

**STREETCARE**  
**HIGHWAY SHRUB BED MAINTENANCE.**

Streetcare are responsible for maintaining 80,000 square metres of shrub bed throughout the borough roads.

These consist of a varied mix of shrub species, roses and trees.

All beds throughout the borough are part of an annual maintenance schedule which is undertaken by two teams – there are two cutting regimes in place

**High Priority Areas** - where shrubs are likely to grow and cause overhang to footpaths, driveways, and carriageways, or where they obstruct sightlines and road junctions or from driveways, are pruned on three occasions per annum – every 8 weeks

Shrubs are pruned to not less than 0.75 metre or more than 1.0 metre in height



Potential Sightline Issue  
Before Works



After Completion of Works

**General Pruning** - The remaining beds around the borough are pruned twice per annum – every 26 weeks.

Shrubs are pruned to not less than 0.75 metre and not more than 1.5 metre. If the general area or street condition of the shrub beds is significantly different from these measurements due to specific and agreed criteria, the shrub beds will continue to be maintained to their existing height.

If however there are problems in maintaining areas to a specified height and changes need to be made, a public consultation is arranged to ensure the wishes of the residents are fully considered in any decision making.



General Prune  
Before Works



General Prune  
Completion of Works

The schedule ensures the service maintains a consistent approach throughout the borough and can provide Cllrs, members of the public and residents with the current status of the programme within a given area.

The beds provide amenity value on the highway, with residents in some areas actively involved;

A number of beds have been redeveloped; new plant varieties have been introduced to ensure the borough is seen to be modern and “moving with the times”.

Species have been chosen to encourage and support native species and continue to increase and maintain the borough’s “green credentials”, as well as providing visual impact on the highway.

All staff involved in the shrub maintenance operation are qualified in Bollarding and Signage on the highway, PA1 and PA6 pesticide application and operation of all the vehicle and plant involved in the operation, to ensure all aspects of Health & safety are adhered to and the reputation of the authority is maintained.

Hedges on the rural roads are maintained on our behalf by the in-house Grounds Maintenance Unit.

Cutting is completed twice per annum, with limitations to cutting due to nesting birds during the period March to September as defined by DEFRA.

Cutting can be undertaken during this period if there proves to be Health & Safety and/or public safety issues identified in a specific area.

### **StreetCare** **Maintenance of Grass Verges**

StreetCare are responsible for the maintenance of 900,54 square metres of grass verge (including Rural Roads) throughout the borough.

The grass is maintained on our behalf by the In-House Grounds Maintenance Unit.

Grass verges are cut on 9 occasions throughout the growing season, which starts during March.

All verges are cut with rotary action machines, no clippings are “boxed off” on the highway



“TORO OUTFRONT” Mower  
Used to maintain highway grass  
verges

Where the cutting machine has limited access (bollards, trees, obstacles etc) the route is supported by a “Hand Cutting team, who access these areas with smaller hand mowers and trimmers to ensure a consistent cut is completed.

The hand cutting team are in operation to support the cutting regime throughout the season.



Hand Cutting Team

