

The Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan (notified 30 September 2013)

3 Natural heritage

3.1 Trees in streets and public open spaces

1. Activity table

The following table specifies the activity status of activities for trees in streets and public open spaces.

Activity	Trees in streets	Trees in public open spaces
Council or its agent		
Biosecurity tree works carried out by council or its agent	P	P
Dead wood removal carried out by council or its agent	P	P
Emergency tree works carried out by council or its agent	P	P
Pest plant removal carried out by council or its agent	P	P
Tree trimming carried out by council or its agent	P	P
Tree alteration or tree removal of any tree less than 4m in height and less than 400mm in girth carried out by council or its agent	P	P
Tree alteration or tree removal of any tree greater than 4m in height or greater than 400mm in girth carried out by council or its agent	RD	RD
Network Utilities		
Works on trees undertaken by a network utility operator or council or its agent and carried out in accordance with an approved Corridor Access Request	P	NA
Works on trees undertaken by a network utility operator or council or its agent not carried out in accordance with an approved Corridor Access Request	D	NA
Tree trimming, tree alteration or tree removal carried out by a network utility operator	NA	D
Tree removal carried out by a network utility operator	D	D
All other parties		
Tree trimming, tree alteration or tree removal carried out by any party not listed in this table	D	D

2. Controls

2.1 Tree trimming carried out by Council or its agent

1. the maximum diameter of any branch removed must be no greater than 100mm
2. no more than 20 per cent of live growth of the tree must be removed in any one calendar year
3. trimming is carried out in accordance with accepted modern arboricultural practice
4. the natural shape, form and branch habit of the tree is retained.

3. Assessment - Restricted discretionary activities

3.1 Matters of discretion

1. The council will restrict its discretion to the matters below for the activities listed as restricted

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discretionary in the activity table:

- a. effect on the values of the notable tree or notable group of trees
- b. any loss of amenity
- c. actual damage to people or property
- d. mitigation proposed
- e. consistency with best practice
- f. methods to control plant pathogens
- g. tree management plan, reserve management plan or landscape plan.

3.2 Assessment criteria

1. The council will consider the relevant assessment criteria below for the restricted discretionary activities listed above:
 - a. the specific values of the trees including any functional values with respect to water and soil conservation, ecosystem services, stability, ecology, habitat for birds and amelioration of natural hazards
 - b. the loss of any amenity values that tree or group of trees provided
 - c. the likelihood of actual damage to people and property from the protected tree.
 - d. any alternative methods that could result in retaining trees
 - e. the degree to which any proposed mitigation adequately compensates for the values that trees provide
 - f. the degree to which the proposal is consistent with best practices guidelines for tree management
 - g. methods to contain and control plant pathogens and diseases such as Kauri die back or Dutch elm disease including measures for preventing the spread of soil and the safe disposal of plant material
 - h. the provision of a tree management plan, reserves management plan or landscape plan.

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