

Objective 3: Greening the Town Centres

Our City's Town Centres are well established urban hubs of vibrant shopping and recreational activity. Since the adoption of Greening Plan 2014 they have also been the focus of intensive greening activity, with the aim of transforming these built up areas into green recreational hubs. As a result, each Town Centre's unique character is now being further enhanced through sensitively integrated greening projects.

The City's Parks and Engineering Services will continue to work closely with Place Managers and Town Teams to identify and prioritise the location, nature and extent of greening activities to maximise function, amenity and environmental benefits. Where appropriate, Town Centre greening activities will continue to extend beyond Town Centre boundaries to adjacent commercial and mixed use zones.

Town Centres are comprised of intermeshed public and private spaces and through their built-up nature tend to limit the space available for tree canopy. This has been taken into consideration in setting of the following targets, which are intermediate between the canopy cover targets for public and private land.

Targets:

- Average Tree canopy cover of 20% for the Town Centres by 2050 (interim target: 9.7% by 2023 [based on 2019 mapping data](#), up from 8% in 2014)
- Year-on-year enhancement, enlargement or addition of amenity plantings in each of the Town Centres

Actions:

- Select trees and amenity plantings based on the functional needs of each Town Centre and in consultation with relevant stakeholders
- Proactively engage with and provide technical advice to stakeholders involved in greening activities
- Develop a program of tree planting in City-managed open air car parks to achieve 80% tree canopy cover in accordance with the City's Built Form Policy 7.1.1