

ONE DWELLING ON A LOT

Purpose

To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

To achieve residential development that respects the existing neighbourhood character or which contributes to a preferred neighbourhood character.

To encourage residential development that provides reasonable standards of amenity for existing and new residents.

To encourage residential development that is responsive to the site and the neighbourhood.

Application

These provisions apply to an application to construct a building or construct or carry out works associated with one dwelling on a lot under the provisions of:

- A Residential 1 Zone, Residential 2 Zone, Residential 3 Zone, Mixed Use Zone or Township Zone.
- A Neighbourhood Character Overlay if the land is in a Residential 1 Zone, Residential 2 Zone, Residential 3 Zone, Mixed Use Zone or Township Zone.

Operation

The provisions of this clause contain:

- **Objectives.** An objective describes the desired outcome to be achieved in the completed development.
- **Standards.** A standard contains the requirements to meet the objective.
A standard should normally be met. However, if the responsible authority is satisfied that an application for an alternative design solution meets the objective, the alternative design solution may be considered.
- **Decision guidelines.** The decision guidelines set out the matters that the responsible authority must consider before deciding if an application meets the objectives.

Requirements

A development:

- Must meet all of the objectives of this clause.
- Should meet all of the standards of this clause.

If the schedule to a zone specifies a requirement of a standard different from a requirement set out in this clause, the requirement in the schedule to the zone applies.

If the land is included in a Neighbourhood Character Overlay and a schedule to the overlay specifies a requirement of a standard different from a requirement set out in this clause or a requirement in the schedule to a zone, the requirement in the schedule to the overlay applies.

If the land is included in an overlay, other than a Neighbourhood Character Overlay, and a schedule to the overlay specifies a requirement different from a requirement of a standard set out in this clause or a requirement of a standard set out in the schedule to a zone, the requirement in the overlay applies.

54.01

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NEIGHBOURHOOD AND SITE DESCRIPTION AND DESIGN RESPONSE

An application must be accompanied by:

- A neighbourhood and site description.
- A design response.

54.01-1

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Neighbourhood and site description

The neighbourhood and site description may use a site plan, photographs or other techniques and must accurately describe:

- In relation to the neighbourhood:
 - The built form, scale and character of surrounding development including front fencing.
 - Architectural and roof styles.
 - Any other notable features or characteristics of the neighbourhood.
- In relation to the site:
 - Site shape, size, orientation and easements.
 - Levels of the site and the difference in levels between the site and surrounding properties.
 - Location of existing buildings on the site and on surrounding properties, including the location and height of walls built to the boundary of the site.
 - The use of surrounding buildings.
 - The location of secluded private open space and habitable room windows of surrounding properties which have an outlook to the site within 9 metres.
 - Solar access to the site and to surrounding properties.
 - Location of significant trees existing on the site and any significant trees removed from the site in the 12 months prior to the application being made, where known.
 - Any contaminated soils and filled areas, where known.
 - Views to and from the site.
 - Street frontage features such as poles, street trees and kerb crossovers.
 - Any other notable features or characteristics of the site.

If in the opinion of the responsible authority a requirement of the neighbourhood and site description is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, the responsible authority may waive or reduce the requirement.

Satisfactory neighbourhood and site description

The responsible authority must inform the applicant in writing:

- Before notice of an application is given, or
- If notice of an application is not required to be given, before deciding the application,

that the neighbourhood and site description meets the requirements of Clause 54.01-1 and is satisfactory or does not meet the requirements of Clause 54.01-1 and is not satisfactory.

If the responsible authority decides that the neighbourhood and site description is not satisfactory, it may require more information from the applicant under Section 54 of the Act.

The responsible authority must not require notice of an application to be given or decide an application until it is satisfied that the neighbourhood and site description meets the requirements of Clause 54.01-1 and is satisfactory.

This does not apply if the responsible authority refuses an application under Section 52(1A) of the Act.

54.01-2

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Design response

The design response must explain how the proposed design:

- Derives from and responds to the neighbourhood and site description.
- Meets the objectives of Clause 54.
- Responds to any neighbourhood character features for the area identified in a local planning policy or a Neighbourhood Character Overlay.

The design response must include correctly proportioned street elevations or photographs showing the development in the context of adjacent buildings. If in the opinion of the responsible authority this requirement is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, it may waive or reduce the requirement.

54.02

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NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER

54.02-1

19/01/2006
VC37

Neighbourhood character objective

To ensure that the design respects the existing neighbourhood character or contributes to a preferred neighbourhood character.

To ensure that the design responds to the features of the site and the surrounding area.

Standard A1

The design response must be appropriate to the neighbourhood and the site.

The proposed design must respect the existing or preferred neighbourhood character and respond to the features of the site.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The neighbourhood and site description.
- The design response.

54.02-2

19/01/2006
VC37

Integration with the street objective

To integrate the layout of development with the street.

Standard A2

Dwellings should be oriented to front existing and proposed streets.

High fencing in front of dwellings should be avoided if practicable.

Dwellings should be designed to promote the observation of abutting streets and any abutting public open spaces.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.

54.0305/06/2012
VC90**SITE LAYOUT AND BUILDING MASSING****54.03-1**19/01/2006
VC37**Street setback objective**

To ensure that the setbacks of buildings from a street respect the existing or preferred neighbourhood character and make efficient use of the site.

Standard A3

Walls of buildings should be set back from streets:

- At least the distance specified in the schedule to the zone, or
- If no distance is specified in the schedule to the zone, the distance specified in Table A1.

Porches, pergolas and verandahs that are less than 3.6 metres high and eaves may encroach not more than 2.5 metres into the setbacks of this standard.

Table A1 Street setback

Development context	Minimum setback from front street (Metres)	Minimum setback from a side street (Metres)
There is an existing building on both the abutting allotments facing the same street, and the site is not on a corner.	The average distance of the setbacks of the front walls of the existing buildings on the abutting allotments facing the front street or 9 metres, whichever is the lesser.	Not applicable
There is an existing building on one abutting allotment facing the same street and no existing building on the other abutting allotment facing the same street, and the site is not on a corner.	The same distance as the setback of the front wall of the existing building on the abutting allotment facing the front street or 9 metres, whichever is the lesser.	Not applicable
There is no existing building on either of the abutting allotments facing the same street, and the site is not on a corner.	6 metres for streets in a Road Zone, Category 1, and 4 metres for other streets.	Not applicable
The site is on a corner.	If there is a building on the abutting allotment facing the front street, the same distance as the setback of the front wall of the existing building on the abutting allotment facing the front street or 9 metres, whichever is the lesser. If there is no building on the abutting allotment facing the front street, 6 metres for streets in a Road Zone, Category 1, and 4 metres for other streets.	The same distance as the setback of the front wall of any existing building on the abutting allotment facing the side street or 2 metres, whichever is the lesser.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- Whether a different setback would be more appropriate taking into account the prevailing setbacks of existing buildings on nearby lots.
- The visual impact of the building when viewed from the street and from adjoining properties.
- The value of retaining vegetation within the front setback.

54.03-2

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Building height objective

To ensure that the height of buildings respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character.

Standard A4

The maximum building height should not exceed the maximum height specified in the zone, schedule to the zone or an overlay that applies to the land.

If no maximum height is specified in the zone, schedule to the zone or an overlay, the maximum building height should not exceed 9 metres, unless the slope of the natural ground level at any cross section wider than 8 metres of the site of the building is 2.5 degrees or more, in which case the maximum building height should not exceed 10 metres.

Changes of building height between existing buildings and new buildings should be graduated.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The effect of the slope of the site on the height of the building.
- The relationship between the proposed building height and the height of existing adjacent buildings.
- The visual impact of the building when viewed from the street and from adjoining properties.

54.03-3

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Site coverage objective

To ensure that the site coverage respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character and responds to the features of the site.

Standard A5

The site area covered by buildings should not exceed:

- The maximum site coverage specified in the schedule to the zone, or
- If no maximum site coverage is specified in the schedule to the zone, 60 per cent.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The existing site coverage and any constraints imposed by existing development or the features of the site.
- The site coverage of adjacent properties.
- The effect of the visual bulk of the building and whether this is acceptable in the neighbourhood.

54.03-4

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VC37

Permeability objectives

To reduce the impact of increased stormwater run-off on the drainage system.

To facilitate on-site stormwater infiltration.

Standard A6

At least 20 per cent of the site should not be covered by impervious surfaces.

Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- The existing site coverage and any constraints imposed by existing development.
- The capacity of the drainage network to accommodate additional stormwater.
- The capacity of the site to absorb run-off.
- The practicality of achieving at least 20 per cent site coverage of pervious surfaces, particularly on lots of less than 300 square metres.

54.03-5

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Energy efficiency protection objectives

To achieve and protect energy efficient dwellings.

To ensure the orientation and layout of development reduce fossil fuel energy use and make appropriate use of daylight and solar energy.

Standard A7

Buildings should be:

- Oriented to make appropriate use of solar energy.
- Sited and designed to ensure that the energy efficiency of existing dwellings on adjoining lots is not unreasonably reduced.

Living areas and private open space should be located on the north side of the dwelling, if practicable.

Dwellings should be designed so that solar access to north-facing windows is maximised.

Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- The size, orientation and slope of the lot.
- The existing amount of solar access to abutting properties.
- The availability of solar access to north-facing windows on the site.

54.03-6
19/01/2006
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Significant trees objectives

To encourage development that respects the landscape character of the neighbourhood.

To encourage the retention of significant trees on the site.

Standard A8

Development should provide for the retention or planting of trees, where these are part of the neighbourhood character.

Development should provide for the replacement of any significant trees that have been removed in the 12 months prior to the application being made.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The health of any trees that were removed or are proposed to be removed.
- Whether a tree was removed to gain a development advantage.

54.04

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AMENITY IMPACTS

54.04-1

19/01/2006
VC37

Side and rear setbacks objective

To ensure that the height and setback of a building from a boundary respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character and limits the impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

Standard A10

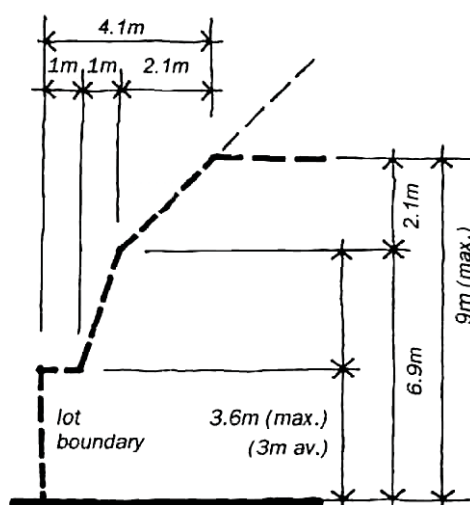
A new building not on or within 150mm of a boundary should be set back from side or rear boundaries:

- At least the distance specified in the schedule to the zone, or
- If no distance is specified in the schedule to the zone, 1 metre, plus 0.3 metres for every metre of height over 3.6 metres up to 6.9 metres, plus 1 metre for every metre of height over 6.9 metres.

Sunblinds, verandahs, porches, eaves, fascias, gutters, masonry chimneys, flues, pipes, domestic fuel or water tanks, and heating or cooling equipment or other services may encroach not more than 0.5 metres into the setbacks of this standard.

Landings having an area of not more than 2 square metres and less than 1 metre high, stairways, ramps, pergolas, shade sails and carports may encroach into the setbacks of this standard.

Diagram A1 Side and rear setbacks



Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The impact on the amenity of the habitable room windows and secluded private open space of existing dwellings.
- Whether the wall is opposite an existing or simultaneously constructed wall built to the boundary.

54.04-2

19/01/2006
VC37

Walls on boundaries objective

To ensure that the location, length and height of a wall on a boundary respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character and limits the impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

Standard A11

A new wall constructed on or within 150mm of a side or rear boundary of a lot or a carport constructed on or within 1 metre of a side or rear boundary of a lot should not abut the boundary for a length of more than:

- 10 metres plus 25 per cent of the remaining length of the boundary of an adjoining lot, or
- Where there are existing or simultaneously constructed walls or carports abutting the boundary on an abutting lot, the length of the existing or simultaneously constructed walls or carports,

whichever is the greater.

A new wall or carport may fully abut a side or rear boundary where the slope and retaining walls or fences would result in the effective height of the wall or carport being less than 2 metres on the abutting property boundary.

A building on a boundary includes a building set back up to 150mm from a boundary.

The height of a new wall constructed on or within 150mm of a side or rear boundary or a carport constructed on or within 1 metre of a side or rear boundary should not exceed an average of 3 metres with no part higher than 3.6 metres unless abutting a higher existing or simultaneously constructed wall.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The extent to which walls on boundaries are part of the neighbourhood character.
- The visual impact of the building when viewed from adjoining properties.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.
- The opportunity to minimise the length of walls on boundaries by aligning a new wall on a boundary with an existing wall on a lot of an adjoining property.
- The orientation of the boundary that the wall is being built on.
- The width of the lot.
- The extent to which the slope and retaining walls or fences reduce the effective height of the wall.
- Whether the wall abuts a side or rear lane.
- The need to increase the wall height to screen a box gutter.

54.04-3

19/01/2006
VC37

Daylight to existing windows objective

To allow adequate daylight into existing habitable room windows.

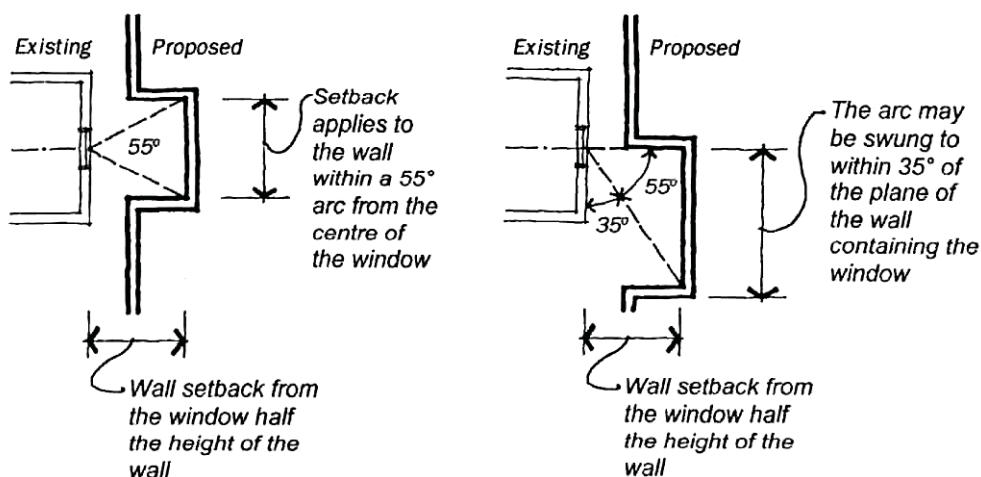
Standard A12

Buildings opposite an existing habitable room window should provide for a light court to the existing window that has a minimum area of 3 square metres and minimum dimension of 1 metre clear to the sky. The calculation of the area may include land on the abutting lot.

Walls or carports more than 3 metres in height opposite an existing habitable room window should be set back from the window at least 50 per cent of the height of the new wall if the wall is within a 55 degree arc from the centre of the existing window. The arc may be swung to within 35 degrees of the plane of the wall containing the existing window.

Where the existing window is above ground floor level, the wall height is measured from the floor level of the room containing the window.

Diagram A2 Daylight to existing windows



Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- The extent to which the existing dwelling has provided for reasonable daylight access to its habitable rooms through the siting and orientation of its habitable room windows.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

54.04-4

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North-facing windows objective

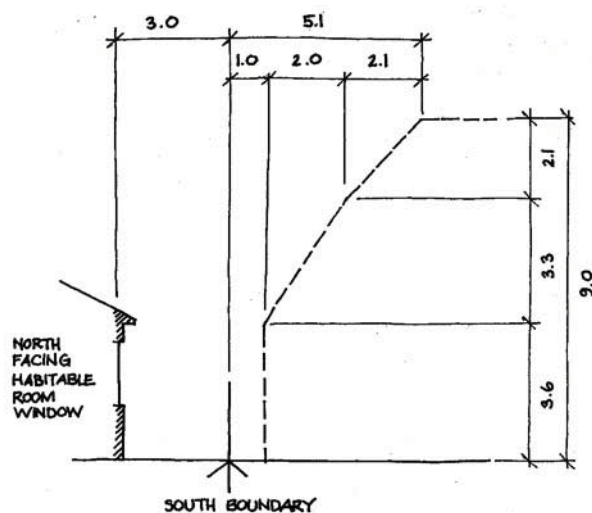
To allow adequate solar access to existing north-facing habitable room windows.

Standard A13

If a north-facing habitable room window of an existing dwelling is within 3 metres of a boundary on an abutting lot, a building should be setback from the boundary 1 metre, plus

0.6 metre for every metre of height over 3.6 metres up to 6.9 metres, plus 1 metre for every metre of height over 6.9 metres, for a distance of 3 metres from the edge of each side of the window. A north-facing window is a window with an axis perpendicular to its surface oriented north 20 degrees west to north 30 degrees east.

Diagram A3 North-facing windows



Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- Existing sunlight to the north-facing habitable room window of the existing dwelling.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

54.04-5

19/01/2006
VC37

Overshadowing open space objective

To ensure buildings do not unreasonably overshadow existing secluded private open space.

Standard A14

Where sunlight to the secluded private open space of an existing dwelling is reduced, at least 75 per cent, or 40 square metres with minimum dimension of 3 metres, whichever is the lesser area, of the secluded private open space should receive a minimum of five hours of sunlight between 9 am and 3 pm on 22 September.

If existing sunlight to the secluded private open space of an existing dwelling is less than the requirements of this standard, the amount of sunlight should not be further reduced.

Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.
- Existing sunlight penetration to the secluded private open space of the existing dwelling.

- The time of day that sunlight is available to the secluded private open space of the existing dwelling.
- The effect of a reduction in sunlight on the existing use of the secluded private open space.

54.04-6

19/01/2006
VC37

Overlooking objective

To limit views into existing secluded private open space and habitable room windows.

Standard A15

A habitable room window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio should be located and designed to avoid direct views into the secluded private open space and habitable room windows of an existing dwelling within a horizontal distance of 9 metres (measured at ground level) of the window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio. Views should be measured within a 45 degree angle from the plane of the window or perimeter of the balcony, terrace, deck or patio, and from a height of 1.7 metres above floor level.

A habitable room window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio with a direct view into a habitable room window of existing dwelling within a horizontal distance of 9 metres (measured at ground level) of the window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio should be either:

- Offset a minimum of 1.5 metres from the edge of one window to the edge of the other, or
- Have sill heights of at least 1.7 metres above floor level, or
- Have obscure glazing in any part of the window below 1.7 metres above floor level, or
- Have permanently fixed external screens to at least 1.7 metres above floor level and be no more than 25 per cent transparent.

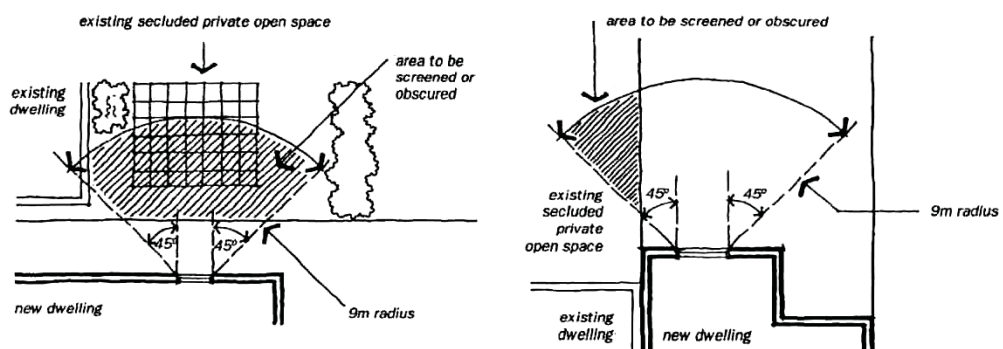
Obscure glazing in any part of the window below 1.7 metres above floor level may be openable provided that there are no direct views as specified in this standard.

Screens used to obscure a view should be:

- Perforated panels or trellis with a maximum of 25 per cent openings or solid translucent panels.
- Permanent, fixed and durable.
- Designed and coloured to blend in with the development.

This standard does not apply to a new habitable room window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio which faces a property boundary where there is a visual barrier at least 1.8 metres high and the floor level of the habitable room, balcony, terrace, deck or patio is less than 0.8 metres above ground level at the boundary.

Diagram A4 Overlooking open space



Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- The impact on the amenity of the secluded private open space or habitable room window.
- The existing extent of overlooking into the secluded private open space and habitable room windows of existing dwellings.
- The internal daylight to and amenity of the proposed dwelling.

54.05

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VC37

ON-SITE AMENITY AND FACILITIES**54.05-1**

19/01/2006
VC37

Daylight to new windows objective

To allow adequate daylight into new habitable room windows.

Standard A16

A window in a habitable room should be located to face:

- An outdoor space clear to the sky or a light court with a minimum area of 3 square metres and minimum dimension of 1 metre clear to the sky, not including land on an abutting lot, or
- A verandah provided it is open for at least one third of its perimeter, or
- A carport provided it has two or more open sides and is open for at least one third of its perimeter.

Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- Whether there are other windows in the habitable room which have access to daylight.

54.05-2

19/01/2006
VC37

Private open space objective

To provide adequate private open space for the reasonable recreation and service needs of residents.

Standard A17

A dwelling should have private open space of an area and dimensions specified in the schedule to the zone.

If no area or dimensions is specified in the schedule to the zone, a dwelling should have private open space consisting of an area of 80 square metres or 20 per cent of the area of the lot, whichever is the lesser, but not less than 40 square metres. At least one part of the private open space should consist of secluded private open space with a minimum area of 25 square metres and a minimum dimension of 3 metres at the side or rear of the dwelling with convenient access from a living room.

Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- The useability of the private open space, including its size and accessibility.
- The availability of and access to public open space.
- The orientation of the lot to the street and the sun.

54.05-3

19/01/2006
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Solar access to open space objective

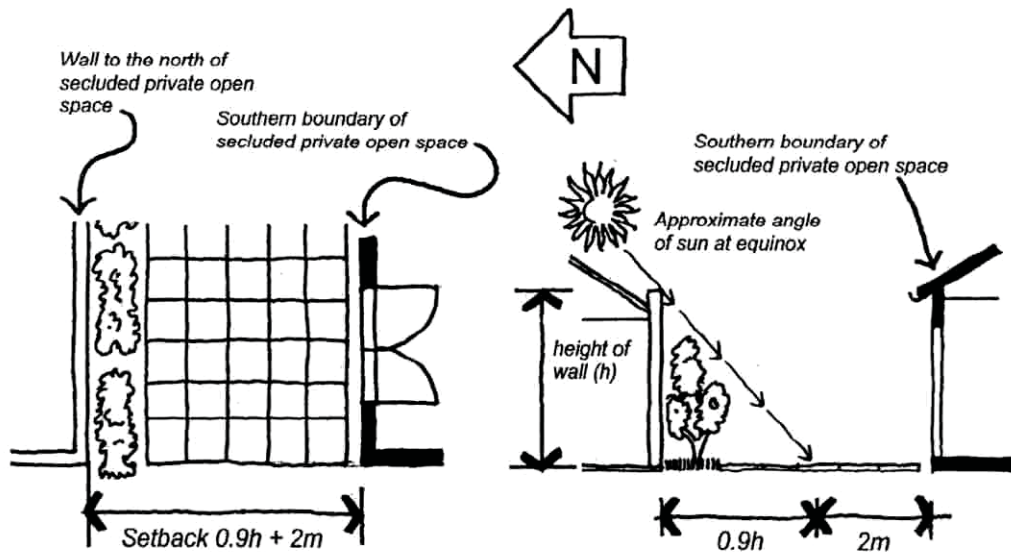
To allow solar access into the secluded private open space of a new dwelling.

Standard A18

The private open space should be located on the north side of the dwelling, if practicable.

The southern boundary of secluded private open space should be set back from any wall on the north of the space at least $(2 + 0.9h)$ metres, where 'h' is the height of the wall.

Diagram A5 Solar access to open space



Decision guidelines

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

- The design response.
- The useability and amenity of the secluded private open space based on the sunlight it will receive.

54.06

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VC37

DETAILED DESIGN

54.06-1

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VC37

Design detail objective

To encourage design detail that respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character.

Standard A19

The design of buildings, including:

- Facade articulation and detailing,
- Window and door proportions,
- Roof form, and
- Verandahs, eaves and parapets,

should respect the existing or preferred neighbourhood character.

Garages and carports should be visually compatible with the development and the existing or preferred neighbourhood character.

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The effect on the visual bulk of the building and whether this is acceptable in the neighbourhood setting.
- Whether the design is innovative and of a high architectural standard.

54.06-2

19/01/2006
VC37

Front fences objective

To encourage front fence design that respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character.

Standard A20

The design of front fences should complement the design of the dwelling and any front fences on adjoining properties.

A front fence within 3 metres of a street should not exceed:

- The maximum height specified in the schedule to the zone, or
- If no maximum height is specified in the schedule to the zone, the maximum height specified in Table A2.

Table A2 Maximum front fence height

STREET CONTEXT	MAXIMUM FRONT FENCE HEIGHT
Streets in a Road Zone, Category 1	2 metres
Other streets	1.5 metres

Decision guidelines

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

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The setback, height and appearance of front fences on adjacent properties.
- The extent to which slope and retaining walls reduce the effective height of the front fence.
- Whether the fence is needed to minimise noise intrusion.