



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Botanic Gardens tree work to begin

August 30, 2018
COOKTOWN

Pruning and removal of old and dangerous trees in Cooktown's Botanic Gardens will begin this month, after Council awarded the contract to a Far Northern business.

Council awarded the tender to Mossman-based MPDT Pty Ltd at the August meeting, and work is planned to begin next week. The dangerous trees were identified in late 2017, with 119 trees earmarked for priority removal, 86 of which are in the fenced area of the Gardens. The remaining trees are in the wider Botanic Gardens precinct, around the car park, amenities block, Nature's PowerHouse and the oval. Remediation works, such as pruning, will also be conducted on other trees throughout the precinct. Species to be removed include mother of cocoa, mango, milky pine, bush plum, wattle, paperbark and other common species. Removed trees will all be replaced, although not necessarily in the exact same location. "In the past year three large trees have fallen in the Gardens, and numerous large branches drop regularly," Cook Shire Council Chief Executive Officer Linda Cardew said. "This is a serious safety concern that we are pleased to be able to rectify quickly and with minimal impact to public access to the Gardens."

Disruption to the Gardens will be kept to a minimum, with the works to be split into small sections to allow visitors to use the other areas of the Gardens during the project. Work is expected to be finalised during November.

For more information contact Council's Botanic Gardens Curator via email at mail@cook.qld.gov.au or phone on 4069 5444.

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