

27th September 2010

Council response- Tree removal in Lyndhurst Drive

Council is concerned at recent unfounded allegations that it is not taking tree safety seriously, particularly in relation to a residence in Lyndhurst Drive. These allegations could not be further from the truth.

In January of this year, Councillor Gareth Ward and Council's Parks Operations Manager, Brett Carter met with the resident on site in Lyndhurst Drive, Bomaderry, to discuss the large pine tree on the verge fronting his property.

The resident wanted the tree removed to allow the installation of his new driveway and to stop the pine needles possibly filling his new gutters.

The tree is a significant tree that is a landmark feature of the area and has only recently caused concern due to the building of the new house on the vacant land adjoining it.

The reasons for the tree being assessed as low risk at the time of the inspection were fully explained to the resident.

He was offered the option to remove and replace the tree at his own expense as per Council's 45 degree rule under the Tree Management Policy.

It was also explained to him that he had the option of presenting a qualified Arborist Report to Council to dispute the low risk assessment.

If the Arborist did show that the tree was high risk, then Council would pay for the tree removal as per the policy.

CONTACT: Acting Director of City Services and Operations Paul Collins (02) 4429 3298