

## Public Question Time and Submissions

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### Questions from Helen Halliday:

1. I wish to know where and how many trees are being planted in the CoPP in the 2021-22 year?
2. What criterion is being used to make these decisions?
3. Where can the tree planting program be viewed?
4. Where is the most up to date information of progress to reduce the impact of hot spots with particular reference to areas of social need?
5. In addition to Mr Darton's concerns previously raised regarding the median strips on Brighton Road, can Council provide information on previous proposed plans for tree planting in these areas, and what will happen to these plans when Council 'ceases maintenance of the trees under contract at the beginning of April 2022'.

### Responses:

1. In the 2020-2021 financial year we planted 894 trees. From July 2021 we planted 444 trees; we hope to plant 500- 700 (infill) trees this coming planting season.
2. Most of the trees planted are infill tree plantings in vacant sites and planting trees to replace removals. The criteria for making these decisions is set by Greening Port Phillip 2010. Some trees are planted under the Street Tree Planting Guide 2017-2022 which prioritises specific streets with low tree canopy for additional planting. Heat and canopy data is used to help identify and prioritise tree planting locations in the City. Other factors include biodiversity, neighbourhood character and amenity. Available road and footpath space, underground services and powerlines also influence where trees can be planted. You can find more information in Council's Street Tree Planting Program (2017-2022)
3. The Street Tree Planting Plan and Greening Port Phillip can be viewed on our website: [Greening Port Phillip - City of Port Phillip](#)

We acknowledge that you are interested in having access to more detailed information including future plans and locations of recent tree plantings, and we are considering how we can share more information via the Council website.

4. There isn't currently a central spot where all up-to-date information is listed as a comprehensive resource as this information comes from various datasets. We are working in partnership with South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) on several projects.

The [Asset Vulnerability Assessment project](#) that assessed how council buildings, drainage and local road assets are predicted to be impacted by climate change, and the potential costs to councils was completed in November 2021 by SECCCA. Officers are looking at ways to embed these results into Council's practices. As part of the Asset Vulnerability Assessment project we looked at heatwaves and extreme temperatures, modelling how this may change over time based on different climate scenarios. This data

is not yet publicly available however we are using it to inform strategies such as the South Melbourne Structure Plan and Greening Port Phillip.

We are working in partnership with SECCCA to commence delivery of the 'Resilient Communities Program' aimed at understanding climate change risk to local communities, particularly communities and services most vulnerable to climate change and building community resilience.

We are currently reviewing the sustainability pages of Council's website and will be providing the Community access to an updated MyClimate tool post this review. In the meantime you can access the tool here. <https://myclimate.indraweb.io/> It contains the same data and functionality as the previous tool did however a new platform is being used.

DELWP has committed to updating heat mapping across the Melbourne Metro area every four years and making this information available to the community. You can access the DELWP information here. [Cooling and Greening Melbourne Interactive Map](https://planning.vic.gov.au) (planning.vic.gov.au). Although the data in this viewer is not as refined as the original CoPP data, it is from 2014 and 2018 with a new data set to be added soon.

We also worked with the University of New South Wales to map and model heat in South Melbourne to understand what built environment interventions could be done to reduce heat in the area and create a comfortable and liveable precinct for residents, workers and visitors. [The findings from this study](#) are not just South Melbourne specific, but are applicable across the whole of the City.

5. We had committed to planting 62 trees within the median strips of Brighton Rd in spring of 2021. However, as we were in the process of handing back all tree maintenance responsibilities to VicRoads, this project did not progress.

*\*Please note answers to any questions in Public Question Time and Councillor Question Time which were answered at the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.*