### Landscaping code[[1]](#footnote-1)

#### Application

This code applies to development identified as requiring assessment against the Landscaping code by the tables of assessment in **Part 5 (Tables of assessment)**.

#### Purpose and overall outcomes

1. The purpose of the Landscaping code is to ensure that landscaping is provided in a manner which is consistent with the desired character and amenity of the Bundaberg Region.
2. The purpose of the Landscaping code will be achieved through the following overall outcomes:-
   1. development provides for landscaping that complements and enriches the natural landscapes and built environment of the Bundaberg Region;
   2. development provides for landscaping that integrates the built form with its surroundings and adds to the desired character of places;
   3. development provides landscaping that minimises the consumption of energy and water, and encourages the use of local provenance plant species and landscape materials; and
   4. development provides landscaping that enhances personal safety and security, is functional and durable, and is practical and economic to maintain.

#### Specific benchmarks for assessment

Benchmarks for assessable development – general requirements

| **Performance outcomes** | **Acceptable outcomes** | **Compliance / Representations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Landscape design generally*** | |  |
| **PO1**  Development provides for landscaping that:-   1. protects and enhances the character and amenity of the site, street and surrounding locality; 2. promotes the character of the Bundaberg Region as a sub-tropical environment; 3. is sensitive to site conditions, natural landforms and landscape characteristics; 4. as far as practicable, retains, protects and enhances existing trees, vegetation and topographic features of ecological, recreational, aesthetic and cultural value; 5. clearly defines public and private spaces; 6. promotes passive surveillance of public and semi-public spaces; and 7. is of an appropriate scale to integrate successfully with development. | **AO1.1**  Existing significant trees, vegetation and topographic features are retained and integrated within the landscaping concept for the development.  **OR**  Where significant trees and vegetation cannot practicably be retained, mature vegetation of the same or similar species is provided elsewhere on the development site.  **AO1.2**  Development provides landscaping which:-   1. defines territory and ownership of public, common, semi-private and private space and does not create ambiguous spaces that encourage loitering; and 2. allows passive surveillance into, and visibility within, communal recreational spaces, children’s play areas/playgrounds, pathways and car parks.   **AO1.3**  Elements of built form are softened and integrated within a broader landscape that incorporates structured landscape planting.  Note—**Figure 9.3.2A (Landscaping screening of built form elements)** demonstrates how landscape screening is intended to soften and integrate with the built form.  Figure 9.3.2A Landscaping screening of built form elements    **AO1.4**  Unless otherwise specified in an applicable use code, driveways and car parking areas are screened by a landscaping strip with a minimum width of:-   1. 1.5m where adjacent to a residential use; or 2. 3m where adjacent to a street frontage or public open space.   **AO1.5**  Car parking areas are provided with a minimum of 1 shade tree for every 6 car parking spaces. Trees within car parking areas are planted within a deep natural ground/structured soil garden bed, and are protected by raised kerbs, wheel stops or bollards as required.  **AO1.6**  Any solid screen fence or wall greater than 1.2m in height provided along a street frontage is set behind landscaping strips or articulated by recesses to allow for dense vegetative screening.  **AO1.7**  Storage and utility areas are screened by vegetation or built screens. | Provide a brief description how your proposal complies with the relevant Acceptable outcome (if applicable) or a detailed analysis how compliance is achieved with the Performance outcome. |
| **PO2**  Development provides sufficient areas to cater for landscaping. | **AO2**  Site layout and design provides sufficient area, in appropriate locations, for landscaping, including catering for water sensitive urban design devices. | Click and provide your representations. |
| ***Streetscape landscaping*** | |  |
| **PO3**  Development provides for streetscape landscaping that:-   1. incorporates shade trees; 2. contributes to the continuity, character and form of existing and proposed streetscapes in the locality, including streetscape works; 3. in established urban areas, towns and villages, incorporates landscape design (including planting, pavements, furniture, structures, etc.) that reflect and enhance the character of the streetscape; and 4. in new or establishing urban areas, incorporates landscape design that is consistent with and complementary to the natural landscape character of the local area. | **AO3**  No acceptable outcome provided. | Click and provide your representations. |
| ***Climate control and energy efficiency*** | |  |
| **PO4**  Development provides landscaping that assists in passive solar access, the provision of shade, microclimate management and energy conservation. | **AO4.1**  Landscaping elements are positioned to shade walls, windows and outdoor areas from summer sun.  **AO4.2**  Landscaping allows winter sun access to living areas, north facing windows and public spaces.  **AO4.3**  Landscaping, fences and walls allow exposure of living and public areas to prevailing summer breezes and protection against winter winds. | Click and provide your representations. |

Benchmarks for assessable development – additional requirements for operational work only

| **Performance outcomes** | **Acceptable outcomes** | **Compliance / Representations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Species selection*** | |  |
| **PO5**  Development provides for landscaping which incorporates plant species that are:-   1. fit for the intended purpose; 2. suited to local environmental conditions; 3. non-toxic; and 4. not declared environmental weeds. | **AO5.1**  Landscape planting utilises locally endemic and/or other native species as specified in the **Planning scheme policy for development works**.  **AO5.2**  Species that have the potential to become an environmental weed or are known to be toxic to people or animals are not used in landscaping. | Click and provide your representations. |
| ***Safety, security and accessibility*** | |  |
| **PO6**  Development provides for landscaping that:-   1. enhances personal safety and security; and 2. provides universal and equitable access. | **AO6**  Development provides landscaping which:-   1. incorporates trees with a minimum of 1.8m clear trunk and understorey planting that is a maximum of 0.3m in height where located immediately adjacent to pathways, entries, parking areas, street corners, street lighting and driveways; 2. minimises the use of dense shrubby vegetation over 1.5m in height along open street frontages and adjacent to open space areas; 3. incorporates pedestrian surfaces that are slip-resistant, stable and trafficable in all weather conditions; 4. provides security and pathway level lighting to site entries, driveways, parking areas, building entries and pedestrian pathways; and 5. facilitates universal access*.* | Click and provide your representations. |
| ***Water sensitive urban design and environmental management*** | |  |
| **PO7**  Development provides for landscaping that promotes the efficient and sensitive use of water through appropriate plant selection and layout and by maximising opportunities for water infiltration. | **AO7**  Landscaping maximises the infiltration and conservation of water by:-   1. selecting locally endemic and/or other native plant species and appropriate turf species that require minimal irrigation after establishment; 2. grouping plants and street trees (where appropriate) in mulched beds; 3. minimising impervious surfaces; 4. incorporating semi-porous pavement surfaces as an alternative to impervious surfaces; and 5. draining hard surface areas to landscaped areas and water sensitive urban design devices. | Click and provide your representations. |
| ***Landscape buffers*** | |  |
| **PO8**  Development provides for landscape buffers that:-   1. effectively protect the edges of existing native vegetation or another area of environmental significance; 2. achieve visual screening of acoustic attenuation devices; and 3. provide separation between incompatible land uses or between major infrastructure elements (such as State-controlled roads) and land uses. | **AO8**  Where a landscape buffer is required by an applicable planning scheme code, it is designed, constructed and maintained in accordance with the following:-   1. earth mounding is provided where necessary to achieve satisfactory acoustic attenuation, visual screening or land use separation; 2. selected plant species are appropriate to the location, drainage and soil type; meet the buffer’s functional requirements and require minimal ongoing maintenance; 3. plant selection includes a range of species to provide variation in form, colour and texture to contribute to the natural appearance of the buffer; 4. planting density results in the creation of upper, mid and understorey strata with:-    1. large trees planted at 6m centres;    2. small trees planted at 2m centres;    3. shrubs planted at 1m centres; and 5. tufting plants, vines and groundcovers are planted at 0.5m to 1m centres; and 6. where adjoining the edge of native vegetation or watercourse understorey, shrubs and vines are used to bind appropriately the buffer edges against degradation and weed infestation.   Note—**Figure 9.3.2B (Design of landscape buffers)** demonstrates the preferred form and structure of landscape buffers.  Figure 9.3.2B Design of landscape buffers | Click and provide your representations. |
| ***Traffic safety and infrastructure*** | |  |
| **PO9**  Development ensures that landscaping does not adversely impact upon the provision, operation and maintenance of infrastructure. | **AO9.1**  Development ensures that landscaping (including fencing) does not impede traffic visibility at access points, speed control devices and intersections.  **AO9.2**  Planting and landscape structures are located to enable tradespersons to access, view and inspect switchboards, substations, service meters and the like.  **AO9.3**  Root barriers are installed around tree root balls to minimise the risk of damage to infrastructure, services or utilities.  **AO9.4**  Trees and large shrubs are located a minimum of:-   1. 6m from electricity poles and pillars; 2. 4m from street lights and landscape pole top lights; 3. 2m from stormwater catchment pits; and 4. 1m from underground services and utilities.   **AO9.5**  Vegetation planted in the vicinity of major electricity infrastructure complies with the vegetation clearance dimensions illustrated in **Figure 9.3.2C Vegetation within or adjoining major electricity infrastructure**.  Figure 9.3.2C Vegetation within or adjoining major electricity infrastructure | Click and provide your representations. |

1. Editor’s note— the **Planning scheme policy for development works** provides guidance for satisfying certain outcomes of this code, including details of how to prepare a landscape plan and preferred plant species to be used in landscaping. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)