

Response ID ANON-4EM2-EKYV-Q

Submitted to **Native vegetation issues paper**

Submitted on **2020-01-24 16:05:33**

Your details

1 What is your name?

Name:

Nicole Davey

2 Can we publish your response?

Yes, you may publish my response in full

3 What is your email address? (optional)

Email:

[REDACTED]

4 What is your postcode? (optional)

Postcode:

[REDACTED]

5 Do your views officially represent those of an organisation?

Yes, I am authorised to submit feedback on behalf of an organisation

If yes, please specify the name of your organisation.:

City of Belmont

6 Which of the following best describes the group or person you represent?

Government body

If other, please specify.:

7 Which of the following best describes the sector you represent?

Government

If other, please specify.:

8 Are there specific parts of your submission that you want to keep confidential?

If yes, please outline which specific parts of your submission must be kept confidential and explain why. :

No

Upload a document

21 If you would like to upload a document to support your submission, please upload it here.

Upload document 1 here.:

City of Belmont Submission - Native Vegetation in Western Australian Issues Paper.pdf was uploaded

Please describe which question(s) document 1 relates to. :

Overall submission (not relating to any specific questions)

Upload document 2 here.:

No file was uploaded

Please describe which question(s) document 2 relates to. :

Council Ref : 37/001; 37/002

Customer Ref :

Enquiries : Nicole Davey [REDACTED]

CITY OF BELMONT

215 Wright Street

(LMB 379) Cloverdale

Western Australia 6105

24 January 2020

All communications

to be addressed to:

The Chief Executive Officer

LMB 379 Cloverdale

Western Australia 6985

Native Vegetation Strategy
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Locked Bag 10
JOONDALUP DC WA 6919

Dear Sir/Madam

NATIVE VEGETATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA ISSUES PAPER

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the *Native Vegetation in Western Australia Issues Paper* (Issues Paper). The City of Belmont's Administration supports the four initiatives contained in the Issues Paper, as ways to improve consistency, transparency and fairness in how native vegetation is managed across all government processes.

While the City of Belmont contains minimal native vegetation, we are required on occasion to apply for clearing permits including for very minor vegetation pruning/removal and have had to delay maintenance works due to the lengthy timeframes involved in processing of applications. While the ability to apply for purpose permits have alleviated this issue, the maximum timeframe of five years and requirement to re-apply does result in an administrative burden possibly not justified, given the minimal environmental impact of works involved. Recent examples have included pruning to provide sufficient clearance for access by firefighting vehicles along the Swan River foreshore path, removal of one tree causing damage to infrastructure and removal of *Typha orientalis* (recently reclassified as a protected species) impeding capacity/flow within stormwater drains and compensating basins.

The City is of the view that the proposed four week timeframe for consultation on the draft Native Vegetation Policy is insufficient. Due to the timing of Council meetings (and agenda closure dates four weeks prior), a minimum of eight weeks would be required in order for the City of Belmont to provide an endorsed submission. It is also recommended that any future consultation avoids the period from mid-December to mid-February, as there are no Council meetings held at which a draft submission could be considered for endorsement. It is for the abovementioned reason that the City is unable to provide a formal submission on the Issues Paper or respond to the questions in the online submission form, with the comments provided in this letter being the position of the City's Administration.

Thank you once again for seeking public comments on the Issues Paper, to contribute towards development of the Draft State Native Vegetation Policy. Should you require any clarification on comments provided, please do not hesitate to contact the City's Coordinator Environment, Nicole Davey on [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
MELANIE REID
DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

