NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER
This policy applies to the consideration of applications for development and works on land in the Neighbourhood Residential Zone and the General Residential Zone that is covered by the Neighbourhood Character precinct plan that forms part of this clause, but excluding all land within:
- Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 3 (DDO3 The Junction)
- Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 16 (DDO16 St Georges Road Corridor)
- Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 17 (DDO17 Plenty Road Corridor)

Policy basis
This policy:
- builds on the State Planning Policy Framework objectives and strategies for urban design and housing in clause 12.05, 16.01 and 16.02;
- assists in achieving the Municipal Strategic Statement objectives for urban design and housing;
- assists in achieving the design objectives of the Darebin Neighbourhood Character Study 2007.

Objectives
- To retain and enhance the identified elements that contribute to the character of the area.
- To ensure development responds to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.

Policy
Where a permit is required to develop or subdivide in the Neighbourhood Residential Zone or General Residential Zone, it is policy to:
- identify the relevant neighbourhood character precinct
- assess the proposal against the preferred character statement and design guidelines in the Darebin Neighbourhood Character Study & Precinct Guidelines 2007
- ensure that new development contributes to the preferred character of the precinct.

Policy reference
- Darebin Neighbourhood Character Study & Precinct Guidelines, Planisphere, 2007