

20. JAMES CONDON PARK OAK TREES

The Board received a report seeking a decision regarding a request from Mr T Hinkley for the removal of two oak trees in James Condon Park and requesting the Council to pay for the damage allegedly caused by the trees.

Walter Fielding-Cotterell, City Arboriculturalist, spoke to the Board in response to the issue of the trees. The oak trees are over 100 years old and are considered to be of significant value to the landscape of the park and neighbourhood. The Council has sought to take all reasonable steps to alleviate problems caused to residents by trees on Council land. To alleviate these problems the Council has previously removed two large oak trees, carried out extensive pruning and a building cleaning operation at its expense. The Council is willing to carry out one more cleaning operation to remove the sticky gum substance from the roof of the garage and house. After that an annual programme of aphid treatment to keep the oaks free of aphids and periodic pruning to prevent further encroachment across the park boundary will be carried out.

The Board **resolved:**

1. To decline Mr Hinkley's request for the removal of the two oak trees, on the basis that the Council will carry out the work proposed by the Council's arboriculturalist.
2. To request staff to commence the process of seeking protection for the oak trees under the City Plan.