

Item No: **15.4**

Subject: **TARLTON STREET TREE ASSESSMENT AND TREE RENEWAL**

Date: 12 November 2019

Written By: Technical Officer – Arboriculture

General Manager: City Assets and Services, Mr H Lacy

SUMMARY

An assessment has been undertaken of street trees in Tarlton Street, Somerton Park. The assessment identified 5 trees which require removal out of 45 trees assessed, with 5 replacement trees to be planted.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **authorise the removal of five (5) street trees with planting of five (5) replacement trees; and**
 2. **note pruning will be undertaken in Tarlton Street as per recommendations in the Tree Assessment report.**
-

COMMUNITY PLAN

Placemaking: Creating lively and safe places

Placemaking: Developing walkable connected neighbourhoods

Placemaking: Building character and celebrating history

Community: Building a healthy, active and resilient community

Community: Providing welcoming and accessible facilities

Environment: Building an environmentally resilient city

Environment: Fostering an environmentally connected community

COUNCIL POLICY

Tree Management Policy

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

Development Act 1993

BACKGROUND

Tarlton Street Somerton Park supports an aging population of veteran Holm Oaks (45 trees in total) that contribute to the character of the area.

Due to the declining condition of some of these veteran trees, an assessment was prepared to determine the best course of action for managing the Holm Oaks for the entirety of the street.

Refer Attachment 1

REPORT

The assessment recommended a total of five (5) trees to be removed, with 5 new trees to replace them. The impact of tree removal is reduced due to the low number of removals and the high number of juvenile trees that were planted in 2018.

The assessment report also recommends additional pruning and tree care for the remaining stock to maintain their vitality.

Both the tree removals/replacement and the pruning will continue to revitalise the Tarlton Street tree stock, whilst also protecting the remaining trees to retain their canopy coverage in the area.

BUDGET

All recommended tree removals and replacements will be funded from the 2019/20 Tree Maintenance operational budget.

LIFE CYCLE COSTS

As trees require ongoing maintenance throughout their lifespan, this is allowed for within the operational and maintenance budgets.

Attachment 1





Tarlton Street *Quercus ilex* (Holm Oak) Assessment Report

**Prepared for Council
Compiled by Ben Hall, Technical Arboriculture Officer**

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Executive Summary

An assessment was carried out on all 45 mature *Quercus ilex* (Holm Oak) trees along Tarlton Street, Somerton Park, to determine the best course of action for management of the existing tree stock and potential succession planting in the future.

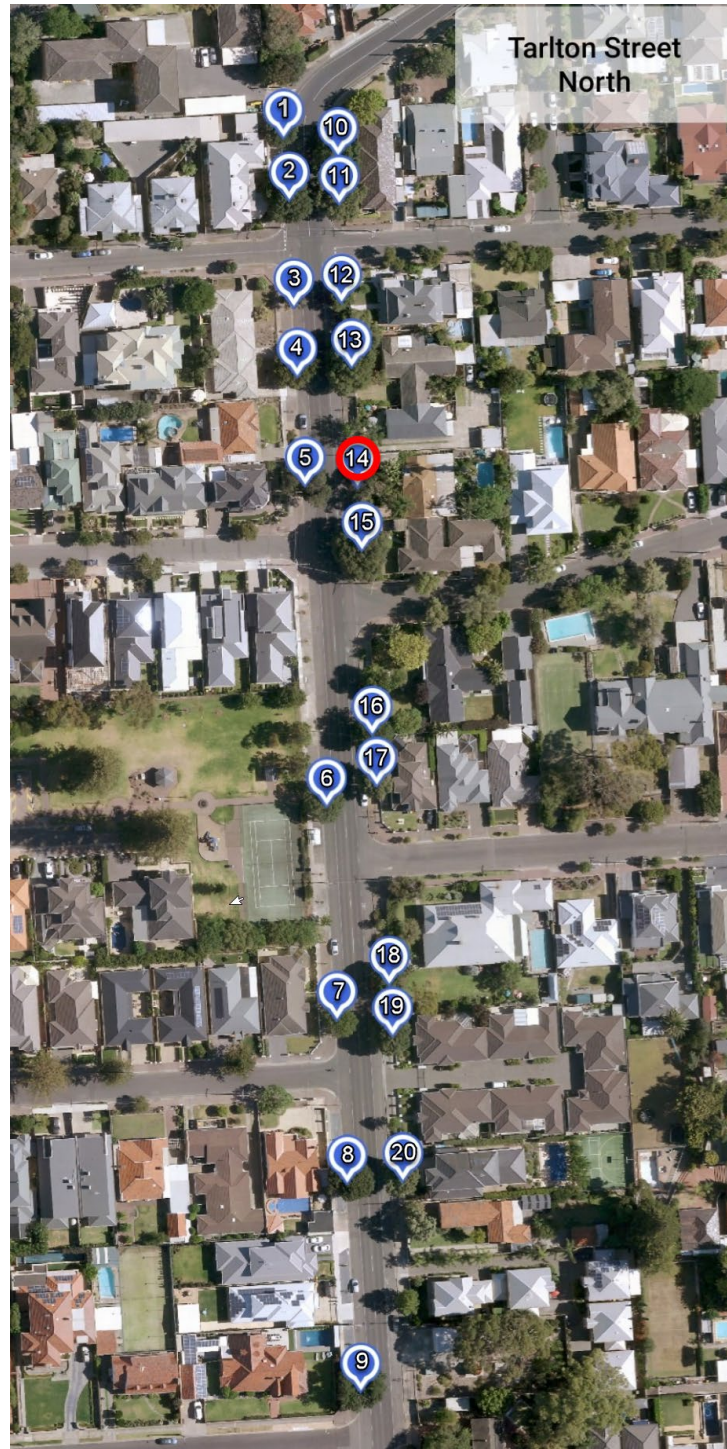
Area of assessment

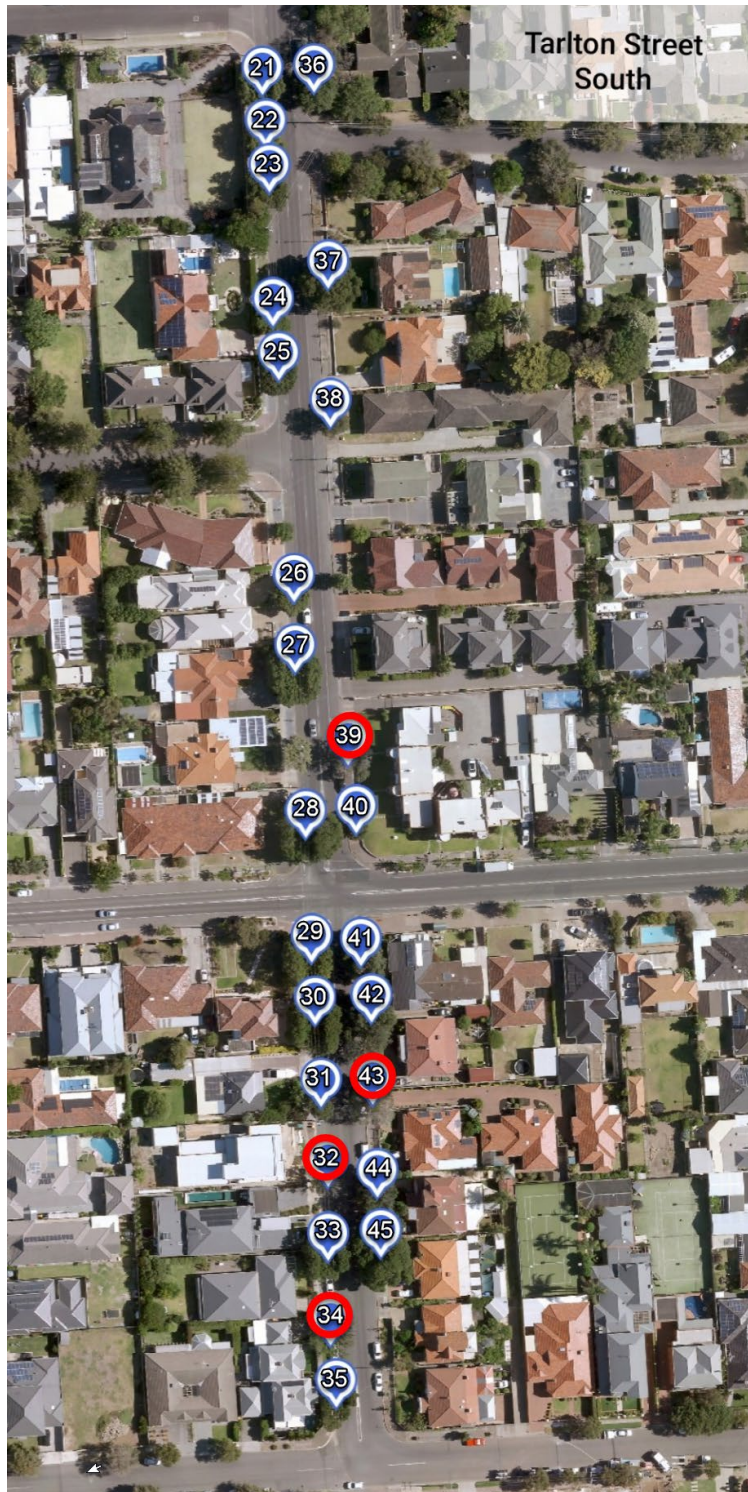
The area of assessment looks at the entirety of Tarlton Street. As this zone covers a vast distance equating to what is a 760 meter stretch, a division of north and south have been indicated. The separation of zones allows for a higher level of detail to be captured and managed.



Identification Data Map

All vegetation assessed has been labelled 1 to 45, as per aerial imagery. Reference to the allocated identification labels correlate to the detailed vegetation assessment. To give further indication, the recommended removals have been highlighted in red.





Individual Vegetation Data and Imagery



Tree 1

Address: u6/6 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good-fair

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - deadwood and provide clearance to service wires. Reduce suckering via hedging method.



Tree 2

Address: u2/6 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - minor reduction from property gutter and minor dead-wood over roadway.



Tree 3

Address: u2/10 Tarlton Street

Health: Fair

Structure: Fair-poor

ULE: <5 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - minor deadwood and hedge suckers. Tree is in reduced form from years of dieback. New growth throughout and stunted form presents a tree with minimal risk.



Tree 4

Address: u3/10 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good-fair

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - no action required (recently pruned).



Tree 5

Address: 14 Tarlton Street

Health: Good-fair

Structure: Good-fair

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - dead-wood and remove suckers.



Tree 6

Address: Seaforth Park Reserve

Health: good

Structure: good

ULE: 20-30years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - minor deadwood, manage suckers with hedging method.



Tree 7

Address: 28

Health: Good

Structure: Good-fair

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - minor deadwood manage suckers (retain hedging approach)
Existence of unnecessary pavers on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 8

Address: side of 1 Ferris Avenue

Health: good-fair

Structure: good-fair

ULE: 10-20 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low voltage

Recommendation: Retain - dead-wood required and slight lift over road. Canker and fungal activity is present in this tree. Tree is compartmentalising well and currently coping with pathogenic infections.



Tree 9

Address: 24

Health: good

Structure: good-fair

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low & high voltage

Recommendation: Retain - no action required.

Tree structure hindered by SAPN vegetation clearance.



Tree 10

Address: 1/5 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good to fair (managed suckering)

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor dead-wood and lift over roadway require. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 11

Address: 2/5 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good to fair (managed suckering)

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor dead-wood.

Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 12

Address: 7 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good to fair (managed suckering)

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - no pruning required.

Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 13

Address: 9-11 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good to fair

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor dead-wood.

Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 14

Address: 13 Tarlton Street

Health: Poor (in senescence)

Structure: Poor (primary union has failed)

ULE: Replace

Risk rating: Medium

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Remove and replace with 1

London Plane Tree. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 15

Address: 15 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: Regulated

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor lift over residential side required. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 16

Address: 17 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - Some minor vegetation reduction required to accommodate street light and service wire. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 17

Address: 19 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain – No action required



Tree 18

Address: 21 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: Regulated

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - no pruning action required. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 19

Address: 23a Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - no pruning required.
Existence of Artificial Turf on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 20

Address: 27 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor lift over residential driveway required



Tree 21

Address: 26 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: low and high voltage

Recommendation: Retain – provide tunnelling clearance to service wires.



Tree 22

Address: 26 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good-fair (managed suckering)

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: Regulated

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain – maintain hedged suckers.



Tree 23

Address: 26 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain – no action required



Tree 24

Address: 28 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain – no action required.



Tree 25

Address: side of 2b Wilkinson Avenue

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain – provide minor clearance for street lighting.



Tree 26

Address: 34

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain - slight lift over driveway required. Driveway damage noted.



Tree 27

Address: 36

Health: Good

Structure: Good-fair

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain - minor tunnelling clearance required for service wires. Tree displays prominent effects of SAPN vegetation clearance.



Tree 28

Address: 40

Health: Good-fair

Structure: Good-fair



ULE: 10-20 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain - minor dead-wooding required. Tree displays prominent effects of SAPN vegetation clearance.

	<p>Tree 29</p> <p>Address: side of 65 Whyte Street</p> <p>Health: Good</p> <p>Structure: Good-fair</p> <p>ULE: 10-20 years</p> <p>Risk rating: Low</p> <p>Regulatory Status: Regulated</p> <p>Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present</p> <p>Recommendation: Retain - minor deadwood.</p> <p>Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree. Evidence of damage from continued infrastructure reinstatement. Tree displays prominent effects of SAPN vegetation clearance.</p>
	<p>Tree 30</p> <p>Address: side of 65 Whyte Street</p> <p>Health: Good</p> <p>Structure: Good-fair</p> <p>ULE: 10-20 years</p> <p>Risk rating: Low</p> <p>Regulatory Status: uncontrolled</p> <p>Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present</p> <p>Recommendation: Retain – existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree. Tree displays prominent effects of SAPN vegetation clearance.</p>



Tree 31

Address: 42 Tarlton Street

Health: Fair

Structure: Good-fair

ULE: 5-10 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain - minor deadwood and clearance provided for service wires. Review health in 12 months.



Tree 32

Address: 44 Tarlton Street

Health: Poor (in Senescence)

Structure: Fair-average

ULE: Replace

Risk rating: Medium

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Remove - replace with Tuckeroo to accommodate overhead powerlines. To be planted centrally to property of 44 (new development). With driveway tight to either side of this tree it is seen to be in a comprising position likely contributing to the decline along with excessive vegetation clearance issued by SAPN.



Tree 33

Address: 48 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Fair

ULE: 10-20 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain - tree is coexisting with overhead infrastructure and stoby pole reasonably well. Some minor clearance required to further accommodate street lighting. Tree shows signs of excessive clearance from road way, damage to base for infrastructure reinstatement. Existence of artificial turf on the verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 34

Address: 50a Tarlton Street

Health: Poor (in senescence)

Structure: Fair

ULE: Replace

Risk rating: Medium

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Remove - replace with Tuckeroo to accommodate overhead powerlines. Tree has major dieback throughout with the only live foliage being epicormic growth. Tree likely to have have been set into decline from a number of factors. Existence of artificial turf on the verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 35

Address: 50b Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 10-20 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: overhead low/high voltage present

Recommendation: Retain – issue tunnelling clearance for service wires.



Tree 36

Address: 35 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain – no action required.



Tree 37

Address: 41 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: Regulated

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor lift over residential side required. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 38

Address: 45 Tarlton Street

Health: Good-fair

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor dead-wooding required. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 39

Address: u2/55 Tarlton Street

Health: Poor (in senescence)

Structure: Good

ULE: Replace

Risk rating: Medium

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Remove - replace with a London Plane. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 40

Address: u4/55 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 20-30 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor lift over footpath. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.



Tree 41

Address: 57 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good-fair (suckering/recovering from excessive pruning)

ULE: 10-20 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain with some minor dead-wooding to occur.



Tree 42

Address: 59 Tarlton Street

Health: Fair (minor terminal die-back evident)

Structure: Good

ULE: 5-10 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - dead-wood reduction with minor prune to accommodate stobie pole/service wires. Aim to improve condition with leaky well and monitor health. Review tree health in 12 months.

	<p>Tree 43</p> <p>Address: 63 Tarlton Street</p> <p>Health: poor (tree in decline showing 50% canopy die back on South-eastern side of canopy) non recoverable state</p> <p>Structure: Good</p> <p>ULE: Replace</p> <p>Risk rating: Medium-low</p> <p>Regulatory Status: uncontrolled</p> <p>Powerlines: nil</p> <p>Recommendation: Remove - no room for Plane Tree as the replacement due to nearby stobie pole and driveway. Tuckeroo as a replacement is recommended to fill this space.</p>
	<p>Tree 44</p> <p>Address: 67 Tarlton Street</p> <p>Health: Good-fair</p> <p>Structure: Good</p> <p>ULE: 10-20 years</p> <p>Risk rating: Low</p> <p>Regulatory Status: uncontrolled</p> <p>Powerlines: nil</p> <p>Recommendation: Retain - dead-wood reduction in upper south eastern parts of crown. Provide tunnelling clearance for service wires. Existence of bitumen on verge which is a less favourable application for the tree.</p>



Tree 45

Address: 73 Tarlton Street

Health: Good

Structure: Good

ULE: 10-20 years

Risk rating: Low

Regulatory Status: uncontrolled

Powerlines: nil

Recommendation: Retain - minor dead-wood and minor lift with tunnelling clearance provided for service wires.

Conclusion

From the 45 trees assessed a high level of retention value has been recognised with only 5 specimens seen to have reached expiration. Whilst these specimens only present a medium level of risk, declining conditional health highlights the necessity of actioning the advised removals.

It is also recommended that each of the 5 identified removals coincide with replacements aligning with Council's current street tree strategy. These new trees would form a part of 2020 planting program to further build and secure Tarlton's Street tree scape into the future.

With the recognition of the aging tree stock in Tarlton Street, Council's whole street planting program has previously incorporated 43 new juvenile trees that are now healthy and becoming well established. All plantings have occurred as per Council's street tree strategy with the species selection as per description below:

- Non-utilities side: *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* (Tuckeroo)
- Utilities side: London Plane Tree *Platanus x acerifolia* (London Plane Tree)

It is important to note that a considerable amount of artificial turf, unnecessary bitumen and pavers had been recognised to be situated on verges. These impervious surfaces are seen to be unfavourable applications for tree health as they restrict essential microbial activity, access to moisture and oxygen whilst increasing surrounding temperatures.

15.4 Tarlton Street Tree Assessment and Tree Renewal (Report No: 409/19)

Motion – Exclusion of the Public – Section 90(3)(b) Order

C121119/1676

1. That pursuant to Section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* Council hereby orders that the public be excluded from attendance at this meeting with the exception of the Chief Executive Officer and Staff in attendance at the meeting in order to consider Report No: 409/19 Tarlton Street Tree Assessment and Tree Renewal in confidence.
2. That in accordance with Section 90(3) of the *Local Government Act 1999* Council is satisfied that it is necessary that the public be excluded to consider the information contained in Report No: 409/19 Tarlton Street Tree Assessment and Tree Renewal in confidence on the following ground:
 - g. pursuant to section 90(3)(b) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda Item is information that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.
3. The Council is satisfied, the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public, has been outweighed by the need to keep the information or discussion confidential.

Moved Councillor Bouchee, Seconded Councillor Smedley

Carried Unanimously

An assessment has been undertaken of street trees in Tarlton Street, Somerton Park. The assessment identified 5 trees which require removal out of 45 trees assessed, with 5 replacement trees to be planted.

Motion

C121119/1677

That Council:

1. authorise the removal of five (5) street trees with planting of five (5) replacement trees; and
2. note pruning will be undertaken in Tarlton Street as per recommendations in the Tree Assessment report.

Moved Councillor Bouchee, Seconded Councillor Smedley

Carried Unanimously