

Policy Number:	7.7
Policy Name:	Landscaping Verge Areas (Footways) by Residents
Classification	Public – Council Policy
Adopted:	28 July 2015
Frequency of Review:	Biennial
Last Review:	July 2015
Next Review Due:	July 2017
Responsible Officer(s):	Manager Infrastructure and Engineering Services
Policy and Code of Practice Manual File Ref:	CC10/2601
Council File Reference:	CR15/14020
Legislation Authority:	Local Government Act 1999 Electricity Act 1996
Related Policies:	Footpath Design Guidelines - Gawler Town Centre Footpath & Cycleways Policy
Related Procedures:	Application for Landscaping on Verges

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Many residents wish to maintain the verge area in front of their property to a standard that is higher than that of Councils. Council acknowledges a resident's right to enhance the visual appeal of their property to suit their individuality and has introduced some clear information to allow them to do so appropriately. Where a resident is unable or chooses not to develop the verge in front of their property Council will continue to maintain this area.
- 1.2 For the purpose of this policy a Road Verge (footway) is considered to be the Council owned portion of land that lies between the kerb and the property boundary. Residents are permitted to landscape this area provided they conform with the following;
- 1.2.1 the landscaping includes an area that can be safely traversed by pedestrians. This area must have a clear width of 1.5m or 2.5m per shared pedestrian walkway and must be continuous across the frontage of the property.

- 1.2.2 the 1.5m or 2.5m pedestrian strip mentioned above must be constructed using approved materials as set in Councils Verge Maintenance Guidelines
- 1.2.3 a resident must ensure that the type of plants and/or shrub species used to landscape the verge does not exceed 500mm in height when matured. Selected species must not have any spikes or thorns. **(Please note that declared or proclaimed pest plants will not be permitted under any circumstances)**
- 1.3 Any landscaping design must not;
 - 1.3.1 prevent Council or any other service authority from installing new or maintaining existing services
 - 1.3.2 prevent Council from planting street trees or
 - 1.3.3 prevent Council from installing new footpaths
 - 1.3.4 include any concrete, impervious membrane (such as black plastic), coarse mulch, stones, river pebbles, raised edging or moss rocks
 - 1.3.5 include any structures such as fences and walls
- 1.4 Prior to commencing any landscaping the resident is required to submit a landscaping proposal to Council for approval. This proposal must include a signed application ensuring the resident agrees to Councils terms and conditions. If a resident landscapes the verge the ongoing maintenance of the landscape remains the responsibility of the resident. Council reserves the right to remove any landscaping development deemed not to be adequately maintained.

2. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

The effectiveness of this Policy will be reviewed on a biennial basis.

The Chief Executive Officer will report to Council on the outcome of the evaluation and if relevant make recommendations for amendments, alteration or substitution of a new Policy.

The Policy will not be altered or substituted so as to affect a process already commenced.

3. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about this Policy can be obtained by:-

Telephone:	8522 9211
Fax:	8522 9212
Email:	council@gawler.sa.gov.au
Appointment:	Town Hall, 89 – 91 Murray Street, Gawler
Letter:	PO Box 130, Gawler SA 5118

4. AVAILABILITY OF POLICY

The Policy is available for inspection during ordinary business hours at the Council principal office, Gawler Town Hall or Library Council Offices, 89 – 91 Murray Street, Gawler or is available on the Council website at www.gawler.sa.gov.au.

A copy of this Policy will be provided to interested parties upon request, for a fee as contained in the Register of Fees and Charges.