



**City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters**

NAME OF POLICY: Verge Landscaping and Maintenance Policy & Guidelines

POLICY MANUAL: Governance

BACKGROUND

Verges (or nature strips) are important components of the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters' streetscapes and assist in defining the character and visual appeal of local streets. Footpaths and verges also provide a space for safe pedestrian and cyclist movement; vehicular access to private properties; accommodate public assets and amenities including street trees, furniture, bus stops and street lights; and above and below ground infrastructure such as water, sewer, gas, electricity and telecommunications.

The Council's standard treatment of verges is dolomite (or quartzite in St Peters, Evandale, Hackney, College Park, Joslin, Stepney and Maylands), or in certain circumstances such as main arterial roads, full width paving from front boundary to kerb. As public land adjacent a roadway, the verge space also has an important role to play in providing unimpeded access to the public road network and safe sightlines to traffic.

As urban infill and the number of large dwellings continues to increase across the City, there is growing demand from citizens and community groups to landscape verges. The increased green space that landscaped verges provide can assist in providing shade and absorbing heat from hard surfaces. Landscaped verges can help to mitigate the effects of increased temperatures and this is particularly important as the frequency and intensity of heatwaves is predicted to increase. Landscaped verges can also provide additional flora for biodiversity and food for local fauna.

Landscaped verges can soften the appearance of surrounding hard surfaces and add visual appeal to property frontages and streetscapes.

This policy sets out the requirements for property owners and other parties who are seeking to use Council verge space for planting and landscaping whilst not compromising public safety.

DISCUSSION

The Council owns the land between the property boundary and the road, including the verge. The term "verge" generally refers to the strip between the footpath and the kerb, but for the purposes of this policy can also include a small width of public land between the property boundary and the footpath. The Council is responsible for laying footpaths, planting and maintaining street trees in verges and maintaining footpaths and verges in good condition.

Pursuant to Section 221 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act), a person must not make an alteration to a footpath or verge unless authorised to do so by the Council. An 'alteration' includes, for example, planting vegetation, replacing surface materials in the verge and installing any structures or objects.

This Policy provides for individuals or groups to apply for authorisation from the Council to landscape a verge in the City, subject to compliance with the conditions set out in this Policy and Guidelines. Individual applications to landscape a verge can be made by the property owner, occupier or developer of a relevant property (residential or commercial), while group applications can be made by local community groups (e.g. residents associations) or strata corporations.

Individuals and groups are unable to apply to landscape a verge on arterial roads owned and maintained by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport.

The objective of the Policy is to:

- set clear guidelines for verge landscaping applications, to ensure that landscaping works do not:
 - detract from the amenity of the streetscape;
 - pose an undue risk to public safety; and
 - interfere with or compromise existing Council infrastructure including street trees;
- increase vegetation cover across the City (by removing hard compacted surfaces) to provide a cooling effect during hot summer weather and increase rainwater infiltration to support soil moisture and street tree health;
- detail any incentives that the Council may offer to support individuals or groups seeking to landscape a verge; and
- detail the enforcement actions the Council will follow regarding unmaintained verges, unauthorised verge landscaping works and lapsed verge Authorisations.

KEY PRINCIPLES

One of the key outcomes in the Council's *CityPlan 2030*, is "*Environmental Sustainability – A leader in environmental sustainability*", which this Policy directly contributes to.

The key principles upon which the Policy is based include:

- the Council enables individuals and groups to apply to landscape verges in the City subject to assessment and compliance with the conditions set out in this Policy and Guidelines; and
- the applicant is responsible for undertaking the verge landscaping works and ongoing maintenance at their cost and assumes all responsibility for the landscaped verge.

POLICY

Authorisation considerations

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the attached Guidelines for Landscaping Verges and the Council's Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application Form and Conditions.

An applicant must not commence works to landscape a verge until an Authorisation has been granted by the Council and work must be undertaken in accordance with any conditions imposed by the Council.

An Authorisation to landscape a verge will only be granted where the applicant agrees to maintain the landscaped verge in accordance with the conditions of this Policy and Guidelines and the Authorisation.

The Council enables individuals and groups to establish landscaped verges directly adjacent to their property and in some circumstances, a verge in another location that is not directly adjacent to their property (e.g. a verge at the end of a dead end street, or a number of verges along a street).

Any landscaping of a verge must allow for the safe placement and collection of kerbside waste bins as outlined in the Council's *By-law No 6 Waste Management By-law 2018* or by the service provider.

Other than where the Council has approved assistance through an incentives program (as set out in this Policy) or as part of the Council's annual Capital Works Footpath Construction and Reconstruction Program, the total cost for the verge alteration and landscaping, including any associated work required to the road or footpath, is to be met by the Authorisation Holder.

Authorised landscape works must be carried out by the Authorisation Holder within twelve (12) months of the date that the Authorisation is granted and the Council must be notified upon completion of works, otherwise the Authorisation will lapse.

In the Council's assessment of an Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application, considerations will include (but not be limited to) the effect of the proposal on existing street trees and other vegetation, permeability of the verge following the proposed landscaping, future Council works or capital upgrades scheduled for that location, the capacity of the applicant to maintain the verge on an ongoing basis, accessibility for pedestrians, public and road safety, and the streetscape amenity of the locality.

The Council will also consider any Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application in the context of the Council's *Tree Policy* and the Council reserves the right to plant street tree(s) in a verge or footpath at any time at its discretion.

The Council will also consider any Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application in the context of the Council's *Footpaths and Driveway Crossovers Policy*.

For individual applicants that are occupiers or tenants of a property, the applicant must notify and obtain written consent from the property owner and that consent must be included in the Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application.

For individual or group applicants that seek to landscape a verge in a location that is not directly in front of their property, the applicant(s) must notify and obtain written consent from the property owner(s) adjacent to the verge and that consent or consents must be included in the Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application.

Installation and maintenance obligations

Following receipt of Authorisation from the Council to landscape a verge, the Authorisation Holder must ensure that the landscaping works are carried out and that the verge is maintained in accordance with the terms of the Authorisation and the attached Guidelines (including, e.g., in relation to plant selection, watering, and passenger and pedestrian access).

In carrying out or maintaining the verge landscaping works, the Authorisation Holder must not interfere with or cause damage to any Council-owned road, land or property (including, e.g., the footpath, kerb, Council vegetation, street furniture or other infrastructure) and the Authorisation Holder will be required to rectify any such damage at their cost, in accordance with the conditions of the Authorisation.

Where a verge is not maintained in accordance with the conditions of the Authorisation or this Policy and Guidelines, the Council will give written notice to the Authorisation Holder requiring them to maintain the verge and rectify the non-compliance within twenty-eight (28) days (unless a shorter period is required to protect public health or safety). This may include, for example, a requirement to prune vegetation or remove an unauthorised planting. If the Authorisation Holder fails to resolve the non-compliance, a further two (2) written notices will be issued requiring the breach to be remedied, pursuant to the terms of the Authorisation.

Further non-compliance may result in the Council taking action to remedy the breach at the cost of the Authorisation Holder or cancelling the Authorisation, in accordance with the terms of the Authorisation. If the Authorisation is cancelled, the Authorisation Holder is required to remove all landscaping from the verge and reinstate the verge to its prior condition at their cost in all respects, pursuant to the conditions of the Authorisation.

Where an imminent risk is posed to public health or safety as a result the Authorisation Holder's breach, the Council may take immediate action to rectify the breach and/or cancel the Authorisation without prior notice.

Where an Authorisation Holder is unable or chooses not to maintain the landscaped verge, the Council will consider an approach by another individual or group (e.g. a neighbour or a Residents Association) who wishes to assume responsibility for maintenance of the verge. A new Authorisation will be required to be entered into with this individual or group.

Monitoring will be undertaken by the Council to ensure that landscaped verges are maintained in accordance with the conditions of the Authorisation and this Policy and enforcement action will be prioritised for verges which are identified as providing a risk to property or public safety.

Where an Authorisation Holder fails to complete the approved landscaping works in accordance with the Authorisation within a period of twelve (12) months from the date of approval, or two (2) months following depositing of loam in the verge by the Council, the Authorisation will lapse and the Authorisation Holder will be required to reinstate the verge to its prior condition or seek a new Authorisation from the Council immediately.

Unauthorised verge landscaping

If the Council becomes aware of an unauthorised landscaped verge (i.e. an individual or group has landscaped or undertaken other works to a verge without obtaining Authorisation from the Council), the Council will contact the adjacent property owner, requesting that the unauthorised landscaping is removed and that the verge is reinstated to its prior condition. In the alternative, an Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application Form can be submitted retrospectively by that individual (or another individual or group who are identified as being responsible for the landscaped verge).

If the landscaped verge already meets the requirements of this Policy and Guidelines, the application will be approved and an Authorisation granted by the Council. If the landscaped verge does not meet the requirements of this Policy and Guidelines, the individual or group responsible for undertaking the unauthorised landscaping works will be requested to undertake works to rectify the non-compliance and replace the landscaping with compliant landscaping to enable an Authorisation to be granted.

Applicants should note that retrospective applications seeking authorisation to landscape a verge with artificial turf or lawn or seeking authorisation for any type of plant, landscaping or fixture that creates a hazard will generally not be approved as these types of use of the verge are not permitted under the Council's Guidelines for Landscaping of Council Verges.

If the removal or rectification of the unauthorised landscaping is not completed as requested, the Council reserves its right to take action to remove the landscaping and any associated structures from the verge and to reinstate the dolomite or quartzite rubble (or any other material it deems suitable, commensurate with the standard of materials used in verges in the adjacent locality). The Council reserves its right to take further enforcement action in relation to an unauthorised landscaped verge pursuant to the Act or otherwise at law, including where an imminent risk is posed to public health or safety.

The Council will prioritise the identification and rectification of verges that present a risk to property or public health or safety and verges installed with artificial lawn.

Council access and works to landscaped verges

The Council reserves the right to access and/or undertake works to alter a landscaped verge at any time in connection with Council works on the road or footpath (including, e.g. for widening, drainage, paving, maintenance of Council infrastructure or services, pruning of vegetation, or other purposes) and will endeavour to provide reasonable notice to the Authorisation Holder prior to undertaking works.

Other service providers also maintain the right to access underground services located within the footpath and verge at any time and without notice, pursuant to their legislative obligations.

When undertaking works in a landscaped verge, the Council will take reasonable steps to avoid damage to the Authorisation Holder's landscaping and to reinstate the verge to the condition it was in prior to works being undertaken (to the extent practicable). Compensation will not be provided to the Authorisation Holder in relation to any alteration or damage caused to the Authorisation Holder's landscaping in the verge as a result of the Council's access or works.

Indemnity and insurance

The Council will not be liable for any injury, damage or loss to persons or property which may arise from or in relation to the granting of an Authorisation to Landscape a Verge, including in the course of undertaking or maintaining the landscaping works. This also means that the Authorisation Holder has an obligation to ensure that the landscaped verge does not present a safety risk to other users of the road or footpath.

The Authorisation Holder will not be covered by the Council's insurance in relation to the undertaking or maintenance of landscaping works to the verge under an Authorisation and should consider the requirements set out below:

- where the Authorisation Holder is an individual, they may consider extending their domestic insurance coverage to include the verge in front of their property; and
- where the Authorisation Holder is individual or group that has applied to landscape several verges or an verge in another location (i.e. not directly in front of the Authorisation Holder's property), the Council will require the Authorisation Holder to provide evidence of public liability insurance for at least the amount of \$10,000,000 for each claim.

Small community groups with limited funds for insurance could consider the following options:

- The group could become an incorporated association under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (SA)* and manage its own insurance.

- The group could explore more affordable insurance options from Local Community Insurance Services, Garden Clubs Australia or the Department for Environment and Water (through SAicorp, a division of the South Australian Government Financing Authority).
- The group may be auspiced by another association or agency (e.g. a local Residents' Association) and arrange to be covered by their insurance. Please note: this will depend on the terms of the insurance policy of the 'head' organisation, and may require the name of the group to be listed on the insurance policy.
- Several groups or associations with similar objectives could obtain insurance together, as an umbrella policy is likely to be more affordable.

Transfer of Authorisation

An Authorisation to Landscape a Verge granted by the Council is not transferable.

Where the Authorisation Holder is the owner or occupier of a property and the property is sold or leased to another person, the Authorisation will automatically terminate. Where practicable, the Council will seek to enter into a new Authorisation with the new property owner or tenant to maintain the landscaped verge. If this is not possible, the Authorisation Holder must remove the landscaping and return the verge to its prior condition (i.e. to dolomite or quartzite rubble, dependent upon the location) or may request that the Council undertakes these works on their behalf.

Where the Authorisation Holder is a property developer who has landscaped a verge prior to sale of a property, the incoming purchaser should be notified of the requirement to enter into a new Authorisation with the Council to maintain the landscaped verge.

Capital Works Footpath Construction and Reconstruction Program

The Council will, as part of its annual Capital Works Footpath Construction and Reconstruction Program, notify owners and occupiers of properties adjacent to the footpath that is the subject of upcoming Capital Works and the affected property owners will be provided with the opportunity to 'opt-in' for the Council to excavate the compacted dolomite / quartzite in the adjacent verge and replace the existing material with loam (to a depth of 100mm only) with the cost to be borne by the Council, subject to the property owner committing to landscaping the verge once the Council has provided and installed the loam.

Property owners who 'opt in' to the Program will be required to gain Authorisation from the Council prior to works commencing through the Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application Form. A property owner wishing to 'opt-in' for the replacement of loam, must submit a completed Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application Form for assessment by the Council by the date outlined in the primary notification.

Streets where the Footpath Construction and Reconstruction Program is scheduled to be undertaken in July and August will be notified in June of the upcoming works (subject to the Council adopting its annual Budget). Property owners will have the opportunity to submit an Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application Form for assessment until 30th June.

Streets with works planned after August will be notified in July, once the Council has adopted its annual Budget. Property owners will have the opportunity to submit an Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application Form for assessment by 31st July.

The Council will not supply or assist with any landscaping of the verge (including, but not limited to establishing any plants, lawn or irrigation) and this will remain the responsibility of the Authorisation Holder.

If an Authorisation to Landscape a Verge Application Form is not submitted by the date outlined in the primary notification and an Authorisation is not granted then the standard verge treatment will be provided under the Footpath Construction and Reconstruction Program (i.e. dolomite / quartzite). The Council will not return after footpath construction is completed for the relevant street to undertake replacement of the verge with loam.

Applicants proposing landscaping with predominantly non-native lawn/grass are not eligible for support or incentives offered by the Council under this Policy.

Council support and incentives

The Council may choose to offer in-kind support or incentives (including, e.g. excavation of existing dolomite / quartzite and depositing of loam in the verge) to support applicants along streets that are not scheduled for inclusion in the Council's Capital Works Footpath Construction and Reconstruction Program within the next five (5) years.

Preference will be given to:

- applicants who seek approval to undertake the landscaping of verges with drought tolerant and sustainable plants;
- applicants seeking to plant their own and neighbouring verges; and
- applications in areas with high surface temperatures (e.g. hotspots) or identified as socially vulnerable through urban heat mapping.

Applicants proposing landscaping with predominantly non-native lawn/grass are not eligible for support or incentives offered by the Council under this Policy.

The allocation of support or incentives for assistance in undertaking verge landscaping works will be entirely at the Council's discretion and subject to the availability of any allocated Council Budget for this purpose.

Opportunities may arise through strategic projects being undertaken by the Council to green a verge. In such cases, the Council will notify property owners and occupiers in properties located adjacent to the relevant project site of the ability for the affected property owner/s to 'opt-in' for the replacement of loam in the verge in front of their property instead of dolomite / quartzite, with the cost borne by the Council.

Individuals or groups who make use of Council support or incentives to landscape a verge will still be required to gain Authorisation from the Council prior to works commencing through the Authorisation of Landscape a Verge Application Form.

REVIEW PROCESS

The Council will review this Policy within twelve (12) months of the adoption date of the Policy.

INFORMATION

The contact officer for further information at the City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters is Council's Manager, City Services, telephone 8360 9007.

ADOPTION OF THE POLICY

This Policy was adopted by Council on 1 March 2021.

TO BE REVIEWED

March 2022.

GUIDELINES FOR LANDSCAPING OF COUNCIL VERGES

Design

The Council does not provide assistance with design and horticultural advice. Recommended resources include:

- Botanic Gardens of South Australia Plant Selector
- Green Adelaide (previously Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges) Adelaide gardens, A planting guide.

When designing a landscaped verge it shall not result in a net increase of impermeable material of more than 20% of a verge directly adjacent to one property.

A path, unplanted or lawned area is able to be considered for the purposes of a bin stand area for placement of kerbside bins on collection day.

Plant selection

The Council encourages the use of plants that are:

- suitable for local site conditions considering the existing soil type, rainfall and site orientation
- hardy and long lived species
- non-invasive
- drought tolerant
- able to withstand occasional pedestrian traffic.

Consider using local native species that are well adapted to the climate and provide valuable food and habitat to birds and other wildlife. For information about local native species and their maintenance requirements, download: [Common Local Native Species of the Adelaide Plains Brochure](#). Your local nursery can also assist with species selection.

For verges within Kent Town, plant selection should be selected from the [Kent Town Public Realm Manual](#) page (70 – 71) to support Kent Town's unique sense of place and character which is to be reinforced with elements that provide a distinctive, consistent and attractive aesthetic.

To maintain safe lines of sight along your street, select plants that don't grow taller than 750mm from bottom of "water table". Low groundcovers are ideal as they create a dense cover which discourages weeds and allows clear sight lines.

To protect public safety, select plants that do not have prickles, spines or thorns. Similarly, do not use plants declared as pests or that are poisonous.

It is illegal to plant declared pest plants (weeds) that are regulated under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004*, as they pose a significant threat to agriculture, the natural environment and public health and safety. A list of declared plants (weeds) and known invasive species information is available on the [Primary Industries and Regions SA \(PIRSA\)](#) website.

Trees are not allowed to be planted by Authorisation Holders, street trees are the responsibility of the Council. If the verge being landscaped does not have a street tree, please contact the Council and request a street tree. If a street tree can be planted, it will be planted in accordance to the Council's *Street Tree Policy*.

Lawn

The Council encourages choosing native grasses or water-wise turf varieties that will cope with heat and drought for example *Dichondra repens* (common names Kidney Weed or Tom Thumb).

Artificial lawn or turf is not permitted (for current and retrospective applications). Artificial lawn or turf can affect soil health and lead to an increase in the urban heat island effect by absorbing the heat from sunlight and then emitting this built up heat at a later stage. It also reduces water infiltration, which leads to less available water for street trees and an increase in stormwater runoff.

Food cultivation

The Council does not allow water based edible plants (including tree species) that can absorb herbicides from current and historic spraying of weeds and other contaminates through the soil profile. Furthermore food cultivation on the verge is not considered hardy and long lived or drought tolerant species.

If residents are interested in food cultivation in public spaces, please contact the NP&SP Community Garden Association about the Linde Community Garden.

Street Trees

Verge landscaping must not impede the maintenance or impact on condition of street trees. Monitoring and compliance action will be prioritised to rectify the unauthorised installation of artificial lawn or turf.

When digging, be very careful not to damage the root system of any street trees. To achieve this, excavate by hand around the base of the tree and ensure no roots are damaged.

All works must comply with [AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites](#). Failure to protect trees from development may result in tree damaging activity. This may lead to prosecution.

Design of the landscaped verge needs to consider any existing trees and must allow permeable and / or un-planted area around the tree of at least 1.5 square metres or elative structural root zone.

If the verge being landscaped does not have a street tree, please contact the Council and request a street tree. If a street trees can be planted it will be planted in accordance to the Council's *Street Tree Policy*.

Installation

Verge landscaping must not impede the maintenance or condition of any underground infrastructure or other existing infrastructure, including (but not limited to) underground pipes and wires.

The applicant it responsible for the detection, alteration, or damage to any underground or other services because of exaction for the verge landscaping. Prior to digging, contact Dial Before You Dig on 1100 to determine the presence and location of underground pipes and cables under the verge.

Keep tools and other items off the road and footpath to prevent obstruction and safety hazards. If you need to temporarily close off part of the footpath, you'll need to obtain an Authorisation to *Alter and Use a Public Road / Footpath* includes hoarding from the Council before you do so.

To prevent stormwater pollution, materials such as soil or mulch must be swept up from hard surfaces such as the footpath and gutter.

The applicant is responsible for all works and costs associated with the planting of the verge, including the replacement of existing verge material with appropriate soil, and the proper disposal of any excess material.

Watering

When preparing the verge, ensure that soil levels are flush with the adjacent footpath or ideally, slightly lower. You are encouraged to shape the soil level into a slight depression in the middle of the verge. This will help collect water when it rains and will also assist to retain soil and mulch in place.

To help retain moisture and reduce weeds, consider applying mulch to a depth of 50-100 mm. However, ensure that mulch is not heaped around or placed against plant stems or tree trunks to avoid risk of decay and disease from excess moisture.

Drip irrigation is permitted, however, the pipework will need to go under the footpath at the Authorisation Holder's expense and will need prior approval from the Council (please complete the *Authorisation to Alter and Use a Public Road / Footpath – Application Form*).

Ensure the irrigation system does not pose a trip hazard. Please also note that the footpath will need to be reinstated and irrigation removed upon expiry of this Authorisation.

The operation, maintenance, repair, or damage caused is the owner's responsibility. No liability will be accepted by the Council.

No weed spray register

The Council regularly sprays weeds on footpaths and on compacted rubble/dolomite verges. The Council won't spray developed verges that have been landscaped by the resident, once developed it is the Authorisation Holders responsibility to maintain the verge.

Maintenance

Once developed, it will be the Authorisation Holder's ongoing responsibility to maintain the verge garden in a manner that is safe and tidy. This includes watering, mowing, weeding, pest and disease control, pruning and replacement of material/plants.

To maintain safe sight lines for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists, the Authorisation Holder must keep plantings lower than 750mm in height. Also to maintain public safety, the Authorisation Holder must ensure that verge plantings do not encroach onto the adjacent footpath or roadway.

All vegetation is kept clear of other infrastructure, including but not limited to kerbing, footpath, driveways, sign, pits, trees, stobie poles and lighting columns.

Grass is to be kept short and the Council encourages removing grass from the collar of street trees by hand or by spraying; edge trimmers are not recommended as the nylon cord can damage the trunk.

If the verge garden becomes untidy, hazardous, and or an eyesore, the Council will approach the Authorisation Holder requesting that maintenance is improved, failing which, the Council may remove the landscaping and replace it with suitable materials (materials will be at the Council's discretion, considering the local streetscape) at the cost of the Authorisation Holder.

By law, residents are obliged to ensure that pollutants, including green waste (e.g. lawn clippings, leaves, and prunings), do not reach the stormwater system from your property or verge. Green waste (garden waste) must not be swept, blown, hosed or left on the verge, street or gutter. Instead, rake or sweep garden waste, use it as mulch, compost it or place it in your green organics bin.

Pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers must not be used near any stormwater drains. This is particularly important around areas such as verges and driveways that may flow into the stormwater system. Even those labelled 'non-toxic' must not go into the stormwater system. Use chemicals sparingly and avoid using during periods of rain or when rain is forecast in the next 24 hours. Do not spray under windy conditions; the wind may transport the spray into the stormwater system.

Passenger and Pedestrian access

The design needs to allow for passengers to be able to exit vehicles parked at the kerbside without stepping on plants. This can be achieved by:

- installing an unpaved path at least 1.2m wide, and/or
- leaving an unplanted area on the verge adjacent the kerb (extending at least 0.5m from kerb).

The unplanted area or path may comprise pavers, gravel, lawn, mulch or a similar material and must not create a trip hazard.

The unpaved path or unplanted area can also be used for your kerbside bins on collection day.

All paving materials used with the verge must be consistent with the Council *Footpath and Driveway Crossover Policy*. Hence a path that is paved for purpose of access from the front gate of the property to the kerb will not be retained or considered in design due to no designated parking spaced along the Council streets. Stepping stones to big pad or other area may be considered.

Plants planted between the property boundary and footpath must not encourage on the footpath and must allow reasonable pedestrian access.

Street Sweeping

The Council uses blowers to move leaf material away from property boundaries, footpaths, verges and from underneath parked vehicles to the middle of the road, where it can be collected by the street sweeper.

Landscaping of a verge will result in modification to the street sweeping program. This service will no longer be extended to Authorisation Holder properties as this service has the potential to damage vegetation, or cause loss or contamination of mulch to verge gardens.

It will be the responsibility of Authorisation Holder to ensure leaf litter and other organic material is not swept, blown, hosed or left on the verge, street or gutter. Instead, rake or sweep garden waste, use it as mulch, compost it or place it in your green organics bin.

Other safety conditions

Built structures and sharp objects such as rocks, stakes, star pickets, bollards, supporting frames, raised garden beds, planter boxes, retaining walls and lattices cannot be placed on the verge.

All landscape works shall comply with all applicable industry standards and with health and safety standards.

Landscaping materials must be flush with the adjacent footpath and not mounded higher. It may consist of paths, stepping stones that are accessible and negotiable by pedestrians.