Australian Capital Territory

Planning (Molonglo Valley District) Technical Specifications 2026 (No 2)

Notifiable instrument NI2026–492

made under the

Planning Act 2023, s 51 (Technical specifications)

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1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Planning (Molonglo Valley District) Technical Specifications 2026 (No 2)*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

3 Technical specifications

I make the technical specifications at schedule 1.

4 Revocation

This instrument revokes the *Planning (Molonglo Valley District) Technical Specifications 2026 (No 1)* (NI2026-361).

George Cilliers
Chief Planner
3 November 2026

Schedule 1
(see s 3)

ACT Government

DS5 – Molonglo Valley District Specifications

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Molonglo Valley District planning technical specifications

The primary assessment consideration for a development application is the assessment outcomes in the Territory Plan. In demonstrating compliance with the assessment outcomes, consideration may be given to the relevant planning technical specifications which may serve as a benchmark. While all assessment outcomes are to be met, not all outcomes are covered by a specification.

Planning technical specifications are used as a possible solution or to provide guidance for identified aspects of a development proposal. The specifications may also be used as a reference or benchmark in the preparation and assessment of development proposals to demonstrate compliance with the assessment outcomes, and the Territory Plan.

Where a proposed development complies with a relevant provision in the planning technical specifications and the development comprehensively addresses the assessment outcome, further assessment regarding those specific provisions will not be required.

The specifications in the Molonglo Valley District Specifications can be used to demonstrate compliance with the assessment outcomes in the Molonglo Valley District Policy or the relevant zone policy. Where there is a specific assessment outcome in the Molonglo Valley District Policy, this takes precedence over the equivalent outcome in the zone policy. Where there is no specific assessment outcome in the Molonglo Valley District Policy, the specification can be used to demonstrate compliance with the assessment outcomes in the zone policy.

The Territory Planning Authority may consider advice or written support from a referral entity to demonstrate compliance with a relevant assessment outcome. Where endorsement from an entity is noted as a planning specification, entity referral may be required.

Consistent with the Molonglo Valley District Policy, this Molonglo Valley District Specifications comprises specifications for specific localities, structured according to the localities.

These specifications will only apply to the specific sites or locations they refer to and should be used in conjunction with the relevant district policy, i.e., ***Part D5: Molonglo Valley District Policy***.

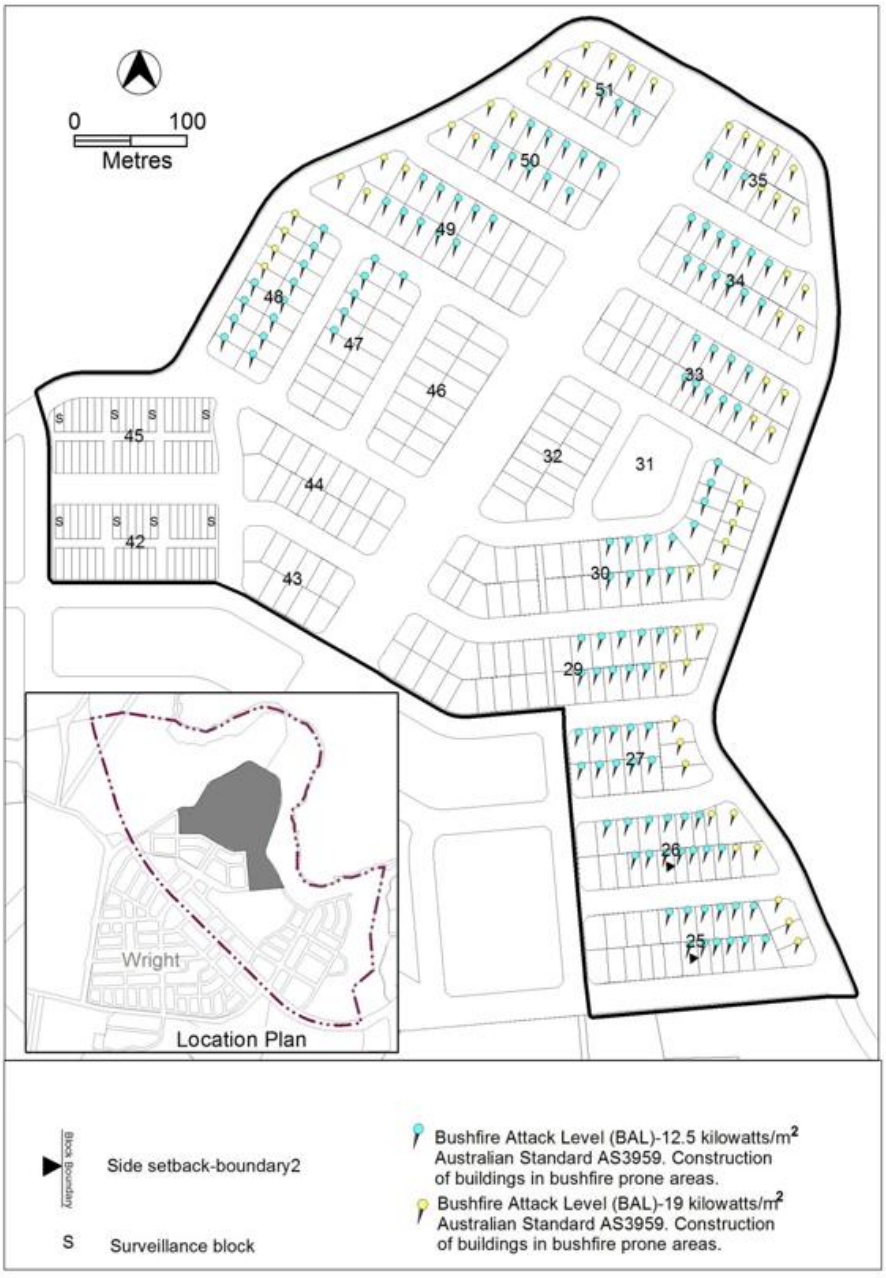
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1. Coombs

The following specifications provide possible solutions that should be considered in planning, placing, designing and using buildings and structures for proposed development in Coombs:

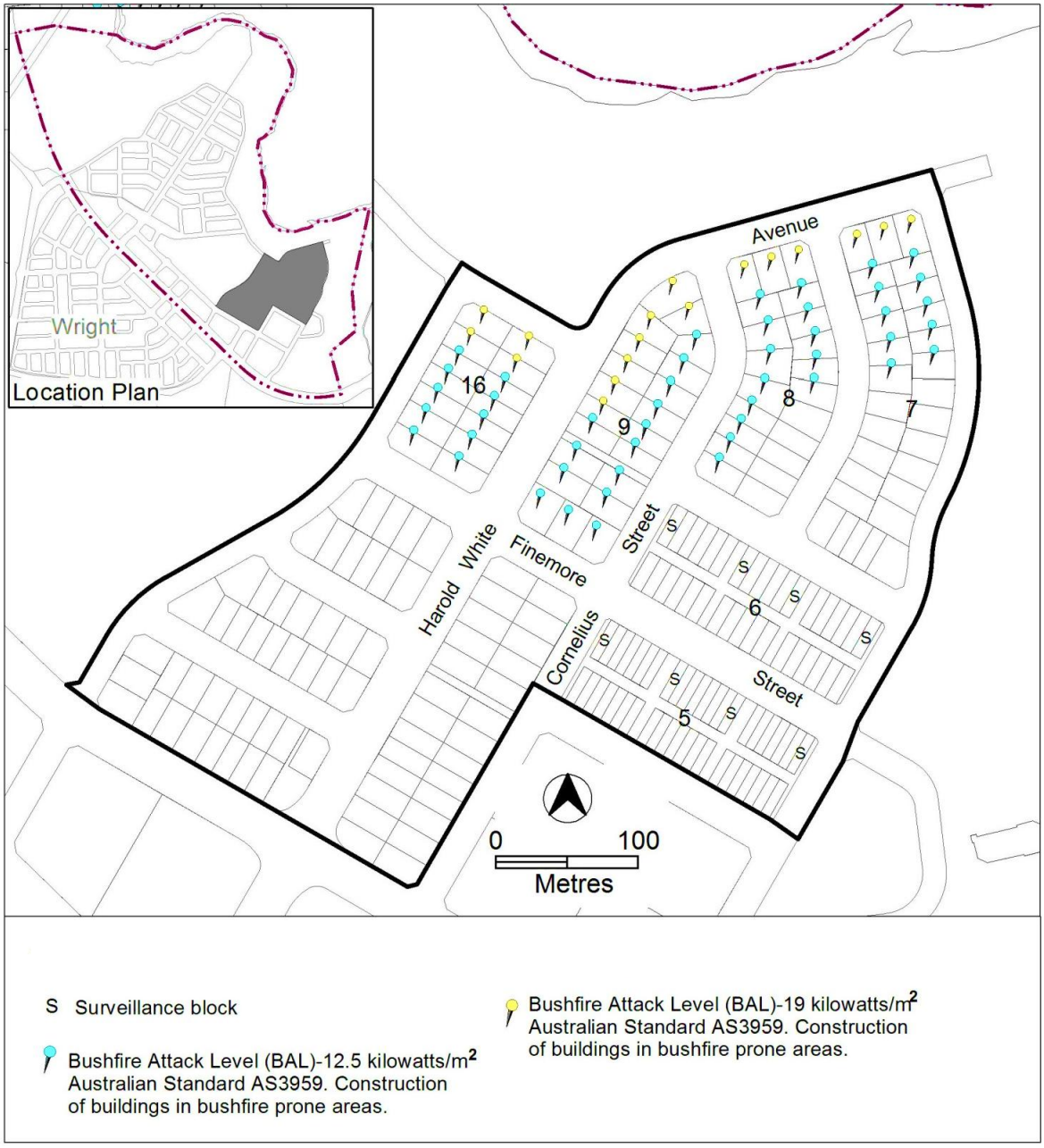
Assessment Outcome	Refer to zone assessment outcome
Specification	
Bushfire requirements	1.1. Development complies with the specified bushfire attack level construction requirements and noise provisions, in accordance with Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 4.

Figure 1 Coombs – Bushfire Provisions



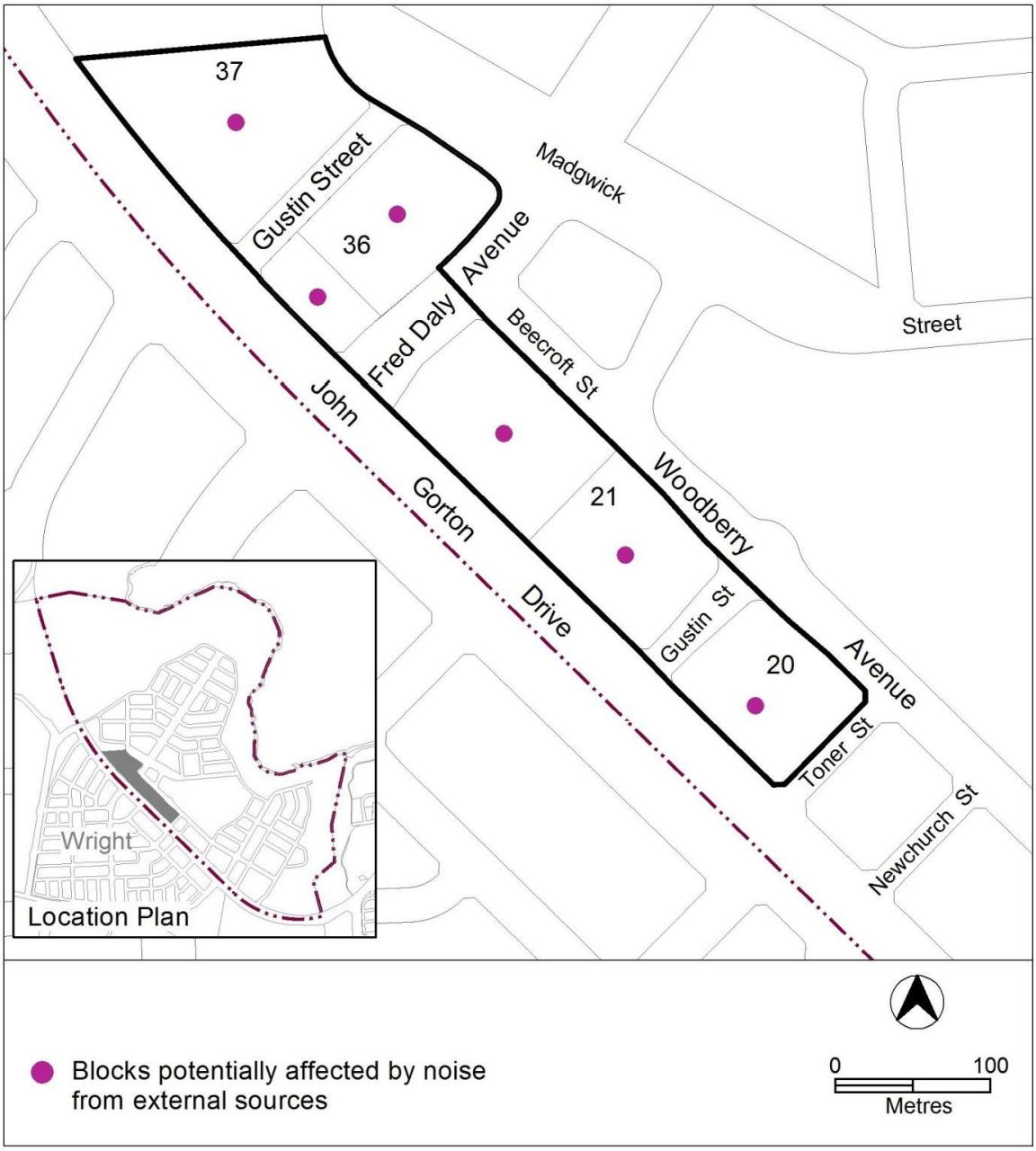
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Figure 2 Coombs - Bushfire Provisions



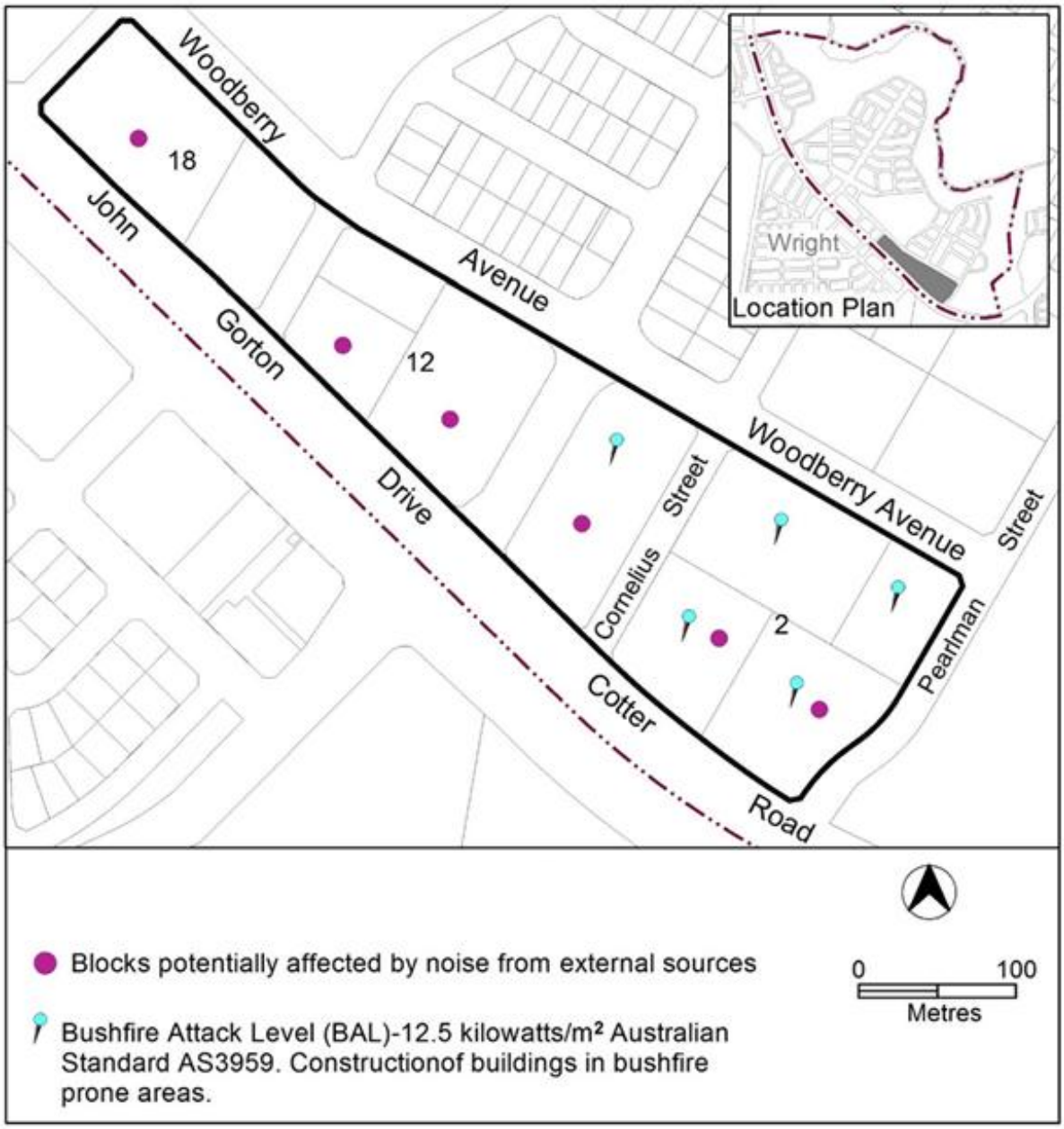
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Figure 3 Coombs – Noise Provisions



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Figure 4 Coombs – Noise and Bushfire Provisions



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2. Denman Prospect

The following specifications provide possible solutions that should be considered in planning, placing, designing and using buildings and structures for proposed development in Denman Prospect:

Assessment Outcome	Refer to zone assessment outcomes
Specification	
Vehicle access	2.1. No vehicle access is provided from frontages as indicated on Figure 6, Figure 7, Figure 8, Figure 9, Figure 11, Figure 12,Figure 13, Figure 16a and Figure 16b.
Private open space	2.2. For blocks in Figure 6, the level of private open space is not lower than 1m below the front boundary level for a depth of 3m from the front boundary to the open space. Maximum length of wall at zero setback is limited to length of the adjoining dwelling party wall.
Principal private open space	2.3. For nominated blocks in Figure 15 and Figure 16, alternate principal private open space (PPOS) is permitted above the garage. All other PPOS requirements apply as per the relevant Territory Plan code.
Landscaping – open space	2.4. For blocks in Figure 7: a) Identified areas are maintained as a landscape zone. b) Commercial uses adjacent to the landscape zone are activated. c) Pedestrian access is facilitated at the corner of Marie Little Crescent and Greenwood Street, providing an accessible connection to Section 76; and from Section 72 across Marie Little Crescent providing an accessible connection to Section 73.
Visual corridor	2.5. Buildings must be setback to achieve a visual corridor through nominated block as shown in Figure 14. Figure 16 and Figure 16b.
Building heights	2.6. The minimum and maximum number of storeys is nominated in Figure 10, Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, Figure 15, Figure 16, Figure 16a, Figure 16b and Figure 16c.
Setbacks	2.7. For blocks in Figure 10, Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, Figure 15, Figure 16, Figure 16a, Figure 16b and Figure 16c. the minimum boundary setbacks to floor levels are nominated.
Habitable rooms	2.8. Blocks identified in Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 14, Figure 16, Figure 16a, Figure 16b and Figure 16c, are to provide habitable rooms that overlook both front boundaries.
Garages/Carports	2.9. For blocks in Figures 5, Figure 6, Figure 10, Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, Figure 15, Figure 16Figure 16a, Figure 16b and Figure 16c, the minimum side boundary setback to garage / carport is as nominated and the maximum length of the wall is 8m. 2.10. For nominated blocks in Figure 15 and Figure 16, the minimum side boundary setback to the garage is specified. 2.11. For nominated blocks in Figure 15 and Figure 16, the garage opening may exceed 50% of building façade width. Upper floor must provide building articulation.
Gates	2.12. For blocks in Figure 5, Figure 6, Figure 7, Figure 8, Figure 9 and Figure 10 boundaries to open space must provide at least one gate access.
Fencing – general	2.13. Blocks fronting open space identified in Figure 26 provide transparent type fencing with maximum height of 1.2m. 2.14. For blocks identified in Figure 11 and Figure 15, no fencing permitted to nominated front boundaries. Landscape treatment only. Where a multi-unit site fronts open space, landscape treatment provides an effective vehicle barrier.

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Assessment Outcome	Refer to zone assessment outcomes
Specification	
Fencing and courtyard walls– to open space	2.15. For blocks addressing open space in Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, Figure 16 Figure 16a and Figure 16b, fences are not permitted on nominated front boundaries, however, courtyard walls are permitted and are to be: a) Constructed only of brick, block or stonework, any which may be combined with feature panels. b) Maximum height of 1.8m. c) Located on the block boundary or in a location setback from the block boundary as required to permit access by service authorities.
Parking	2.16. For blocks identified in Figure 6, Figure 7, Figure 8, Figure 9, Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, Figure 15 and Figure 16, all visitor parking requirements are to be provided within the block.
Pedestrian access	2.17. For blocks identified in Figure 11, Figure 12, Figure 13, Figure 14, Figure 15, Figure 16, Figure 16a, Figure 16b and Figure 16c, pedestrian access must be provided on all nominated boundaries. Where a multi-unit exceeds 10 dwellings, multiple entries must be provided.
Development provisions	2.18. Development complies with the specifications identified in Figure 17, Figure 18, Figure 19, Figure 20, Figure 21, Figure 22, Figure 23, Figure 24, Figure 25, Figure 25a and Figure 25b. Note: Blocks identified as being subject to mid-sized block provisions are from 500m^2 or greater, but less than 550m^2.

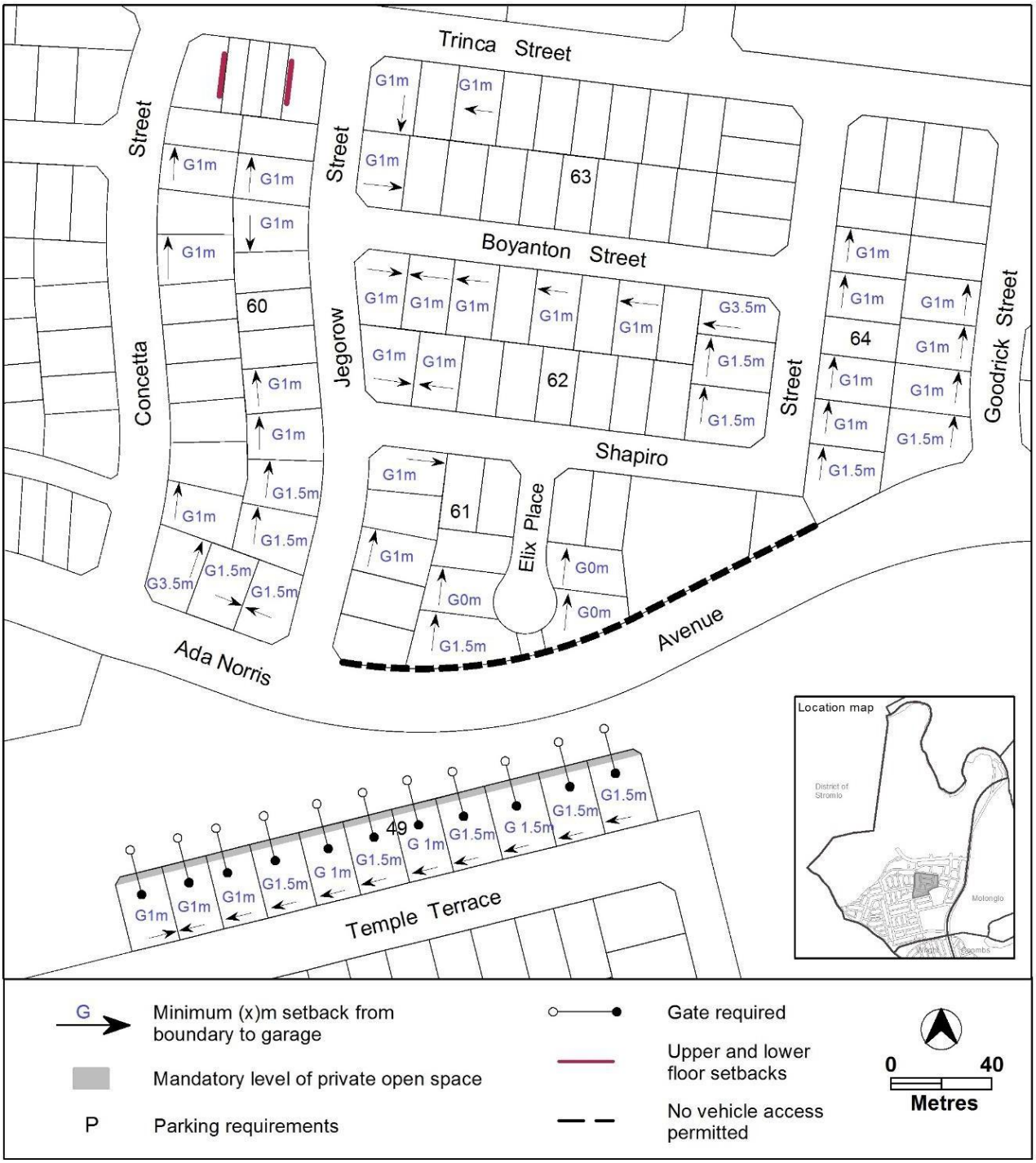
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Figure 5 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



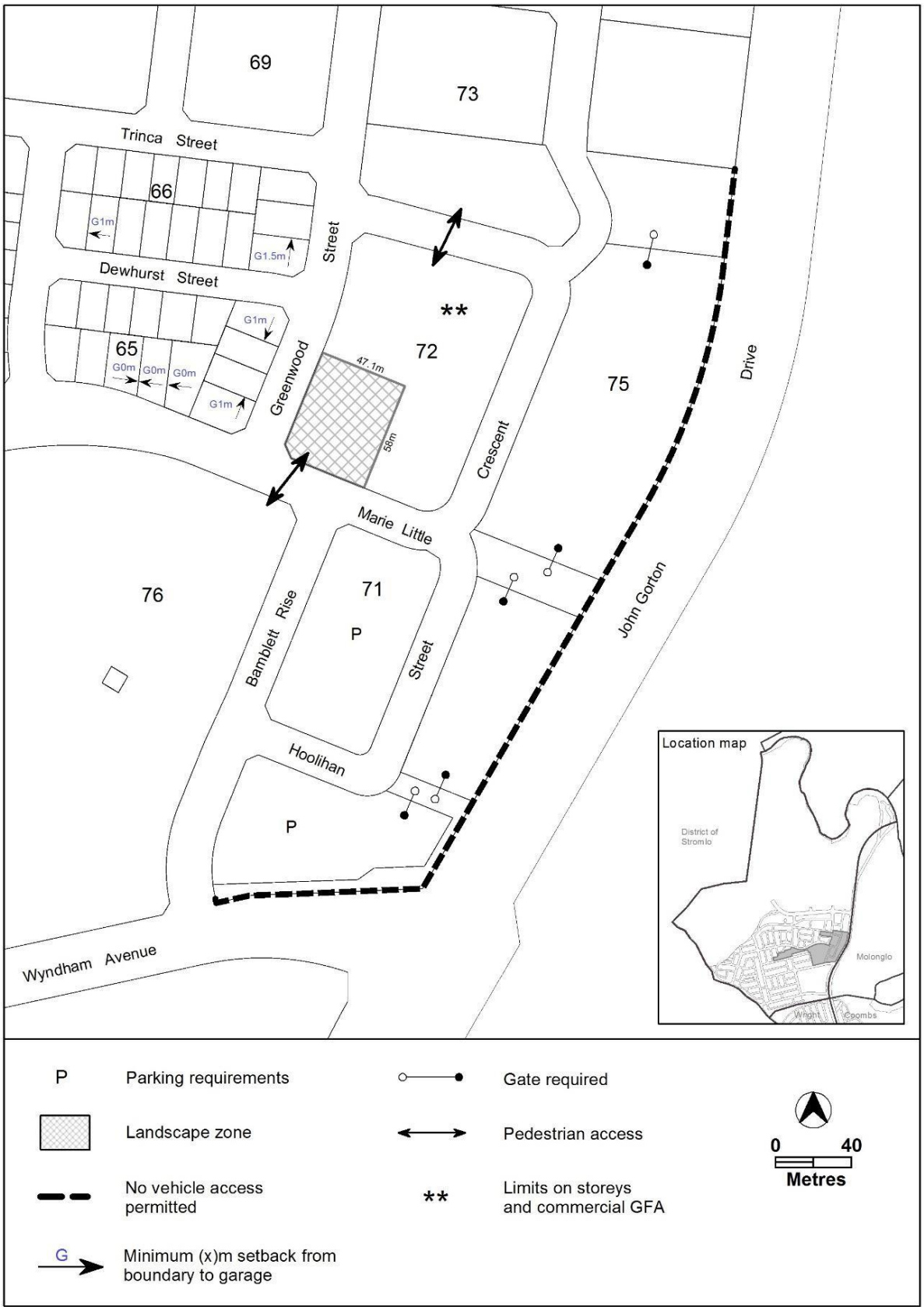
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Figure 6 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



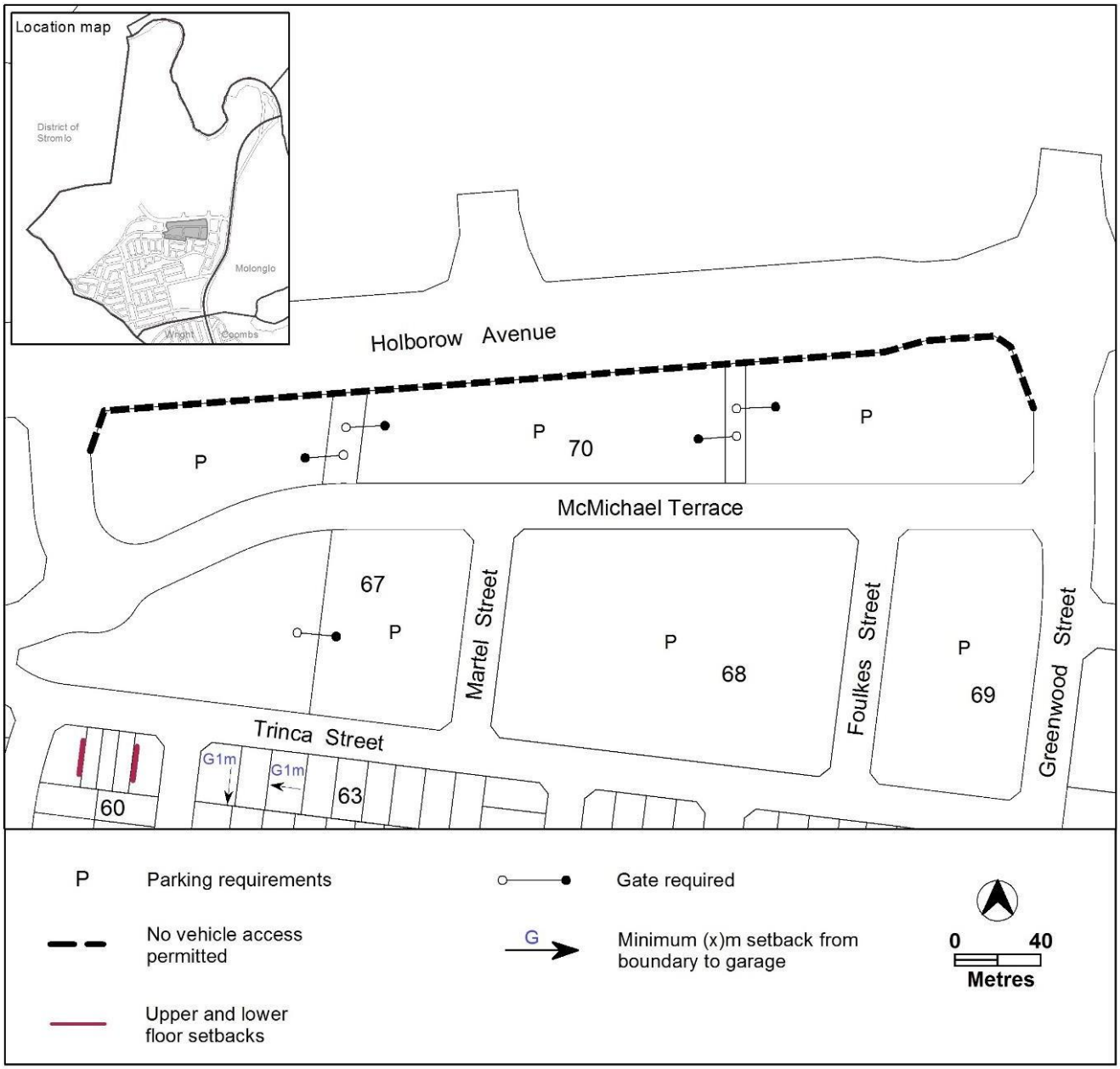
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Figure 7 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



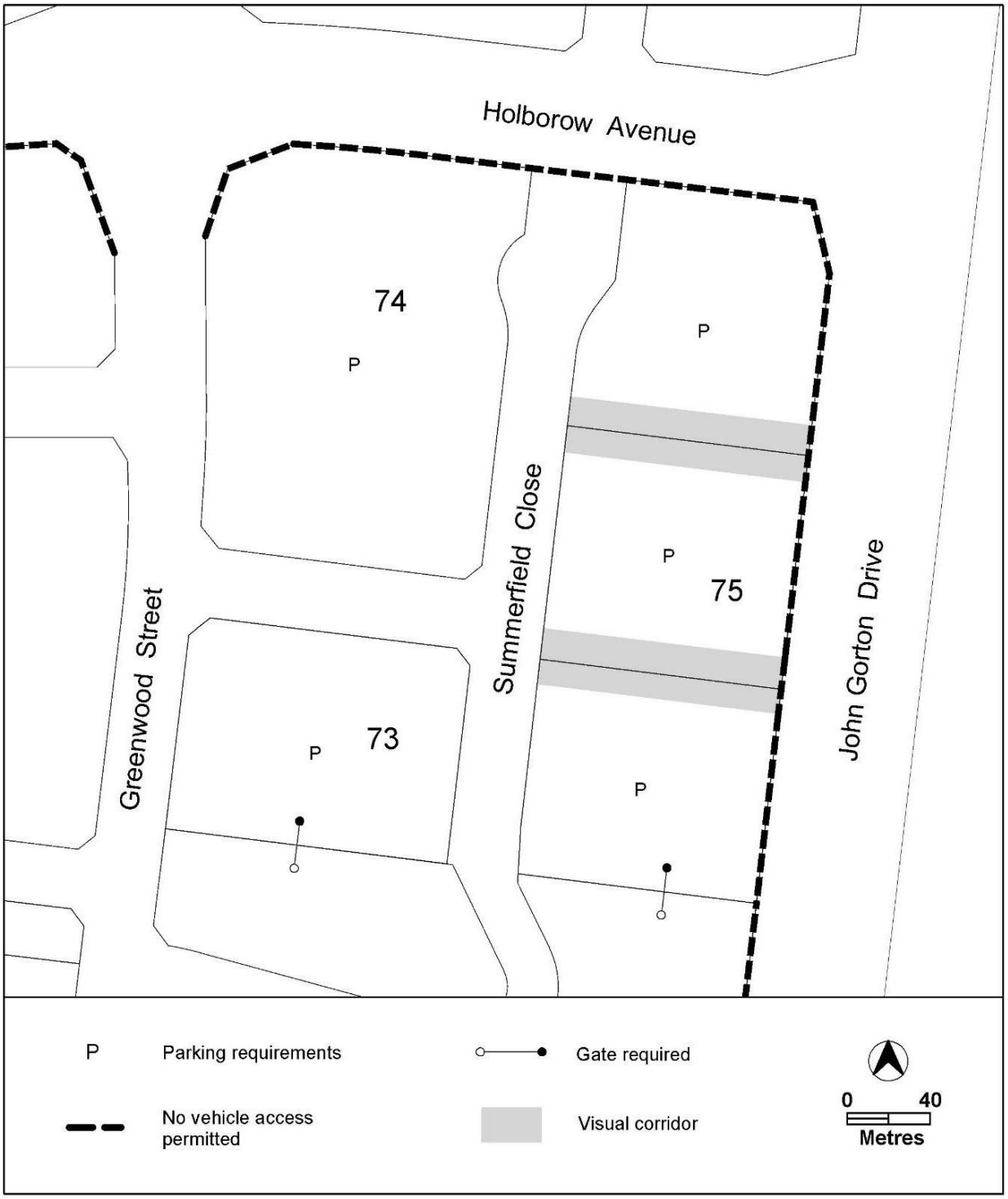
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Figure 8 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 9 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



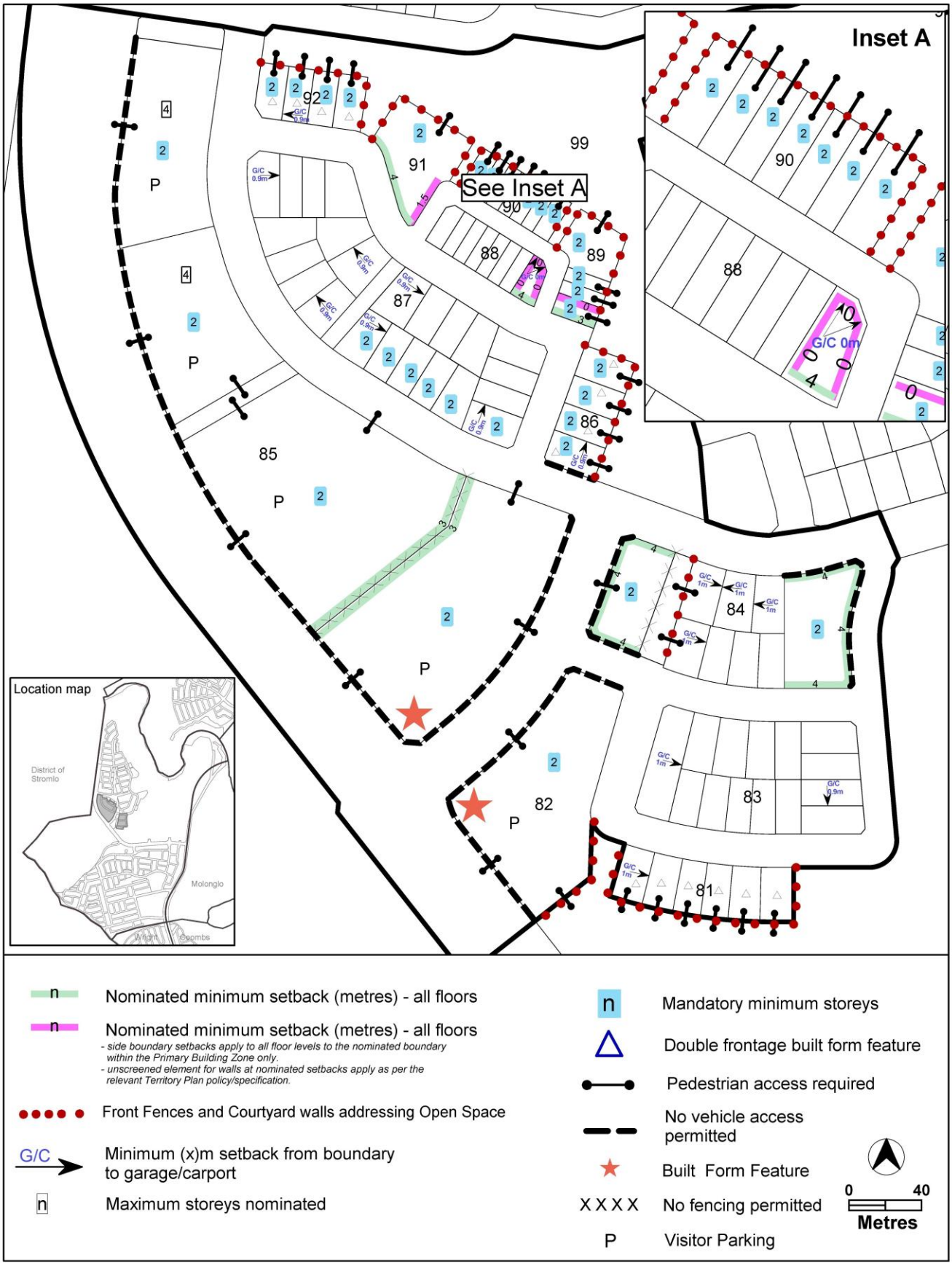
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Figure 10 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



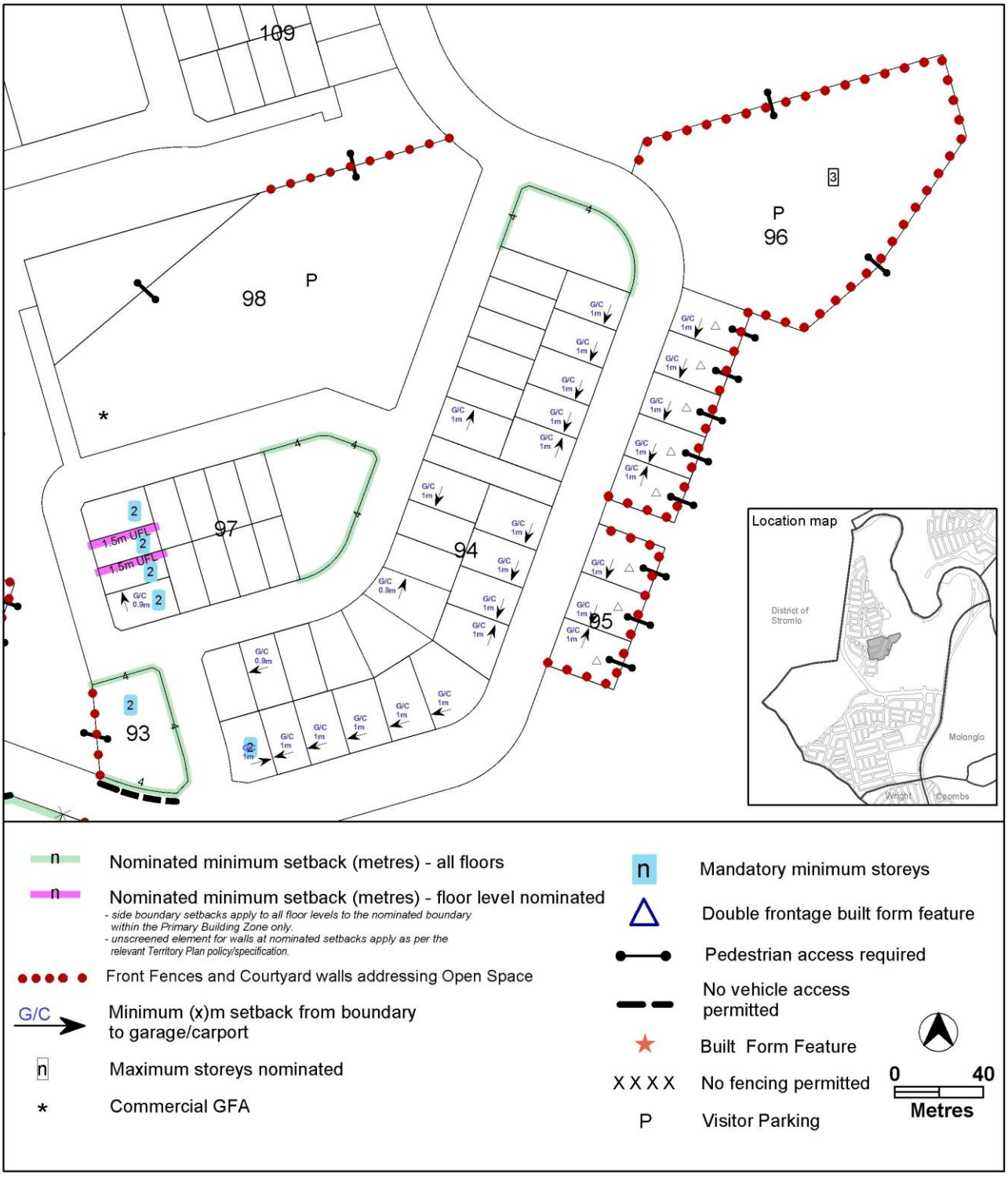
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Figure 11 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 12 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



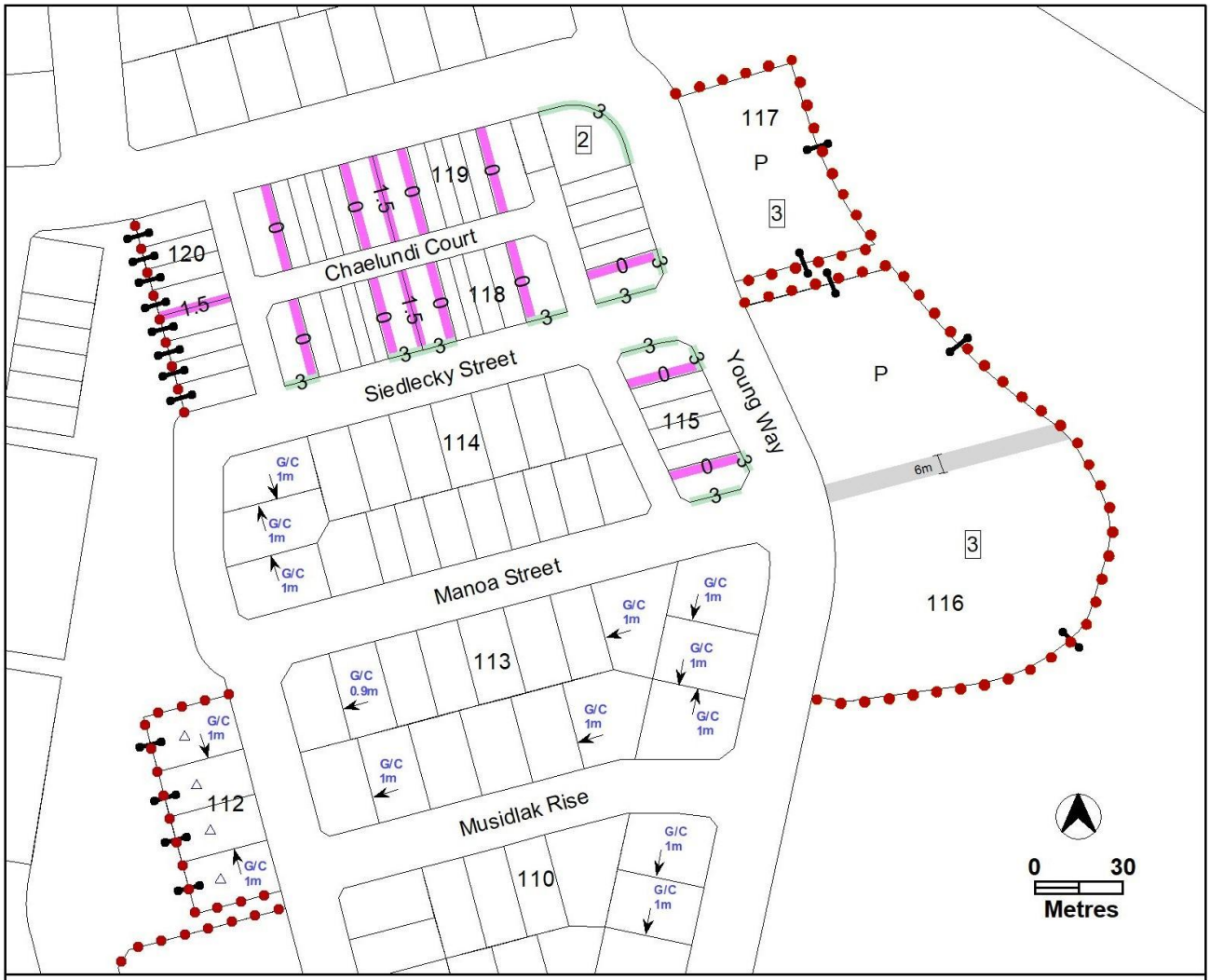
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Figure 13 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 14 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



n — Nominated minimum setback (metres) - all floors

n — Nominated minimum setback (metres) - all floors
- side boundary setbacks apply to all floor levels to the nominated boundary within the Primary Building Zone only.
- unscreened element for walls at nominated setbacks apply as per the revelvant Territory Plan policy/specification.

Front Fences and Courtyard walls addressing open space

G/C → Minimum (x)m setback from boundary to garage/carport

n — Maximum storeys nominated

Double frontage built form feature

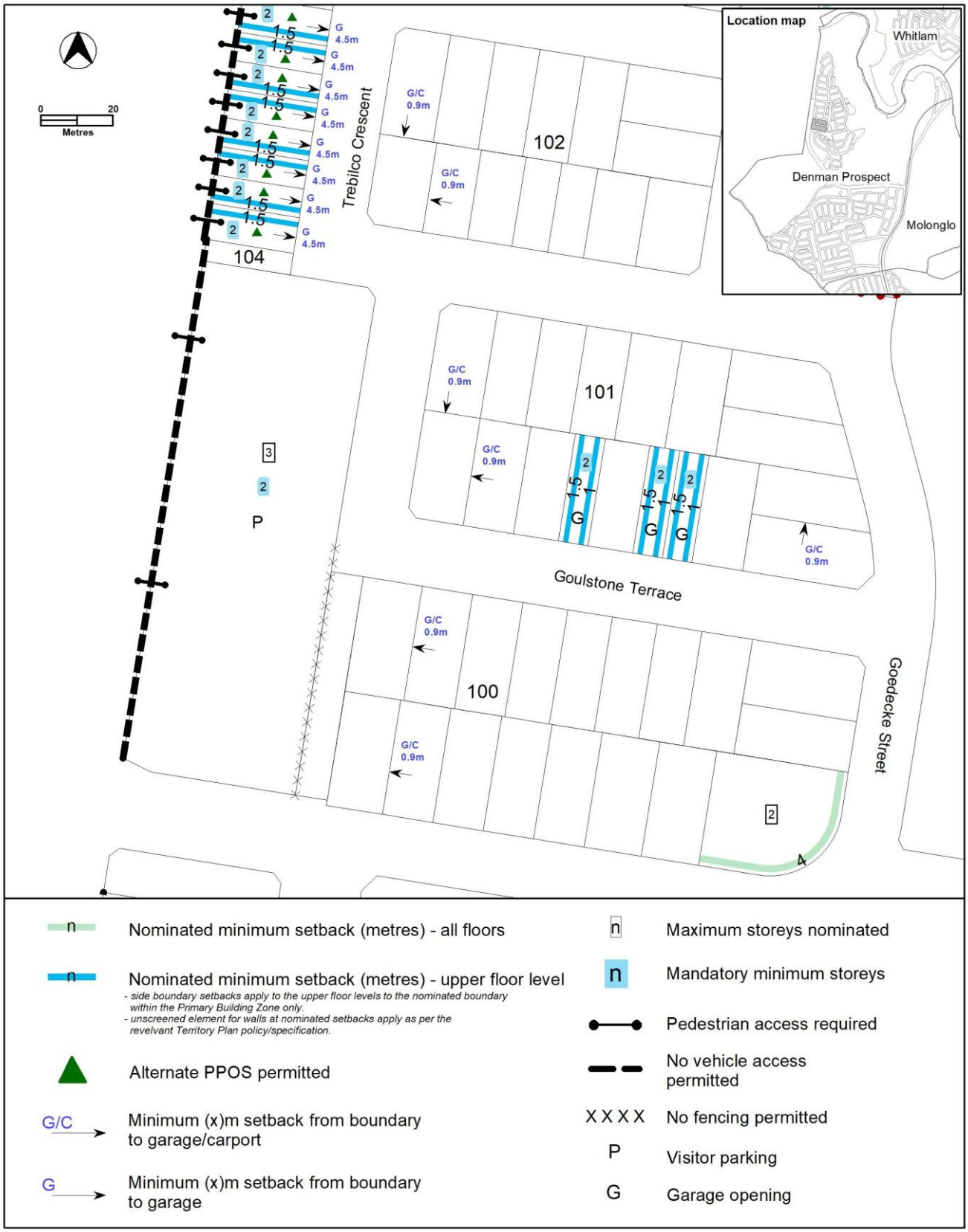
Pedestrian access required

P — Visitor Parking

Visual corridor

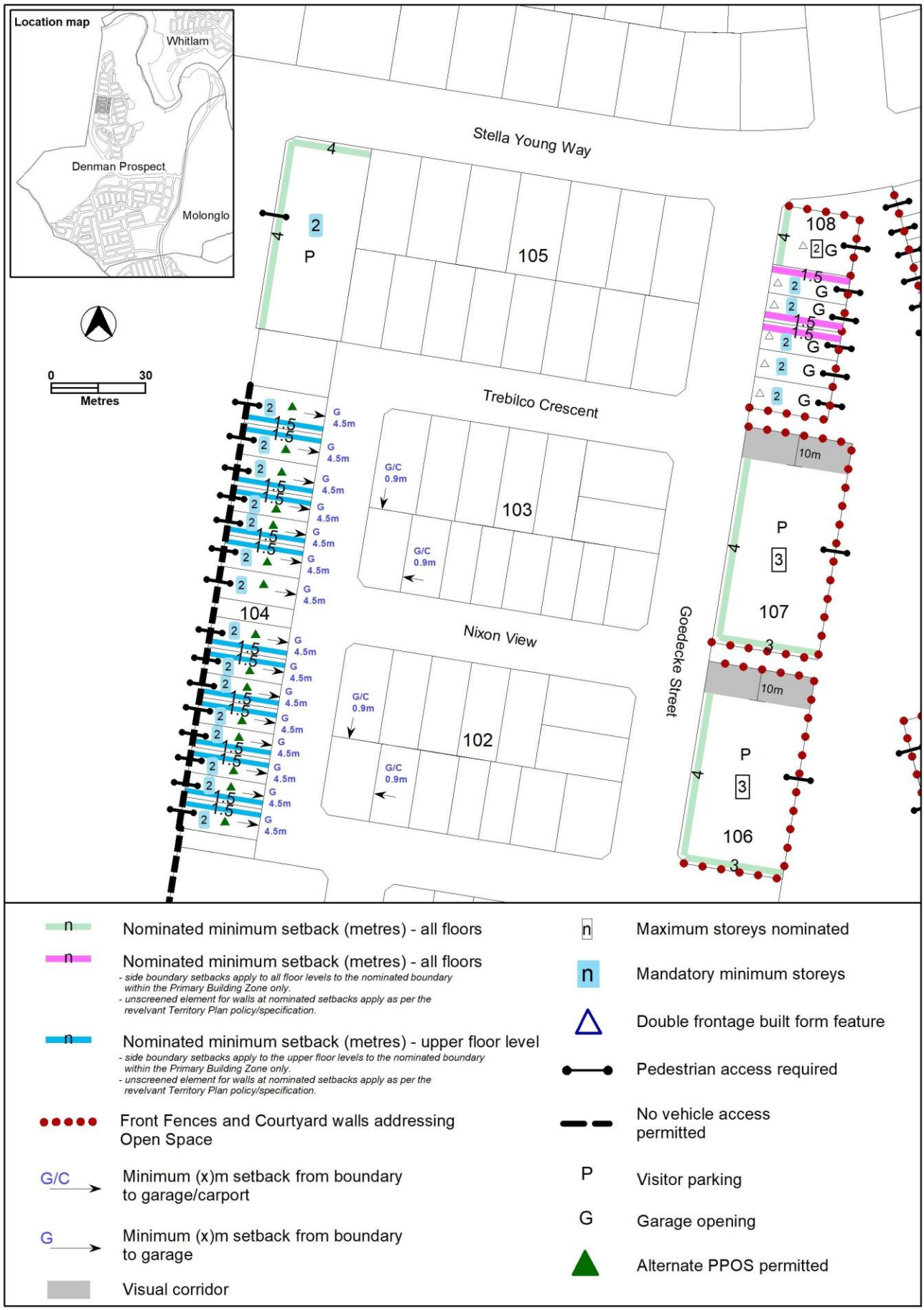
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Figure 15 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



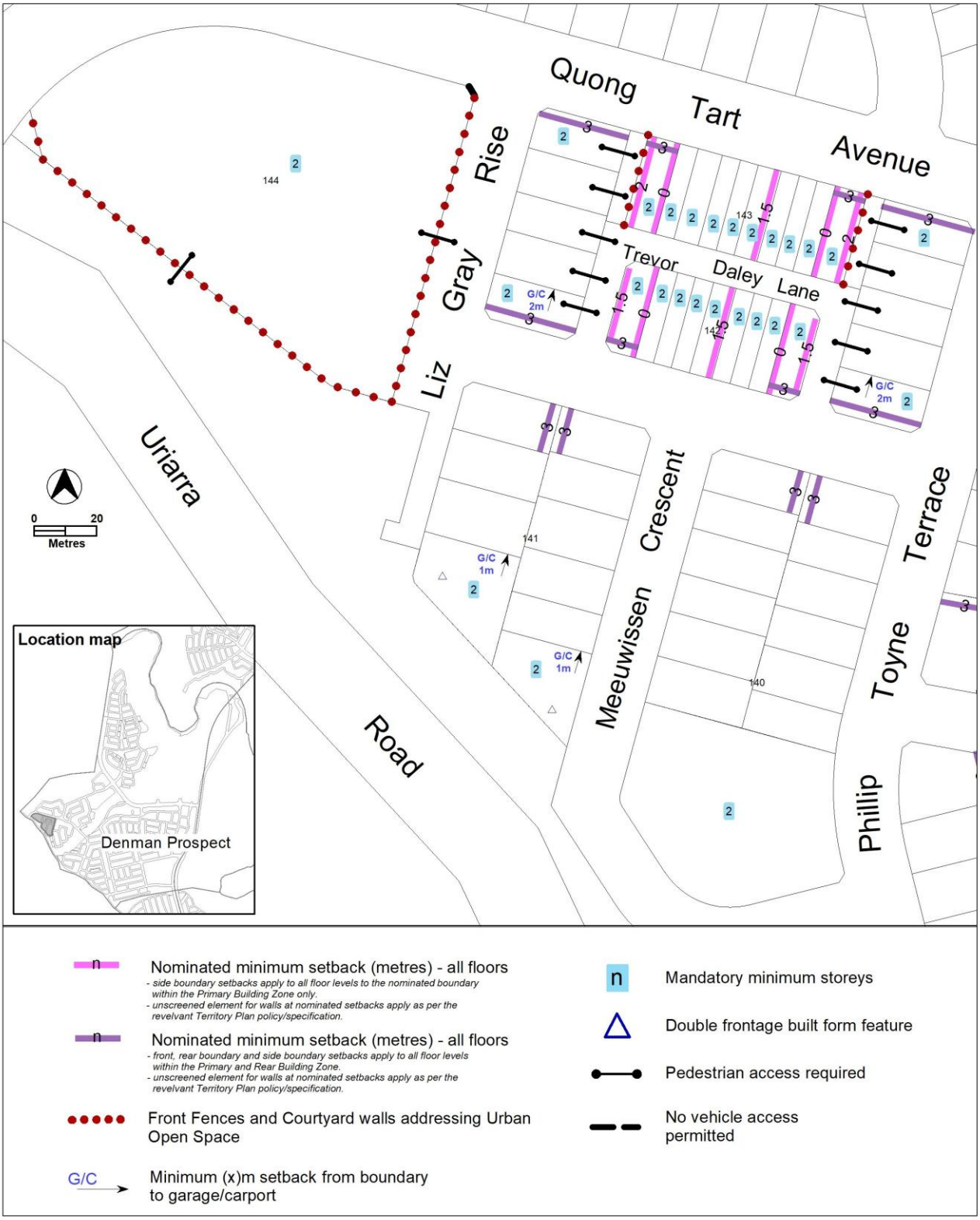
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Figure 16 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



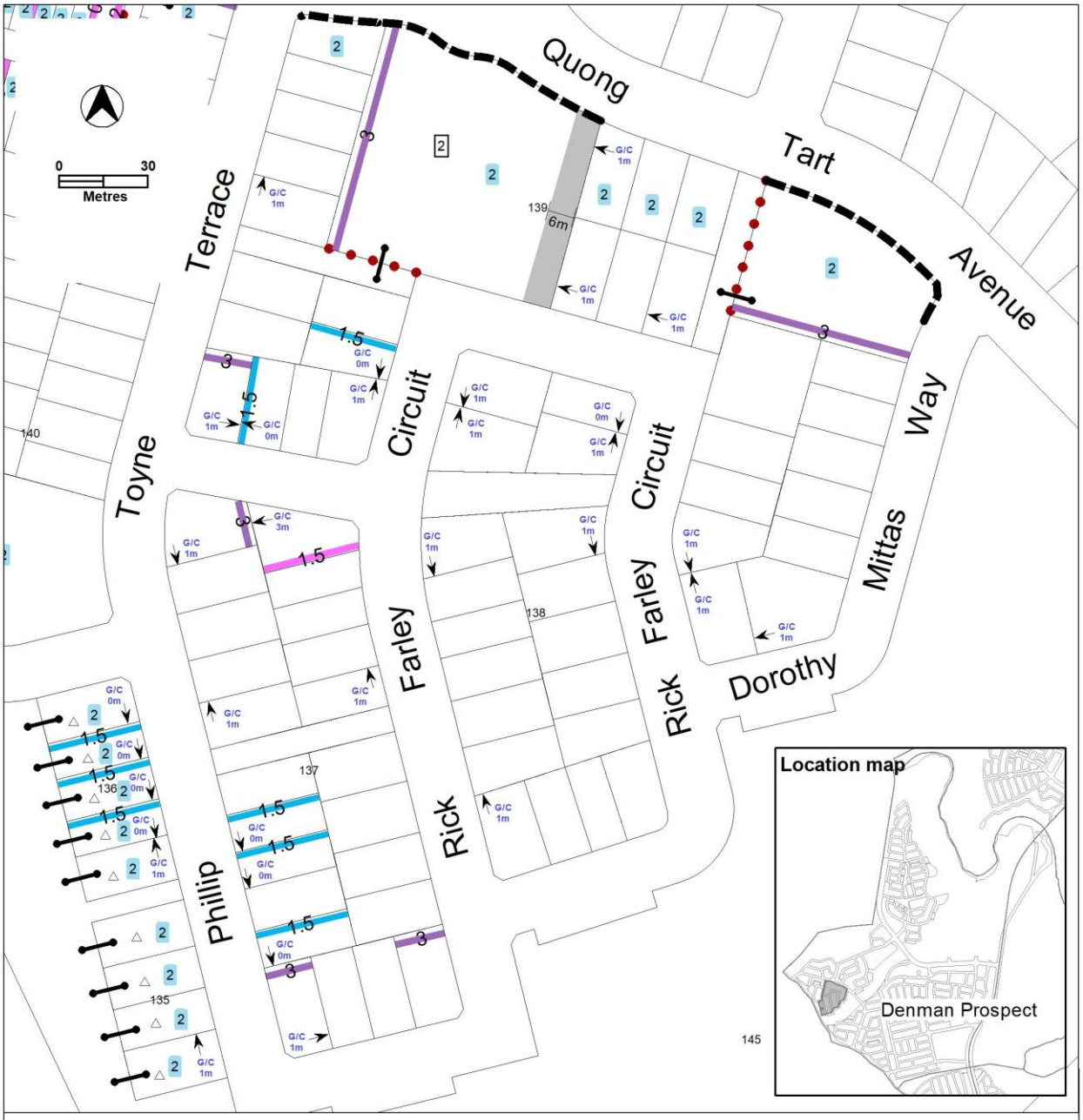
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Figure 16a Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



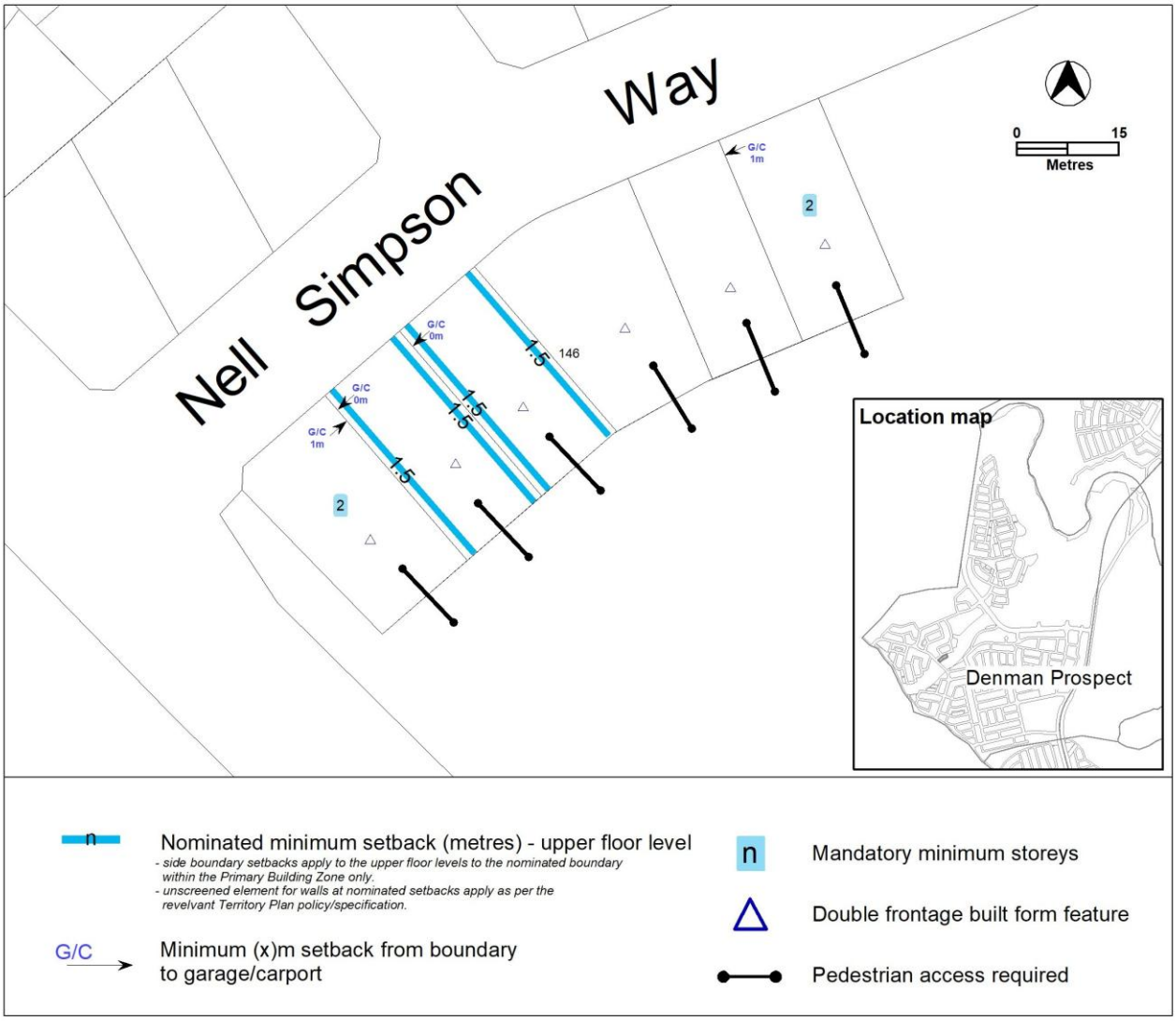
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Figure 16b Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



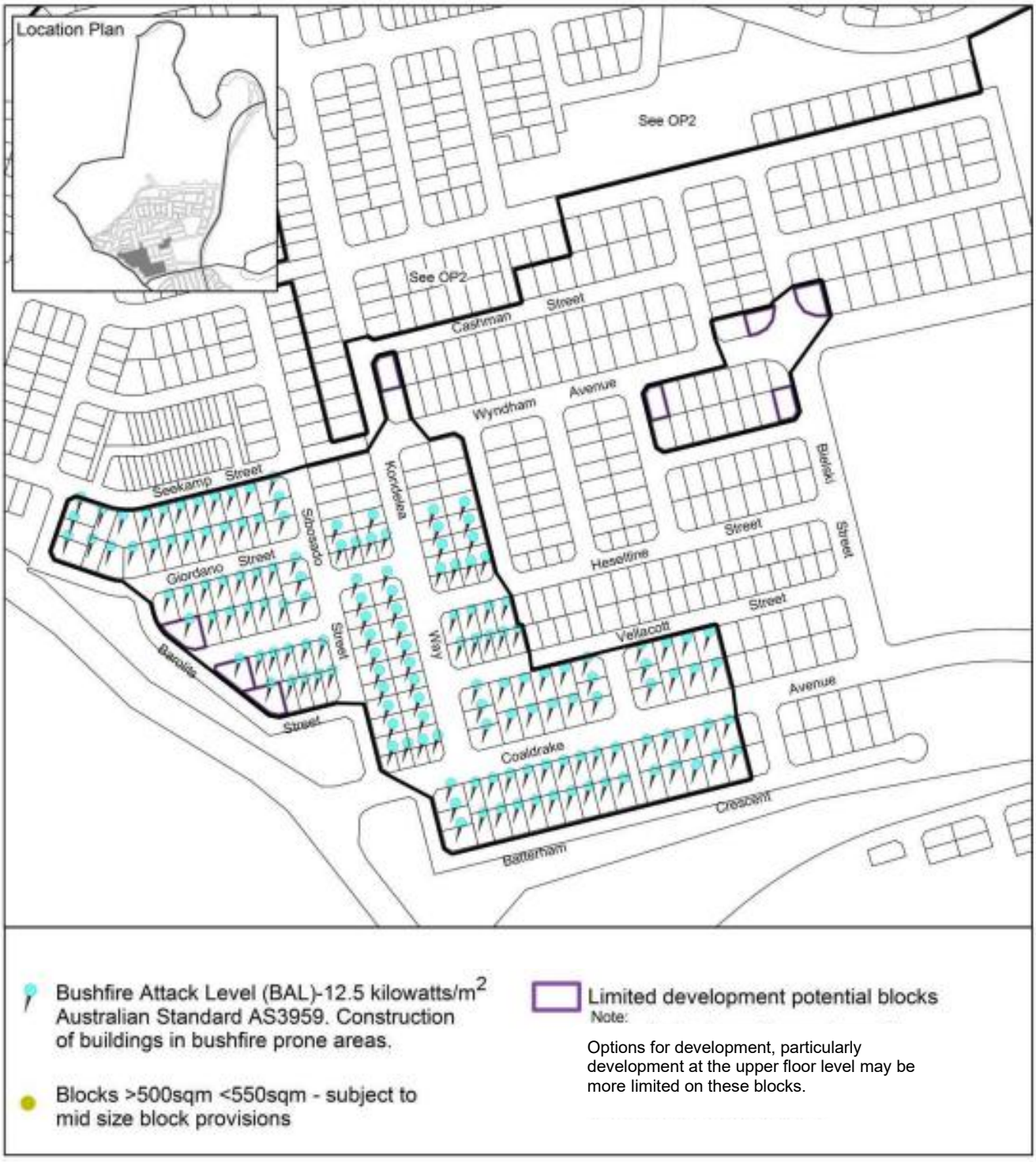
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Figure 16c Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



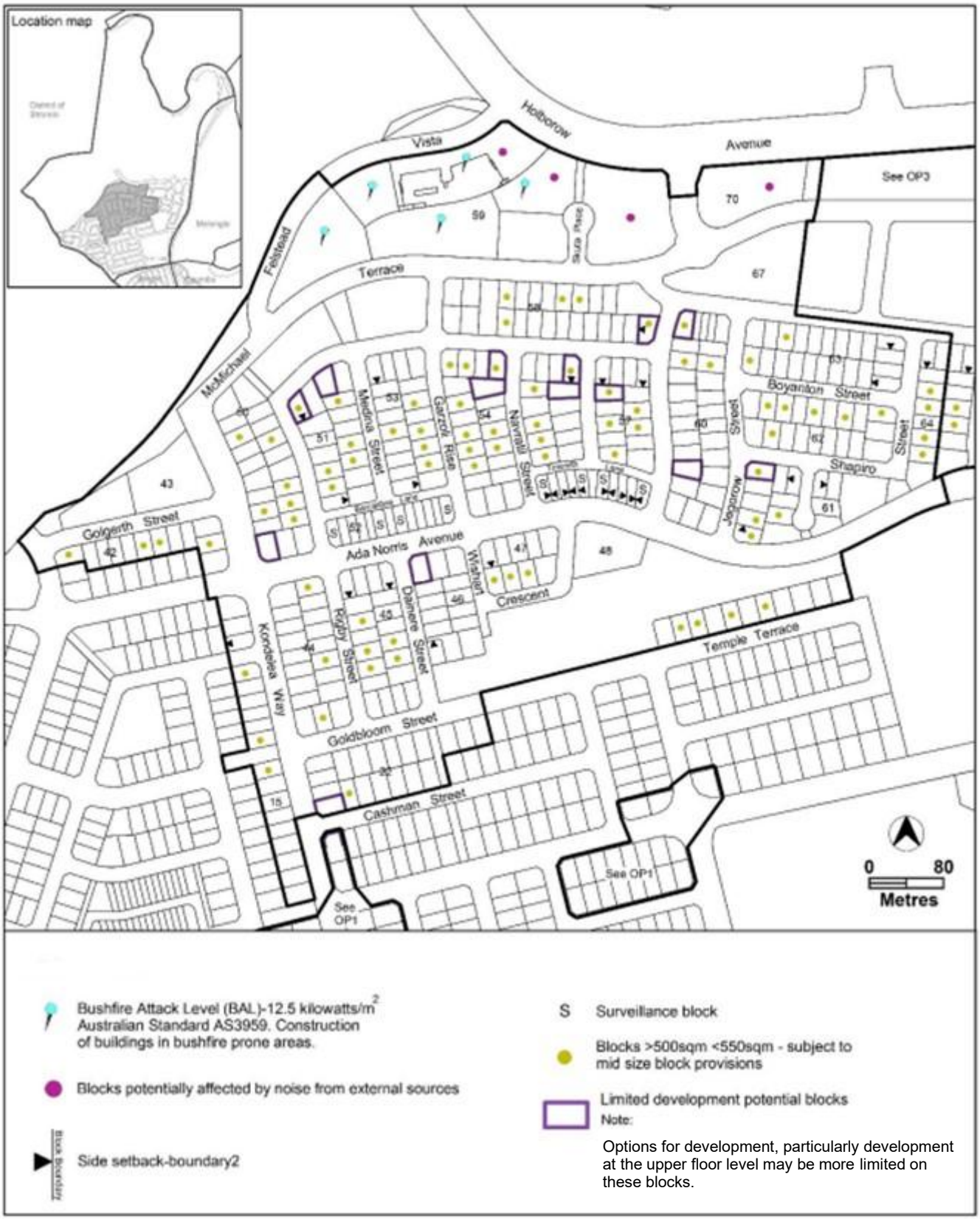
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Figure 17 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



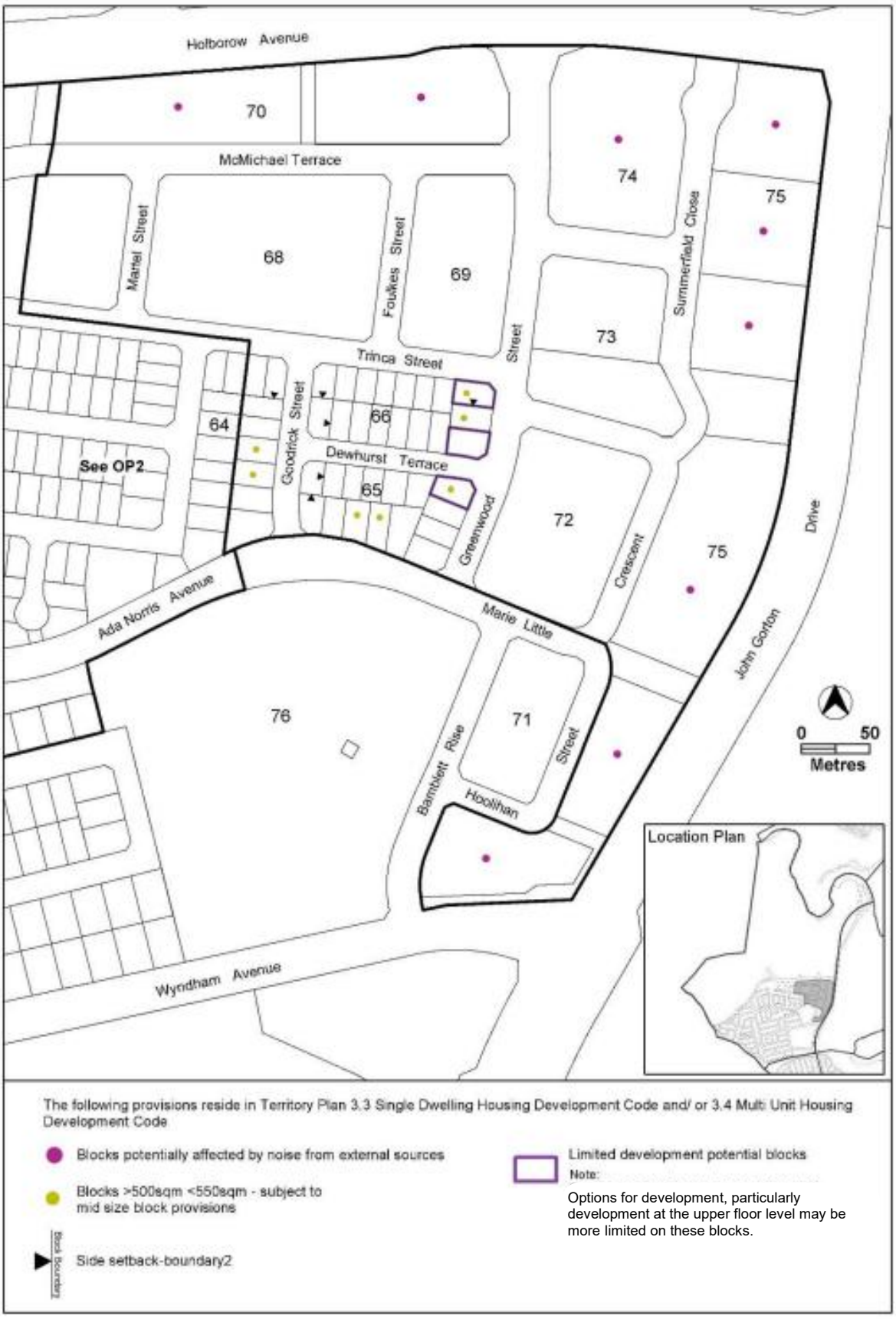
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Figure 18 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



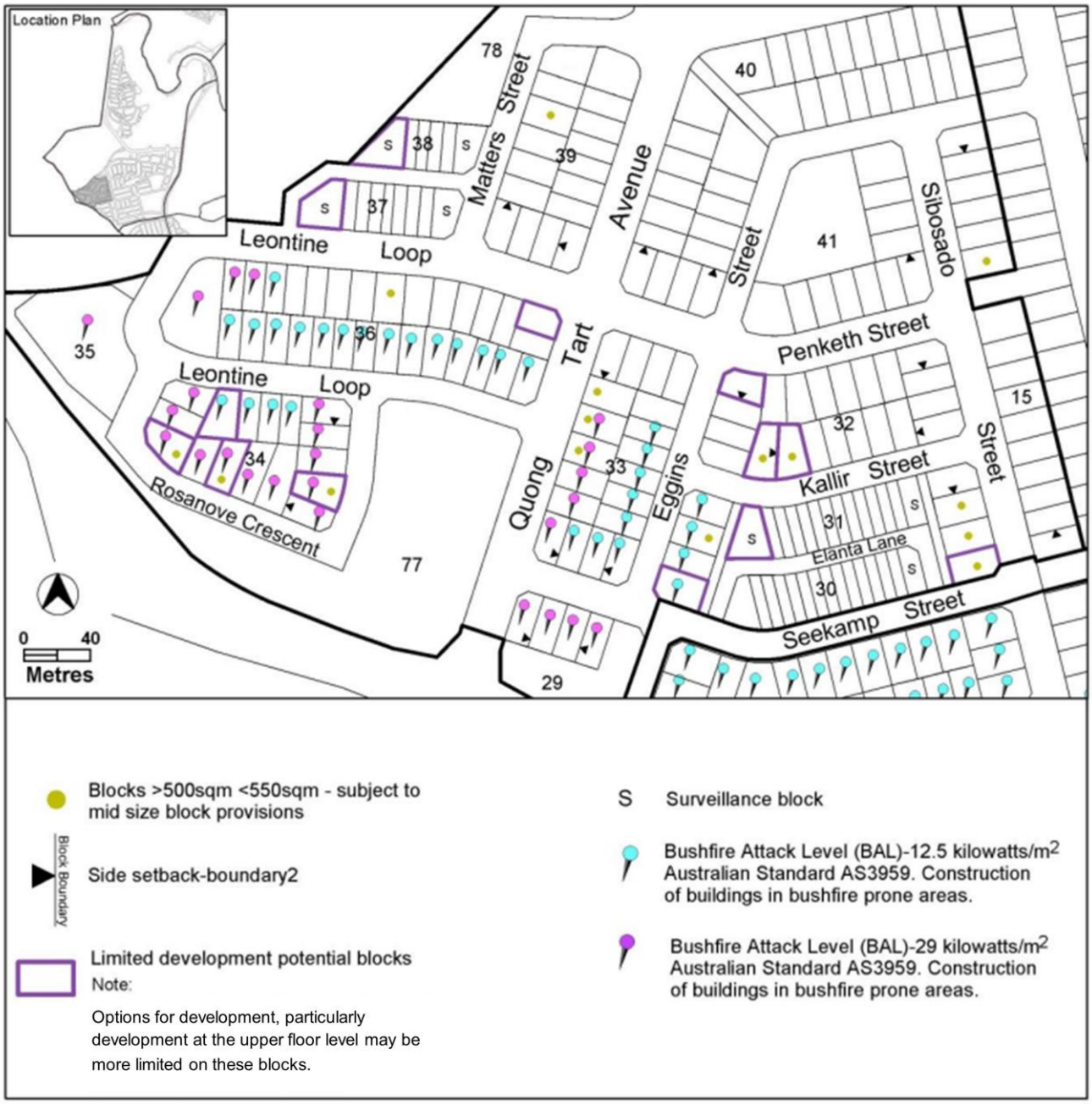
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Figure 19 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



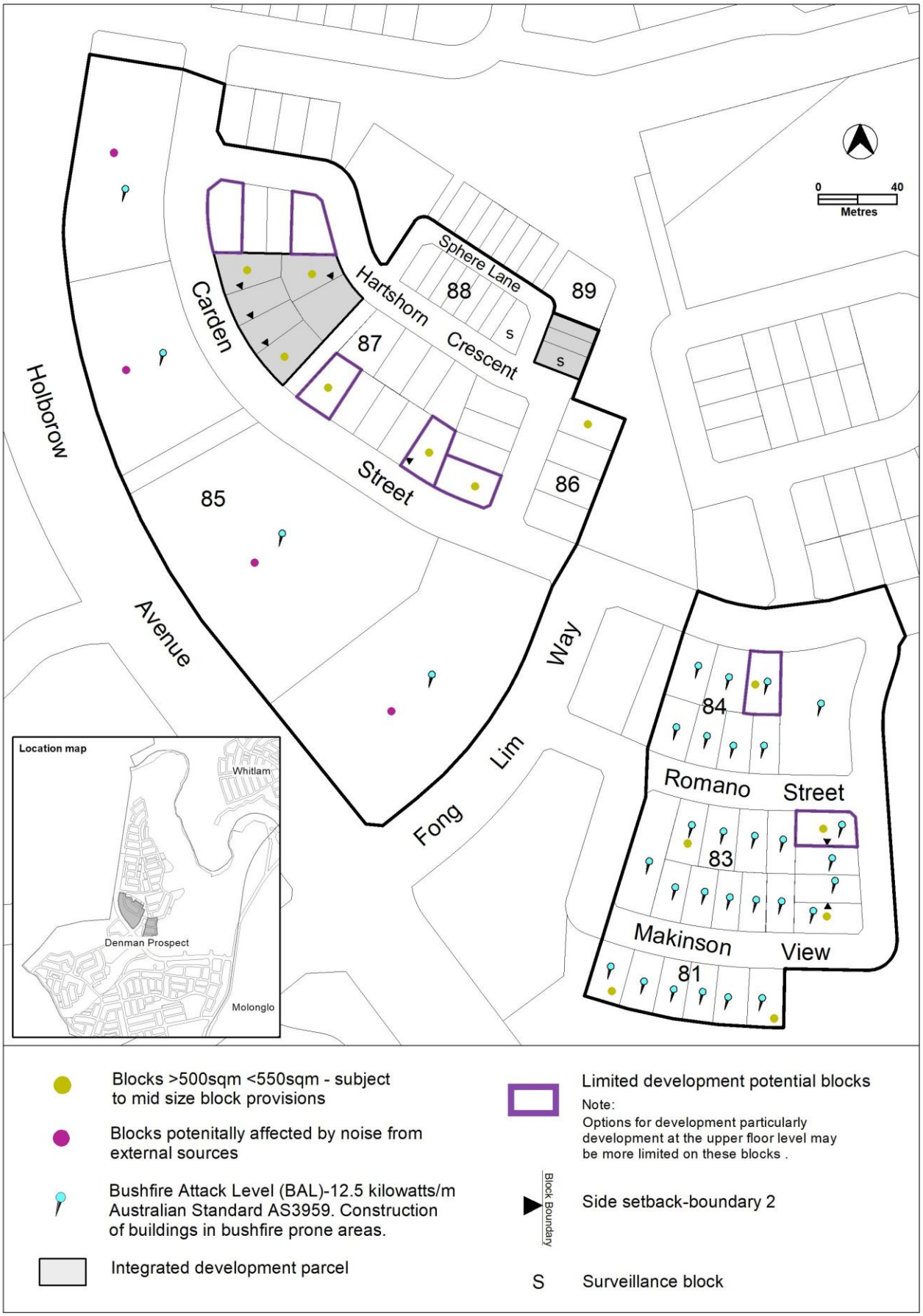
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Figure 20 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 21 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



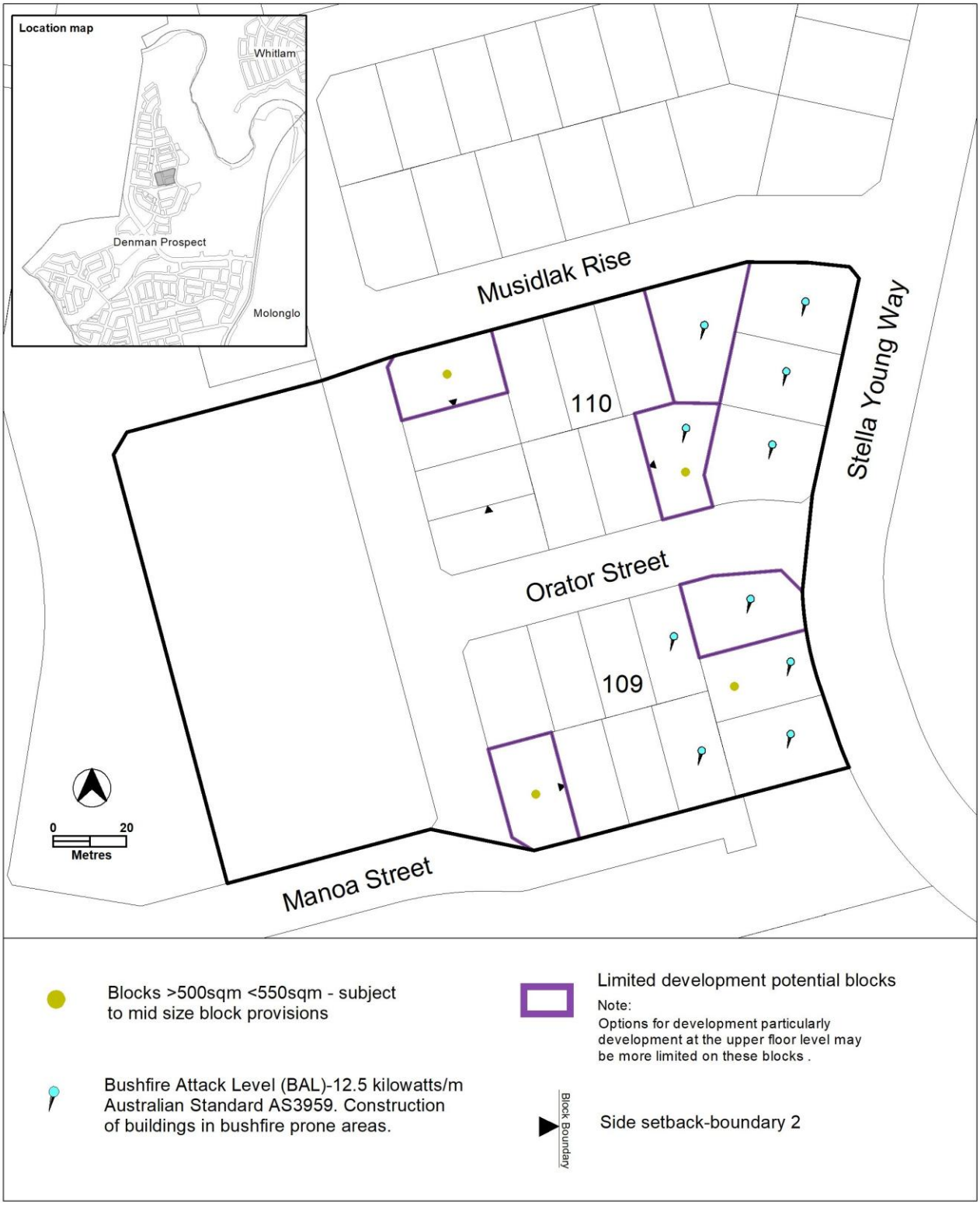
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Figure 22 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



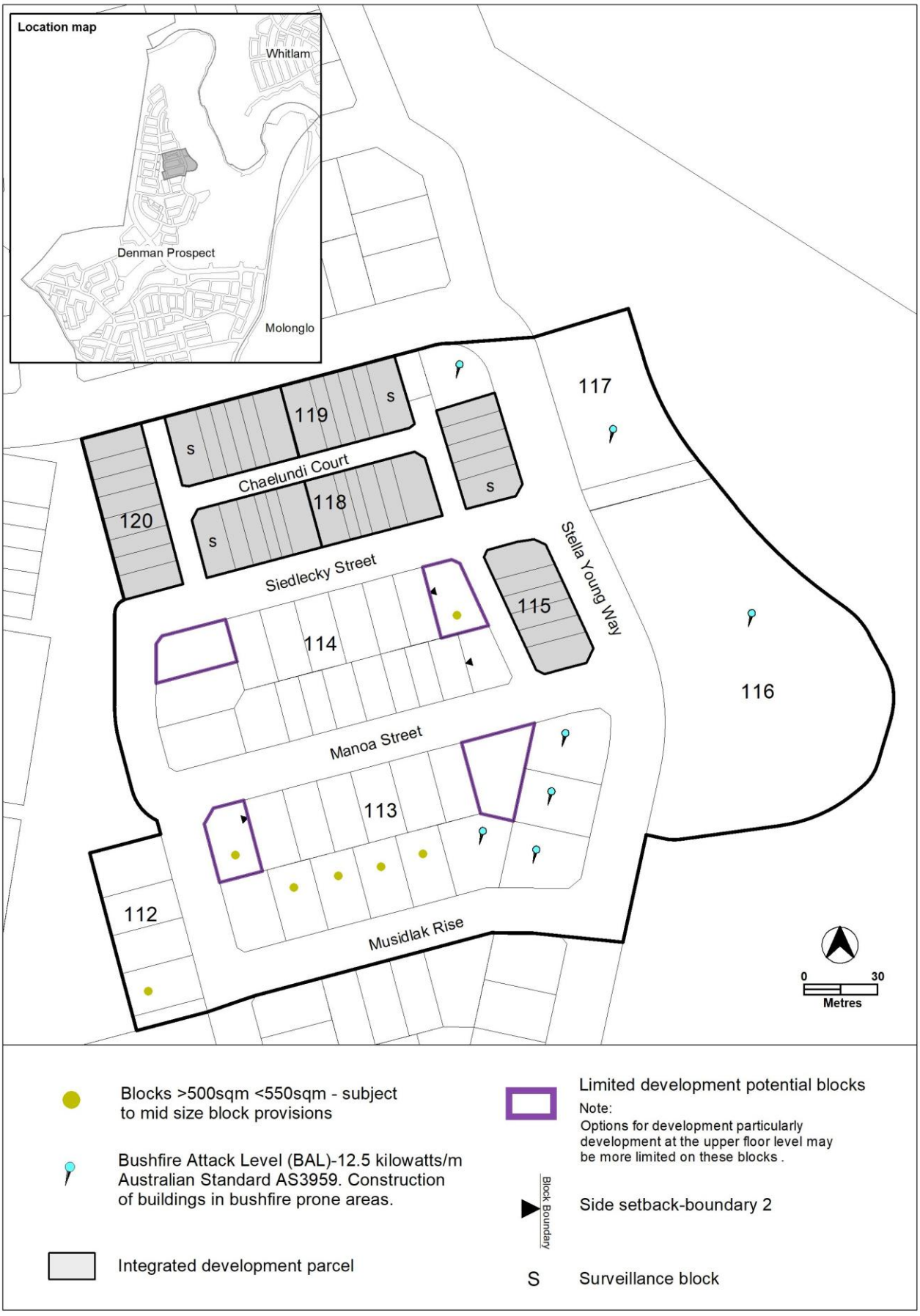
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Figure 23 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



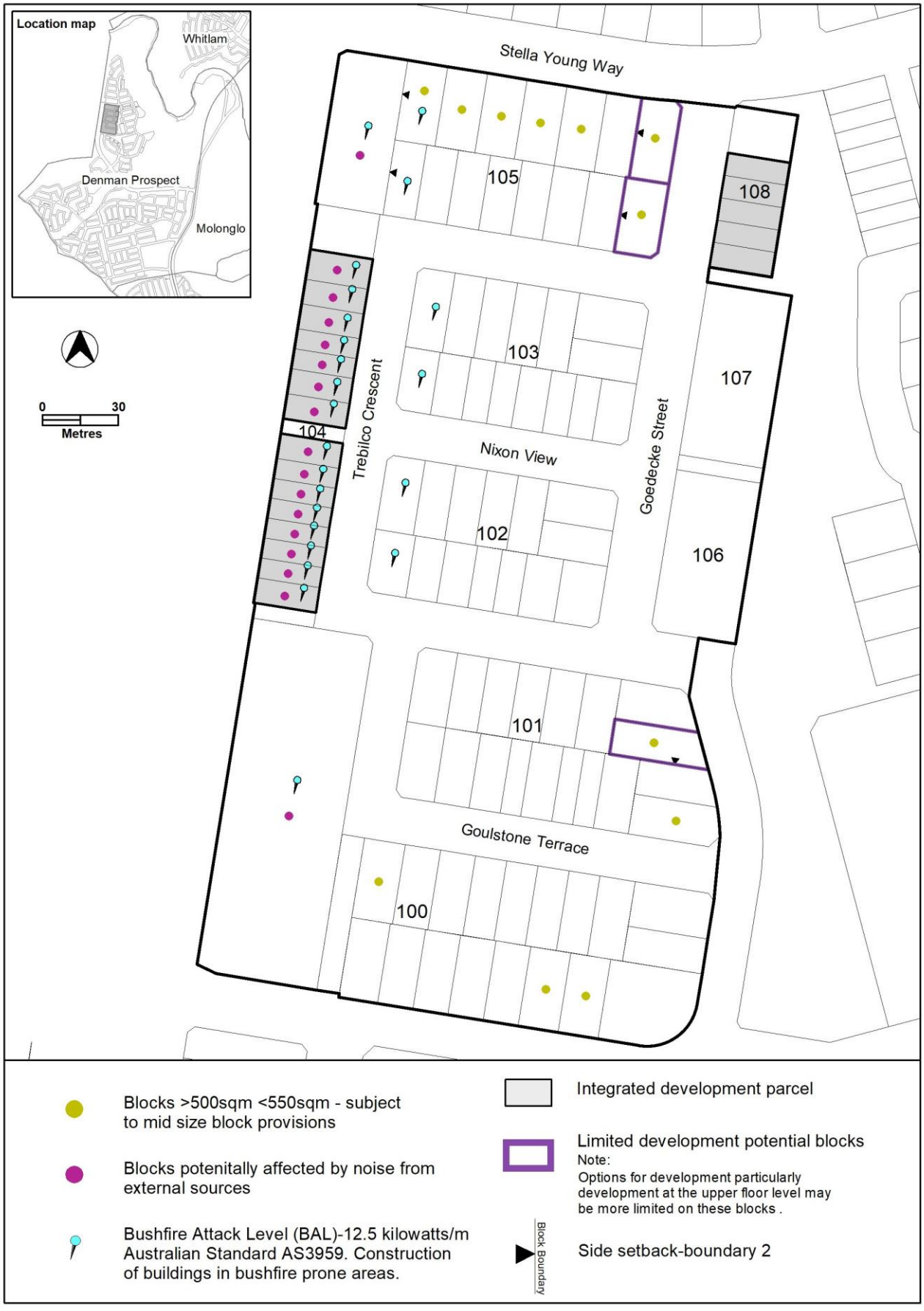
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Figure 24 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



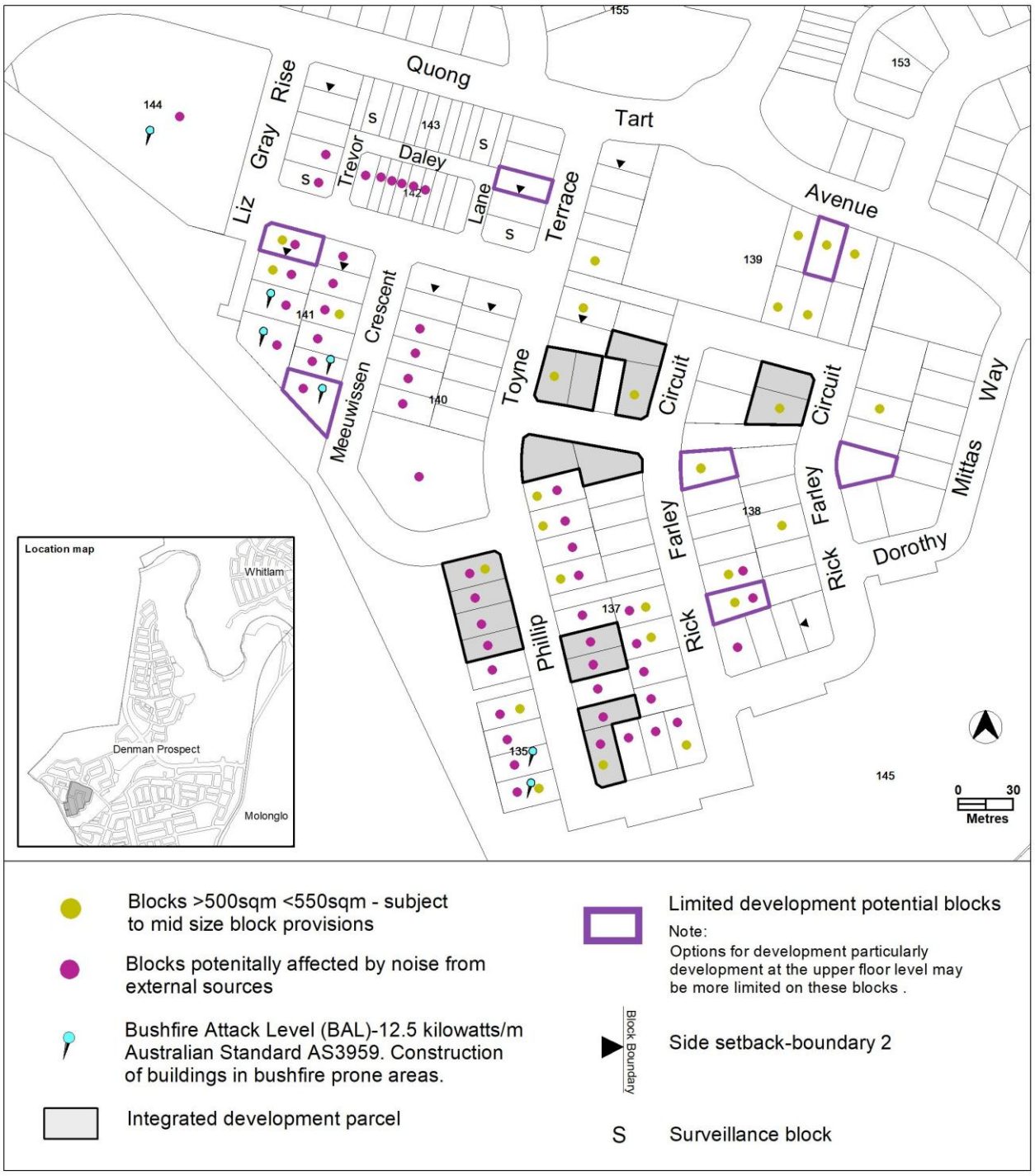
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Figure 25 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



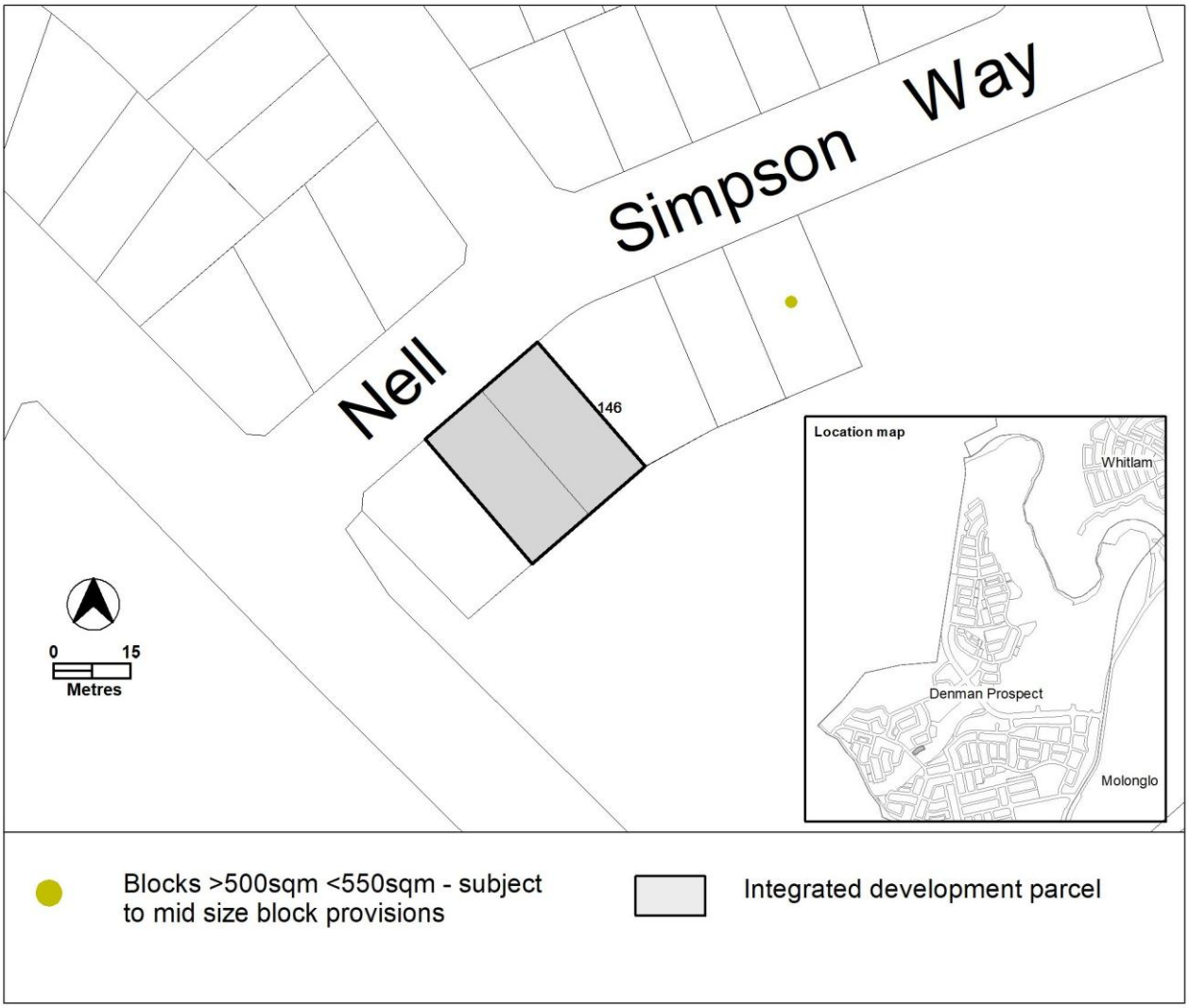
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Figure 25a Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



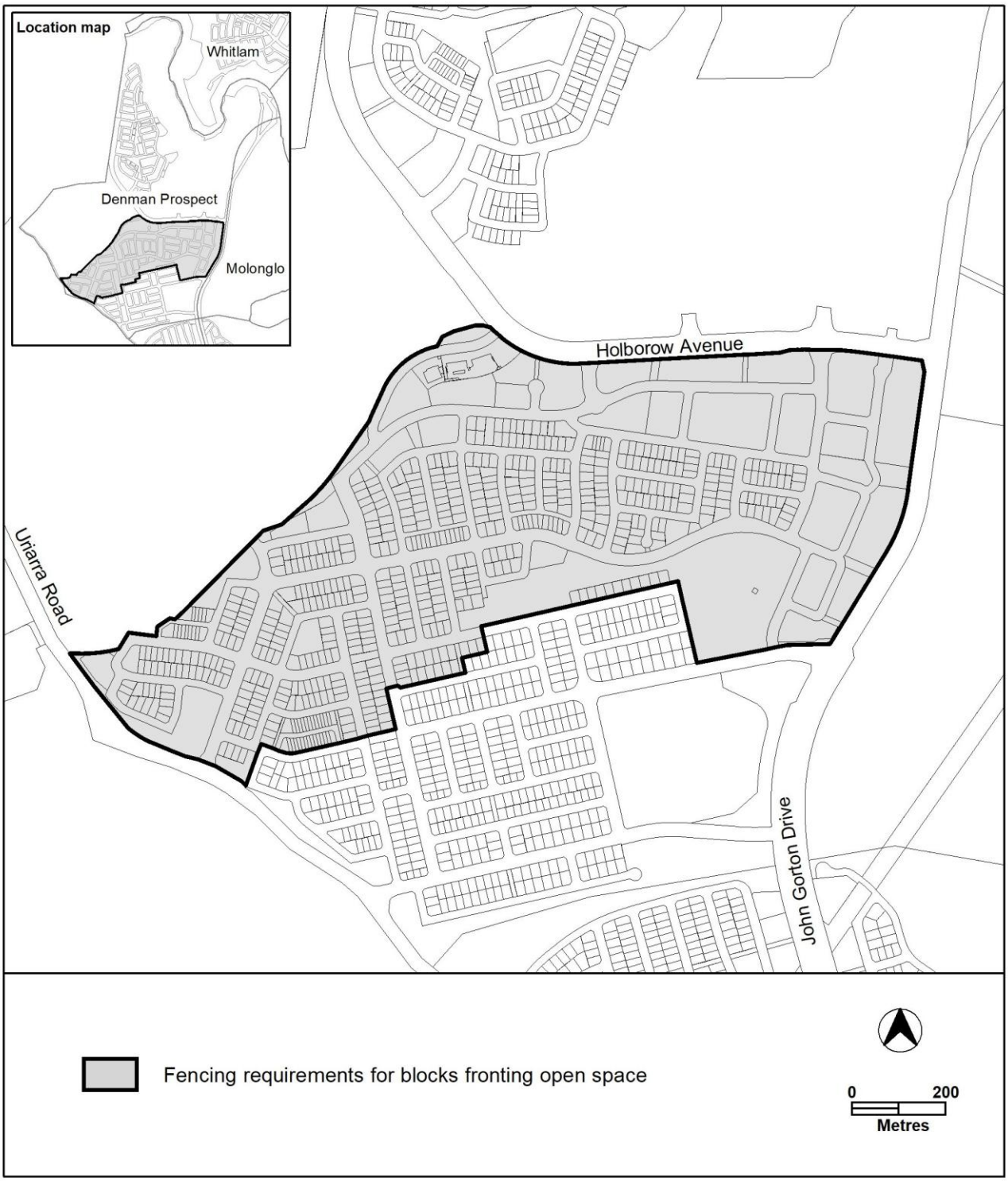
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Figure 25b Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 26 Denman Prospect – Ongoing Provisions



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3. Molonglo

The following specifications provide possible solutions that should be considered in planning, placing, designing and using buildings and structures for proposed development in Molonglo:

Assessment Outcome 1	**The landscape setting and values of Molonglo will be recognised and incorporated into the urban design of the future urban area. Boundary hills and significant internal ridges within the urban fabric will be excluded from inappropriate development.**
No applicable specification for this assessment outcome. Application must respond to the assessment outcome.	

Assessment Outcome 2	**Upward light spill will be minimised in recognition of its proximity to the Mount Stromlo Observatory.**
Specification	
Light Spill	3.1. Upward light spill will be minimised by: a) Planting dense evergreen trees between the Mount Stromlo Observatory and urban areas. b) Minimise reflective ground surfaces. c) Applying the relevant Australian Standards such as AS/NZS 1158 (Road Lighting), AS 4282 (Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting), and AS2560 (Sports Lighting). d) Applying light-sensitive practices to sportsground including the use of cut-off lighting and limiting hours of operation. e) Minimising light spill from outdoor lighting systems, including advertising structures.

Assessment Outcome 3	**Varied building heights, with taller buildings having slender footprints, encourages built form that responds to existing topography and the natural environment, and generally provides a gradual transition in height and scale. Lower buildings are located in the suburban areas with the tallest buildings in the commercial centre and along major transport corridors. A variety of heights are provided across the Town Centre and surrounds to create architecturally interesting streetscapes and provide views to the river corridor and broader landscape, with additional height considered for buildings that incorporate a greater proportion of apartments that incorporate 3 or more bedrooms and functional, generous environments for family living.**
Specification	

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Building Heights	3.2. A range of building heights, including maximum building heights are indicated in Figure 26A and 26B. 3.3. Taller buildings are to be carefully distributed at key locations which may include corners and sites adjacent to park or plaza frontages. 3.4. For the areas shown in Figure 26A where residential development is proposed, the maximum height of a building may be increased by an additional 3 storeys, where the building achieves all of the following: a) the dwelling mix of the units in the building seeking the additional height is a: • maximum 25% 1 bedroom units; • maximum 40% 2 bedroom units; and • minimum 35% 3 or more bedroom units, b) there is a clear difference in height between buildings within a block so that building height is not the same across the buildings in the precinct; and c) the proposal demonstrates a positive contribution to the streetscape. 3.5. In areas D and E shown in Figure 26A one landmark building up to the height indicated is permitted per hectare of development footprint. Note: Plant room that is set back a minimum of 3m from the building façade of the floor immediately below, and screening and other non-gross floor area rooftop architectural features are excluded from the building height.

Assessment Outcome 4	**Solar access is enabled to public spaces, particularly in the winter months, to provide pleasant spaces for community and to promote healthy growth of plants and trees.**
No applicable specification for this assessment outcome. Application must respond to the assessment outcome.	

Assessment Outcome 5	**The public realm is protected by limiting overshadowing and wind impacts on streets and public places.**
No applicable specification for this assessment outcome. Application must respond to the assessment outcome.	

Assessment Outcome 6	**Development incorporates interactive, human scale, ground level building frontages to the streets and public realm where appropriate.**
No applicable specification for this assessment outcome. Application must respond to the assessment outcome.	

Assessment Outcome 7	**A range of retail and commercial uses are provided that interconnect with community facilities.**
No applicable specification for this assessment outcome. Application must respond to the assessment outcome.	

Assessment Outcome 8	**The integration of community and recreation facilities enhances the quality of the commercial core and its surrounds.**
No applicable specification for this assessment outcome. Application must respond to the assessment outcome.	

Assessment Outcome 9	**Views from the town centre to significant landscape features, such as Black Mountain are retained, to assist people to easily navigate the town centre and promote a sense of place.**
No applicable specification for this assessment outcome. Application must respond to the assessment outcome.	

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Figure 26A – Molonglo Valley – Town Centre and surrounds – Building Heights

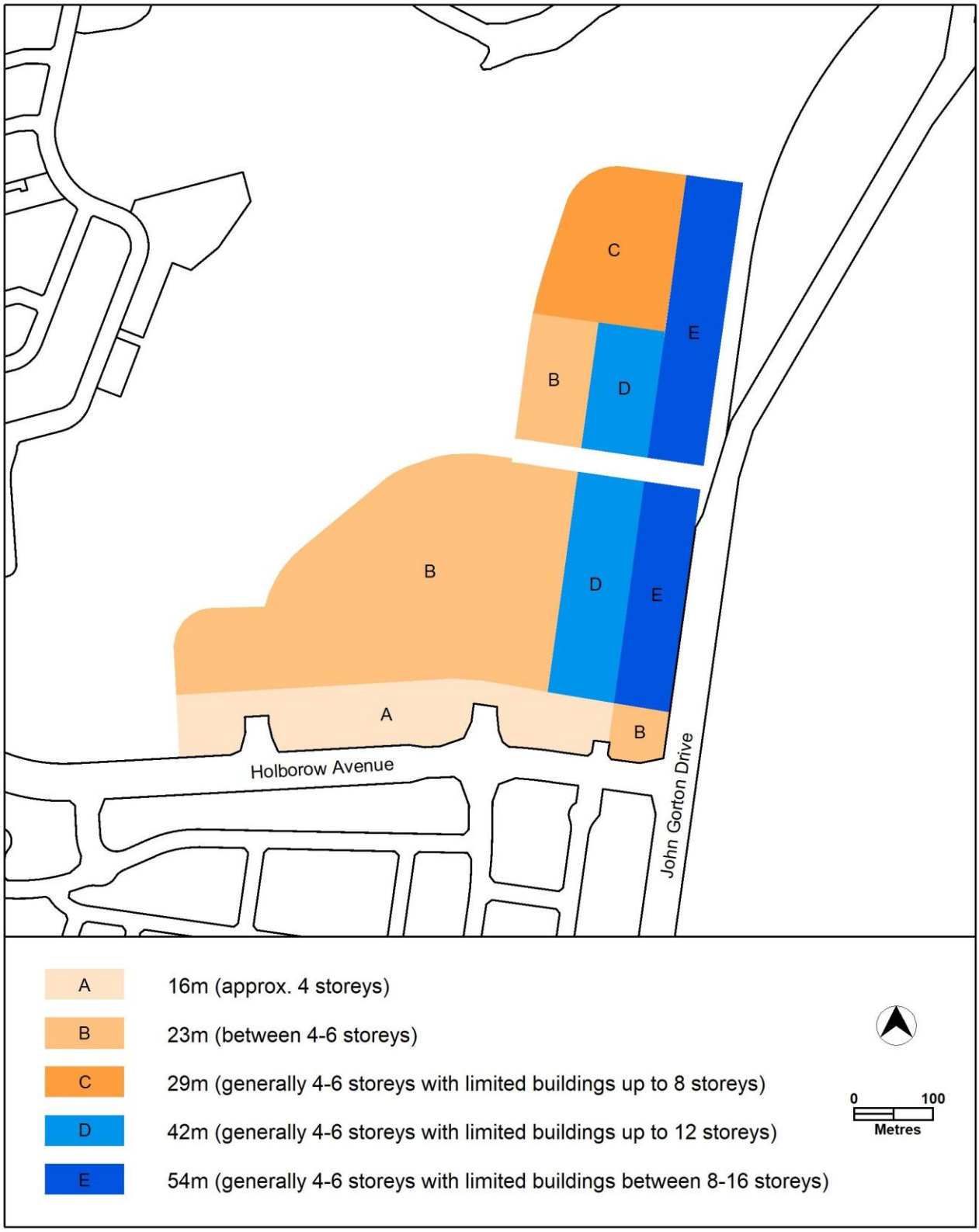


MTC Area	Land Use	Height Range (storeys)		Landmark Building Heights
		Min	Max	
A	Residential/ Office/ Other Non-Homemaker/ Trades and Services Uses	6	9	NA
	Homemaker/ Trades and Services	2	-	
B		4	9	NA
C	No min or max applies to school/ community use	4	8	NA

MTC Area	Land Use	Height Range (storeys)		Landmark Building Heights
		Min	Max	
D		1	16	20
E		7	12	16
F		6	8	NA
G	Residential/ Office/ Other Non-Homemaker/ Trades and Services Uses	6	10	NA
	Homemaker/ Trades and Services	2	-	

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Figure 26B – Molonglo Valley – Town Centre and surrounds – Building Heights



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4. Whitlam

The following specifications provide possible solutions that should be considered in planning, placing, designing and using buildings and structures for proposed development in Whitlam:

Assessment Outcome 10	**Development is designed to minimise the noise impact from William Hovell Drive and John Gorton Drive**
Specification	
Noise	4.1. For blocks identified in Figure 28, Figure 29, Figure 30, Figure 31, Figure 32 and Figure 33 with 'acoustic protection – minimum wall height', development is designed to minimise the noise impact from William Hovell Drive and John Gorton Drive by having dwelling walls that face these road/s being a minimum height of 6 metres above datum ground level for the length of the wall. Note: The purpose of this specification is to provide acoustic protection measures for the estate.
	4.2. For blocks identified in Figure 35A with 'acoustic protection required', façades facing William Hovell Drive require the following measures to address external road noise, including: a) Glazing: Window system meeting ≥32 dB R_w (≥30 dB $R_w + C_{tr}$); for example: (i) ≥6.38 mm laminated glass, or (ii) A double-glazed system of ≥6 mm float glass | ≥12 mm air gap | ≥6 mm float glass. (iii) ≤6.6 m^2 maximum glazed façades area for each enclosed room. (iv) Framing system included in the R_w calculation. Note: The selected window frame system and acoustic seals must not degrade the overall sound insulation performance of the window system. b) Walls: A well-mortared brick veneer or any masonry construction is acoustically suitable on the identified blocks. However, if lightweight cladding is used on the façade with direct and partial frontage to the arterial road the following typical minimum constructions would provide adequate façade sound insulation: External wall meeting ≥51 dB R_w (≥42 dB $R_w + C_{tr}$); for example: (i) ≥ 9 mm compressed fibre cement board (or boards of total surface mass ≥13 kg/m2), and (ii) Insulated cavity: A. ≥ 90 mm frame fully filled with fibrous acoustic insulation (≥14 kg/m^3); and (iii) Internal cladding: A. ≥ 2 layers of 13 mm standard core plasterboard (or other boards of surface mass ≥8.5 kg/m^2 each layer).

Assessment Outcome	**Refer to zone assessment outcomes**
Specification	
Vehicle access	4.3. For blocks identified in Figure 27, Figure 28, Figure 29, Figure 30, Figure 32, Figure 33, Figure 34, Figure 35, and Figure 35A with 'access not permitted', vehicular access is not permitted to or from the block from the nominated boundary.

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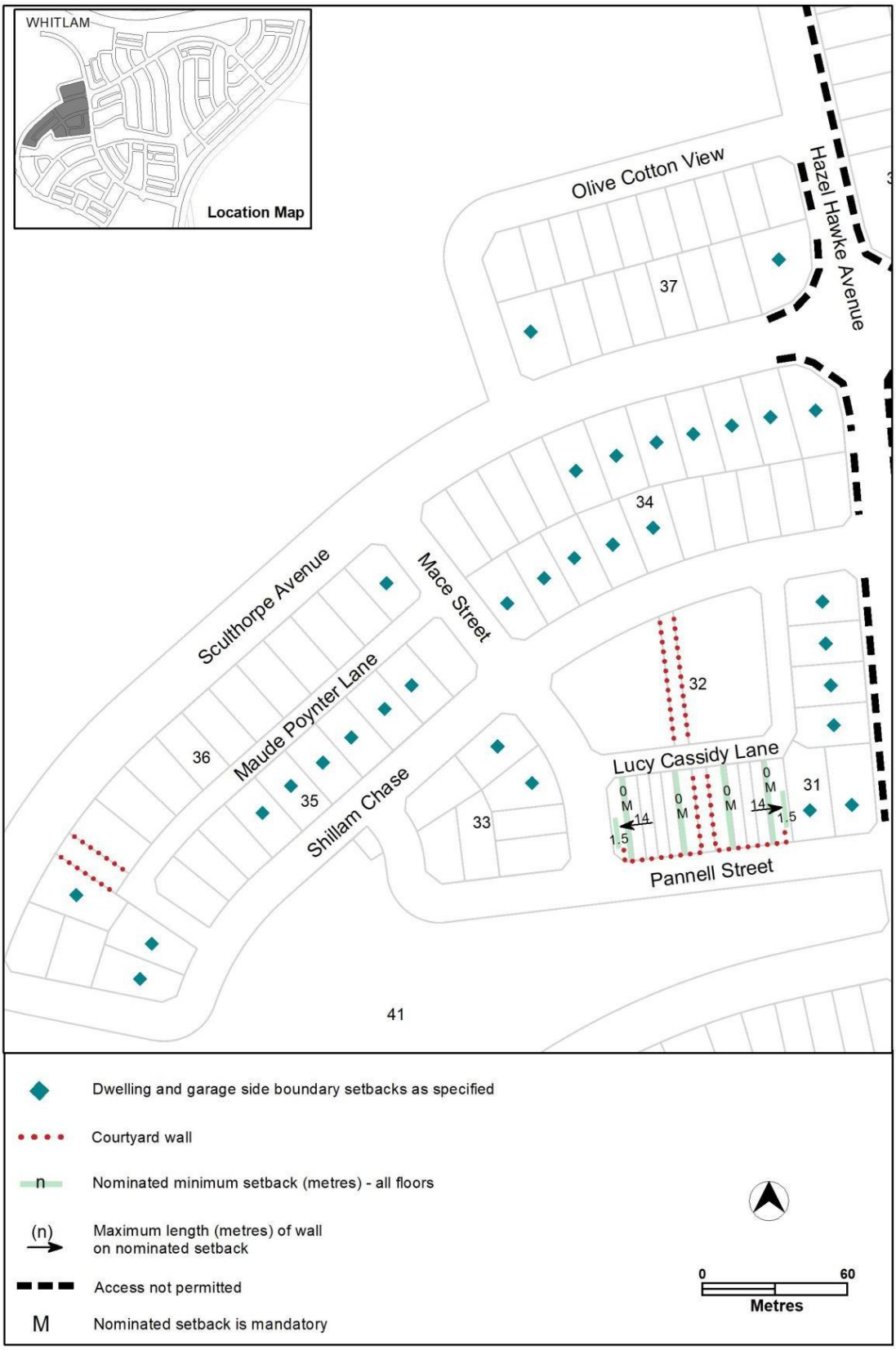
Assessment Outcome	Refer to zone assessment outcomes
Specification	
Courtyard walls	4.4. For blocks identified in Figure 27, Figure 28, Figure 29, Figure 30, Figure 32, Figure 33, Figure 34, Figure 35, and Figure 35A, with a 'courtyard wall' requirement, courtyard walls are all of the following: a) A maximum height of 1.5m b) Constructed of rendered brick, block or stonework in combination with feature panels that include openings not less than 25% of the surface area. c) Setback 600mm from the front boundary to incorporate landscaping. d) The length of the wall is to extend along the boundary and terminate 5 metres from the corner boundary adjoining a road. Note: See Figure 36 for examples of courtyard walls.
Building heights	4.5. For blocks identified in Figure 30 with 'mandatory two storeys', the mandatory number of storeys is nominated.
Setbacks	4.6. For blocks identified in Figure 27, Figure 28, Figure 29, Figure 30, Figure 32, Figure 33, Figure 34, Figure 35, and Figure 35A, the minimum boundary setbacks to floor levels are nominated. 4.7. For blocks identified in Figure 27, Figure 28, Figure 29, Figure 30, Figure 31, Figure 32, Figure 33, Figure 34 and Figure 35 with 'dwelling and garage side boundary setbacks as specified', the following lower floor level side boundary setbacks within the primary building zone and the rear zone are provided: a) Minimum of 3m from side boundary 1. b) Minimum of 1.5m from side boundary 2. Garage setback is a minimum of 1.5m from side boundary 2. The lower floor level minimum rear boundary setback and all upper floor level setbacks in Table 4 and Table 6 of the Single Dwelling Housing Development Code apply. Note: The northern boundary of section 11 blocks 13 and 17 are considered side setbacks for the purposes of this rule. 4.8. For blocks identified in Figure 35 with 'exceptions to minimum front boundary setbacks do not apply', the exceptions to minimum front boundary setbacks for large and midsized blocks shown in Table 3 of the Single Dwelling Housing Development Control do not apply. 4.9. For blocks identified in Figure 35A with 'dwelling and garage side boundary setbacks', the following dwelling and garage setbacks apply: a) Side setbacks are a minimum of 3m. b) Garage setback is 1.5m. c) No zero side setbacks.
Habitable rooms	4.10. Blocks identified in Figure 35A are to provide habitable rooms above the garage.
Garage doors and carports	4.11. For blocks identified in Figure 35 with 'maximum width of garage door and carports', the maximum total width of garage doors and external width of carports is the lesser of: a) 6m. b) 50% of the façade of the dwelling.
Finished floor level	4.12. For blocks identified in Figure 35 with 'finished floor level no lower than front boundary RL', the finished floor level of any dwelling entrance accessible from

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Assessment Outcome	Refer to zone assessment outcomes
Specification	
	the front boundary must be no lower than the front boundary reduced level (RL) where the pathway from that entrance connects to the front boundary.
Acoustic protection	4.13. For blocks identified in Figure 32 and Figure 33 as 'additional noise affected blocks', façades for single level dwellings must be between a minimum height of 3 metres and a maximum height of 4.5 metres above datum ground level. Dwellings more than a single level are not permitted. Dwellings more than a single level will require an individual acoustic assessment to be submitted.
Bushfire asset protection zone	4.14. For blocks identified in Figure 35 in an 'asset protection zone', habitable structures are not permitted.
Development requirements	4.15. Development complies with the specifications identified in Figure 37, Figure 38, Figure 39, Figure 40, Figure 41, Figure 42, Figure 43, and Figure 44.

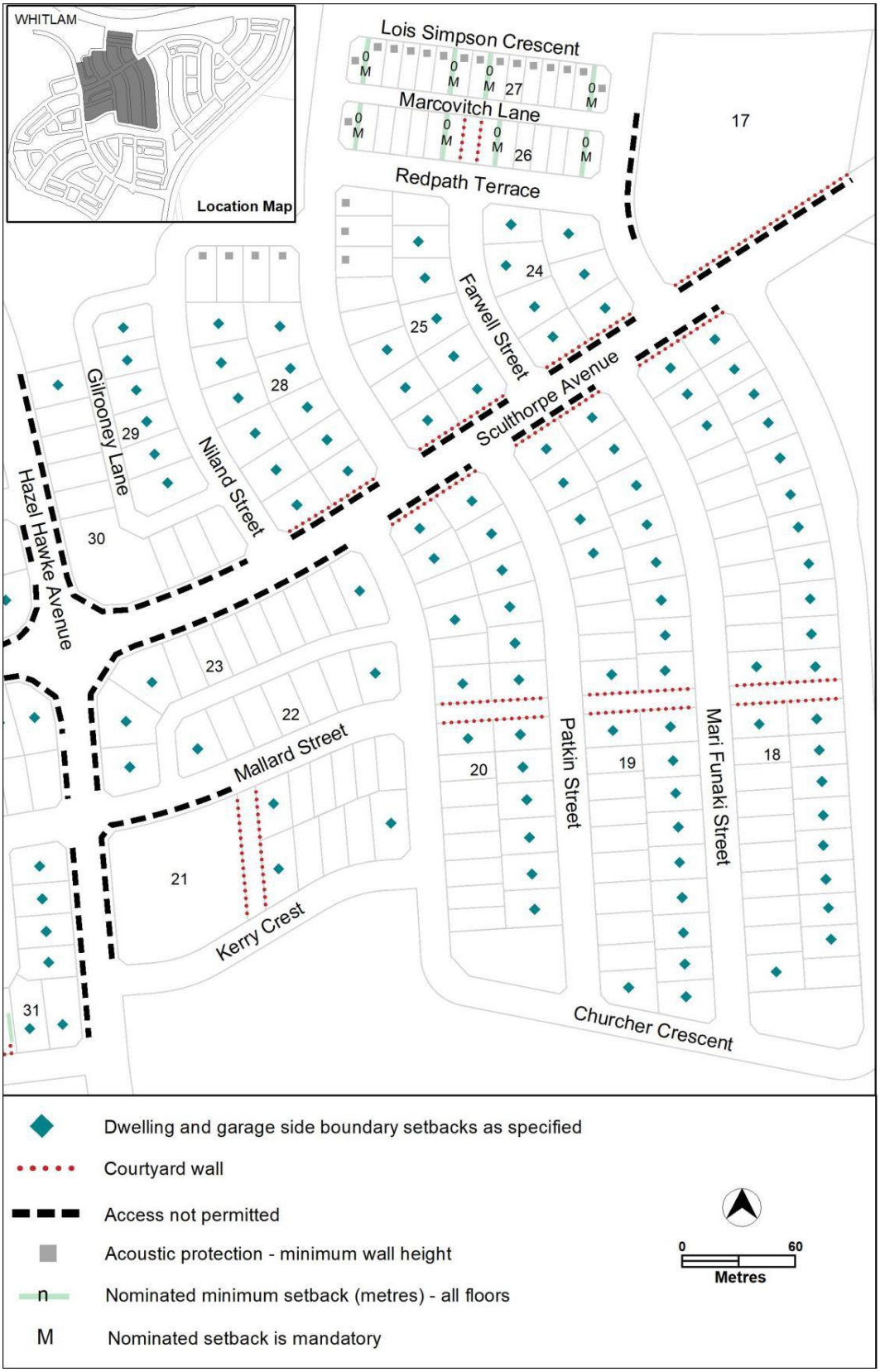
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Figure 27 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



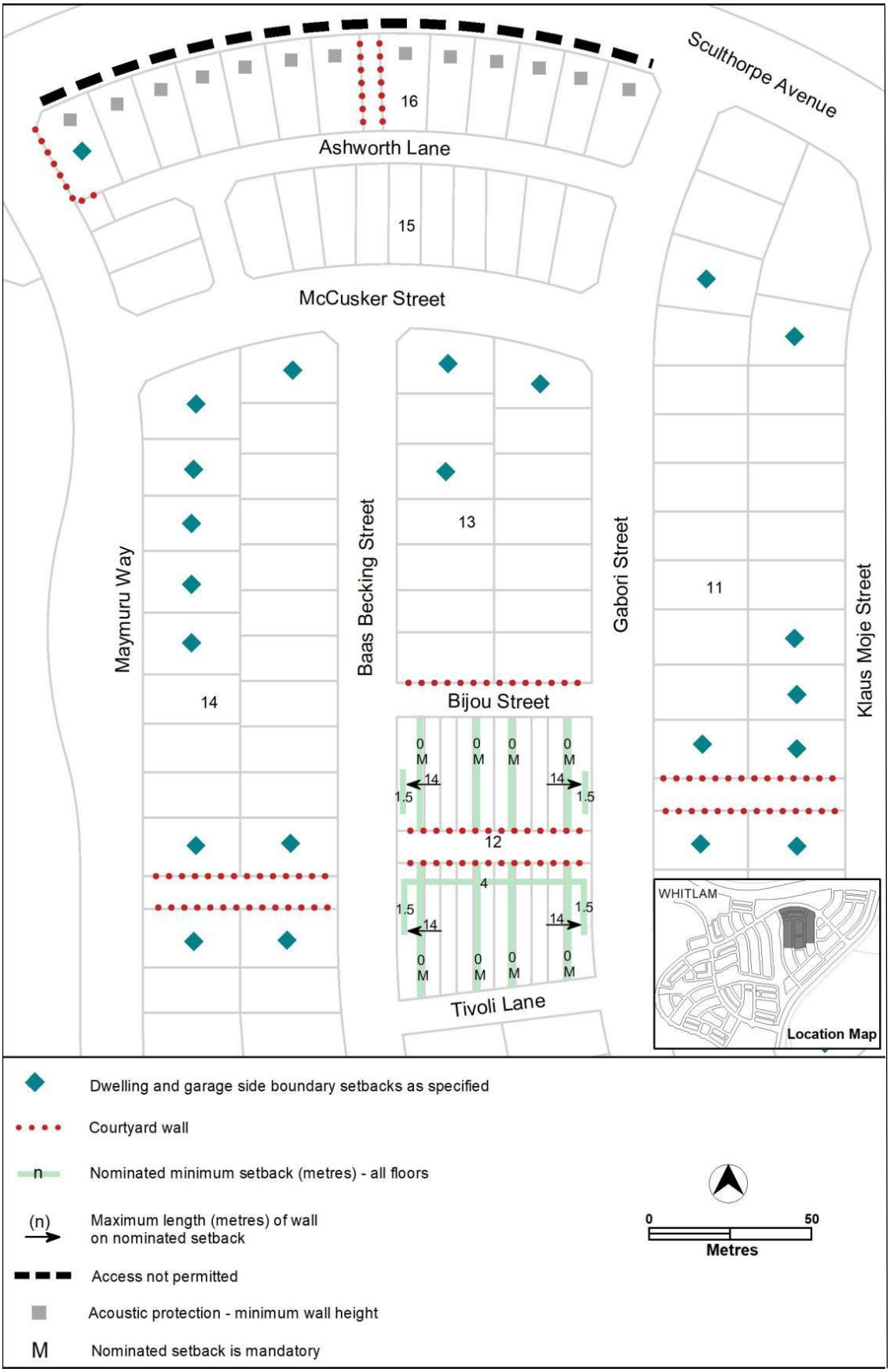
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Figure 28 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



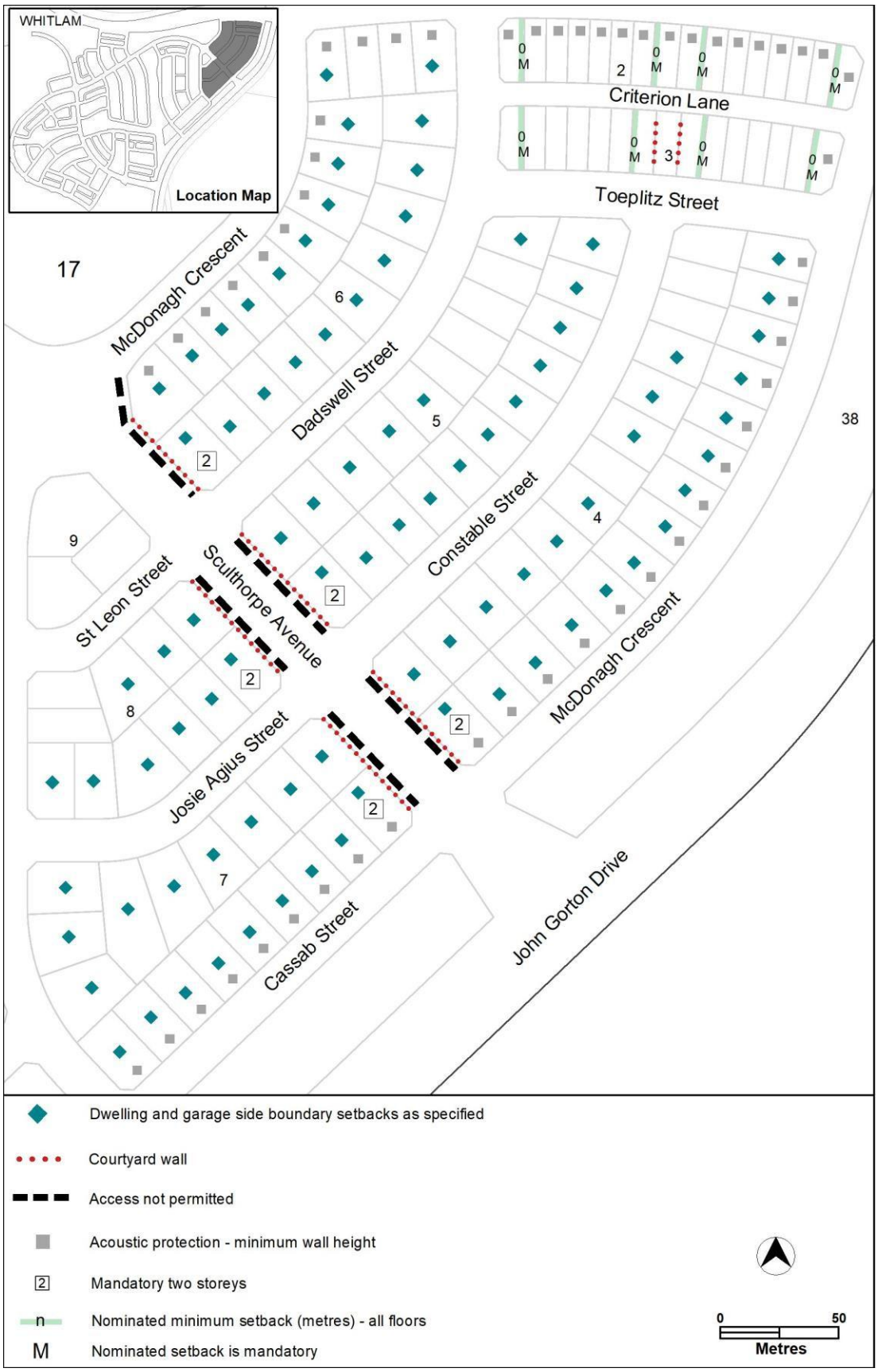
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Figure 29 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



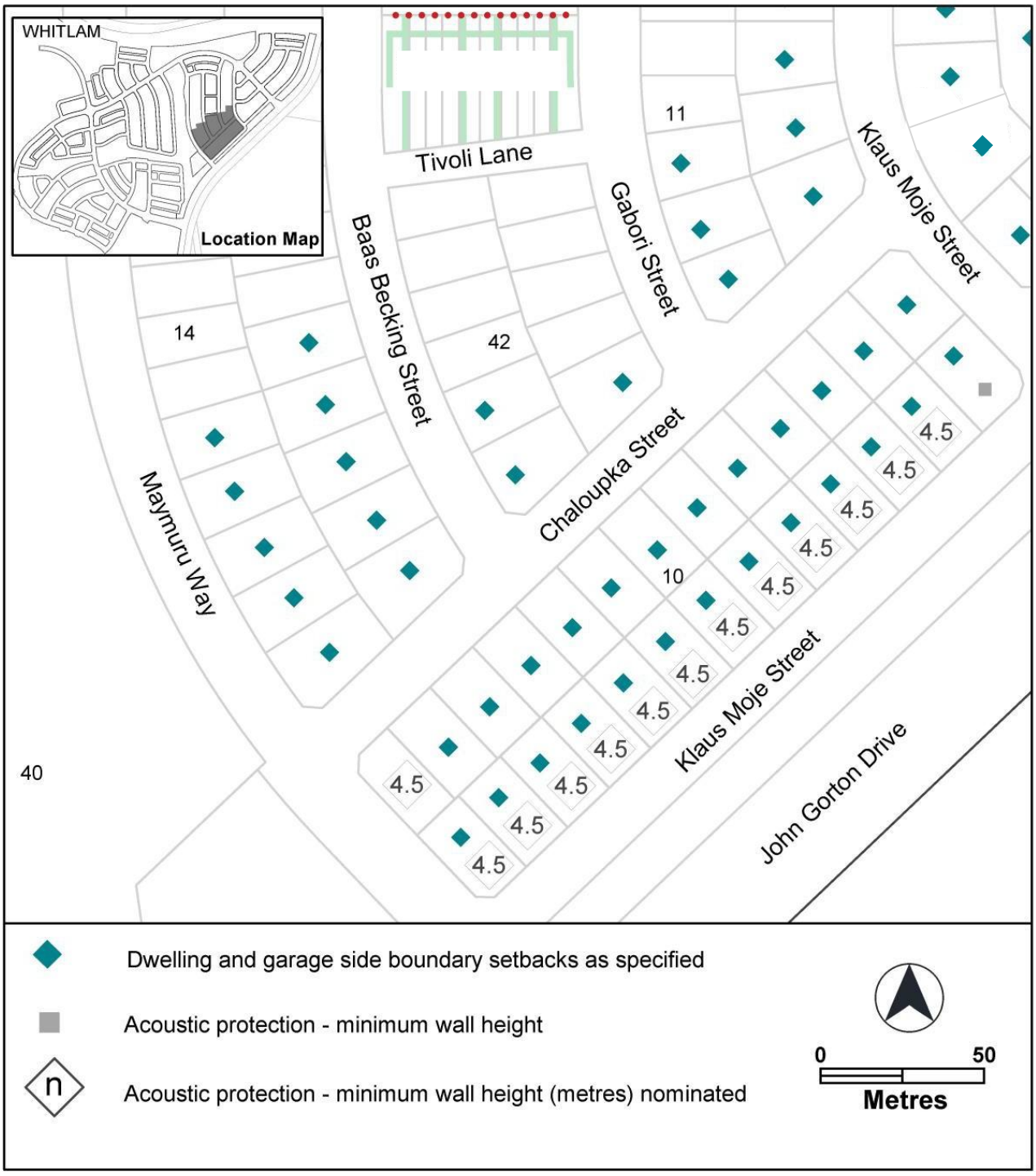
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Figure 30 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



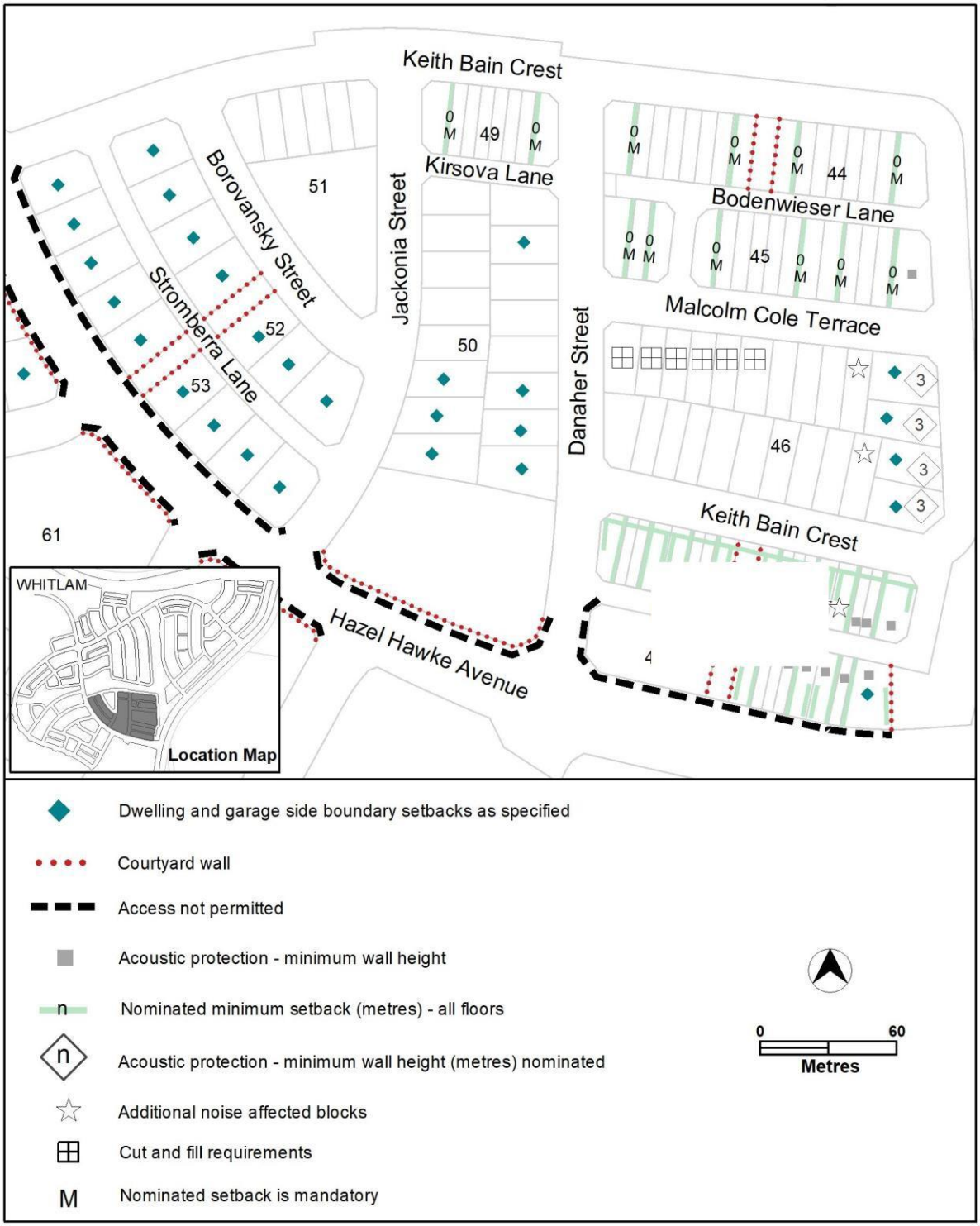
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Figure 31 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



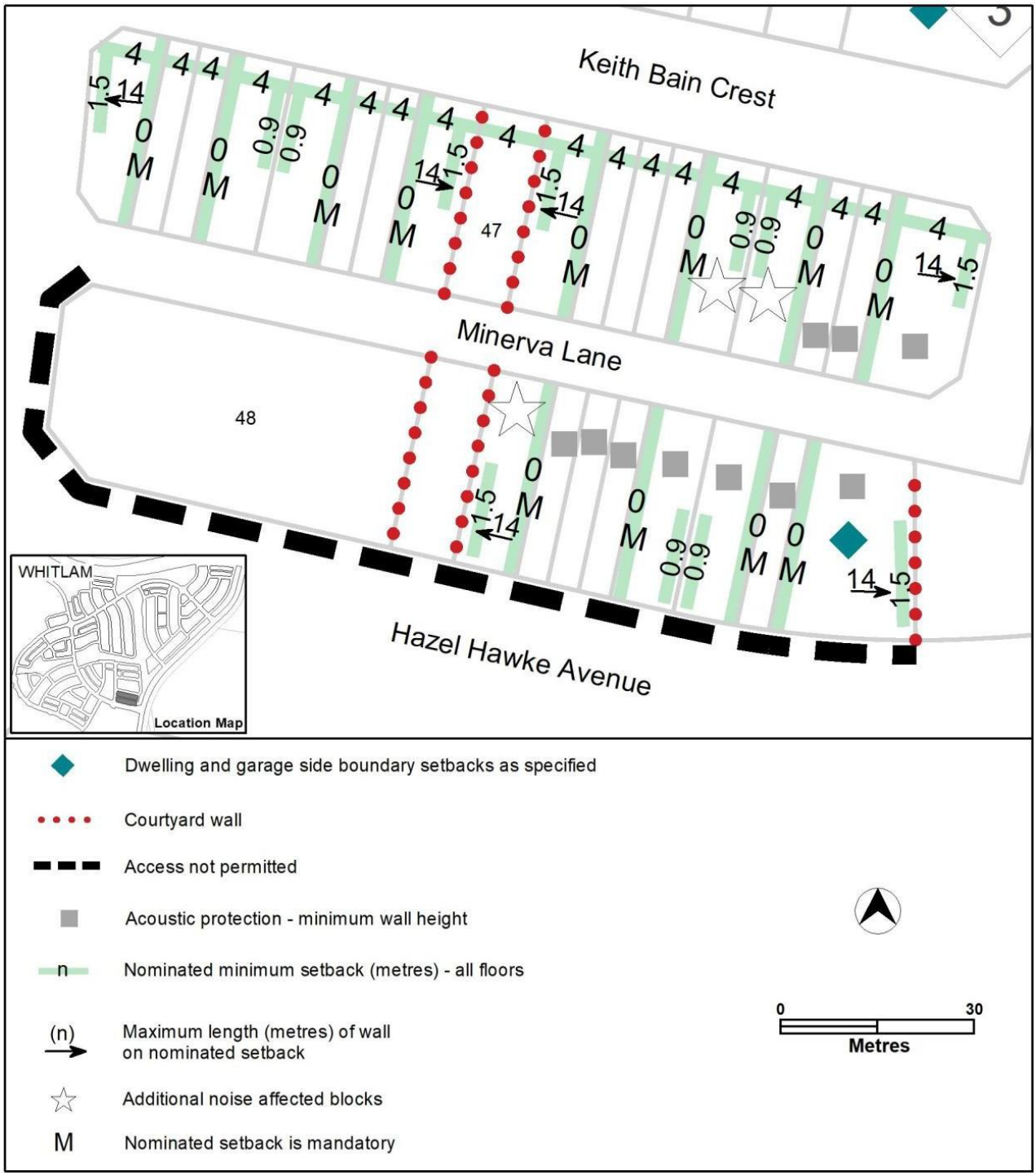
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Figure 32 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



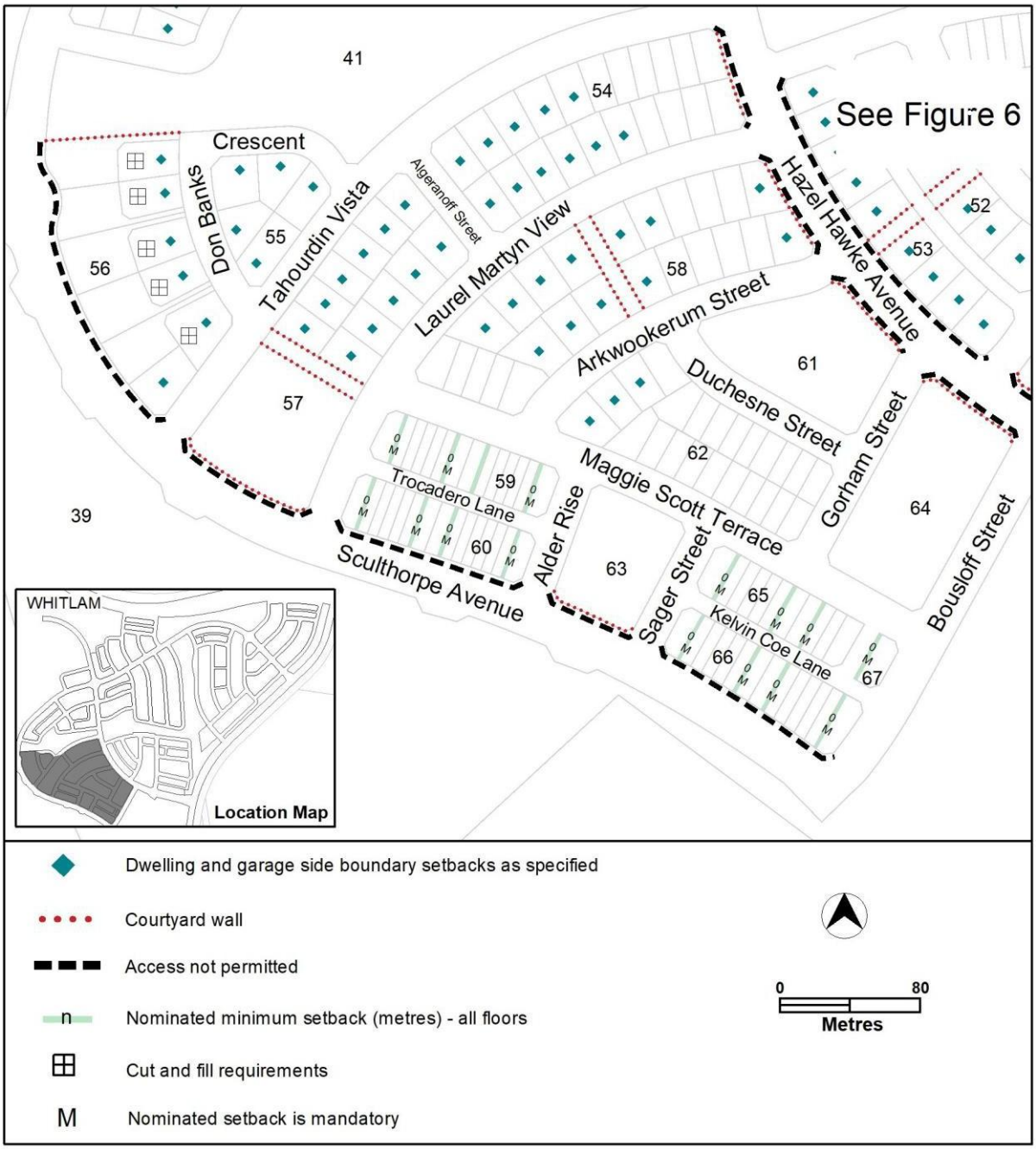
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Figure 33 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 34 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



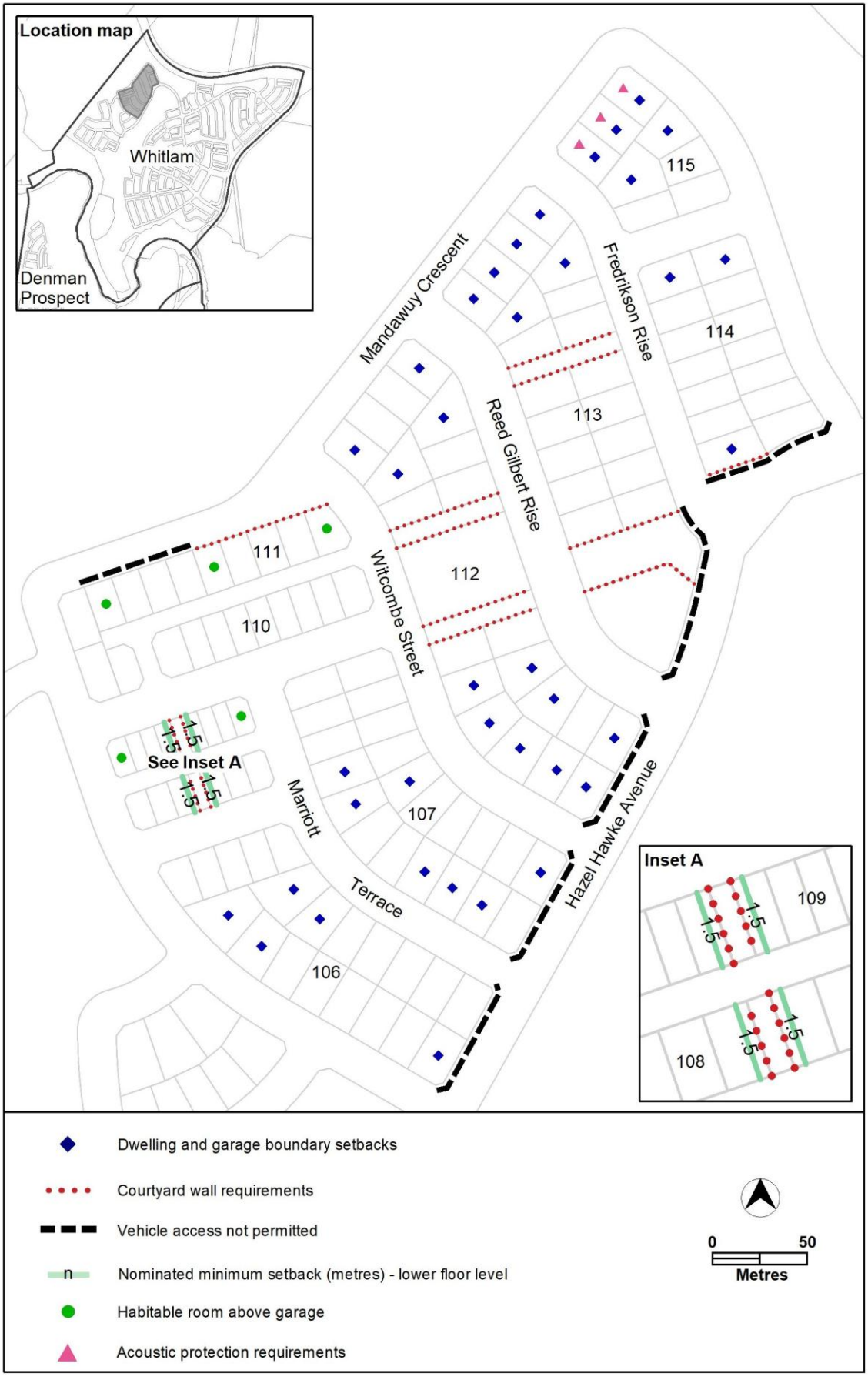
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Figure 35 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



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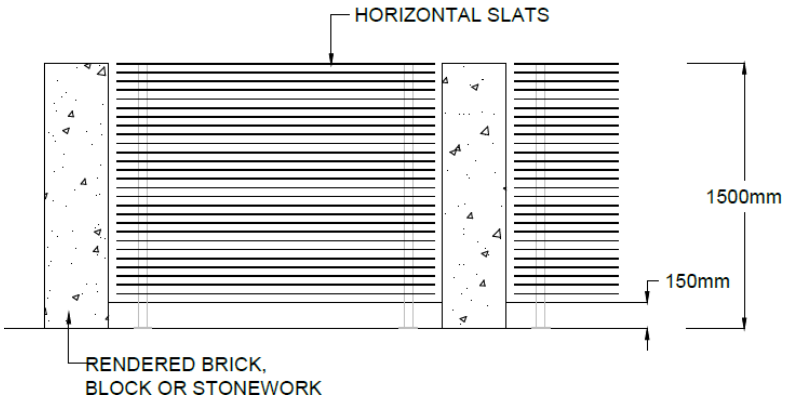
Figure 35A Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



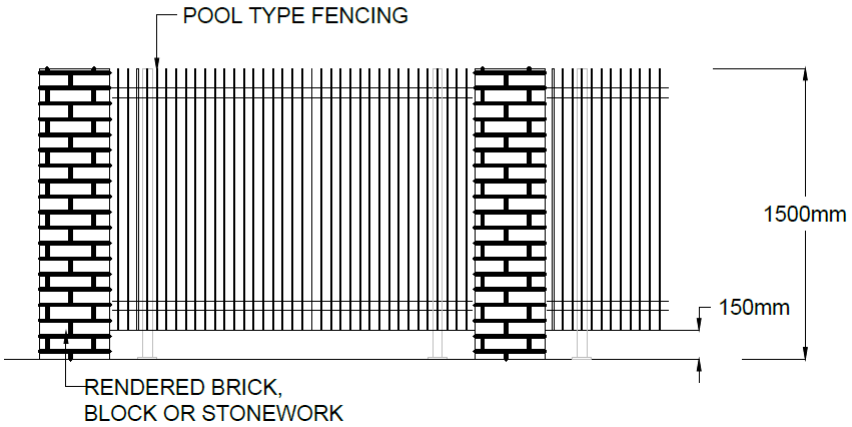
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Figure 36 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions (Elevation of Courtyard Wall)

TYPE 1



TYPE 2



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Figure 37 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 38 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



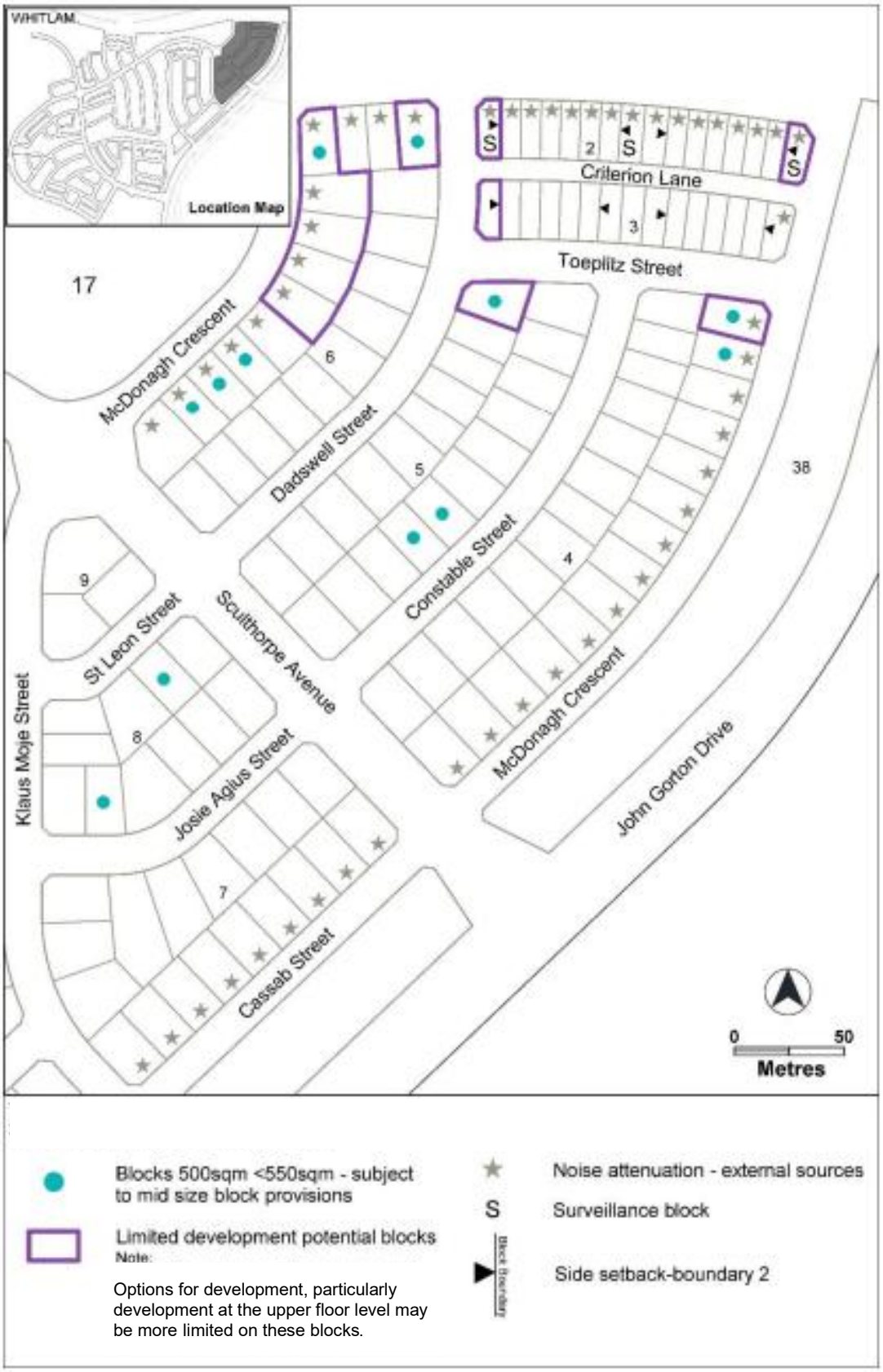
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Figure 39 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



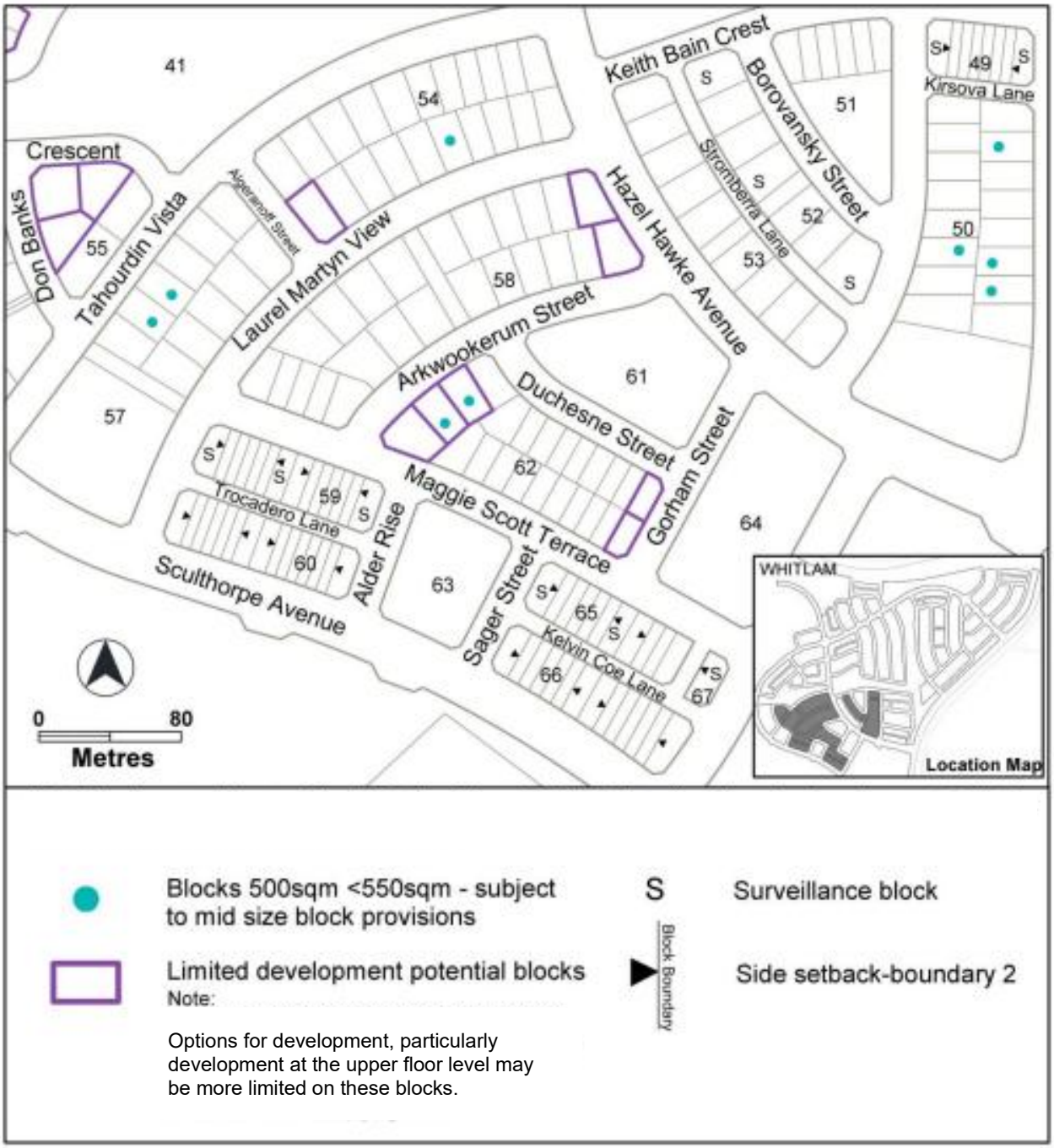
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Figure 40 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



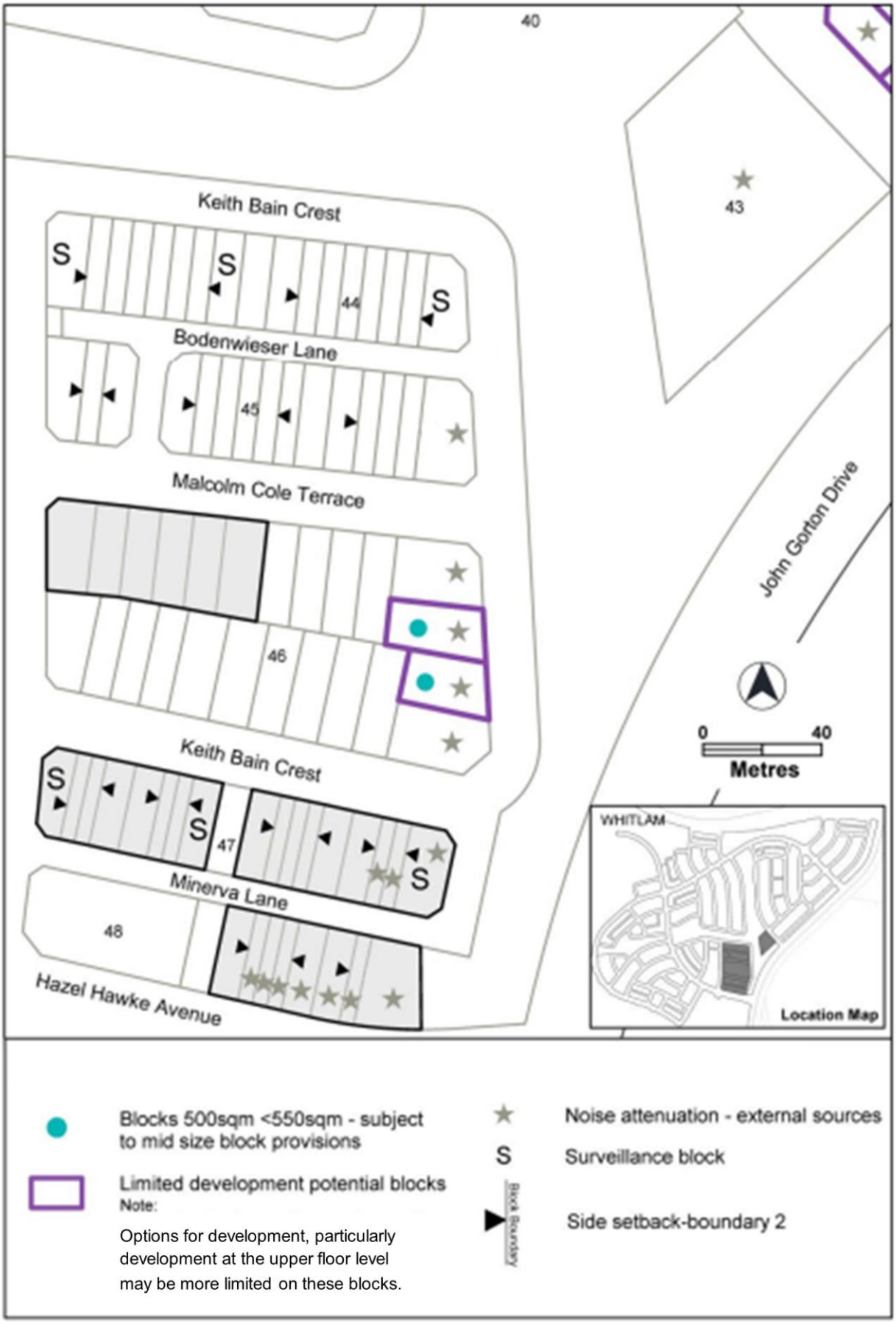
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Figure 41 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



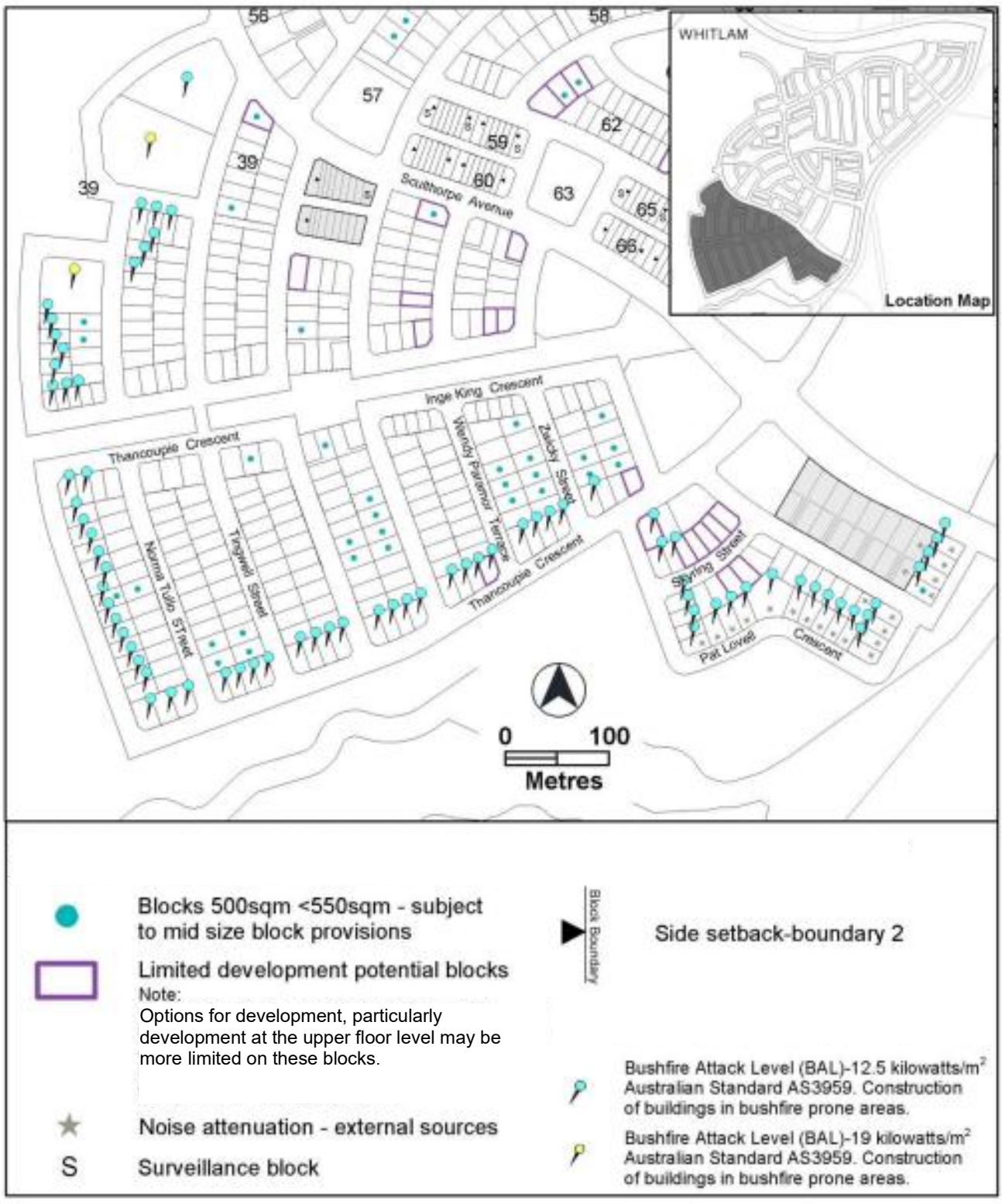
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Figure 42 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 43 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



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Figure 44 Whitlam – Ongoing Provisions



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5. Wright

The following specifications provide possible solutions that should be considered in planning, placing, designing and using buildings and structures for proposed development in Wright:

No applicable specification for this suburb.

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