



City of **HOBART**

**MEMORANDUM: LORD MAYOR  
DEPUTY LORD MAYOR  
ELECTED MEMBERS**

## **STREET TREES**

**Meeting: Parks and Recreation Committee**

**Meeting date: 9 December  
2021**

**Raised by:** Lord Mayor Reynolds

### **Question:**

Can the Acting Director City Amenity advise how many street trees have been planted per year since the approval of the Street Tree Strategy and how does this annual planting rate compare to the two years prior to the Street Tree Strategy coming in?

Do you have a sense of the actual number of trees that the City would need to plant to meet the strategy goal?

### **Response:**

The Street Tree Strategy was adopted in August 2017- towards the end of that years planting season.

The Street Tree Strategy found the existing canopy cover across urbanised areas to be 16.7%, and set out an aspirational target for canopy cover of 40% by 2046. This would require more than doubling the 2017 canopy cover levels and is unlikely to be achieved without a significant increase in tree planting in these highly urbanised spaces that have much competition for available space.

The results of the implementation of the Strategy is reflected in number of trees planted

- Pre Street Tree Strategy – average planting of 69 trees/year in the 3 preceding years.
- Post STS (2018 >) – average of 263 trees planted/year.

Budget uncertainty due to Covid-19 resulted in reduced tree planting in 2020 - although still substantially higher than pre-street tree strategy

<b>Year</b>	<b>No. trees</b>
2015	95
2016	65
2017	45
2018	216
2019	388
2020	260*
2021	189*
*Budget uncertainty due to Covid pandemic resulted in reduced tree planting	

The City is currently preparing to undertake automated canopy mapping which will provide an insight into tree canopy distribution and change. This will likely identify loss on private land and areas for expansion on public land. It will also establish tenure blind canopy connection options across the City.

This data will then be used for future modelling to determine the amount of tree planting that is required to achieve the street tree strategy canopy enhancement targets. This figure is likely to be three times the current rate of planting.

*As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.*

John Fisher  
**ACTING DIRECTOR CITY AMENITY**

Date: 4 February 2022  
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