9.4.4 Landscape Code

9.4.4.1 Application

(1) This code applies to assessable development for which the Landscape Code is identified in the 'Assessment Benchmarks and Required Outcomes' column in Part 5 — Tables of Assessment /Categorisation Tables.

(2) When using this code, reference should be made to Section 5.3.2 — Determining the category of development and category of assessment and, where applicable, Section 5.3.3 — Determining the requirements for accepted development and assessment benchmarks and other matters for assessable development located in Part 5 — Tables of assessment.

9.4.4.2 Purpose and Overall Outcomes

(1) The purpose of the Landscape Code is to ensure that landscape works are suitable for the site and contribute to the established urban landscape and character of the Ipswich local government area.

(2) The purpose of this code will be achieved through the following overall outcomes:

a. landscaping responds to prevailing site conditions, softens the impact of bulky buildings and structures, and provides appropriate areas of sun and shade;
b. existing place and character is enhanced by landscaping, shade is provided where practical in road reserves, footpaths and cycleways, open spaces, and public places;
c. visual amenity is maintained at adjoining properties and in public places;
d. landscaping provides a clear delineation between public, semi-public, and private areas;
e. selected plants are appropriate for their location and purpose at maturity;
f. weed and pest species are suppressed;
g. the design of landscaping supports a safe and inclusive environment;
h. the landscape can be efficiently and effectively maintained, and requirements for watering are minimised;
i. road reserves and car parking are functional and can be effectively maintained whilst providing areas for the establishment or continuation of tree canopy;
j. landscape buffers improve amenity and separate incompatible uses;
k. the quality of environmental water is preserved or enhanced;
l. the integrity of infrastructure is preserved; and
m. public open space is an inclusive and sustainable community resource.

9.4.4.3 Specific Benchmarks for Assessment

Table 9.4.4.3.1. — Benchmarks for Assessable Development

1 **Site Response**	
PO1.1 Landscaping is designed to enhance the development by responding to the street, adjoining lots, and other opportunities or constraints affecting the site.	**AO1.1** No accepted outcome provided.
PO1.2 Landscaping is designed to respond to the orientation of the site and the development, allowing for solar access, shading, maintenance of microclimate and energy conservation or renewable energy production. Note: A landscape concept/design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO1.2** No accepted outcome provided.
PO1.3 Landscaping is of an appropriate size and scale, and located to minimise the bulk and visual impact of the development.	**AO1.3** Landscaping is designed to: a. reduce the visual impact of buildings, structures and fencing; and b. provide privacy for residential uses.
PO1.4 Landscaping is designed to suit the prevailing climatic and	**AO1.4** No accepted outcome provided.

soil conditions at the site.	
2 **Contribution to Place and Character**	
PO2.1 Landscaping is designed to complement the landscape character of the local area. Note: A landscape concept/design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of the SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO2.1** No accepted outcome provided.
PO2.2 Existing landscape features, including mature trees, are retained and integrated into the development. Note: Mature native trees have grown to their expected maximum height. A landscape concept/design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of the SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome. Trees identified in a landscape site analysis for retention are protected in accordance with *AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites.*	**AO2.2** No accepted outcome provided.
PO2.3 Street tree species are chosen for their suitability for the size and scale of the road reserve and where there are existing street trees, consistency with the prevailing street trees. Note: Street trees are chosen in accordance with tree species in the SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy.	**AO2.3** Where a street or locality has established character derived from existing street trees, the identical species is used.
PO2.4 Trees are provided for shade along active transport routes, and in open spaces and public places. Note: Street trees are to be chosen in accordance with tree species in the SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy.	**AO2.4** No accepted outcome provided.
3 **Visual Amenity**	
PO3.1 Landscaping provides an effective screen to development to maintain the amenity of adjoining premises. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of the SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO3.1** No accepted outcome provided.
4 **Delineation of Private, Public and Semi Public Areas**	
PO4.1 Landscaping provides visual and wayfinding cues to distinguish between public areas, semi-public areas, circulation areas and private areas. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Scheme Policy - Landscape Works (SC6.7) is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO4.1.1** Circulation areas are defined by: a. clearly delineated pathways; b. low walls and seating; c. ground level changes and surface treatment variation; and d. edge treatments of mass or feature plantings. **AO4.1.2** Private areas are delineated by: a. changes in ground level; b. mass planting such as hedging; or c. fencing.

5 **Plant Species and Planting**	
PO5.1 Plant species are chosen that have appropriate maintenance requirements, and that are suitable for the space available, the microclimate and the climate.	**AO5.1** Locally indigenous species are chosen as a preference over introduced species.
PO5.2 Plant species are chosen to ensure the long-term performance and maintenance access requirements of the landscape when mature.	**AO5.2** Plant species are chosen with full consideration of their planting location, mature height and width and habit.
PO5.3 Plant species with thorns, fruits or berries or other characteristics that may cause amenity or maintenance issues are located where the impact of these characteristics is minimised.	**AO5.3** No accepted outcome provided.
PO5.4 Plant species and stock sizes are sufficient to serve the intended purpose of the plantings. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of the SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO5.4** Planting densities and stock sizes are provided that will achieve full coverage of a mulched planting area within two years.
PO5.5 Landscape work does not include any recognised pest species.	**AO5.5** Planting does not include any: a. prohibited invasive plants of Queensland; b. restricted invasive plants of Queensland; or c. weeds of national significance.
6 **Safety**	
PO6.1 The design of public places supports a safe and inclusive environment by minimising concealed areas, providing clear sightlines throughout and good visibility for all entrance and exit points. Note: The *Queensland Government CPTED Guidelines for Queensland* provides information to assist with the integration of crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles into the planning, design and management of development.	**AO6.1** No accepted outcome provided.
PO6.2 Landscape elements are designed, located and constructed to achieve a reasonable and practical response to public risk.	**AO6.2** No accepted outcome provided.
PO6.3 Landscape elements are designed, located and constructed to ensure movement networks are maintained by: a. ensuring vegetation does not obstruct sightlines for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists; b. maintaining visibility to and from road and building corners, car park entrances and driveways; c. selecting species of plants that are located in the vicinity of movement networks with a canopy clearance at maturity that assists visibility and traffic movement; d. providing sufficient illumination for the use of pathways at night; and e. ensuring vegetation does not inhibit the effectiveness of street lighting or conceal signage. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO6.3** No accepted outcome provided.

Note: *The Austroads Guide to Road Design and the Department of Transport and Main Roads Landscape Manual* provide information to assist with designing landscaping works to meet this performance outcome.	
7 **Maintenance**	
PO7.1 Landscaping is designed and constructed to facilitate efficient and effective maintenance by providing: a. sufficient access for maintenance machinery; b. a water supply sufficient for the continued health of the landscape; c. surface treatments that are appropriate for their intended use, and mulching that is sufficient to suppress weed species (where mulching depths are not specified on standard drawings); d. soils that are suited to the planting and that contain sufficient nutrients to ensure long term growth; e. defined edges to garden beds and other surfaces to minimise maintenance at surface edges; and f. minimised areas of solid walls or fences, or additional elements such as vertical garden or creepers and murals in order to discourage graffiti. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO7.1** No accepted outcome provided.
PO7.2 Where planting is provided with a limited root growth area (a podium or roof planting or where planting is constrained by a root barrier) an adequate growing medium, water supply, and drainage system provides for the continued health of the plant. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO7.2** No accepted outcome provided.
8 **Road Reserves and Car Parking**	
PO8.1 Landscaping within road reserves is designed to provide for the safe movement of all forms of traffic by providing: a. a canopy clearance requiring minimal maintenance at maturity to allow for traffic movement; b. sufficient sight lines at intersections for all modes of transport; c. a planting design that requires minimal maintenance, is consistent with the function of the road and at a scale that is in proportion with the width of the road reserve; and d. efficient and effective lighting. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome. Note: *The Austroads Guide to Road Design and the Department of Transport and Main Roads Landscape Manual* provide information to assist with designing landscaping to meet this performance outcome.	**AO8.1** No accepted outcome provided.
PO8.2 Landscaping in car parks is designed to provide for the safe movement of traffic and to provide an opportunity for tree canopy and shade in urban areas by providing: a. a planting plan that achieves shade cover of 50% at maturity;	**AO8.2** No accepted outcome provided.

b. plant selection that minimises maintenance requirements and damage to kerbs and pavements; c. protection for plantings from damage by traffic by kerbs, wheel stops or bollards; d. shade structures that do not compromise landscape outcomes and do not impede access to natural sunlight and rainwater for landscape elements; e. a canopy clearance that is easily maintained at maturity to allow for traffic movement; f. sufficient sight lines at intersections for all modes of transport, including at planting bed ends; and g. efficient and effective lighting. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements with SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	
9 **Landscape Buffers**	
PO9.1 Where buffers are used to separate incompatible uses, they are integrated into the overall landscape design for the site, incorporate any existing native vegetation and are provided with an appropriate maintenance plan. Note: A landscape design plan and proposed maintenance plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO9.1** No accepted outcome provided.
10 **Earthworks**	
PO10.1 The design of mounding and batters is appropriate to their location and purpose and enhances the visual appeal of the landscaping. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome.	**AO10.1** No accepted outcome provided.
PO10.2 The design and construction of retaining walls provides safety, an attractive appearance, easy access for maintenance and incorporates planting wherever practical. Note: Part 5 — Standards for the Provisions of Earthworks of SC6.2 General Works and Infrastructure Planning Scheme Policy provides further guidance for the design and construction of retaining walls.	**AO10.2** No accepted outcome provided.
PO10.3 Where areas of the site are degraded, development includes the re-establishment of vegetation to prevent erosion. Note: A landscape design plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy is the preferred method for addressing this performance outcome. Where a rehabilitated natural environment is required, rehabilitation is in accordance with the requirements of SC 6.5 Planning Scheme Policy - Environmental Management (SC6.5).	**AO10.3** No accepted outcome provided.
11 **Water Conservation and Management**	
PO11.1 Irrigation systems minimise the use of potable water and stormwater harvesting is maximised.	**AO11.1** Irrigation systems use only water collected on site.

Note: The Ipswich City Council Assets Specification Irrigation Manual provides guidance for the specification and design of irrigation systems in landscape works that are to be dedicated to Council.	
PO11.2 Stormwater is managed by an effective stormwater system. Note: Part 3 — Stormwater Quantity, Quality and Floodplain Management and Part 8 – Standards for Construction of Stormwater Drainage Works of SC6.2 General Works and Infrastructure Planning Scheme Policy provide guidance for the design and construction stormwater systems.	**AO11.2** No accepted outcome provided.
PO11.3 Landscaping is provided in accordance with the principles of water sensitive urban design including: a. maximising stormwater harvesting; b. using alternatives to impervious pavement where landing and existing vegetation will benefit from infiltration of rainwater; and c. using natural channel design (maintaining and enhancing natural drainage lines and riparian buffers). Note: Part 3 —Stormwater Quantity, Quality and Floodplain Management of the SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy provides guidance for the design and construction stormwater systems. Note: The stormwater management system design should align with the goals of the *Natural Resources Management Plan 2009 - 2031 (Healthy land and water)*.	**AO11.3** No accepted outcome provided.
12 **Infrastructure**	
PO12.1 The integrity of infrastructure is not compromised.	**AO12.1** Plant species are selected and sited having regard to the location, preservation and access requirements of public transport and utilities infrastructure.
13 **Public Open Space**	
PO13.1 Landscaping in areas that are or will become public open space areas must: a. be designed to be appropriate to their function and location; b. be robust and have low maintenance requirements; c. provide an inclusive and sustainable community resource; and d. be supported by an open space maintenance management plan and schedule identifying the ongoing maintenance requirements of the public space area. Note: The delivery of any part of a network identified in the approved plans for trunk infrastructure (parks and open space) is governed by Part 6 Local Government Infrastructure Plan. Note: SC6.7 Landscape Works Planning Scheme Policy provides guidance for the requirements of a maintenance management plan and schedule (6.7.4.3 (f) Maintenance management plan and schedule).	**AO13.1** No accepted outcome provided.

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