

Garden natives plan knocked back

AN AMENDMENT from Rockdale councillor Lesa de Leau to encourage residents to plant native plants in their gardens was lost at week's council meeting, after a councillor felt it was wrong to favour any plant over another.

During debate on the adoption on the amended draft development control plan on the principles and guidelines for landscape design, Cr De Leau, a Green, said it was important for residents to be encouraged to

plant natives, particularly with the current water restrictions.

Liberal councillor Gary Green said he had had residents ringing him in tears about what they could not plant in their gardens.

"Why should we [give preference to] indigenous plants?" he said.

"If it's legal we should be able to grow it; it's not as if it's 'wacky tabacky'.

"We shouldn't dictate what people can grow."