

Please support your community by keeping your hedges and trees tidy



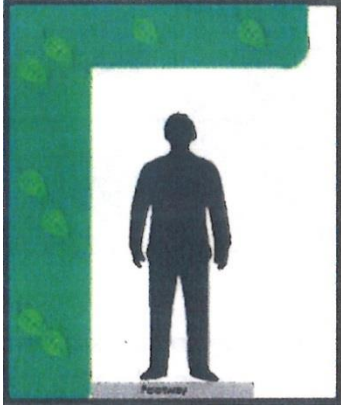

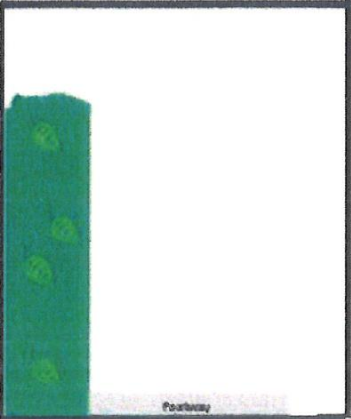

Highways

As a landowner or occupier, it's your responsibility to make sure that trees, hedges and other vegetation growing on your land do not cause a safety concern or obstruction or users of the public highway.

It ties up valuable council resources if we have to take action to address issues over privately owned trees and hedges, so please ensure that the overgrowth of vegetation is not creating a hazard or nuisance for your community. This includes hedges, trees, shrubs, ground cover and weeds such as brambles and nettles.

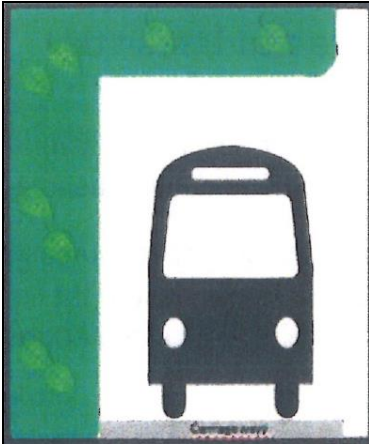

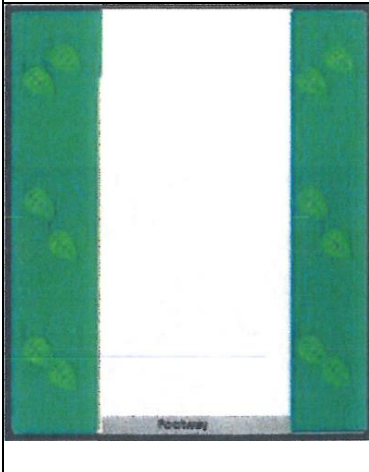
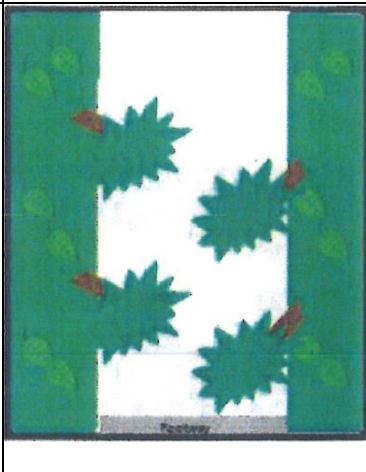
Highway Inspectors are undertaken throughout the year and, where vegetation is found to be causing an obstruction of safety concern, you will be formally requested to take action within 14 days. This is in accordance with the Highways Act 1980.

To avoid this, please monitor the growth of vegetation throughout the year and take action before a hazard is created.

Right 	Wrong 	Explanation
		<p>Please check pavements are clear for everyone to use.</p> <p>Look out in particular for fast-growing plants such as brambles and nettles. Please note: These may be growing outside your garden fence but are still on your property.</p> <p>Please check vegetation is not obscuring the light from the streetlights or signs.</p>
		<p>Please make sure that ground-cover plants are not growing over the pavement.</p> <p>They hasten deterioration of the pavement surface, get in the way when maintenance work is being done and could be a trip hazard, particularly for visually impaired pedestrians.</p>

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		<p>Please check that branches are not growing too low and causing a problem for vehicles – 5.5, clearance is recommended</p> <p>Leylandii hedges need regular maintenance throughout the year. If left until they become a nuisance, they are often unsightly when eventually cut back and do not recover their greenery.</p>
		<p>Service lanes and paths behind properties need to be kept clear too.</p> <p>Remember; refuse collectors and other services need 24/7 access.</p>

When undertaking any work to hedges and trees please be aware of regulations in respect of wildlife, such as nesting birds, planning and highways safety.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.

Sent on behalf of
Highways Safety Inspection Team

