

## 55.04

19/01/2006  
VC37

## AMENITY IMPACTS

### 55.04-1

19/01/2006  
VC37

### Side and rear setbacks objective

To ensure that the height and setback of a building from a boundary respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character and limits the impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

#### Standard B17

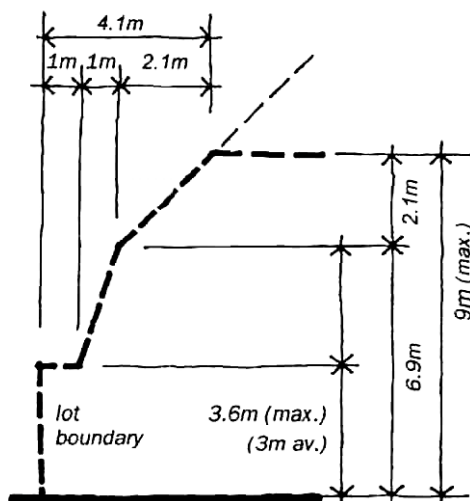
A new building not on or within 150mm of a boundary should be set back from side or rear boundaries:

- At least the distance specified in the schedule to the zone, or
- If no distance is specified in the schedule to the zone, 1 metre, plus 0.3 metres for every metre of height over 3.6 metres up to 6.9 metres, plus 1 metre for every metre of height over 6.9 metres.

Sunblinds, verandahs, porches, eaves, fascias, gutters, masonry chimneys, flues, pipes, domestic fuel or water tanks, and heating or cooling equipment or other services may encroach not more than 0.5 metres into the setbacks of this standard.

Landings having an area of not more than 2 square metres and less than 1 metre high, stairways, ramps, pergolas, shade sails and carports may encroach into the setbacks of this standard.

#### Diagram B1 Side and rear setbacks



#### Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The impact on the amenity of the habitable room windows and secluded private open space of existing dwellings.

- Whether the wall is opposite an existing or simultaneously constructed wall built to the boundary.
- Whether the wall abuts a side or rear lane.

## 55.04-2

19/01/2006  
VC37

### Walls on boundaries objective

To ensure that the location, length and height of a wall on a boundary respects the existing or preferred neighbourhood character and limits the impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

#### Standard B18

A new wall constructed on or within 150mm of a side or rear boundary of a lot or a carport constructed on or within 1 metre of a side or rear boundary of lot should not abut the boundary for a length of more than:

- 10 metres plus 25 per cent of the remaining length of the boundary of an adjoining lot, or
- Where there are existing or simultaneously constructed walls or carports abutting the boundary on an abutting lot, the length of the existing or simultaneously constructed walls or carports,

whichever is the greater.

A new wall or carport may fully abut a side or rear boundary where slope and retaining walls or fences would result in the effective height of the wall or carport being less than 2 metres on the abutting property boundary.

A building on a boundary includes a building set back up to 150mm from a boundary.

The height of a new wall constructed on or within 150mm of a side or rear boundary or a carport constructed on or within 1 metre of a side or rear boundary should not exceed an average of 3 metres with no part higher than 3.6 metres unless abutting a higher existing or simultaneously constructed wall.

#### Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- Any relevant neighbourhood character objective, policy or statement set out in this scheme.
- The design response.
- The extent to which walls on boundaries are part of the neighbourhood character.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.
- The opportunity to minimise the length of walls on boundaries by aligning a new wall on a boundary with an existing wall on a lot of an adjoining property.
- The orientation of the boundary that the wall is being built on.
- The width of the lot.
- The extent to which the slope and retaining walls or fences reduce the effective height of the wall.
- Whether the wall abuts a side or rear lane.
- The need to increase the wall height to screen a box gutter.

### Daylight to existing windows objective

To allow adequate daylight into existing habitable room windows.

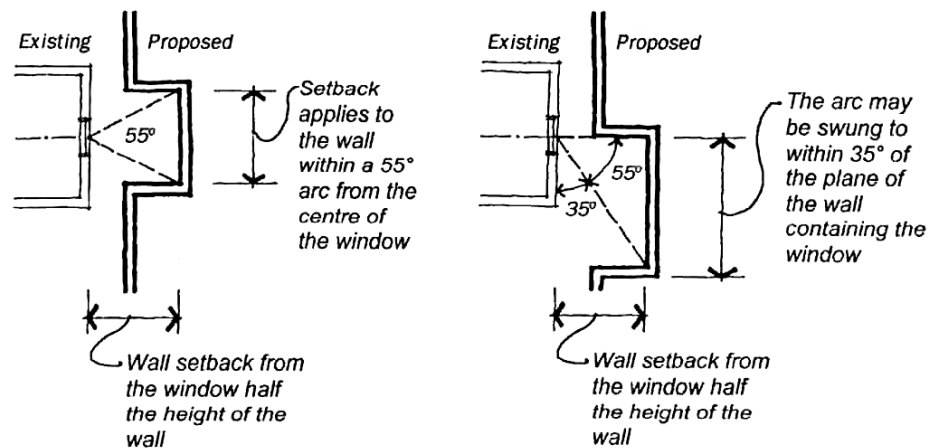
#### Standard B19

Buildings opposite an existing habitable room window should provide for a light court to the existing window that has a minimum area of 3 square metres and minimum dimension of 1 metre clear to the sky. The calculation of the area may include land on the abutting lot.

Walls or carports more than 3 metres in height opposite an existing habitable room window should be set back from the window at least 50 per cent of the height of the new wall if the wall is within a 55 degree arc from the centre of the existing window. The arc may be swung to within 35 degrees of the plane of the wall containing the existing window.

Where the existing window is above ground floor level, the wall height is measured from the floor level of the room containing the window.

#### Diagram B2 Daylight to existing windows



#### Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- The design response.
- The extent to which the existing dwelling has provided for reasonable daylight access to its habitable rooms through the siting and orientation of its habitable room windows.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

### North-facing windows objective

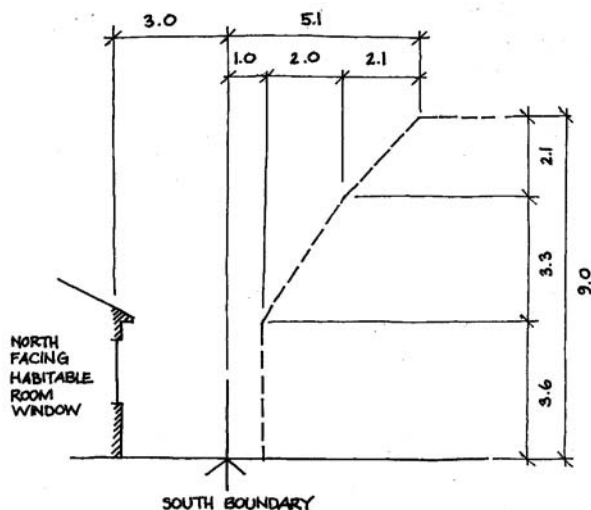
To allow adequate solar access to existing north-facing habitable room windows.

#### Standard B20

If a north-facing habitable room window of an existing dwelling is within 3 metres of a boundary on an abutting lot, a building should be setback from the boundary 1 metre, plus 0.6 metres for every metre of height over 3.6 metres up to 6.9 metres, plus 1 metre for every metre of height over 6.9 metres, for a distance of 3 metres from the edge of each side

of the window. A north-facing window is a window with an axis perpendicular to its surface oriented north 20 degrees west to north 30 degrees east.

### Diagram B3 North-facing windows



### Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- The design response.
- Existing sunlight to the north-facing habitable room window of the existing dwelling.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.

55.04-5  
19/01/2006  
VC37

### Overshadowing open space objective

To ensure buildings do not significantly overshadow existing secluded private open space.

### Standard B21

Where sunlight to the secluded private open space of an existing dwelling is reduced, at least 75 per cent, or 40 square metres with minimum dimension of 3 metres, whichever is the lesser area, of the secluded private open space should receive a minimum of five hours of sunlight between 9 am and 3 pm on 22 September.

If existing sunlight to the secluded private open space of an existing dwelling is less than the requirements of this standard, the amount of sunlight should not be further reduced.

### Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- The design response.
- The impact on the amenity of existing dwellings.
- Existing sunlight penetration to the secluded private open space of the existing dwelling.

- The time of day that sunlight will be available to the secluded private open space of the existing dwelling.
- The effect of a reduction in sunlight on the existing use of the existing secluded private open space.

#### 55.04-6

19/01/2006  
VC37

#### Overlooking objective

To limit views into existing secluded private open space and habitable room windows.

#### Standard B22

A habitable room window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio should be located and designed to avoid direct views into the secluded private open space of an existing dwelling within a horizontal distance of 9 metres (measured at ground level) of the window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio. Views should be measured within a 45 degree angle from the plane of the window or perimeter of the balcony, terrace, deck or patio, and from a height of 1.7 metres above floor level.

A habitable room window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio with a direct view into a habitable room window of existing dwelling within a horizontal distance of 9 metres (measured at ground level) of the window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio should be either:

- Offset a minimum of 1.5 metres from the edge of one window to the edge of the other.
- Have sill heights of at least 1.7 metres above floor level.
- Have fixed, obscure glazing in any part of the window below 1.7 metre above floor level.
- Have permanently fixed external screens to at least 1.7 metres above floor level and be no more than 25 per cent transparent.

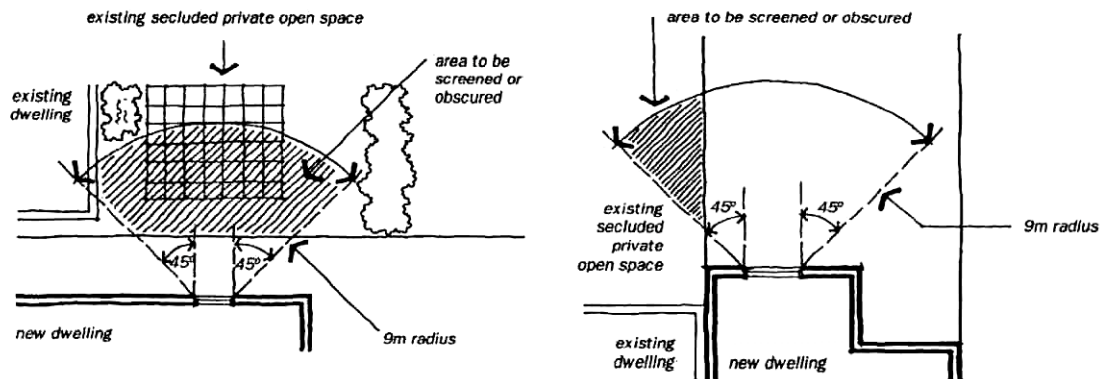
Obscure glazing in any part of the window below 1.7 metres above floor level may be openable provided that there are no direct views as specified in this standard.

Screens used to obscure a view should be:

- Perforated panels or trellis with a maximum of 25 per cent openings or solid translucent panels.
- Permanent, fixed and durable.
- Designed and coloured to blend in with the development.

This standard does not apply to a new habitable room window, balcony, terrace, deck or patio which faces a property boundary where there is a visual barrier at least 1.8 metres high and the floor level of the habitable room, balcony, terrace, deck or patio is less than 0.8 metres above ground level at the boundary.

## Diagram B4 Overlooking open space



### Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider:

- The design response.
- The impact on the amenity of the secluded private open space or habitable room window.
- The existing extent of overlooking into the secluded private open space and habitable room windows of existing dwellings.
- The internal daylight to and amenity of the proposed dwelling or residential building.

55.04-7  
19/01/2006  
VC37

### Internal views objective

To limit views into the secluded private open space and habitable room windows of dwellings and residential buildings within a development.

### Standard B23

Windows and balconies should be designed to prevent overlooking of more than 50 per cent of the secluded private open space of a lower-level dwelling or residential building directly below and within the same development.

### Decision guideline

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider the design response.

55.04-8  
19/01/2006  
VC37

### Noise impacts objectives

To contain noise sources in developments that may affect existing dwellings.

To protect residents from external noise.

**Standard B24**

Noise sources, such as mechanical plant, should not be located near bedrooms of immediately adjacent existing dwellings.

Noise sensitive rooms and secluded private open spaces of new dwellings and residential buildings should take account of noise sources on immediately adjacent properties.

Dwellings and residential buildings close to busy roads, railway lines or industry should be designed to limit noise levels in habitable rooms.

**Decision guideline**

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider the design response.