

# Tree and Hedge Cutting

## Your responsibilities

Date

Our Ref:

**This is not a circular – important communication**

Homeowner or Occupier

Address

Dear Sir or Madam

We have received a report / identified as part of a routine safety inspection that vegetation from your property is encroaching onto the highway. Whilst this is not currently causing an immediate safety issue you are responsible for maintaining this vegetation and ensuring that it does not affect the free passage of vehicles or pedestrians using the public highway.

We ask that this vegetation is cut back and regularly maintained to ensure it does not encroach onto the highway. There is no set time frame for carrying out this work and on this occasion, we will not be attending to reinspect the area to ensure work is carried out. However, if we receive further reports of this vegetation and it has become a safety issue causing an obstruction or restricting the available width of the footway or carriageway, we will send a further letter requesting that this vegetation is cut back within 14 days under powers set out in section 154 of the Highways Act 1980.

*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 on the reverse of this letter.***

### Overgrown and Overhanging Vegetation

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

As such we ask again that this overgrown vegetation is cut back and monitored for any required future works and would like to thank you in advance your co-operation and understanding in helping us to keep the highway safe for all users.

Yours sincerely

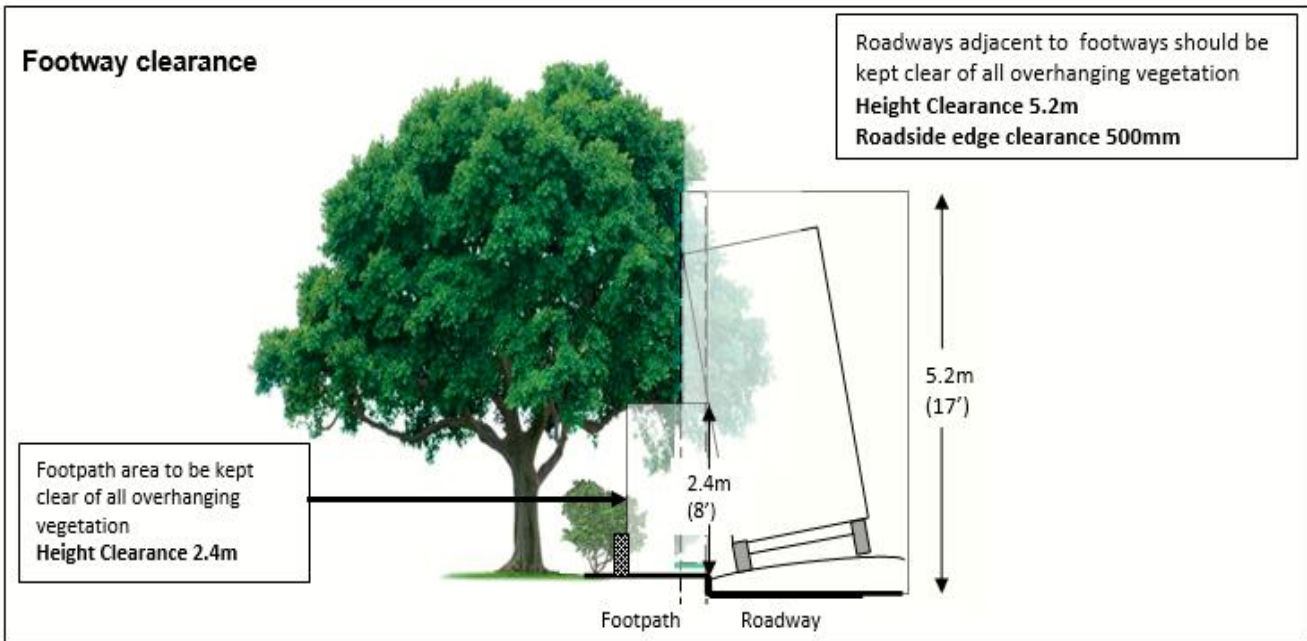
East Sussex Highways

Tel: 0345 60 80 193

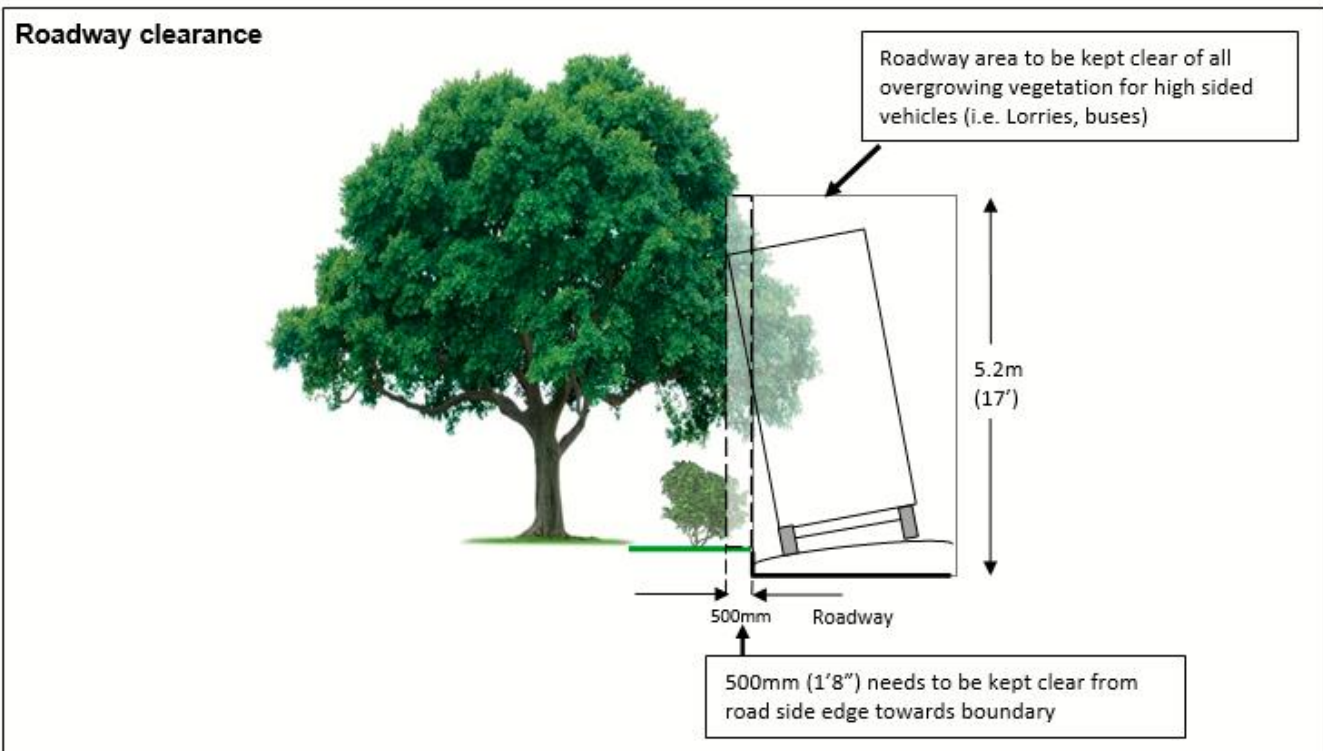
Email: [customer@eastsussexhighways.com](mailto:customer@eastsussexhighways.com)

## 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