



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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13 Jul 2011

### **Local Business Pays Price For Illegal Tree Pruning**

Holroyd City Council recently won a court case against the owner of a business in Long Street Smithfield who pruned four eucalyptus trees on his property without Council consent, contrary to Council's Tree Management Order, which prohibits the removal or pruning of trees without first obtaining Council approval. As a result of the poor standard of pruning, the trees are likely to deteriorate and die. The defendant pleaded guilty and was issued fines totalling \$8,279.

"Tree management is a serious issue and has serious consequences," said Holroyd City Mayor, Clr Peter Monaghan.

The defendant claimed that a severe storm had damaged the trees and they needed to be pruned. Although it was not the intention to cause long term damage to the trees, he arranged for the trees to be pruned, without the appropriate Consent.

"It is important not to destroy trees, they add so much beauty to our local neighbourhoods," said Clr Monaghan.

In imposing a penalty His Honour Magistrate Antrum stated that the defendant unintentionally had shown a lack of regard for planning laws, which in this case, are there to protect these unique species of trees.

"Trees are an essential element in Holroyd's urban development, providing oxygen and shade, reducing dust and pollution including greenhouse gases as well as providing food and shelter for our native birds and animals," said Clr Monaghan.

If you have any issues with trees contact Council immediately and appropriate arrangements can be made. You can also find useful information on the Tree Management page included on Council's website [www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au).

If you are unsure whether you require Council approval to prune or remove your trees or which trees are suitable to plant on your property, contact Council's qualified staff from the Landscape and Tree Management Unit on **9840 9840**.

For further information contact the Media Relations and Promotions Manager on 9840 9717, 0416 105 029 or email [media@holroyd.nsw.gov.au](mailto:media@holroyd.nsw.gov.au).