



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 6723/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	City of Swan
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	16 December 2015– 16 December 2020

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

**1. Purpose for which clearing may be done**

Clearing for the purpose of road and bridge construction.

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Railway Parade road reserve (PIN 11345561), Ellenbrook  
Railway Parade road reserve (PIN 11727385), Ellenbrook  
Railway Parade road reserve (PIN 1327548), Upper Swan

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 3.5 hectares of native within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6723/1.

**4. Application**

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

**5. Type of clearing authorised**

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

**6. Dieback and weed control**

(a) When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (ii) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

*dieback* means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

*fill* means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

*mulch* means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

*weed/s* means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



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J Clarkson  
A/SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

*Officer delegated under Section 20  
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

16 November 2015



# Plan 6723/1



## Legend

- Areas approved to clear
  - Roads
  - Cadastre
- Virtual Mosaic (LGATE-V001)



1:12,000

MSA 94  
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

*Jane Clarkson* Date 16/11/15  
Jane Clarkson

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20  
of the Environmental Protection Act 1996



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA





## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6723/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: City of Swan

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Road Reserve – 1327548, Upper Swan  
Road Reserve – 11727385, Upper Swan  
Road Reserve – 11345561, Ellenbrook

Local Government Authority: SWAN, CITY OF

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
3.5	-	Mechanical Removal	Road construction or upgrades

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 16 November 2015

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

##### Vegetation Description

The vegetation under application is mapped as:

- Beard association 949 which is described as low woodland; banksia (Shepherd et al, 2001);
- Beard association 4 which is described as medium woodland; marri and wandoo (Shepherd et al, 2001);
- Heddle vegetation complex Guilford complex, described as a mixture of open forest to tall open forest of *Corymbia calophylla* (Marri) - *Eucalyptus wandoo* (Wandoo) - *Eucalyptus marginata* (Jarrah) and woodland of *Eucalyptus wandoo* (Wandoo) (with rare occurrences of *Eucalyptus lane-poolei* (Salmon White Gum)). Minor components include *Eucalyptus rudis* (Flooded Gum) *Melaleuca raphiophylla* (Swamp Paperbark), (Heddle et al., 1980);
- Heddle vegetation complex Yanga complex, described as predominantly a closed scrub of *Melaleuca* species and low open forest of *Casuarina obesa* (Swamp Sheoak) on the flats subject to inundation. On drier sites the vegetation reflects the adjacent vegetation complexes of Bassendean and Coonambidgee (Heddle et al., 1980); and

##### Clearing Description

The proposed clearing of 3.5 hectares of native vegetation within Railway Parade Road reserve (PIN 11345561, PIN 11727385 and PIN 1327548) Ellenbrook and Upper Swan for the purpose of road and bridge construction.

The vegetation under application is in degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, with the exception of the approximately 0.2 hectares of vegetation near the intersection of Maralla Road which was classified as good (Keighery, 1994). The vegetation in a good condition was not located within Bushforever site 300.

##### Vegetation Condition

Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).

To:

Completely degraded – the structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

##### Comment

Vegetation condition was determined through a level 2 flora and vegetation survey of Apple Street and Railway Parade Road reserves, conducted by PGV Environmental in February 2014 (PGV, 2014a).

- Mattiske vegetation complex Gu complex, described as a mosaic of open forest of *Corymbia calophylla*-*Eucalyptus wandoo*-*Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* and woodland of *Eucalyptus wandoo* (Mattiske et al., 1998).

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

**Comments** The application to clear up to 3.5 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of road construction and upgrades is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The vegetation is considered to be in a degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, with only approximately 0.2 hectares within the northern most section of the site in a good (Keighery, 1994) condition (PGV, 2014a). The majority of the understorey shows significant signs of disturbance consisting predominately of weeds or completely devoid of native species (PGV, 2014a).

A black cockatoo habitat assessment of the application area did not record any foraging activity on site and did not record any trees containing hollows suitable for nesting (PGV, 2014b). Given this, clearing the vegetation under application is not likely to have a significant impact on black cockatoos.

Given the condition of vegetation, lack of understorey species, extent of native vegetation in the local area and results of the flora and black cockatoo assessments (PGV, 2014a; PGV, 2014b), the vegetation under application is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, a priority or threatened ecological community, or significant fauna habitat and is not likely to be classified as an area of high biodiversity.

The local area (10 kilometre radius) surrounding the application area retains approximately 30 percent native vegetation. The application area has been mapped within Beard vegetation associations 949 and 4 which retain 57 percent and 19 percent native vegetation within the Swan Coastal Plain Bioregion respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2014). As these figures are above the recommendation of 10 percent retention of native vegetation within constrained areas (EPA, 2006) and given the condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not likely to be considered clearing a significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape.

The application area crosses Ellen Brook and the associated Palusplain wetland. This portion of Ellen Brook also forms part of Bush Forever Site 300 (BF 300). Although the application area will impact on riparian vegetation and a conservation reserve the 0.15 hectares of vegetation within BF 300 is in a completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. Further the riparian vegetation has been mapped as *Melaleuca* and *Eucalyptus* species with little to no understorey present that has been highly modified from past disturbance (PGV, 2014c). Given the condition of the vegetation within this area, as the application area is within a road reserve adjacent to an existing road and as environment and hydrology have been taken into account in the bridge design (Hyder, 2015), impacts to riparian vegetation and BF 300 are not likely to be significant. Weed management will further ensure that the potential environmental impact to the bushforever site are minimised.

Given the degraded to completely condition of the vegetation within this area and the project design (Hyder, 2015), clearing the vegetation under application is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water or surface water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

Given the above the application is at variance to Principle (f), may be at variance to Principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining Clearing Principles.

**Methodology** References:  
 EPA (2006)  
 PGV (2014a)  
 PGV (2014b)  
 PGV (2014c)  
 Hyder (2015)  
 Keighery (1994)  
 Government of Western Australia (2014)

GIS datasets:  
 SAC Biodata sets accessed October 2015  
 Hydrography linear  
 Parks and Wildlife tenure  
 NWLRA, Extent of Native Vegetation

### Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

**Comments** The Department of Water advised that the proposal is located within the Swan River Surface Water Area; proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 and there may be a requirement to obtain a permit to interfere with bed and banks of a water course.

An Aboriginal Site of Significance is mapped within the application area. The applicant is advised to contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in relation to their requirements under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

The application area is located within the City of Swan and zoned as "General Rural".

No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

**Methodology** GIS datasets:  
Aboriginal Sites of significance

#### **4. References**

- EPA (2006) Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Level of Assessment for Proposals Affecting Natural Areas Within the System 6 Region and Swan Coastal Plain Portion of the System 1 Region. Guidance Statement No 10. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
- Government of Western Australia (2014) 2014 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2014. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Hedde, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.
- Hyder (2015) Railway Parade Bridge over Ellen Brook Preliminary Design Report, Options Assessment. July 2015
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment Australia.
- PGV (2014a) Proposed Bridge and Road Upgrade, Railway Parade, Upper Swan. Flora and Vegetation Survey. 5 February 2014 (DER ref: A956895).
- PGV (2014b) Proposed Bridge and Road Upgrade, Railway Parade, Upper Swan. Black Cockatoo habitat assessment. 5 February 2014 (DER ref: A956895).
- PGV (2014c) Proposed Bridge and Road Upgrade, Railway Parade, Upper Swan. Environmental Assessment. 8 February 2013 (DER ref: A956895).
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth.