustainability	Owner Business Unit:	Infrastructure and Sustainability
Inception date:	OCM - 25/03/2025	Decision maker:	Council
Review date:	Biennial	Repeal and replace:	N/A
Compliance requirements:			
Legislation			