| OBJECTIVE 1: Maintain and Increase Tree Canopy Cover on Public Land | Key Result Areas (KRA) | Success Indicators | Action Plan |
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| Tree canopy is defined as foliage that grows above 3 meters and can provide overhead shade for people, surfaces and materials within the environment. The heat island effect is the risk from insufficient cover that can cause significantly hotter suburban temperatures.<br><br>In addition to addressing the effects of climate change and maintaining native bird species habitat, increased street tree numbers will improve aesthetics, mental health and lower urban traffic speeds.<br><br>Research shows that when canopy cover reaches 30% mental health and heat reduction benefits are experienced.<br><br>Studies have found homes in leafy streets have been valued much higher than those in the same suburb, which do not have trees.<br><br>Cottesloe's total tree canopy cover (public and private land) was calculated at 13.1% in 2017 and showed an increase to 14.1% in 2020 but dropped to 13% (51 ha) in 2023 which translates to a loss of 4.3 ha canopy cover in 3 years.<br><br>This sudden decline reflects loss of mature trees through natural senescence (close to end of life) and clearing on private property for subdivisions and developments. Newly planted street trees are yet to reach their full potential in adding canopy value and are expected to compensate for some of these losses.<br><br>The average canopy cover in the central Perth metro sub-region is 10-15% (DPLH, 2018) while urban WA is a bit higher at 19.95% (www.greenerspacesbetterplaces.com.au, 2019).<br><br>Based on the 2017 - 2023 data Cottesloe's cover was within the average range for the central Perth metro sub-region but below average for urban WA. As an example of other Australian cities goals in achieving increased tree canopy cover, Sydney has set targets of a minimum green cover of 40% including 27% canopy cover by 2050. Cottesloe has the advantage of space in publicly owned land with extremely large verges and wide median strips that can be utilised and infilled, therefore through tree planting programs and retention of mature trees Cottesloe aims to increase tree canopy to 30% by 2040.<br><br>Public vs private tree canopy values are not available from Arbor Carbon yet so data on total canopy cover has been used. | KRA 1: Tree canopy<br><br>KRA 2: Number of trees planted through the annual tree planting program on verges, median strips and public open spaces.<br><br>KRA 3: Length and area of greenways for native habitat corridors that link into surrounding western suburbs<br><br>KRA 4: Existing tree health and survival | SI 1: 30% canopy cover by 2040 in line with WALGA's Urban Forest Advocacy position.<br>Net increase of canopy cover of 1% per annum, averaged as measured by an imaging cycle completed every 3-5 years.<br><br>SI2: Net year-on-year increase in street tree numbers of 50 trees on average per year.<br><br>SI3: Maintain and enhance 7.6km regional greenways along foreshore and Perth to Fremantle train line (link between significant bushland, coastal, riverine, wetland as per WESROC Greening Plan).<br><br>SI4: Develop 3.6km of greenways along Grant Street, Broome Street, Jarrad Street and Marmion Street between Grant and North Street (link between open space, parks and recreation areas to remnant bushland as per WESROC Greening Plan).<br><br>SI5: Identify, assess and manage new diseases and pests such as myrtle rust and Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) which are likely to affect the health of certain tree species in the future.<br><br>SI6: Maintain tree health of all trees and particularly the iconic Norfolk Island Pine trees throughout dry periods. | **Assessment and Planning:**<br>Conduct a comprehensive assessment of the current tree canopy cover in Cottesloe, including both public and private land.<br>Identify areas with the greatest potential for tree planting and canopy expansion, such as large verges, wide median strips, parks, and open spaces.<br>Analyse the causes of canopy loss, including natural senescence and clearing for subdivisions and developments, to inform future actions.<br><br>**Public Awareness and Engagement:**<br>Launch a public awareness campaign to educate residents and property owners about the benefits of trees and the importance of increasing tree canopy cover.<br>Collaborate with local schools, community organizations, and businesses to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility for tree planting and maintenance.<br><br>**Tree Planting Programs:**<br>Develop a long-term tree planting program that targets areas with low canopy cover and high potential for growth.<br>Prioritize native tree species that are well-adapted to the local climate and promote biodiversity.<br>Establish partnerships with local nurseries, and environmental organizations to ensure a sustainable supply of quality trees.<br>Provide incentives or subsidies for residents and property owners to plant and maintain trees on their land. (Similar to Native Waterwise Verge Rebate)<br><br>**Mature Tree Retention:**<br>Implement policies and regulations to protect mature trees from being removed without valid reasons.<br>Work with property developers and landowners to explore alternatives to tree removal, such as tree retention plans, innovative design solutions, and landscaping techniques that accommodate existing trees.<br>Provide resources and expertise to assist property owners in maintaining the health and longevity of mature trees.<br><br>**Monitoring and Maintenance:**<br>Establish a monitoring system to track the progress of tree planting initiatives and canopy cover expansion.<br>Conduct regular assessments to evaluate the health and growth of newly planted trees.<br>Implement a maintenance program to ensure the long-term survival and vitality of the tree canopy, including watering, pruning, and pest control measures.<br>Train and engage a dedicated workforce to assist with ongoing maintenance tasks.<br><br>**Long-Term Planning and Policy Integration:**<br>Integrate tree planting and canopy expansion requirements into development regulations and planning schemes.<br>Continuously review and update policies to ensure alignment with evolving best practices and scientific research in urban forestry. |

| OBJECTIVE 2: Maintain and Expand Canopy Cover on Private Land and Through New Development | Key Result Areas (KRA) | Success Indicators | Action Plan |
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| Subdivisions and new larger developments are other attributes to a decline in the Town's tree canopy. A Significant Tree Register is needed to record trees that contribute significantly to canopy.<br><br>Policies that focus on preserving and enhancing the existing tree canopy and soft landscaping in new developments is needed to protect these valued trees. This also sets out criteria for canopy width, height and trunk dimension to determine whether trees not on the register can be removed.<br><br>Under these circumstances, a scheme amendment would require a tree removal application to be submitted while the policy would set out the decision making process.<br><br>This needs to be done in conjunction with proactive engagement with landowners and advocacy with the state government to achieve set targets.<br><br>Therefore if mature trees can be legislatively retained on private land the set target of 30% total canopy cover (private and public land) by 2040 will be achievable. | KRA 1: Retention of existing trees and growth of canopy cover on privately owned land through<br><br>KRA 2: Understanding of where all significant trees are located and a process that protects them from removal<br><br>KRA 3: Criteria to qualify trees as significant trees and removal decision making process for the removal of tress that are not deemed as significant but do have canopy value<br><br>KRA 4: Engage and educate developers about the significance of trees and soft landscaping in their projects.<br><br>KRA 5: Advocate for revisions to state planning legislation and policies that promote the protection of privately owned trees and their owners from tree-related liabilities. | SI 1: Maximise the retention of tree canopy on private land to achieve 30% canopy cover by 2040 in line with WALGA's Urban Forest Advocacy position.<br><br>Net increase of canopy cover of 1% per annum, averaged as measured by an imaging cycle completed every 3-5 years.<br><br>SI 2: Compile and maintain a comprehensive list of significant trees on private properties.<br><br>SI 3: Develop policies to administer the Significant Tree Register and criteria for trees that can be deemed as significant | **Policy Implementation:**<br>Enforce policies that specifically target the preservation and enhancement of the tree canopy and soft landscaping in new developments. These policies should include guidelines for developers to incorporate green spaces, tree planting, and sustainable landscaping techniques in their projects.<br><br>**Incentives and Benefits:**<br>To encourage landowners and developers to comply with the tree preservation and soft landscaping policies, the town can provide incentives such as expedited permitting processes, or density bonuses for projects that prioritize and demonstrate commitment to environmental conservation.<br><br>**Public Awareness and Education:**<br>Launch public awareness campaigns to educate residents and property owners about the importance of maintaining and expanding the tree canopy and vegetation cover. Highlight the benefits of green spaces, such as improved air quality, enhanced aesthetics, and the overall well-being of the community.<br><br>**Collaboration with Landowners:**<br>Engage proactively with landowners to promote tree planting and soft landscaping on their properties. Offer technical assistance, resources, and guidance on the selection and care of trees and vegetation that are suitable for the area.<br><br>**Government Advocacy:**<br>Advocate for stronger regulations and policies at the state government level that support tree preservation and green infrastructure. Collaborate with other local governments facing similar challenges to amplify the collective voice for environmental conservation.<br><br>**Monitoring and Evaluation:**<br>Regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of the tree preservation and soft landscaping initiatives. Assess the impact of policies, engagement efforts, and public participation to make necessary adjustments and improvements. |

| OBJECTIVE 3: Improve Natural Habitats and Promote Biodiversity Conservation | Key Result Areas (KRA) | Success Indicators | Action Plan |
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| The Town of Cottesloe has 4km of coastline that consist of approximately 11.4 ha of vegetated coastal dune systems. A number of small but essential pockets of native bushland still exist within the urban settings and include Grant Marine Park, Cottesloe Native Garden, John Black Dune Park and the Perth to Fremantle Railway corridor.<br><br>Enhancing natural habitats yields both ecological and social advantages for the Town. Safeguarding, improving, and expanding biodiversity hotspots can increase indigenous plants and animal populations across the region, therefore restore ecological corridors and habitats.<br><br>The primary beneficiaries of the Town's planting initiatives include a number of bird species (i.e. White-winged Fairy-wrens), reptiles (i.e. bobtails, skinks including the King Skinks, dugites) and pollinators.<br><br>Habitats within other areas of the Town such as roundabouts and verges are also contributing to biodiversity and ecological expansion through utilising native plants. | KRA 1: Restoration, maintenance and improvement of natural habitats and areas of biodiversity<br><br>KRA 2: Safeguard, enrich, and extend the coastal dune habitats by implementing supplementary planting efforts.<br><br>KRA 3: Establish connections between existing areas of biodiversity significance by introducing additional plantings to create biodiversity linkages throughout the Town.<br><br>KRA 4: Give precedence to the protection and enhancement of native habitats and biodiversity in all greening initiatives.<br><br>KRA 5: Promote the native waterwise verge rebates to residents within the Town to expand habitat onto verges. | SI 1: Plant 5,000 tubestock per year to increase planted natural areas by 5,000 m2 per annum until 2030.<br><br>SI 2: Annual Increase in areas that can be utilised as ecological connections between coastal bushlands by including them into annual planting schedules.<br><br>SI 3: Install 2000 plants per annum on roundabouts, verges and gardens.<br><br>SI 4: Increase in verge rebates to residents with at least two verges being converted per year until 2030**.** | **Biodiversity Preservation:**<br>Identify and protect existing biodiversity hotspots within the town. Conduct surveys and assessments to determine the specific areas that support a diverse range of native plants and animals. Implement measures to prevent habitat destruction and fragmentation in these crucial zones.<br><br>**Habitat Restoration and Enhancement:**<br>Develop initiatives to restore degraded habitats and enhance existing ones. This can involve activities such as revegetation and creating wildlife-friendly corridors. Focus on providing suitable habitats and food sources for target species, including birds, small reptiles and pollinators.<br><br>**Native Plant Promotion:**<br>Encourage the use of indigenous plant species in urban landscaping and gardening practices. Provide information and resources to residents, businesses, and local organizations on the benefits of native plants, their role in supporting local wildlife, and techniques for incorporating them into urban environments.<br><br>**Collaboration with Stakeholders:**<br>Establish partnerships with environmental (Coastcare) organizations, and community groups to leverage their expertise, resources, and community networks. Collaborate on research projects, conservation initiatives, and joint advocacy efforts to promote the protection and expansion of indigenous flora and fauna.<br><br>**Policy Integration:**<br>Incorporate biodiversity conservation considerations into urban planning and development policies. Encourage developers to incorporate green spaces, wildlife corridors, and native plantings into their projects. Implement regulations that protect existing habitats and require the inclusion of biodiversity-friendly features in new developments.<br><br>**Monitoring and Evaluation:**<br>Regularly monitor the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation efforts. Assess the population trends of target species, track habitat quality and connectivity, and measure the community's engagement in conservation activities. Use this information to adapt and refine strategies as needed. |

| OBJECTIVE 4: Greening Cottesloe's Areas of Significance and Activity Centres | Key Result Areas (KRA) | Success Indicators | Action Plan |
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| The Town of Cottesloe has identified areas of significance and activity centres in locations on the Cottesloe Foreshore, Napoleon Street, Parry Street, Harvey Field, Sea View Golf Club, the Railway corridor and the up and coming John Black Dune Park (proposed skate park).<br><br>Through the Street Tree Masterplan, the Natural Areas Management Plan and the Foreshore Masterplan these areas have experienced significant efforts to introduce more greenery, aiming to transform them into flourishing "green" recreational hubs. As a result, each area is being further enhanced through carefully integrated greening design projects.<br><br>The Parks and Operations Team will maintain close collaboration with the Engineering Team to identify and prioritize the location, type, and extent of greening activities, ensuring maximum functionality, amenity, and environmental benefits.<br><br>Recognizing that areas of significance consist of interconnected public and private spaces, which often restrict the availability of space for tree canopy, greening initiatives in these areas will extend beyond the boundaries of the project. This expansion will encompass mixed-use areas, main thoroughfares, and entry statements. | KRA 1: Ongoing enhancement and greening of areas of significance<br><br>KRA 2: select trees and amenity plantings according to the specific functional requirements of the Masterplans and Management Plans, taking into account input from relevant stakeholders.<br><br>KRA 3: Actively involve and offer expert guidance to stakeholders engaged in greening initiatives. | SI 1: 30% canopy cover by 2040 in areas of significance and activity centres to be in line with the Town's overall canopy cover targets.<br><br>SI 2: Convert John Black Dune Park from 1.4 ha of degraded bushland to a thriving activity hub with restored native vegetation. | **Collaborative Planning:**<br>Foster close collaboration between the Parks and Engineering Services, Place Managers, and Town Teams to collectively identify and prioritize locations for greening activities within the town centres. Consider input from stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and community groups, to ensure the chosen areas align with their needs and preferences.<br><br>**Comprehensive Assessment:**<br>Conduct a thorough assessment of the town centres to determine the suitable types and extent of greening activities. Consider factors such as available space, sunlight exposure, soil conditions, and existing infrastructure to maximize the functionality and effectiveness of the greening initiatives.<br><br>**Integrated Design:**<br>Develop carefully integrated greening projects that enhance the distinctive character of each town centre. Incorporate a variety of elements, including street trees, planter boxes, vertical gardens, green walls, and public green spaces. Ensure that the design complements existing architectural features and creates an inviting and aesthetically pleasing environment.<br><br>**Expansion Beyond Town Centre Boundaries:**<br>Recognize that town centres are interconnected with adjacent commercial zones, mixed-use areas, main thoroughfares, and entry statements. Extend greening initiatives beyond the town centre boundaries to create a seamless and cohesive green network. Identify key areas for green infrastructure development and prioritize them based on their potential to improve overall canopy cover and environmental benefits.<br><br>**Overcoming Space Constraints:**<br>Acknowledge the limited space available for tree canopy within built-up areas. Implement innovative greening solutions such as vertical gardens, rooftop gardens, and hanging planters to maximize the utilization of space. Utilize technology and expert knowledge to select suitable plant species that thrive in urban environments and require minimal space.<br><br>**Balancing Canopy Cover Objectives:**<br>Set targets that strike a balance between canopy cover objectives for public and private land. Consider the constraints of the built-up environment and the need to create a harmonious and cohesive urban landscape. Establish intermediate targets that encourage both public and private property owners to contribute to increasing the overall canopy cover within the town centres.<br><br>**Monitoring and Maintenance:**<br>Establish a monitoring and maintenance program to ensure the longevity and vitality of the greening projects. Regularly assess the health of the planted vegetation, provide necessary care, and replace or add greenery as needed. Engage the community in the maintenance efforts through volunteer programs and educational initiatives. |

| OBJECTIVE 5: Community involvement in greening the district | Key Result Areas (KRA) | Success Indicators | Action Plan |
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| Cottesloe Coastcare Association and the extended Cottesloe community represents the Town's greatest asset when it comes to greening and restoring the urban landscape. Since the adoption of the Natural Areas Management Plan (NAMP), the Town has actively supported various projects, programs, and initiatives aimed at achieving greening and restoration projects. As a result, community interest in urban greening has steadily increased over time.<br><br>To maximize the social and environmental benefits derived from trees and urban vegetation, the Town will continue to educate, inspire, and provide resources to the community. By encouraging and empowering residents, the Town aims to expand urban greening of the district.<br><br>To optimize the social and ecological advantages gained from trees and urban vegetation, the Town will continue to educate, motivate, and equip the community. By promoting and enabling residents, the Town strives to enhance and broaden the implementation of urban greening throughout the district. | KRA 1: Foster a community that is empowered to actively engage in and contribute to the greening efforts of the Town<br><br>KRA 2: Continue to work closely with Cottesloe Coastcare to carry out restoration projects and provide ongoing support from the Parks and Operations Team. | SI 1: Facilitate at least one community-led greening/Coastcare project annually.<br><br>SI 2: Optimise grants and in kind contributions i.e. Coastwest Grants.<br><br>SI 3: Maintain collaborative relationships with Cottesloe Coastcare and Perth NRM through the Natural Area Alliance | **Community Engagement:**<br>Foster strong collaboration with the Cottesloe Coastcare Association and other community members who have a vested interest in greening the urban landscape. Encourage their active involvement in shaping and implementing greening initiatives. Establish regular communication channels, such as community forums, workshops, and online platforms, to facilitate ongoing dialogue and exchange of ideas.<br><br>**Resource Allocation:**<br>Allocate adequate resources, both financial and non-financial, to support community-led greening projects. Establish funding mechanisms, grants, and partnerships to provide financial assistance and access to necessary materials, plants, and equipment. Collaborate with local nurseries, landscape professionals, and environmental organizations to leverage their expertise and resources.<br><br>**Collaboration and Networking:**<br>Forge partnerships with local businesses, schools, government agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to expand the reach and impact of greening initiatives. Engage in joint projects, shared resources, and collaborative campaigns to create a collective effort towards urban greening. Participate in regional and national networks to learn from best practices and share experiences.<br><br>**Demonstration Sites:**<br>Create demonstration sites within the community to showcase the possibilities of urban greening. Develop public spaces, parks, and streetscapes that exemplify sustainable landscaping, tree planting, and effective use of vegetation. These sites can serve as inspiring examples for residents and visitors and encourage widespread adoption of greening practices.<br><br>**Volunteer Programs:**<br>Establish volunteer programs that provide opportunities for community members to actively contribute to urban greening efforts. Organize tree planting events, community garden initiatives, and maintenance activities that enable residents to participate in hands-on greening activities. Recognize and appreciate the contributions of volunteers through public acknowledgments and incentives.<br><br>**Monitoring and Evaluation:**<br>Implement a monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the impact and effectiveness of urban greening initiatives. Measure changes in tree canopy cover, biodiversity, air quality, and community well-being indicators. Collect feedback from residents and stakeholders to continuously improve and refine greening strategies. |