

Tree and Hedge Cutting

Second Letter

Date

Our Ref:

This is not a circular – important communication

Homeowner or Occupier

Address

Dear Sir or Madam

Further to our responsibilities letter dated we have had cause to reinspect the vegetation from your property/land and on our inspection identified that your vegetation has not been maintained and is now obstructing the highway and causing a safety issue for highway users.

For the avoidance of doubt, the 'highway' means carriageway, footway, cycleway, grass verge, ditch or any other piece of land which is deemed to be within the highway. Please see our clearance requirements and additional information attached

As detailed in our initial letter we are now requesting that this vegetation is attended to within **14 days**, we ask that you contact us within this time frame if you are struggling to find a contractor or require extra time to carry out these works. We will then review the timeframe on a case by case basis and if appropriate agree an extension period. Our contact details are at the bottom of this page.

If we do not hear from you, a further inspection will be carried out by us after the **14 days** have elapsed to ensure that the vegetation has been cut back. If the vegetation has not been cut back, we will be left with no alternative than to serve a formal statutory notice under the provisions of the Highways Act 1980. If the vegetation is not cut back following the formal notice, we will arrange for the vegetation to be cut back and this will result in us seeking to recover all reasonably incurred costs from you. This may include administration charges as well as the costs for a contractor to quote and carry out the works with any traffic management.

Overgrown and Overhanging Vegetation

Overhanging vegetation can be dangerous as high sided vehicles may be struck by low hanging branches or move towards or cross the centre of the carriageway to avoid the obstruction. Overgrown hedges and vegetation are a real safety concern for people using the footway especially those who suffer from impaired vision or need a little more space for wheelchairs, mobility scooters or buggies.

We would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation and understanding in helping us to keep the highway safe for all users.

Yours sincerely

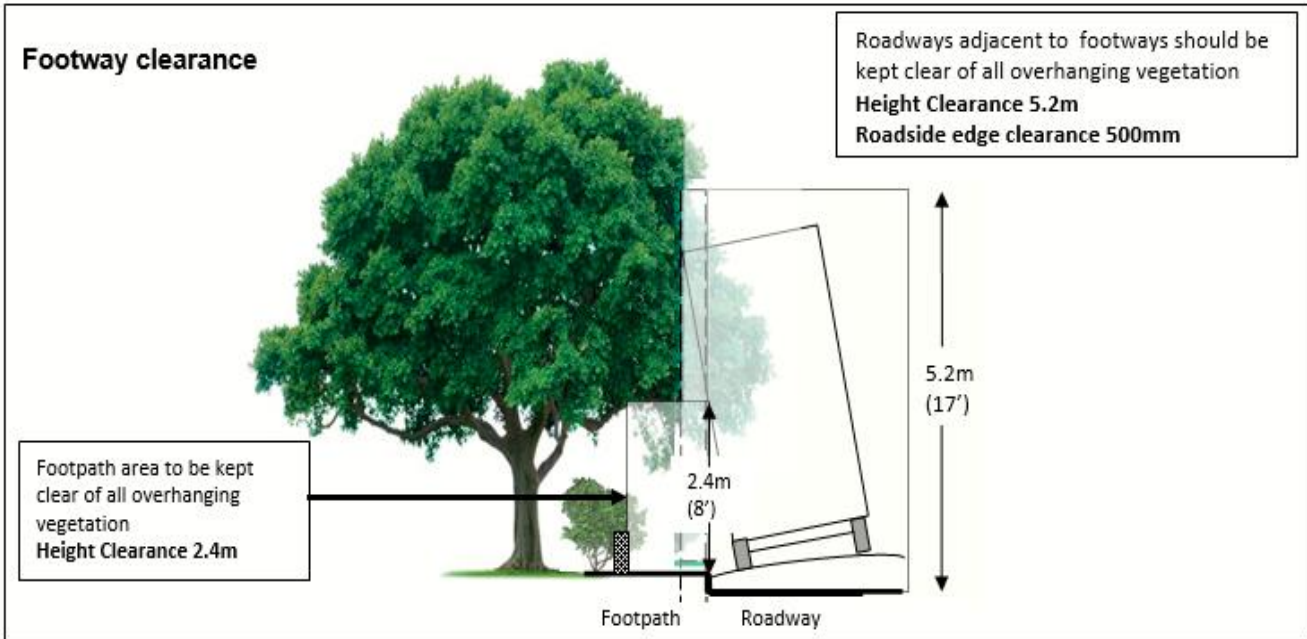
East Sussex Highways

Tel: 0345 60 80 193

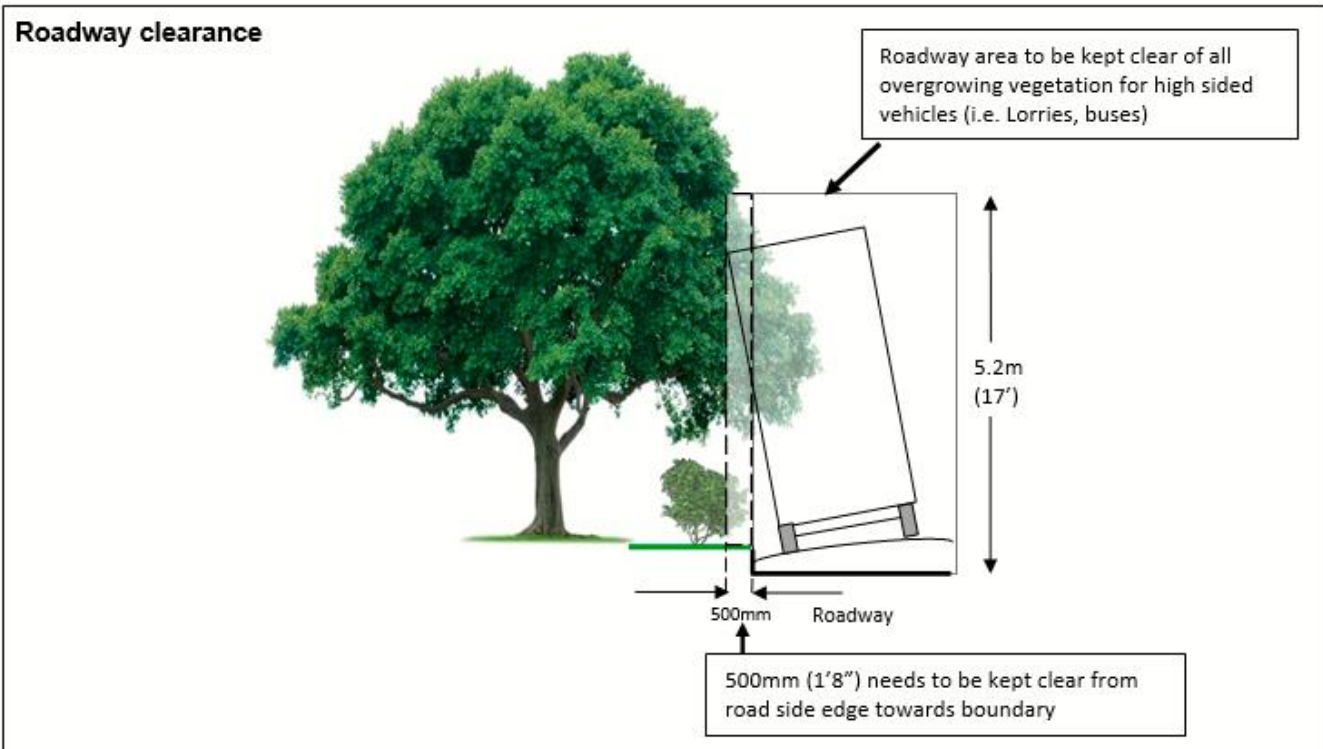
Email: customer@eastsussexhighways.com

Clearance Requirements

Please cut all vegetation in an upright manner to ensure full clearance



- **Footway –**
 - Please ensure the full width of the footway is available to pedestrians
 - This is particularly important for those who are partially sighted or use a mobility scooter



- **Carriageway –**
 - Trees and hedge vegetation is a concern for vehicles including those with high sides
 - Vegetation should be ½ m back from the edge of the carriageway