

Objectives: Place

Outcome: 2.1 - A diverse, well planned built environment.

Strategy: 2.1.1 - Actively engage in the development and promotion of an effective planning framework.

Purpose

1. To protect, maintain and improve the viability of habitats, ecological communities, flora and fauna, and genetic diversity.
2. To ensure that any land use or development in proximity to or contains a natural area is compatible with the long-term maintenance and conservation of that area, and will not have detrimental impacts on biodiversity.
3. Assist in achieving the conservation goals and targets as established in the Shire's *Local Biodiversity Strategy*.

Definitions

Biodiversity feature – Refers to native vegetation which meets any of the Goal 2 or Goal 3 targets from the Local Biodiversity Strategy.

Natural area - Refers to an area that contains native species or communities of flora and fauna in a relatively natural state and hence contains biodiversity. Biodiversity is highest in natural areas of establishment.

Native vegetation – Refers to naturally occurring locally native species and excludes revegetated areas of native species. Includes natural areas and degraded areas of native vegetation that cannot be defined as a natural area.

Background

The Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's Strategic Community Plan recognises the need to protect, restore and manage our landscapes and biodiversity. The Shire's Local Biodiversity Strategy provides for a framework for the protection of biodiversity values. This local planning policy provides guidance on the information required to assess the impact of development proposals on biodiversity.

The Shire's Local Biodiversity Strategy should be read in conjunction with this policy.

Policy

1. Natural areas in the Shire are identified in the Local Biodiversity Strategy. Where a scheme amendment, structure plan or local development plan is proposed within 100m or contains within the proposed development boundary; natural areas, as identified in the Local Biodiversity Strategy, the following information is to be submitted to assess the impact of a development proposal on the natural area:



2. A completed Natural Area Initial Assessment Form for any natural area on the site, including vegetation condition mapping and weed mapping where relevant. This requirement may be satisfied by a flora survey by a Botanist.
3. Plans drawn to scale appropriate to the site and proposed development showing (where relevant):
 - Topography of the site.
 - Wetlands and drainage lines.
 - Existing natural areas and native vegetation.
 - The type and significance of natural areas and other biodiversity features on the site.
 - Identification of any rare or threatened species, or other significant features.
 - Any native vegetation to be cleared.
 - Boundaries of natural areas to be retained, protected and/or managed.
 - Existing and proposed development.
 - Existing and proposed fencing.
 - Any other landscape or natural features.
4. A report including (where relevant):
 - The identification and explanation for any native vegetation or natural areas to be removed or otherwise modified.
 - The identification and explanation of areas to be retained, protected and/or managed.
 - A fauna management plan where significant populations of wildlife such as marsupials or cockatoos occur.
 - Details of how the proposal contributes to the Shire's Local Biodiversity Targets as established in the Local Biodiversity Strategy.
 - Measures to be taken to minimise the impact of the proposed development on biodiversity, including measures to restore and protect natural areas, ongoing management of natural areas, and revegetation of new areas.
5. Any additional information as requested by the Shire to assess the impact of the development proposal on biodiversity.

**References**

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| Name of Policy | Local Planning Policy 2.7: Bio-Diversity Planning Policy |
| Previous Policy | Local Planning Policy 26: Biodiversity Planning Policy |
| Date of Adoption and Resolution Number | 23 July 2018 - OCM063/07/18 15 May 2023 – OCM100/05/23 |
| Review dates and Resolution Numbers | |
| Next review date | |
| Related documents | Acts/Regulations <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> <i>Planning and Development Act 2005</i> <i>Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015</i> Plans/Strategies Strategic Community Plan 2017 - 2027 Policies Delegations 11.1.1 Work Procedures |

Note: changes to references may be made without the need to take the Policy to Council for review.