

APPENDIX **G**
COMMUNITY TRACK MAINTENANCE AND
CLEARANCE POLICY

(PREPARED BY THE WALKING TRACK WORKING GROUP AND ADOPTED
BY THE TRUST)

wellington park management trust
walking track working group
community track maintenance and clearance policy

1. Aim

- 1.1. To provide for the safe involvement of the community in the sustainable management of walking tracks within Wellington Park.

2. Procedures

- 2.1. All works shall be in accordance with the *Wellington Park Management Plan 1997*, the (walking track strategy), and any other strategies and guidelines endorsed by the Trust
- 2.2. Works shall only be carried out on approved walking tracks identified in the (walking track strategy)
- 2.3. All works proposals shall be submitted to the Trust on the (track worksheet) and, where required, on the Trust's project proposal form (PPF)
- 2.4. All appropriate permits and approvals shall be obtained prior to any works being carried out
- 2.5. Herbicide shall only be used with the approval of the relevant land management agency and in accordance with any conditions specified in the (track worksheet)
- 2.6. All works must be carried out in accordance with any insurance policy of the relevant land management agency

3. Maintenance Guidelines

3.1. Tools

- 3.1.1. Works shall only be carried out with light hand tools, such as secateurs, loppers, pruning and bush saws, rakes, mattocks, and shovels
- 3.1.2. No mechanical tools may be used without the prior approval of the relevant land management agency

3.2. Clearances

- 3.2.1. Any clearance works shall take into account the appropriate track classification as outlined in the (walking track strategy) and be carried out in accordance conditions specified in the (track worksheet)
- 3.2.2. Refer to Fig. 1 for broad guidelines as to walkway clearances; more specific dimensions for clearances may be contained in the (walking track strategy)
- 3.2.3. All side branches extending into the track corridor shall be cut flush with the parent branch or stem
- 3.2.4. Trees and brush outside the tread should be cut as close to the ground as possible
- 3.2.5. Small trees and shrubs within the tread should be grubbed out to prevent tripping, and holes filled and compacted
- 3.2.6. Any fallen trees/limbs lying on or over the track should first be assessed for retention according to the relevant track character as outlined in the (walking track strategy); those that are able to be cut by hand should be removed however note should be taken of larger fallen or dangerous trees requiring assessment and/or removal by management staff;
- 3.2.7. Debris from clearing and pruning should be removed from the track corridor; slash should be scattered on the downslope side of a track

3.3. Surfaces

- 3.3.1. Tread area, where appropriate, should be restored to the original design condition, free of rolling stones, rock points, stumps and shrub roots, unless otherwise agreed in the (works sheet)
- 3.3.2. Rocks may be relocated for stability and/or general surface improvement

3.4. Drainage

- 3.4.1. All culverts, waterways and dips should be cleared of debris as a matter of priority
- 3.4.2. Any new drainage works and/or structural repairs should be carried out to the respective standard construction specification, as per the (works sheet)
- 3.4.3. Stone cross-drains should be repaired in keeping with the original design

3.4.4. All existing and potential problem areas should be noted; immediate minor temporary works may be undertaken in lieu of permanent follow-up work being carried out as soon as possible

3.5. Structures

3.5.1. Note should be taken of works required on major structures for follow-up work by qualified management staff

3.5.2. Signs may be cleaned and repaired where possible

3.5.3. Cairns or other unauthorised track markings shall not be erected, placed and/or removed without the prior approval of the relevant land management agency and in accordance with a (track worksheet)

3.5.4. Snow poles shall not be erected / removed without the prior approval of the relevant land management agency and in accordance with a (track worksheet)

4. Monitoring / Recording

4.1. All works shall be recorded on the (works sheet) and submitted to the Trust for future monitoring purposes