

10/09/2015  
C120**SCHEDULE 3 TO THE SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SLO3**.

**DANDENONG FOOTHILLS: LOWER SLOPE AND VALLEY AREA****1.0**09/11/2006  
C40**Statement of nature and key elements of landscape**

The Dandenong Foothills area is a visually sensitive area due to its proximity to slopes of the Dandenong Ranges which are recognised by the National Trust as a significant landscape.

The key elements of this landscape are:

- Areas of mature street trees and contributory gardens.
- Significant views to the Dandenong Ranges and important local views.
- The visual dominance of vegetation in many areas.
- The gently sloping terrain.
- The area's role as an extension of the Dandenong Ranges.
- The sparse nature of development in some parts of this area at the threshold with the Foothills backdrop, ridgeline and rural areas.

Special care needs to be taken to ensure that development is sited and designed to maintain the landscape character of the area, protecting view lines and retaining and planting vegetation to ensure a vegetated character is maintained and enhanced.

**2.0**09/11/2006  
C40**Landscape character objectives to be achieved**

- To recognise the environmental and visual sensitivity of residential areas at the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges.
- To ensure that development is compatible with the scale and character of existing development.
- To ensure that development is sensitive to the natural characteristics of the land including slope, terrain and any remnant vegetation.
- To maintain vegetation as a key element of the foothills landscape.

**3.0**10/09/2015  
C120**Permit requirement****Buildings and works**

A permit is not required to extend an existing dwelling or construct buildings and works ancillary to a dwelling (including a water tank of 4500 litres capacity or less) if:

- There is only one dwelling on the lot and the area of the lot is greater than 500 square metres.
- The height of the building or works is less than 7.5 metres.
- A proposed outbuilding has a floor area less than 50 square metres, wall height less than 3.6 metres and overall height less than 5 metres.
- Proposed excavation or filling is less than one metre in depth.

- Excavation or filling is not occurring within the root zone of vegetation that would require a permit for its removal, destruction or lopping under this clause.
- The slope of the land is less than 10%.
- External surfaces, including roofs or all buildings but excluding solar panels, utilise to the satisfaction of the responsible authority non-reflective materials coloured and maintained in muted tones of green or brown.

### **Fences**

A permit is required to construct:

- A front fence, unless the fence is 1.2 metres in height or less and is more than 50% transparent.
- A side fence between a building and the street, unless the fence is 1.2 metres in height or less.
- A rear fence or a side fence that is not between a building and the street, unless the fence is 1.8 metres in height or less.

### **Vegetation**

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop a tree if it has a height of 5 metres or more or a trunk girth greater than 0.5 metre when measured at a height of 0.5 metres above adjacent ground level (on sloping ground to be taken on the uphill side of the tree base) or immediately above the ground for multi-stemmed trees. This does not apply to a tree that is:

- Listed in Table 1 of this schedule.
- Dead. This exemption does not apply to standing dead tree with a trunk girth of 0.4 metre or more at a height of 1.3 metres above ground level.
- A tree with its trunk within two metres of the main roof structure of an existing building used for accommodation (excluding a fence).
- A tree overhanging the roof of a building used for Accommodation, excluding outbuildings and works normal to a dwelling. This exemption only allows the removal, destruction or lopping of that part of the tree which is overhanging the building consistent with the Australian Standard® AS 4373 – 2007, ‘Pruning of amenity trees’.
- The minimum amount necessary to maintain a Minor utility installation in accordance with a current signed Memorandum of Understanding between Knox City Council and the relevant service provider.
- For maintenance pruning only and no more than 1/3 of the foliage of any branch is removed from any individual plant. This exemption does not apply to:
  - Pruning or lopping of the trunk of a tree or shrub.
  - Vegetation within a road or railway reserve.

## **4.0**

10/09/2015  
C120

### **Decision guidelines**

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

#### ***Landscape character***

- Whether the proposed development will impact upon local views within the foothills and upon more distant views across the city and suburbs to the foothills of the Dandenongs.

- Whether the proposed development penetrates the tree canopy and protrudes above ridgelines.
- Whether the proposed development is of a high standard of architectural and landscape design that is sympathetic to nearby rural and natural landscapes.

***Finishes***

- Whether the proposed development will utilise non-reflective materials coloured and maintained in muted tones of green or brown on external surfaces, including roofs of all buildings but excluding solar panels, to reduce its visual impact.

***Height***

- Whether buildings exceeding a height of 7.5 metres will have a detrimental impact on the key elements of the landscape and the landscape character objectives.

***Site coverage***

- Whether sufficient provision has been made for the planting of canopy trees and other vegetation to meet the landscape character objectives.
- Whether in areas subject to bushfire risks, that sufficient provision has been made to achieve landscape character objectives having regard to vegetation management requirements.

***Vegetation***

- Whether the existing high canopy trees will be retained.
- Whether buildings will be below the predominant tree canopy height.
- Whether vegetation will be retained and planting used to screen buildings.
- Whether creek corridors will be revegetated using indigenous plants.
- Whether habitats for native fauna, including wildlife corridors, will be identified and protected, and strengthened or created.
- Whether noxious and environmental weeds will be removed.
- Whether invasive exotics will be avoided.
- Whether adequate tree protection areas have been provided to protect retained vegetation from buildings or works (including paving), services and other infrastructure, unless demonstrated that there is no adverse effect to the tree's contribution to landscape character.
- Whether any vegetation to be retained, removed, destroyed or lopped addresses the risk of bushfire to life and property.

***Building on slopes***

- Whether building on slopes greater than 20% is appropriate.
- Whether the siting and design of development will follow the topography, avoid the need for earthworks and integrate with the landscape features of the area.
- Whether buildings will be sited on relatively low-lying positions.
- Whether buildings will be dispersed to allow trees to be planted among them.
- Where an area is subject to bushfire risk, that trees are planted having regard to these risks and the associated vegetation management controls that may apply to the site.

***Fences***

- Whether the height, materials, construction and colour of fences respond to and maintain the landscape character of the area.

**Table 1 – Species exempt from permit under Part 3.0 above**

Botanical name	Common name
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	Cootamundra Wattle
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	Early Black Wattle
<i>Acacia elata</i>	Cedar Wattle
<i>Acacia floribunda</i>	White Sallow Wattle
<i>Acacia longifolia</i> subsp. <i>longifolia</i>	Sallow Wattle
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box Elder
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree
<i>Chamaecytisus palmensis</i>	Tagasate; Tree Lucerne
<i>Coprosma repens</i>	Mirror Bush
<i>Coprosma robusta</i>	Karamu
<i>Cotoneaster species</i>	Cotoneaster
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i> (also known as <i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> or <i>Fraxinus rotundifolia</i> ), excluding the cultivar 'Raywood' subsp. <i>angustifolia</i>	Desert Ash, Caucasian Ash or Narrow-leaved Ash (excluding Claret Ash)
<i>Hakea salicifolia</i>	Willow-leaf Hakea
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	English Holly
<i>Ligustrum species</i>	Privets
<i>Malus species</i>	Apple
<i>Melaleuca armillaris</i>	Bracelet Honey Myrtle
<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>	Cape Wattle
<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	Maritime Pine
<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey (Radiata) Pine
<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>	Sweet Pittosporum
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Quaking Aspen
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Cherry-plum
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry Laurel
<i>Prunus lusitanica</i>	Portugal Laurel
<i>Prunus species</i>	Apricot
<i>Prunus species</i>	Nectarine
<i>Prunus species</i>	Peach
<i>Prunus species</i>	Plum
<i>Pyracantha species</i>	Firethorns
<i>Salix species</i>	Willows
<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	Laurustinus