

## REGISTER OF COUNCIL POLICIES

<b>Title:</b>	<del>Environmental Impact – Earthworks and Foundations</del> <b>Earthworks</b>		
<b>Policy No.:</b>	<b>ENV2</b>		
<b>Date Adopted:</b>	Unknown	<b>Date Last Reviewed:</b>	20/05/09

<b>Objective:</b>	The purpose of this policy is to ensure that impacts to the natural environment are minimised when undertaking earthworks for the purposes of development
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### Background

This policy recognises that there is a significant diversity of land characteristics (soils and landforms) which leads significant diversity of ecological communities and biodiversity values that exist throughout the Shire. When undertaking earthworks it is critical that the variation in foundation materials, vegetation assemblage and composition and biodiversity values are taken into consideration to ensure impacts to the natural environment are minimised.

### Scope & Limitations

The scope of the policy relates to the protection and maintenance the landscape characteristics, ecological communities and biodiversity values contained on private landholdings within the Shire of Kalamunda. The policy will also consider all expected offsite impacts upon the natural environment.

The policy does not relate to Crown Land managed by Federal or State Government agencies.

The policy is broadly applicable across the total area of the Shire, however its core scope relates to the land formations of the Darling Scarp and Darling Plateau and the various soil associations contained within them.

### Definitions

#### "Earthworks"

- are engineering works created through the movement of soil, unformed or solid rock.

### Policy

- Earthworks should not be undertaken without prior consideration of the land characteristics, ecological communities and biodiversity values present at the site and surrounding areas where the proposed earthworks are to be undertaken. In situations where earthworks are expected to significantly impact both upon a site, and off site, containing ecological communities assessed independently using the Keighery scale in good or better condition, a local natural area considered to be of conservation value or an area containing valuable biodiversity features then the proponent will be required to revegetate the site to the satisfaction of Council's Director of Planning and Development Services post completion of the development works.
- Earthworks should be undertaken in such a way so as to ensure that all expected impacts to the natural environment from the proposed works are minimised through the application of best practice methodologies.
- Earthworks should be undertaken so as to minimise the risk of introducing and spreading the pathogen *Phytophthora Dieback*.
- Proponents shall be made aware of the various merits associated with the retention of mature trees and encouraged to plan their development in harmony with the existing features of the natural environment prior to any earthworks being undertaken.
- Earthworks are to be undertaken in accordance with the approved plans to the satisfaction of Council's Director of Planning and Development Services.

## Procedures

6. Prior to the commencement of the proposed Engineering Works on the landholding, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) may be requested to be undertaken by an Officer from Environmental Services possibly incorporating:
  - Description of the existing conditions detailing the location of the site, the geology, topography, ground water, surface water, vegetation and built structures;
  - Assessment of the land stability detailing the existing conditions and geotechnical constraints to the proposed development;
  - Description of the proposed development detailing the site lay out and the proposed earthworks to be undertaken;
  - Assessment of the development impacts detailing the site lay out , construction of hard or impervious surfaces, proposed earthworks (excavation and materials used), foundations, surface drainage, waste water (treatment and disposal) and an overall affect of the earthworks upon the stability of the receiving environment;
  - Local Water Management Strategy;
  - *Phytophthora* Dieback Management Strategy; and
  - Revegetation Strategy detailing number of plants, the plant species and the location to be revegetated post completion of the Earthworks.
7. When formally assessing the proponent's development application, Council may impose development conditions which incorporate the findings of the EIA to ensure the proposed Earthworks are undertaken to the satisfaction of Council's Director of Planning and Development Services.
8. Proposed Earthworks are to comply with relevant Federal and State acts of legislation as well as other adopted codes such as building, subdivision regulations, health provisions and environmental requirements.
9. Proposed Earthworks are to be undertaken in accordance with Environmental and Natural Resources Policies:
  - ENV3 Environmental Sensitive Areas – Guidelines for Development;
  - ENV4 Flood and Stream Management;
  - ENV6 Hillside Protection – Guidelines for Development;
  - ENV7 Protection of the Natural Environment; and
  - ENV9 Tree and Vegetation Preservation
10. Proposed Earthworks are to be undertaken in accordance with all other Shire of Kalamunda Local Planning Policies.

### CROSS REFERENCES (If any):

Admin Policy/Procedure:		Delegation:	
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### LEGAL REFERENCES

Legislation:	
Local Law:	

Notes:	Previous Policy BS 1.0
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