

13/07/2017  
C189**SCHEDULE 4 TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY**Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO4****SIGNIFICANT EXOTIC, NATIVE AND INDIGENOUS TREES – MITCHAM SOUTH AREA****1.0****Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected**13/07/2017  
C189

The area is notable for its dwellings in leafy garden settings and established canopy trees, including both exotic and native species. The combined visual effect of the canopy trees make a significant contribution to the neighbourhood character of the area, with larger street trees particularly contributing to the locality. The Whitehorse Neighbourhood Character Study 2014 and additional precinct based analysis confirm that such trees are integral to neighbourhood character in the area.

**References**

*Whitehorse Neighbourhood Character Study 2014 (Planisphere, April 2014)*  
*Review of Three Precincts in Character Areas 16 & 18, May 2008*

**2.0****Vegetation protection objective to be achieved**19/02/2009  
C105

- To retain and protect large trees and maintain the dominance of exotic and native vegetation cover.
- To encourage the planting of native trees and vegetation that will contribute to the tree canopy.
- To protect vegetation of special significance, natural beauty, interest and importance.

**3.0****Permit requirement**19/02/2009  
C105

- A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop vegetation having a single trunk circumference of 1.0 metre or more at a height of one metre above ground level.

This does not apply to any vegetation, which is:

- Deemed unsafe by a suitably qualified arborist, and to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- Being pruned for regeneration or ornamental shaping.
- A tree, which is dead or dying to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- Being maintained in accordance with a management program developed by a suitably qualified arborist and approved by the responsible authority.

**4.0****Decision guidelines**24/06/2010  
C106

Before deciding on an application to remove, destroy or lop vegetation, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The species of vegetation and its significance, age, health and growth characteristics.
- Where applicable, whether any proposed lopping will adversely affect the significance or appearance of the tree.
- The location of the vegetation on the land and its contribution to the garden, neighbourhood and streetscape character.

- The impact of the tree on the structural integrity of existing buildings, including foundations.
- The availability of sufficient unencumbered land to provide for replacement planting.
- The role of the vegetation in providing a habitat and vegetation corridor for bird life and fauna.
- The reason for removing the vegetation and practicality of alternative options, which do not require the removal of vegetation.