



## OBJECTIVE 5

**Integrate water sensitive urban design into streets and open spaces.**

### Why?

As future development occurs, Northern Beaches stormwater system will see increased demand. Harnessing and treating water where it falls is the best way to alleviate these pressures and reduce stormwater run-off, treat pollutants and protect our waterways

### Potential barriers to implementation

- ongoing maintenance costs can vary, and be prohibitively high if not properly considered
- design of WSUD measure to be site specific response, addressed at design and approval stage of works
- challenges of implementation of WSUD into existing streetscape with potential conflicts with existing services



## OBJECTIVE 6

**Increase tree canopy, green cover and landscaping on streets.**

### Why?

The Northern Beaches currently performs well compared to many other LGA's in terms of canopy cover.

A significant portion of this number though is attributed to trees on private land, which with increased development and urbanisation is likely to reduce.

The urban tree canopy and increase of green coverage contributes to environmental benefits of reduced heat island effects, environmental cooling, and increased biodiversity; makes places comfortable to use, provides protection from UV radiation and promotes healthy lifestyles; trees also improve the aesthetics of a place. Trees take a long time to grow, so protecting existing trees, as well as supplementing with new trees is critical.

For those areas constrained by infrastructure (such as arterial roads and industrial areas), other measures will be encouraged to address urban heat, including green verges, green roofs and green walls, water sensitive urban design and improved building design.

### Potential barriers to implementation

- consideration needs to be given to certain areas including Bushfire Prone Land
- consideration needs to be given to the width of the verge and the ability for trees to grow to mature sizes.
- potential conflicts with services and awnings
- private land owners not replacing trees that have been removed
- residents not wanting a tree planted outside their property
- off-road cycle paths at 2 to 3 m wide limits treeplanting and Street Gardens