Trees planted on Council property become Council responsibility and the legacy of such tree problems may not be fully evident for up to 10 to 15 years. Council therefore has the right to remove illegal and inappropriately planted trees. For that reason any residents who want to plant trees in their own street are strongly encouraged to discuss their plans with Council staff first so that chosen trees are consistent with the existing streetscape and street tree plan.

### STRATEGY

Ensure that local character is a determinant when selecting tree species for planting in Waverley.

### ACTIONS

- Analyse and identify landscape character zones within Waverley.
- Consider the benefits of planting avenues of trees in certain streets to enhance character and place.

## 3 Trees and views

Many residential suburbs of Waverley enjoy beautiful views of the ocean, Sydney Harbour and the city. Obscuring these views by trees on public or private land can be an issue of some controversy in Waverley.

Council’s current policy is not to permit the trimming, pruning, lopping or removal of trees in response to loss of views. Trees can often improve and frame views and are usually an aesthetic element in the view itself. Where a private view is likely to be affected by the planting or replacing of trees in a street or park, Council will continue its policy that no individual exclusively owns a view, but rather that the amenity provided by trees outweighs the amenity of views.

New planting in public open spaces will consider the impact on views and where possible species will be selected and placed to frame and complement views.

### STRATEGY

Prepare and adopt a clear policy to address the issue of trees on public and private land and access to views.

### ACTIONS

- Investigate and improve the procedure for addressing requests for tree work in response to its impact on views.
- Improve consultation procedures when groups of trees are planted.

*Image 5: A tree may be considered an obstacle to views, a natural frame, or integral to the view itself.*