

A Rocha Australia (SA branch)



**Submission to the Planning System Implementation Review
Regarding Tree Policy**

16/12/2022

A Rocha Australia (SA branch) would like your review to address the importance of raising canopy coverage targets throughout Adelaide and in particular in the City of Onkaparinga. We believe the targets described in the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide, are inadequate and need to be raised.

The City of Onkaparinga currently with a nationally low coverage of 12.5%, has a goal of increasing coverage by 2.5% to reach a target of 15% in 2045. We believe this is an inadequate target as it will still be far below the Adelaide baseline average of 27.8% and 60% below the current national average of 39%⁴. The City of Unley currently has coverage of 26% and has set a target of 31% coverage by 2045, more than double the City of Onkaparinga but still below other Australian capital cities. Under our interpretation the City of Onkaparinga would have set a target of 32.5% just above the state average and the 30% threshold but still below the national average.

We recommend that the tree coverage targets be raised and more clearly defined in order to protect the wellbeing of human beings, and non-human species, in the future, as well as help mitigate the heating effects of climate change. We therefore suggest the wording for the 30 Year Plan for Target 5, be as follows:

Urban green cover is increased to at least 40% coverage within each metropolitan Adelaide council by 2045.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

Sally Shaw

[Redacted contact information]

Director, A Rocha Australia <https://australia.arocha.org/>

[Redacted contact information]