

ELECTED MEMBERS' BRIEFING SESSION COVER SHEET

Date of Workshop:	15 November 2021
Subject:	Hedge Encroachments
Department:	City Services
Presenter(s):	David Sboro, Acting Team Leader Regulatory Services Gary Brinkworth, Manager Development and Regulatory
Session:	Open to the public.
Attachments:	Nil

PURPOSE

To provide the findings from a recent audit of hedges within the City of Unley that encroach over the public footway and for Council to consider what further action may be required to address the impacts from hedges on the public footway.

DISCUSSION

The administration recently completed an audit of all hedges encroaching onto public footways within the City of Unley, identified either via a complaint from the community or observed by Council staff or Elected Members over the past three years.

The findings of the audit are summarised and indicate that, of the many properties identified with hedges that have encroached onto the public footway (57), relatively few (6) required further action by staff. Further action is undertaken in accordance with the existing Compliance Policy that authorised officers consider when determining compliance matters.

As a result of the audit, the findings are presented to Council for consideration, along with a discussion on the compliance approach to determine action required to address the impacts of hedges on public footways.

Preparation for Members

Members have been provided with a summary of the re-inspections of the hedge related encroachments undertaken by Council staff over the last three (3) years. Note that the audit included additional hedges observed by Council staff, along with those identified by Elected Members.

To assist in the discussion, Members have been provided with:

- Presentation slides - circulated under separate cover
- Hedge audit findings - circulated under separate cover

Specific Questions for Members

- Are hedges a significant issue within the City of Unley that require specific attention?
- Are the existing enforcement options and the Compliance Policy both suitable to address hedge related matters?
- Is a separate Guideline or Policy on hedge management further required to manage public footway encroachments?

SPEAKERS

David Sboro, Acting Team Leader Regulatory Services

Gary Brinkworth, Manager Development and Regulatory

THE BRIEFING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC