



# Verge Mowing Policy

Adoption Date:	16/3/2020 by Council Resolution
Last Reviewed:	May 2022
Next Review Date:	May 2023
Division/Department:	Technical Services
Responsible Officer:	Nola Urquhart
HPE CM Record Number:	

## 1 Policy Statement

Woollahra Council ('Council') relies on property owners to mow and maintain their grass verge. Council does not have the resources to mow all grass verges located in the Local Government Area and therefore it relies on residents Civic Pride to maintain these areas.

Council recognises that some property owners will be unable to mow the grass verge due to ill health, age, hardship or disability. Council supports assisting property owners who find themselves in this situation and council staff will mow the grass verge upon successful application.

## 2 Application

### Overview

Currently, Council mows up to twelve private verges each year. Property owners write to the Manager Open Space and Trees outlining their circumstances and providing a Doctors Certificate which is updated each year. Council seeks to limit the service to those with a genuine need. The service only covers properties not located on main roads as these are covered by Council Verge Turf Mowing Services Contract.

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to staff regarding the verge mowing services offered to our community. In particular, Council acknowledges the importance of supporting private property owners who find themselves in a situation where they can no longer mow their grass verge.

## 3 Definitions

Term	Meaning
Verge or Nature Strip	An area of land between the road and the property boundary

## 4 Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan

This Policy relates to Themes, Goals and Strategies outlined in Council's Community Strategic Plan Woollahra 2030 and Priorities outlined in Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan, specifically:

Theme: Quality Places and Spaces

Goal: Livable places

Strategy: 5.2 Provide and maintain safe, clean, serviceable public infrastructure including roads, footpaths, bicycle facilities, parks, open space, stormwater drains and seawalls

Strategy: 5.5 Enhance the physical environment of our local suburbs, neighbourhoods and town centres

## 5 Relevant Legislation

None identified.

## 6 Policy Content

To be considered for Council verge mowing service;

The property should not be on a main road listed below:

- Bathurst Street / Edward Street / Manning Road
- Bellevue Road
- Birriga Road
- Darling Point Road
- Edgecliff Road
- Greenoaks Avenue
- Hopetoun Avenue
- Kiaora Road (between NSH Road and Carlotta Road)
- Mona Road
- New Beach Road
- New South Head Road
- Old South Head Road
- O'Sullivan Road (northern side only)
- Victoria Road
- William Street (Double Bay)

Property owners should not have a lawn with in their property that requires mowing.

Property owners are able to prove that they are unable to mow the verge because of age, ill health, hardship or disability and they are able to demonstrate that they do not have the means to engage a private mowing service.

Property owners who wish to have council mow the grass verge in front of their property should direct their application to the Manager Open Space and Trees.

The application should include:

- Property Owner and property details
- Outline of personal circumstances
- Doctors Certificate

Applications should be resubmitted to the Manager Open Space and Trees each year for continued service. Should property owners personal circumstances change, council must be advised in writing immediately providing a date for discontinuation of service.

## 7 Review and Amendments

This Policy will be reviewed every two years or in accordance with legislative requirements. This Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendments that are to the advantage of Council and in the spirit of this Policy.

Any amendment to this Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution the approval of the General Manager

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### Policy Amendments

Date	Responsible Officer	Description