



Friday 17 September 2020

## Tree Vandalism in Smithton

Council condemns what appears to be another act of tree vandalism at East Esplanade, Smithton.

A once majestic Eucalyptus Tree in excess of 60 years old appears to have been deliberately poisoned recently.

Stumps nearby are the remains of similar trees of the same species and age, which have met the same unfortunate fate in recent years.

Circular Head Mayor, Daryl Quilliam said "Trees in public spaces are a crucial part of our built environment for all to enjoy and acts of senseless vandalism like this need to be stopped."

The cost of felling, chipping and removal of the dead tree is estimated to be around \$1500. Purchase, excavation and planting of replacement trees could be an additional several hundred dollars per tree.

Council are in discussions with youth leaders about planting a series of replacement semi-advanced trees in this location for the community to enjoy into the future.

"Removal of large trees such as this one is expensive. There's also a cost involved in planting replacement trees. Someone has to pay for this and that cost unfortunately falls to the ratepayers," Said Mayor Quilliam.

Anyone with information on this matter is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

***Authorised for general media distribution by Daryl Quilliam, Mayor, Circular Head Council***