**BUSHFIRE PROTECTION: EXEMPTIONS**

**Exemption to create defendable space around buildings used for accommodation**

Any requirement of a planning permit, including any condition, which has the effect of prohibiting the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation, or any requirement of this planning scheme to obtain a planning permit, or any provision of this planning scheme that prohibits the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation or requires the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation to be carried out in a particular manner, does not apply to:

- The removal, destruction or lopping of any vegetation within 10 metres of an existing building used for accommodation that was:
  - constructed before 10 September 2009; or
  - approved by a permit issued under this scheme before 10 September 2009; or
  - approved by a building permit issued under the *Building Act 1993* before 10 September 2009; or
  - constructed to replace a dwelling or dependent persons unit that was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire that occurred between 1 January 2009 and 31 March 2009.

This does not apply to land covered by the Banyule, Bayside, Boroondara, Brimbank, Darebin, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Knox, Maribyrnong, Maroondah, Melbourne, Monash, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Port of Melbourne, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Whitehorse and Yarra planning schemes unless the land is included in a Bushfire Management Overlay or is specified in a schedule to this clause.

- The removal, destruction or lopping of any vegetation, except trees, within 30 metres of an existing building used for accommodation that was:
  - constructed before 10 September 2009; or
  - approved by a permit issued under this scheme before 10 September 2009; or
  - approved by a building permit issued under the *Building Act 1993* before 10 September 2009; or
  - constructed to replace a dwelling or dependent persons unit that was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire that occurred between 1 January 2009 and 31 March 2009.

This does not apply to land covered by the Banyule, Bayside, Boroondara, Brimbank, Darebin, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Knox, Maribyrnong, Maroondah, Melbourne, Monash, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Port of Melbourne, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Whitehorse and Yarra planning schemes unless the land is specified in a schedule to this clause.

- The removal, destruction or lopping of any vegetation, except trees, within 50 metres of an existing building used for accommodation where land is within the Bushfire Management Overlay and where the existing building was:
  - constructed before 10 September 2009 or lawfully erected before 18 November 2011 without the need for a planning permit; or
  - approved by a permit issued under this scheme before 10 September 2009 and erected before 18 November 2011; or
  - approved by a building permit issued under the *Building Act 1993* before 10 September 2009 and erected before 18 November 2011; or
  - constructed to replace a dwelling or dependent persons unit that was damaged or destroyed by a bushfire that occurred between 1 January 2009 and 31 March 2009.
Exemption for vegetation removal along a fenceline

Any requirement of a planning permit, including any condition, which has the effect of prohibiting the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation, or any requirement of this planning scheme to obtain a planning permit, or any provision of this planning scheme that prohibits the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation or requires the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation to be carried out in a particular manner, does not apply to:

- The removal, destruction or lopping of any vegetation for a combined maximum width of 4 metres either side of an existing fence on a boundary between properties in different ownership that was constructed before 10 September 2009.

This does not apply to land covered by the Banyule, Bayside, Boroondara, Brimbank, Darebin, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Knox, Maribyrnong, Maroondah, Melbourne, Monash, Moonee Valley, Moreland, Port of Melbourne, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Whitehorse and Yarra planning schemes unless the land is included in a Bushfire Management Overlay.

Exemption for buildings and works associated with a community fire refuge

Any requirement in this scheme relating to the construction of a building or the construction or carrying out of works does not apply to modifying an existing building to create a community fire refuge in accordance with Ministerial Direction No. 4, Construction Requirements for a Community Fire Refuge (1 August 2012).

Exemption for buildings and works associated with a private bushfire shelter

Any requirement in this scheme relating to the construction of a building or the construction or carrying out of works does not apply to buildings and works associated with a private bushfire shelter (a Class 10c building within the meaning of the Building Regulations 2006), provided the total area of all buildings and works does not exceed 30 square metres.

This clause does not apply to land in the Urban Floodway Zone, Erosion Management Overlay, Floodway Overlay, Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, Special Building Overlay or Heritage Overlay.

Exemption to create defendable space for a dwelling approved under Clause 44.06 of this planning scheme

Any requirement of a planning permit, including any condition, which has the effect of prohibiting the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation, or any requirement of this planning scheme to obtain a planning permit, or any provision of this planning scheme that prohibits the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation or requires the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation to be carried out in a particular manner, does not apply to the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation to construct a dwelling and create its defendable space if all of the following requirements are met:

- Land is in the Bushfire Management Overlay.
- Land is in the General Residential Zone, Residential Growth Zone, Neighbourhood Residential Zone, Urban Growth Zone, Low Density Residential Zone, Township Zone, Rural Living Zone, Farming Zone or Rural Activity Zone.
- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation:
  - Does not exceed the distance specified in Table 1 to Clause 53.02-3 of this planning scheme, based on the bushfire attack level determined by a relevant building surveyor in deciding an application for a building permit under the Building Act 1993 for a dwelling or alteration or extension to the dwelling; or
- Is required to be undertaken by a condition in a planning permit issued after 31 July 2014 under Clause 44.06 of this scheme for a dwelling or an alteration or extension to the dwelling.