

Medium Density Policy Area 12



Introduction

This brochure provides an extract of the objectives, desired character and principles of development control for the Medium Density Policy Area 12, and certain design criteria from the Residential Zone and General Section of the Marion Council Development Plan.

For more information regarding design criteria for new dwellings, please refer to the brochure titled “*Residential Developments*” and the Marion Council Development Plan.

Objectives

1. A residential policy area comprising a range of medium-density dwellings designed to integrate with areas of open space, neighbouring centres or public transport nodes.
2. Development that minimises the potential impact of garaging of vehicles on the character of the area.
3. Development that supports the viability of community services and infrastructure and reflects good residential design principles.
4. Development that contributes to the desired character of the policy area.

Desired Character

This policy area encompasses areas especially suitable for a wide range of low and medium-density housing, such as detached, semi-detached, row and group dwellings, residential flat buildings, supported accommodation and student and other special purpose housing. Medium density development is especially suited to areas in proximity to centres and public transport, and to areas where such development already occurs (as in the area redeveloped by the former South Australian Housing Trust in Mitchell Park).

The desired character is an attractive residential environment containing low to medium density dwellings of a variety of architectural styles at a higher density and generally a lesser setback from the primary road frontage compared to that typical of the original dwelling stock in the area. Development should seek to promote cohesive streetscapes whilst allowing for a variety in housing forms and styles, such as buildings of up to two storeys, subject to the impact of the additional height and bulk not adversely impacting upon the amenity of existing neighbouring development. Buildings with two storeys plus attic are appropriate where located centrally within a large site.

Where housing is proposed adjacent to zones or policy areas which are intended to accommodate dwellings at

lower densities, consideration needs to be given to transitional built form, scale and design elements to ensure compatibility with that adjacent housing.

Amalgamation of properties is desirable where it will facilitate appropriately designed medium-density development. Through the gradual redevelopment of properties (particularly those containing lower valued improvements), a wider range of dwelling types will be provided to meet a variety of accommodation needs.

Development should not result in the removal of mature street trees in a road reserve that contribute positively to the landscape character of the locality.

Where access to parking areas servicing dwellings is via laneways, common driveways and the like, space should be provided for attractive landscaping and tree planting in order to present an attractive appearance from adjoining roads and to protect the amenity of adjacent dwellings.

Land Use

The following forms of development are envisaged in the policy area:

- affordable housing
- dwelling including a residential flat building
- supported accommodation.

Minimum Site Dimensions

A dwelling should have a minimum site area (and in the case of residential flat buildings and group dwellings, an average site area per dwelling) and a frontage to a public road and site depth not less than that shown in the following table:

Dwelling Type	Minimum Site Area (m ²)	Minimum Frontage Width		Minimum Site Depth (metres)
		Other road (metres)	Arterial road (metres)	
Detached	300	10	12	20
Semi-detached	270	9	12	20
Group	250	18	18	45
Residential flat building	250	18	18	45
Row	210	7	12	20
Supported Accommodation	200	-	-	-

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Design Requirements

In addition to the minimum site dimensions, dwellings in the Medium Density Policy Area 12 should be designed in accordance with the following design criteria:

Site Coverage & Floor Area Ratio

Dwellings should be designed to have a site coverage and floor area ratio within the following parameters:

Site area	Maximum Site Coverage	Maximum Floor Area Ratio
> 325 m ²	building up to 2 storeys: 40%	0.6
	2 storey building with a 3rd storey within the roof space: 40%	0.8
250 - 325 m ²	130 m ²	0.6
< 250 m ²	100 m ²	0.7

Site coverage represents the proportion of an allotment (excluding the area of any "handle" of a hammerhead allotment) covered by the floor level of a building or buildings including the dwelling, garage, carport, verandah and outbuildings, but excluding unroofed pergolas.

Floor area ratio means the ratio between—
(a) the total floor area contained on all floors within a building or buildings (excluding areas permanently set aside for the parking, loading, unloading or movement of vehicles); and
(b) the area of the site, where the area of the site is expressed as unity.

Front Setback

The main face of dwelling should be set back from the primary road frontage as follows:

- 8 metres from arterial roads
- 5 metres in all other circumstances

Secondary Street Setback

In the case of a corner allotment, the minimum setback distance for a dwelling from the secondary road frontage should be 2 metres.

Side Setbacks

Minimum setback from side boundaries where the wall height is not greater than 3 metres: 0.9 metres

Where the wall height is between 3 metres and 6 metres:

- 3 metres if adjacent southern boundary
- 2 metres in all other circumstances.

Where the wall height is greater than 6 metres:

- if not adjacent the southern boundary, 2 metres plus an additional setback equal to the increase in wall height above 6 metres

- if adjacent the southern boundary, 3 metres plus an additional setback equal to the increase in wall height above 6 metres.

Building on a Side Boundary

Dwellings and associated garages and/or carports should only abut one side boundary (excluding common walls associated with semi-detached, row or residential flat dwellings).

Dwelling walls located on side boundaries should not exceed 8 metres in length and 3 metres in height.

Where a wall adjoins communal open space or a public reserve it should not exceed 50 per cent of the length of the boundary and 4 metres in height.

Rear Setbacks

Dwellings should be set back from rear boundaries the following minimum distances:

- 6 metres for single storey parts of the dwelling (where no wall height exceeds 3 metres), but this can be reduced to 3 metres for no more than 50 per cent of the width of the rear boundary
- 6 metres for all other parts of the dwelling with a wall height greater than 3 metres.

Building Height

Maximum building height (from natural ground level):

- 2 storeys of not more than 9 metres
- 2 storeys with an ability to provide a 3 storey addition within the roof space of not more than 10 metres

Buildings on battle-axe allotments or the like should be single storey to reduce the visual impact of taller built form towards the rear of properties, and to maintain the privacy of adjoining residential properties.

Private Open Space (POS)

Dwellings should include POS that conforms to the requirements identified in the following table:

Minimum area of POS	Provisions
20 per cent of site area	Balconies, roof patios, decks and the like, can comprise part of this area provided the area of each is 10 square metres or greater and they have a minimum dimension of 2 metres. One part of the space should be directly accessible from a living room and have an area equal to or greater than 10 per cent of the site area with a minimum dimension of 5 metres and a maximum gradient of 1-in-10. The remainder of the space should have a minimum dimension of 2.5 metres.

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Dwellings comprising of supported accommodation should provide a minimum area of private open space of 30 square metres, one part of which should be capable of containing a rectangle of at least 3 metres by 5 metres.

Private open space should be provided for exclusive use by residents of each dwelling, and should be sited and designed:

- a) to be accessed directly from the internal living rooms of the dwelling
- b) to be generally at ground level (other than for dwellings without ground level internal living rooms)
- c) to be located to the side or rear of a dwelling and screened for privacy
- d) to take advantage of, but not adversely affect, natural features of the site
- e) to minimise overlooking from adjacent buildings
- f) to achieve separation from bedroom windows on adjacent sites
- g) to have a northerly aspect to provide for comfortable year round use
- h) to not be significantly shaded during winter by the associated dwelling or adjacent development
- i) to be partly shaded in summer
- j) to minimise noise or air quality impacts that may arise from traffic, industry or other business activities within the locality
- k) to have sufficient area and shape to be functional, taking into consideration the location of the dwelling, and the dimension and gradient of the site.

Private open space should not include:

- a) any area covered by a dwelling, carport, garage or outbuildings
- b) driveways, effluent drainage areas, rubbish bin storage areas, site for rainwater tanks and other utility areas
- c) common areas such as parking areas and communal open spaces
- d) any area at ground level at the front of the dwelling (forward of the building line)
- e) any area at ground level with a dimension less than 2.5 metres

A minimum of 50% of the private open space provided should be open to the sky and free from verandas.

Car parking

Dwellings should incorporate the following minimum number of on-site car parking spaces:

Detached Semi-detached Row	2 per dwelling containing up to 3 bedrooms*, one of which is to be covered. 3 per dwelling containing 4 or more bedrooms*, one of which is to be covered.
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Group Residential flat building	1.5 per dwelling, one of which is to be covered, plus 1 visitor space per 3 dwellings.
Multiple dwelling	0.7 per bedroom

* "Bedrooms" includes rooms capable of being used as bedrooms.

Garages, Carports, Verandas and Outbuildings

Garages, carports, verandas and outbuildings, whether freestanding or not, should not dominate the streetscape and (except where otherwise specified) be designed within the following parameters:

Parameter	Value
Maximum floor area	60 square metres
Maximum wall or post height	3 metres
Maximum building height	5 metres
Maximum height of finished floor level	0.3 metres
Minimum setback from a primary road frontage	Garages and carports; 5.5 metres and at least 0.5 metres behind the main face of the dwelling, or in line with the main face of the dwelling if the dwelling incorporates minor elements such as projecting windows, verandas, porticos, etc which provide articulation to the building as it presents to the street. Outbuildings should not protrude forward of any part of the associated dwelling.
Minimum setback from a secondary road frontage	0.9 metres or in-line with the associated dwelling (whichever is the lesser)
Minimum setback from a rear or side vehicle access way	1 metre
Minimum setback from side or rear boundaries (when not located on the boundary)	0.6 metres for an open structure, or 0.9 metres for a solid or enclosed wall
Maximum length on the boundary	8 metres or 45 per cent of the length on that boundary (whichever is the lesser)
Maximum frontage width of garage or carport with an opening facing the street	6 metres or 50 per cent of the width of the front façade of the dwelling to which the garage or carport is associated (whichever is the lesser)
Maximum frontage width of garage or carport with an opening facing a rear access lane	No maximum

Garages, carports, verandas and outbuildings should have a roof form and pitch, building materials and detailing that complements the associated dwelling.

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Vehicle Access

The width of driveway crossovers serving single dwellings should be minimised and have a maximum width of:

- (a) 3 metres wide for a single driveway
- (b) 5 metres wide for a double driveway.

Driveways serving hammerhead sites, or more than one dwelling, should satisfy the following:

Dwellings served	Trafficable width (metres)			Minimum landscape strips on both sides of driveway (metres)
	Intersection with public road and first 6 metres		Width beyond first 6 metres	
	Arterial roads	Other roads		
1 – 3	6	3	3	0.5
4 – 7	6	5	3	0.8
8 or more	6	6	5	1.0

Driveways serving 3 or more dwellings which exceed 30 metres in length should include one passing section of not less than 5 metres trafficable width for each 25 metre section of driveway.

The number of vehicle access points onto a public road should be minimised and each access point should be a minimum of 6 metres apart to maximise opportunities for on street parking.

A minimum of one on-street car parking space should be provided for every 2 allotments unless separately defined shared visitor parking spaces exist on-site and at the same ratio (e.g. for group dwellings or residential flat buildings).

Vehicle crossovers should be setback a minimum 2 metres from existing street trees, and 1 metre from street infrastructure and utilities (including stormwater side entry pits, stobie poles, street signs, cable pits, pram ramps etc.).

On an arterial road, vehicle access points should be minimised or avoided where possible, and vehicles should be able to enter and exit the site in a forward direction. Council is required to refer most applications for development on land fronting an arterial road to the Commissioner of Highways for advice and direction.

Visual Privacy

Buildings with upper level windows, balconies, terraces and decks should minimise direct overlooking of habitable rooms and private open spaces of dwellings through one or more of the following measures:

- a) off-setting the location of balconies and windows of habitable rooms with those of other buildings so that views are oblique rather than direct
- b) building setbacks from boundaries (including boundary to boundary where appropriate) that interrupt views or that provide a spatial separation between balconies or windows of habitable rooms
- c) screening devices (including fencing, obscure glazing, screens, external ventilation blinds, window hoods and shutters) that are integrated into the building design and have minimal negative effect on residents' or neighbours' amenity.

Permanently fixed external screening devices should be designed and coloured to complement the associated building's external materials and finishes.

Overshadowing

The design and location of buildings should enable direct winter sunlight into adjacent dwellings and private open space and minimise the overshadowing of:

- a) windows of habitable rooms
- b) upper-level private balconies that provide the primary open space area for a dwelling
- c) solar collectors (such as solar hot water systems and photovoltaic cells).

Development should ensure that:

- a) north-facing windows to living rooms of existing dwelling(s) on the same allotment, and on adjacent allotments, receive at least 3 hours of direct sunlight over a portion of their surface between 9 am and 3 pm on the 21 June
- b) ground level private open space of existing buildings receive direct sunlight for a minimum of 2 hours between 9 am and 3 pm on 21 June to at least the smaller of the following:
 - i. half of the existing ground level private open space
 - ii. 35 square metres of the existing ground level private open space
- c) where overshadowing already exceeds the requirements contained in part (b), development should not increase the area overshadowed.

Design & Appearance

Buildings should reflect the desired character of the locality while incorporating contemporary designs that have regard to the following:

- (a) building height, mass and proportion
- (b) external materials, patterns, colours and decorative elements
- (c) roof form and pitch
- (d) façade articulation and detailing

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- (e) verandas, eaves, parapets and window screens.

Dwellings and accommodation at ground floor level should contribute to the character of the locality and create active, safe streets by incorporating one or more of the following:

- a) front landscaping or terraces that contribute to the spatial and visual structure of the street while maintaining adequate privacy for occupants
- b) individual entries for ground floor accommodation
- c) opportunities to overlook adjacent public space.

Entries to dwellings or foyer areas should be clearly visible from the street, or from access ways that they face, to enable visitors to easily identify individual dwellings and entrance foyers.

Dwellings should be designed and oriented to address the street by presenting a front entrance door, porch/portico/veranda and habitable room windows toward the primary street frontage.

Buildings (other than ancillary buildings, group dwellings or buildings on allotments with a battle axe configuration) should be designed so that the main façade faces the primary street frontage of the land on which they are situated.

Buildings, landscaping, paving and signage should have a coordinated appearance that maintains and enhances the visual attractiveness of the locality.

Buildings should be designed and sited to avoid extensive areas of uninterrupted walling facing areas exposed to public view.

Building design should emphasise pedestrian entry points to provide perceptible and direct access from public street frontages and vehicle parking areas.

Energy Efficiency

Development should provide for efficient solar access to buildings and open space all year around.

Buildings should be sited and designed:

- (a) to ensure adequate natural light and winter sunlight is available to the main activity areas of adjacent buildings
- (b) so that open spaces associated with the main activity areas face north for exposure to winter sun.

Development should facilitate the efficient use of photovoltaic cells and solar hot water systems by:

- (a) taking into account overshadowing from neighbouring buildings

- (b) designing roof orientation and pitches to maximise exposure to direct sunlight.

Noise

Residential development close to high noise sources (e.g. major roads, railway lines, tram lines, industry, and airports) should be designed to locate bedrooms, living rooms and private open spaces away from those noise sources, and protect these areas with appropriate noise attenuation measures.

Residential development on sites abutting established collector or higher order roads should include a landscaped buffer between the dwellings and the road as well as front fences and walls that will supplement the noise control provided by the building facade.

Noise generated by fixed noise sources such as air conditioning units and pool pumps should be located, designed and attenuated to avoid nuisance to adjoining landowners and occupiers.

External noise and artificial light intrusion into bedrooms should be minimised by separating or shielding these rooms from:

- (a) active communal recreation areas, parking areas and vehicle access ways
- (b) service equipment areas and fixed noise sources on the same or adjacent sites.

Site Facilities and Storage

Site facilities for group dwellings, multiple dwellings and residential flat buildings should include:

- a) mail box facilities sited close to the major pedestrian entrance to the site
- b) bicycle parking for residents and visitors (for developments containing more than 6 dwellings)
- c) household waste and recyclable material storage areas located away from dwellings and screened from public view.

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Other Information

Public Notification

Some types of residential developments require public notification. For more information, please refer to Council's information brochure titled "*Public Notification*".

Stormwater Detention

In residential areas north of Seacombe Road, all new houses must be provided with an on-site stormwater detention/retention system (this slows the flow of stormwater that is discharged to the street water table). Stormwater Detention Systems should be designed to meet the runoff flow requirements contained in Council's information brochure titled "*Stormwater Detention*".

Easement and Encumbrances

The Certificate of Title for a property contains information regarding the location and nature of any easements and the details of any encumbrances that apply to the land. If your proposed development extends over an easement or is affected by an encumbrance on your property, documentation must be submitted to the Council demonstrating that the authority controlling the easement (e.g. SA Water, SA Power Networks) have approved the proposed development.

Regulated and Significant Trees

Any work that may substantially damage or affect a regulated or significant tree or trees requires approval from the Council. For clarification on what a regulated/significant tree is and what are considered to be tree damaging activities, please refer to Council's information brochure titled "*Regulated & Significant Trees*".

Flooding

The Cities of Marion and Holdfast Bay have released a long-term plan which identifies properties at risk of inundation in a 1-in-100 year average return interval (ARI) flood event. Properties at risk of inundation can be identified via maps on the following website:

<http://www.marion.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=858>

Development should not be undertaken in areas liable to inundation by tidal, drainage or flood waters unless the development can achieve all of the following:

(a) it is developed with a public stormwater system capable of catering for a 1-in-100 year average return interval flood event; and

(b) buildings are designed and constructed to prevent the entry of floodwaters in a 1-in-100 year average return interval flood event.

Proposed development in flood-affected areas will be subject to review by Council's Engineering Department to ensure that the above can be achieved.

National Broadband Network (NBN)

The Telecommunications Act requires new dwellings to be "fibre-ready". Residents and developers should familiarise themselves with the technical criteria for the required infrastructure. More information is available at www.nbn.com.au

Want to Know More?

The above information is advisory only. It is intended to provide a guide and a general understanding of the key points associated with the particular topic. It is not a substitute for reading the relevant legislation or the Development Plan.

It is recommended that if you are intending to undertake development, you seek professional advice or contact the Council for any specific enquiries or for further assistance.

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