

11/02/2016  
C210**SCHEDULE 3 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme maps as **ESO3**.

**ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, CRANBOURNE ENVIRONS****1.0****Statement of environmental significance**19/01/2006  
VC37

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne (RGBC) is valued by the community because of its ecological integrity and its location close to built up areas. Within an area that has been extensively modified since European settlement, it is one of the last tracts of native bushland that has remained relatively intact.

It is noted for its diverse ecosystems found in tea tree heathlands, swamps, sedgelands and wet heathlands. Many species of native plants and animals not often seen in urbanised areas find refuge in the RGBC. Parts of the RGBC are elevated as they are sited over ancient sand dunes. This facilitates higher visual exposure of the gardens from surrounding areas and vice versa.

The proximity of the RBGC to built up areas provides strong justification for a buffer zone to be established on immediately surrounding land. Without this buffer, there is potential for visual intrusion into the Gardens and for the introduction of both feral animals and pest plants. Development within this buffer zone should be carefully assessed to ensure their compatibility with the RBGC.

**2.0****Environmental objective to be achieved**19/01/2006  
VC37

- To protect the biological values, landscape quality and amenity of the nearby Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne for the purpose of scientific investigation and for the benefit and enjoyment of the public.
- To ensure that development in the vicinity of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne is compatible with the maintenance of the values referred to above.

**3.0****Permit requirement**11/02/2016  
C210

A permit is not required to remove, destroy or lop:

- exotic vegetation;
- the following environmental weed species:
  - Sweet Pittosporum (*Pittosporum undulatum*);
  - Sallow Wattle (*Acacia longifolia* subsp. *Longifolia*);
  - Coast Wattle (*Acacia longifolia* subsp. *Sophorae*).

**4.0****Decision guidelines**19/01/2006  
VC37

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority will consider:

- The effect any development could have on the biological integrity and amenity of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne by reason of noise, smell, dust, fumes, vermin, noxious weeds, polluted waters and changes to natural drainage flows.
- The effect of any development on visitors' enjoyment of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne in terms of the extent of visual impact of the use or development and or any significant change to the natural topography of the area.

- The extent to which any building or works would be visible from within any part of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne.
- The desirability of maintaining a rural landscape and the need to limit fringe urban activities in the environs of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne.
- The need to retain natural vegetation in the environs of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne as habitat for native fauna and as an important landscape element.
- The desirability of using species of plants indigenous to the area in any landscaping works in the environs of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne.
- The effect of any development in terms of fire hazard.
- The views of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne and of any other agency the responsible authority considers relevant.
- The views, if any, of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

### **References**

- Port Phillip and Westernport Regional Catchment Strategy, (August 1997) Port Phillip Regional Catchment and Land Protection Board
- Westernport Bay Strategy, (1992) Westernport Regional Planning and Co-ordination Committee
- Sites of Botanical Significance in the Western Port Region, (1984) A.M. Opie et al, Department of Conservation Forests and Lands
- Sites of Zoological Significance in the Western Port Region, (1984) D.L. Andrew et al, Department of Conservation Forests and Lands
- Sites of Geological and Geomorphological Significance in the Western Port Region, (1984) N.J. Rosengren et al, Department of Conservation Forests and Lands