WILLOUGHBY CITY COUNCIL

POLICY REGISTER

Short Title:	Bushcare Programme
Division:	Infrastructure Services
Category:	Open Space/Trees
Date adopted by Council:	30 January 1995
Date ratified by Council:	23 March 1998 7 April 2008 September 2011 4 June 2012
Date amended by Council:	4 June 2012
Resolution No: 95/8	**Additional Resol No:**

DETAILS OF POLICY:

1. The Council's Urban Bushland Plan of Management recognises that community involvement in bushland management can be beneficial to both Council and residents.

2. Council has a responsibility to provide supervision and training for volunteers according to the Code of Practice recommended by the Volunteer Centre of NSW. This ensures the protection of both the volunteers on site and the bushland reserves in which they work.

3. Council must manage its bushland in accordance with certain statutes and policies. These are:

   a) *State Environmental Planning Policy 19 (SEPP 19) - Bushland in Urban Areas* concerning the protection and preservation of bushland within urban areas

   b) the *Local Government Act 1993*
   section 428 2(c) : to document all restoration works in the annual "State of the Environment" report

   c) the *Bushland Plan of Management* completed by Council's Natural Heritage & Bushland Advisory Committee

4. Council aims, through the Bushcare Programme, to maintain the conservation value of its bushland reserves. The standard of work carried out by volunteers is expected to be similar standard to that of qualified contractors and Council employees.

5. Council must prepare guidelines specifically cove4ring volunteers in the Bushcare Programme. Additionally, the same guidelines will cover volunteers working in Council's Parkcare and Streetcare Programmes. These guidelines must be reviewed and updated on a regular basis to address any legislative changes and worker safety issues.