

Information

Hedge Tree or Shrub Obstructing the Highway



GEDLING
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Department of Engineering and Property

The following is a copy of a leaflet we use when contacting owners or occupiers of property adjacent to the highway where a hedge tree or shrub is overgrowing the road or footway to such an extent as to be obstructive.

If you wish to report such a problem please contact us using the below information

Please read through this information which aims to answer the most frequently asked questions if you have any further questions please contact us. Our contact details are on the bottom of this leaflet.

Why have I been contacted?

Our Inspector believes a tree, shrub or other vegetation from land you occupy or own is overhanging the Public Highway which includes roads, footpaths and Bridleways. Anyone wishing to use the Highway would be obstructed or may be injured. This is particularly a problem for people who require more of the space for safe passage such as people pushing child buggies or wheelchair users. Even a small amount of overhanging vegetation can be an obstruction especially if the width of the Highway is further reduced by parked vehicles.

To avoid this we are contacting you to arrange for the overhanging vegetation to be removed within 14 days. Normally our Inspector will attempt to talk to you at the time of the inspection. However if he is unable to do we inform you of the problem by letter.

What do I do if I am a tenant?

Most landlords make it the tenant's responsibility to deal with such matters, however some will arrange to carry out the work so it is worth contacting your landlord to check.

It's not my property.

Our Inspectors do their best to insure the right owner or occupier of the property is contacted, however mistakes can occur. If this is so, please accept our apologies. If you can contact us so we can trace the correct property owner or occupier this would be helpful.

It is mine!! So what now?

Obviously the cheapest solution is if you (or a friend or relative) can cut the vegetation back. If this is not possible then you will need to employ the services of a landscape gardener or tree surgeon, These can be found listed in the Yellow Pages.

Hint - always get a written quotation.

If the amount of work/availability of help/ contractors means you cannot carry out the work within the fourteen days before the next inspection, please contact us so we can agree an achievable period.

The tree has a Tree Preservation Order on it.

All we require you to do is trim sufficient of the tree back from the Highway to remove any possible obstruction, this should not affect any Tree Preservation Order. If you have any doubts please contact the tree preservation officer on 0115 901 3719.

What happens after 14 days?

If you have not already contacted us our Inspector will re-visit the site. If no effort has been made to remove the obstruction we may serve notice as required by the Highways Act 1980.

