



Application for a clearing permit (purpose permit)

Environmental Protection Act 1986 s 51E

FORM C2

Clearing of native vegetation is prohibited in Western Australia except where a clearing permit has been granted or an exemption applies. A person who causes or allows unauthorised clearing commits an offence.

CPS No.

6933

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
REGULATION

4 FEB 2016
Date stamp

Part 1 Assessment under the EPBC bilateral agreement

The native vegetation clearing processes under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) have been accredited by the Commonwealth of Australia under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and can be assessed under an assessment bilateral agreement.

To be assessed under the assessment bilateral agreement, the proposed clearing action must be referred to the Commonwealth under the EPBC Act prior to submitting this application form and Annex C7 must also be completed.

For further information see Annex C7 and *A guide to native vegetation clearing processes under the assessment bilateral agreement* available at www.der.wa.gov.au.

Do you want your proposed clearing action assessed in accordance with, or under, an EPBC Act Accredited Process such as the assessment bilateral agreement?

Yes No Proceed to Part 2

Has the proposed clearing action been referred to the Commonwealth of Australia under the EPBC Act?

Yes EPBC Number

No It cannot be assessed under an Accredited Process until it has been referred to the Commonwealth. Proceed to Part 2.

Has a decision been made under the EPBC Act as to whether or not the proposed clearing action is a controlled action?

Yes No Proceed to Part 2

Is the proposed clearing action a controlled action under the EPBC Act?

No It cannot be assessed under an Accredited Process, proceed to Part 2

Yes Complete and attach the requirements of Annex C7 to this completed form

List the controlling provisions identified in the notification of the controlled action decision

Annex C7 is complete and the required supporting information is attached

Part 2 Land details

The location of the land where clearing is proposed must be accurately described.

Land description: volume and folio number, lot or location number(s), Crown lease or reserve number, pastoral lease number or mining tenement number of all properties.

Future Road Reserve Lot: 3 DP: 98587 Volume: 2193 Folio: 445 Address: 57L Gngangara Road, Wangara 6065 Property Type: Freehold	Gngangara Road road reserve Buffalo Avenue road reserve
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FILE REFERENCE

Local government area

City of Wanneroo

Part 3 Proposal

An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow must be attached, clearly marking the area proposed to be cleared or

if you have the facilities, a digital map on CDROM of the area to clear as an ESRI shapefile with the following properties:

- Geometry type: polygon shape
- Coordinate system: GDA 1994 (Geographic latitude/longitude)
- Datum: GDA 1994 (Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994)

Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)

A total of 0.0848 hectares of remnant vegetation and one (1) individual remnant native tree as indicated on Clearing Plans 3217-1-0 and 3218-1-0.

Proposed method of clearing or final land use

Clearing to be undertaken using a bobcat and front end loader and a specialised tree lopping contractor.

Period within which clearing is proposed to be undertaken, e.g. May 2013 – June 2018

The Buffalo Avenue project is proposed to commence in late 2016 and the Gngangara Road clearing of an individual tree will be undertaken as soon as an approved permit is received.

Purpose of clearing

To facilitate the construction of a temporary access road and to eliminate a road safety risk to current road users.

Has this clearing application or any related matter been referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Yes No

Department of Environment
Regulation

5 FEB 2016

Clearing Regulation

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING - PURPOSE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED BUFFALO AVENUE CONNECTION ROAD, MADELEY AND WANGARA

ISSUE

To consider granting a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit to enable the construction of the temporary connection road between Buffalo Avenue and Gavranich Way in Madeley and Wangara. The proposed works provide residents an alternative, safer access in and out of the Madeley Rise Stage 6 development and also provides sufficient emergency access in and out of the development, if required.

BACKGROUND AND DETAIL OF PROJECT

The City of Wanneroo is proposing to undertake the above-mentioned works within the Buffalo Avenue road reserve and Future Road Reserve; Lot 3, No. 51L Gngangara Road, Wangara. The City's proposed temporary connection road works will impact upon remnant native vegetation contained within the two properties and it is for this reason that a clearing permit is being sought from the Department of Environment Regulation.

To help mitigate the proposed clearing works, the City proposes to retain suitable remnant native vegetation where possible within the proposed works area, provided that they are not severely impacted as a result of construction activities. The City, when undertaking the works, will ensure that all reasonable actions to mitigate the loss of remnant native vegetation occur, wherever feasible.

The proposed temporary connection road located between Buffalo Avenue and Gavranich Way will provide residents of the Madeley Rise Stage 6 development a safer, alternative access in and out of the development as well as providing emergency access, if required. Ultimately, the Gngangara Road realignment with Whitford's Avenue will occur and this road connection will be rendered redundant. At this point, residents will then be provided with a left in and left out intersection configuration at Buffalo Avenue and Gngangara Road. The temporary connection road works are proposed to commence during late 2016, dependent upon material and contractor availability.

The temporary connection road works has taken into account the requirements for native vegetation removal and where possible has sought to minimise the impact to remnant vegetation. The clearing permit application has addressed the worst case scenario where all identified remnant vegetation will need to be removed to a maximum of 0.0848 hectares. The City endeavours to retain remnant vegetation wherever possible and will ensure clearing is kept to an absolute minimum throughout these works.

FLORA AND VEGETATION ASSESSMENT

Vegetation Association, Condition Rating and Complex

The remnant native vegetation proposed for clearing to facilitate the temporary connection road between Buffalo Avenue and Gavranich Way, Madeley and Wangara contains remnant native vegetation belonging to the Karrakatta – Central and South Vegetation Complex.

A site assessment was undertaken by City staff in January 2016 and noted *Acacia saligna* as the abundant specie located within the clearing area. The understorey is predominately comprised of weed species.

The City also notes the presence of non-native tree species within the works area, including *Cupressus macrocarpa* and *Agonis flexuosa* that do not require approval to be removed under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Environmental Protection Act 1986 – Ten Clearing Principles

In relation to clearing principle 'a) it comprises a high level of biological diversity', the clearing up to a maximum total of 0.0848 hectares of remnant native vegetation to facilitate the construction of the connection road is not likely to be at variance with this principle as the areas proposed for clearing have been previously cleared and are devoid of an intact vegetation structure (upper, middle and lower

storey). A large number of *Acacia saligna* shrubs and a weedy understorey are found throughout the Lot 3. A search of the DPaW databases confirms that no threatened ecological communities or priority were found to occur within the proposed clearing area.

In relation to the clearing principle '*b) it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia*'; the clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle. The proposed clearing totals 0.0848 hectares of remnant native vegetation of predominantly *Acacia* species with a weedy understorey, thus unlikely to impact significantly on habitat for fauna species. Susan Park, a City managed conservation reserve is located 200 metres from the proposed connection road that contains intact vegetation in a Good or better condition and is likely to support fauna habitat.

In relation to clearing principle '*c) it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, flora declared to be rare under the Wildlife Protection Act 1950*'; A search of the DPaW databases confirms that no rare flora were found to occur within Lot 3, therefore the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle

In relation to clearing principle '*d) it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community*'; no Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) or buffer area occurs within the proposed clearing location, therefore the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle

In relation to clearing principle '*e) it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared*'; the clearing up to a maximum of 0.0848 hectares of remnant native vegetation to facilitate the proposed connection road works are within the Karrakatta – Central and South Vegetation Complex. The current extent of the vegetation complex is 23.91 % within the Perth Metropolitan Region in accordance with the Perth Biodiversity Project's 'Native Vegetation extent by Vegetation complexes on the Swan Coastal Plain south of Moore River dataset (2013).' Due to the current extent of the vegetation complex, the small clearing requirement, the clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle.

In relation to clearing principle '*f) if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland*'; the immediate area surrounding the proposed location of the proposed temporary connection road works does not contain any wetlands or watercourses, therefore the clearing is not at variance with this principle. The closest watercourse or wetland, is a Conservation Category Wetland (Lake Goolelal) that occurs 865 metres west from the proposed connection road between Buffalo Avenue and Gavranich Way, Madeley.

In relation to clearing principle '*g) if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation*'; the clearing up to a maximum of 0.0848 hectares to facilitate the connection road works is not likely to cause land degradation in the short or long-term due to the small footprint of the works.

In relation to clearing principle '*h) the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area*'; the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle as the clearing does not occur within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) or a Bush Forever Site. Additionally, intact remnant bushland area does not occur within Lot 3 where clearing is proposed.

In relation to clearing principle '*i) the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water*'; the clearing up to a maximum of 0.0848 hectares of remnant vegetation does not occur within the Public Drinking Water Source Areas or the Perth Coastal Underground Water Pollution Control Area and due to the relatively minor nature of the clearing, is not at variance with this principle.

In relation to clearing principle '*j) if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding*'; the clearing up to a maximum of 0.0848 hectares of remnant vegetation to facilitate the temporary connection road works is not likely to be at variance with this principle due to the small development footprint.

RECOMMENDATION

The City seeks the Department of Environment Regulation's approval to clear a maximum of 0.0848 hectares in order to facilitate the temporary connection road between Buffalo Avenue and Gavranich Way, Madeley and Wangara.

PHOTOS – PURPOSE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE PURPOSE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED BUFFALO AVENUE CONNECTION ROAD, MADELEY AND WANGARA

Photo 1: Individual *Cupressus macrocarpa* (red circle) and 2 x *Agonis flexuosa* (yellow circles) to be removed to facilitate the proposed temporary connection road works, provided for the Departments information only.



Photo 2: View looking west across Lot 3 towards *Acacia saligna* trees present within the proposed works area.



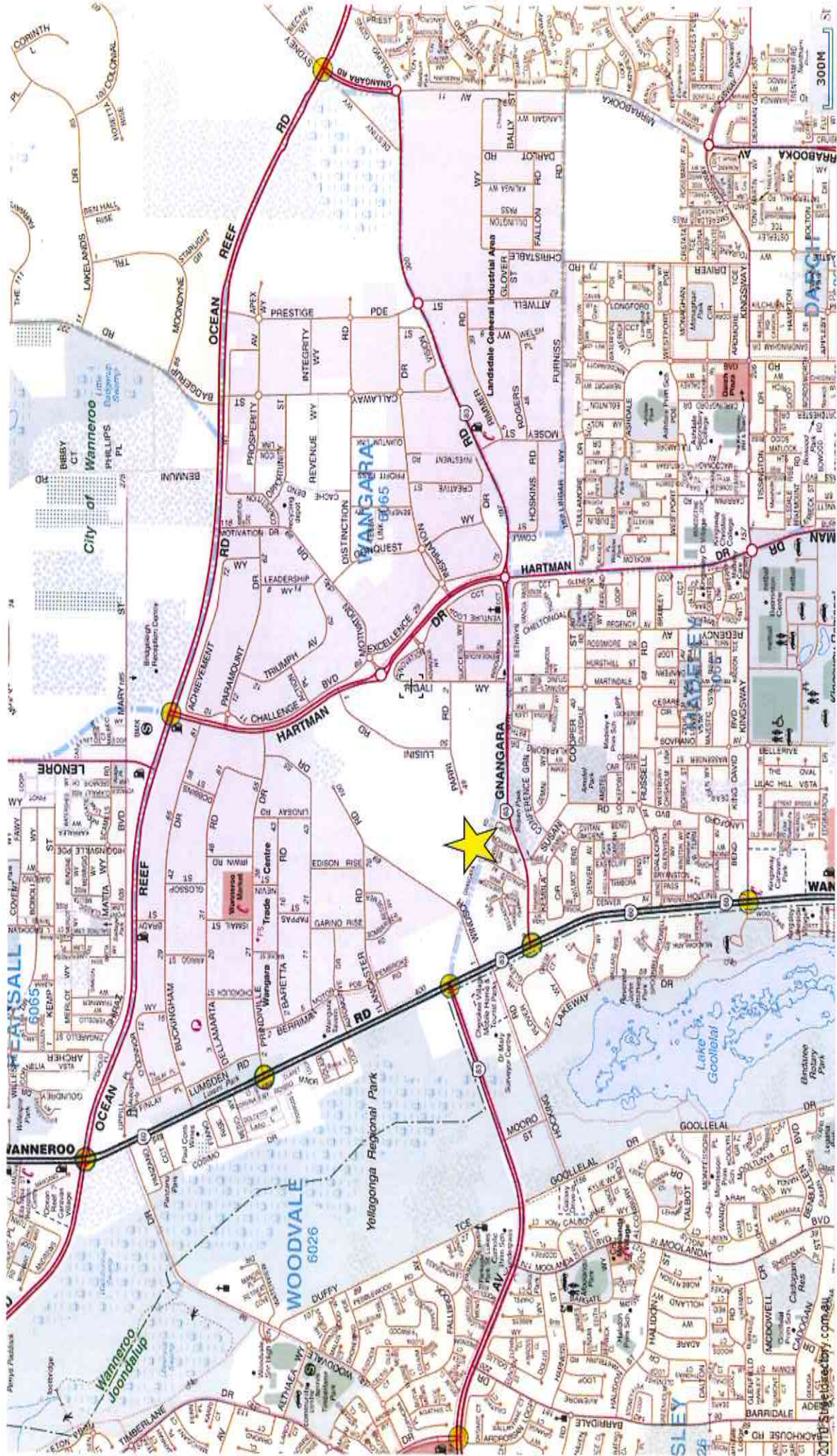
Photo 3: View looking south-west into Lot 3 towards *Acacia saligna* trees present within the proposed works area.



Photo 4: View looking south-east into Lot 3 towards *Acacia saligna* trees present within the proposed works area.



LOCATION MAP – PURPOSE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED BUFFALO AVENUE CONNECTION ROAD, MADELEY AND WANGARA



Location of the Proposed
Buffalo Avenue connection road,
Madeley and Wangara



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING - PURPOSE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL TREE REMOVAL, MADELEY

ISSUE

To consider granting a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit to enable the removal of an unsafe tree within the Gngangara Road road reserve, Madeley. The proposed works will ensure the unhealthy tree is removed and thus reduces the potential risks for road users.

BACKGROUND AND DETAIL OF PROJECT

The City of Wanneroo is proposing to undertake the above-mentioned works within the Gngangara Road road reserve. The City's proposed removal works impact upon one (1) individual, locally native tree contained within the road reserve and it is for this reason that a clearing permit is being sought from the Department of Environment Regulation.

The tree is rapidly declining in health due to its location in a built environment and has likely been affected by the residential development directly to the south. The tree is located within the clear zone of Gngangara Road and its proximity to road users is most concerning to the City. The decline in health will likely result in the loss of limbs and therefore as the tree is located on the edge of the bitumised road surface it may result in an unsafe environment for road users.

The City proposed to remove the tree as soon as a clearing permit is granted, therefore removing the risks to road users and as the tree is not located within a strand of intact vegetation, no impacts to surrounding vegetation will be incurred.

FLORA AND VEGETATION ASSESSMENT

Vegetation Association, Condition Rating and Complex

The individual remnant native tree requiring removal due to its poor health and safety risk to road users is within located within the Karrakatta – Central and South Vegetation Complex.

A site assessment was undertaken by the City staff in early December 2015, with a recommendation that an Arboriculturist also attend to undertake a specialist tree assessment due to the trees poor health (the Arborist's Report is attached to this application for further information – Attachment 1).

The site assessment identified the following individual tree specie as requiring removal;

- *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* x 1.

The City therefore requests the clearing up to a maximum of one (1) individual remnant native tree.

Environmental Protection Act 1986 – Ten Clearing Principles

In relation to clearing principle 'a) *it comprises a high level of biological diversity*'; the clearing up to a maximum total of one (1) individual remnant tree to reduce the safety risks to road users of Gngangara Road is not at variance with this principle as the tree proposed for clearing is located in a previously cleared area that is devoid of an intact vegetation (upper, middle and lower storey). A search of the DPaW databases confirms that no threatened ecological communities or priority were found to occur within the proposed clearing location.

In relation to the clearing principle 'b) *it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia*'; the clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle. The clearing proposed totals one (1) individual remnant tree, thus unlikely to impact significantly on habitat for fauna species. A short distance (150 metres) from the individual Tuart's location is Susan Park which contains intact remnant native vegetation and likely provides suitable habitat for fauna species.

In relation to clearing principle 'c) *it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, flora declared to be rare under the Wildlife Protection Act 1950*'; A search of the DPaW databases confirms

that no rare flora were found to occur within this location of the Gnangara Road road reserve, therefore the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle

In relation to clearing principle 'd) *it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community*'; no Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) or buffer area occurs within the proposed clearing locations, therefore the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

In relation to clearing principle 'e) *it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared*'; the clearing up to a maximum of one (1) individual remnant trees to remove the risk to road users is within the Karrakatta – Central and South Vegetation Complex. The current extent of the vegetation complex is 23.91 % within the Perth Metropolitan Region in accordance with the Perth Biodiversity Project's 'Native Vegetation extent by Vegetation complexes on the Swan Coastal Plain south of Moore River dataset (2013).' Due to the current extent of the vegetation complex, the small clearing requirement, the clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle.

In relation to clearing principle 'f) *if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland*'; the immediate area surrounding the proposed location of the clearing does not contain any wetlands or watercourses, therefore the clearing is not at variance with this principle. The closest watercourse or wetland, a Conservation Category Wetland (Lake Goolelal) occurs 650 metres west from the proposed clearing.

In relation to clearing principle 'g) *if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation*'; the clearing up to a maximum of one (1) individual remnant tree to remove the safety risk to road users is not likely to cause land degradation in the short or long-term due to the small footprint of the clearing works.

In relation to clearing principle 'h) *the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area*'; the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle as the clearing does not occur within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) or a Bush Forever Site. Additionally, intact remnant bushland area does not occur within the road island where clearing of one tree is proposed.

In relation to clearing principle 'i) *the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water*'; the clearing up to a maximum of one (1) individual remnant tree does not occur within the Public Drinking Water Source Areas or the Perth Coastal Underground Water Pollution Control Area and therefore is not at variance with this principle.

In relation to clearing principle 'j) *if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding*'; the clearing up to a maximum of one (1) individual remnant tree to reduce the risk to road users is not likely to be at variance with this principle due to the small clearing footprint.

RECOMMENDATION

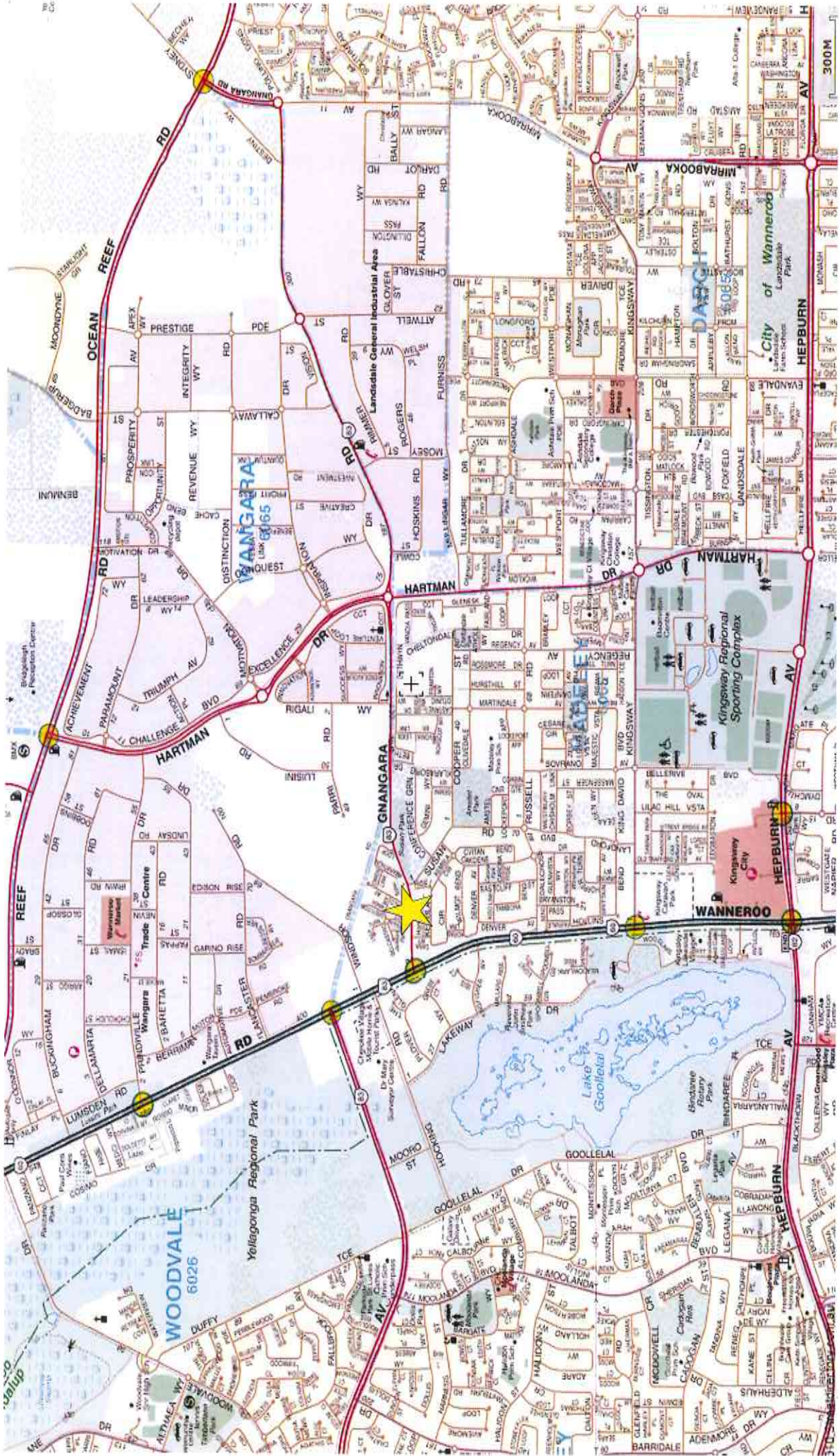
The City seeks the Department of Environment Regulation's approval to clear a maximum of one (1) individual remnant tree in poor health in order to reduce the safety risk to road users utilising Gnangara Road, Madeley.

PHOTOS – PURPOSE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE PURPOSE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL TREE REMOVAL, MADELEY

Photo 1: Individual *Eucalyptus gomphocephala* to be removed in order to reduce the safety risk to road users utilising Gnangara Road, Madeley. (red circle).



LOCATION MAP – PURPOSE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL TREE REMOVAL, MADELEY



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Location of the proposed individual tree removal, Madeley