

# MANAGING PUBLIC TREES

## A guide to how Council prunes public trees

**Public trees like those located along streets, in parks and reserves play an essential role in the biodiversity of our City. They help keep areas cooler, attract more native birds and animals and add to the overall amenity of an area.**

Council prunes public trees to provide safe access for pedestrians, vehicles and properties or to improve the health of the tree.

Public trees are pruned to the following clearance guidelines:

- Pedestrian access to 3 metres.
- Vehicle access up to 5 metres at the centre of the road.
- Branches overhanging into properties to be 2 metres clear of roof structure, including if it is overhanging the roof space.

The following will not generally be considered as justifiable reasons to prune public trees or native vegetation:

- Leaf/sap/resin/seed/flower/fruit drop, bird or bat droppings, as these are all natural processes of trees and wildlife; or
- To increase natural light or reduce shade into private property, or to enhance view.

Members of the public should not attempt to prune a public tree.

All public tree pruning works are undertaken by qualified Council Officers or contractor in accordance with Australian Standards, Council Guidelines, and best practice requirements to maintain tree structure, health and condition.

