

GUIDELINES FOR JOB ALLOCATION FOR STREET TREES

The criteria below are used by the Council's arboricultural staff when investigating service requests from Customers. Ad-hoc pruning may be justified if either one or more of the criteria are met.

Intervention Criteria for defects

- Condition/safety of tree, a defect that increases risk of failure, i.e. structural defect, decay, storm damage etc. Dependant on tree size, target area, nature of problem and characteristics of tree species.
- Low branches (including suckers/epicormic growth) obstructing footpaths or carriageways. Less than 2.3m over a footpath or private garden and 4.0 m over a carriageway (Unless it a bus route for double-deckers, then not less than 5.0m)
- Branches obscuring traffic signs/controls and/or street-lights.
- Branches that are within 1.0 m of the building or that overhang the garden/property by more than 5.0 m.
- Suspected structural damage to property, either written report for loss adjuster/surveyor or clear visible signs of damage that could reasonably be linked to tree activity.
- Slip hazards due to excessive fruit fall, bird mess. Works must be proportional to the risk and only undertaken if they will significantly lessen the problem. Normally only considered where vulnerable groups are particularly at risk, i.e. near hospitals, sheltered housing, shops or near properties with contributory hazards such as steep basement steps.
- Trip hazards where tree roots have lifted pavement to trigger intervention by Highways.