

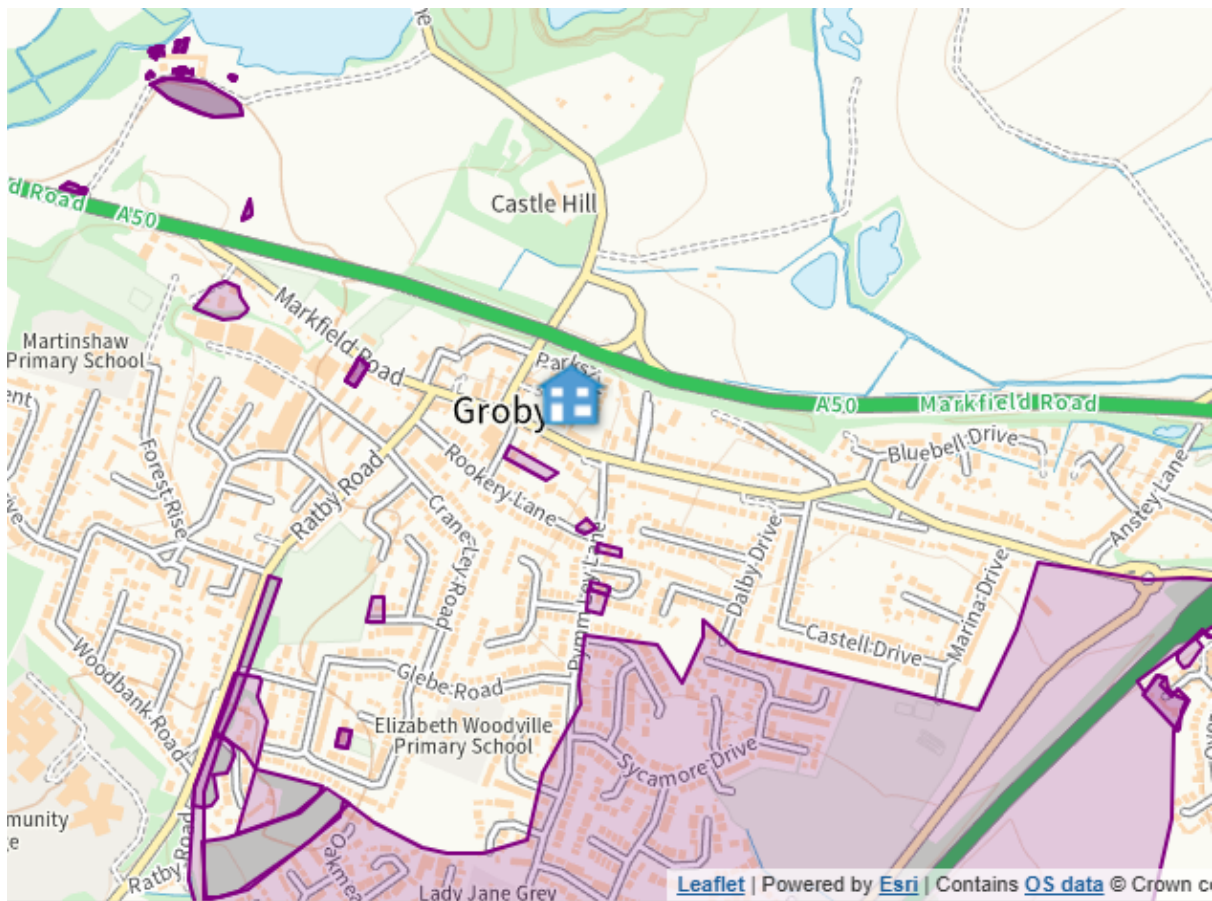
Old School, 53 Leicester Road, Groby, LE6 0DQ

Application for planning permission for tree work.

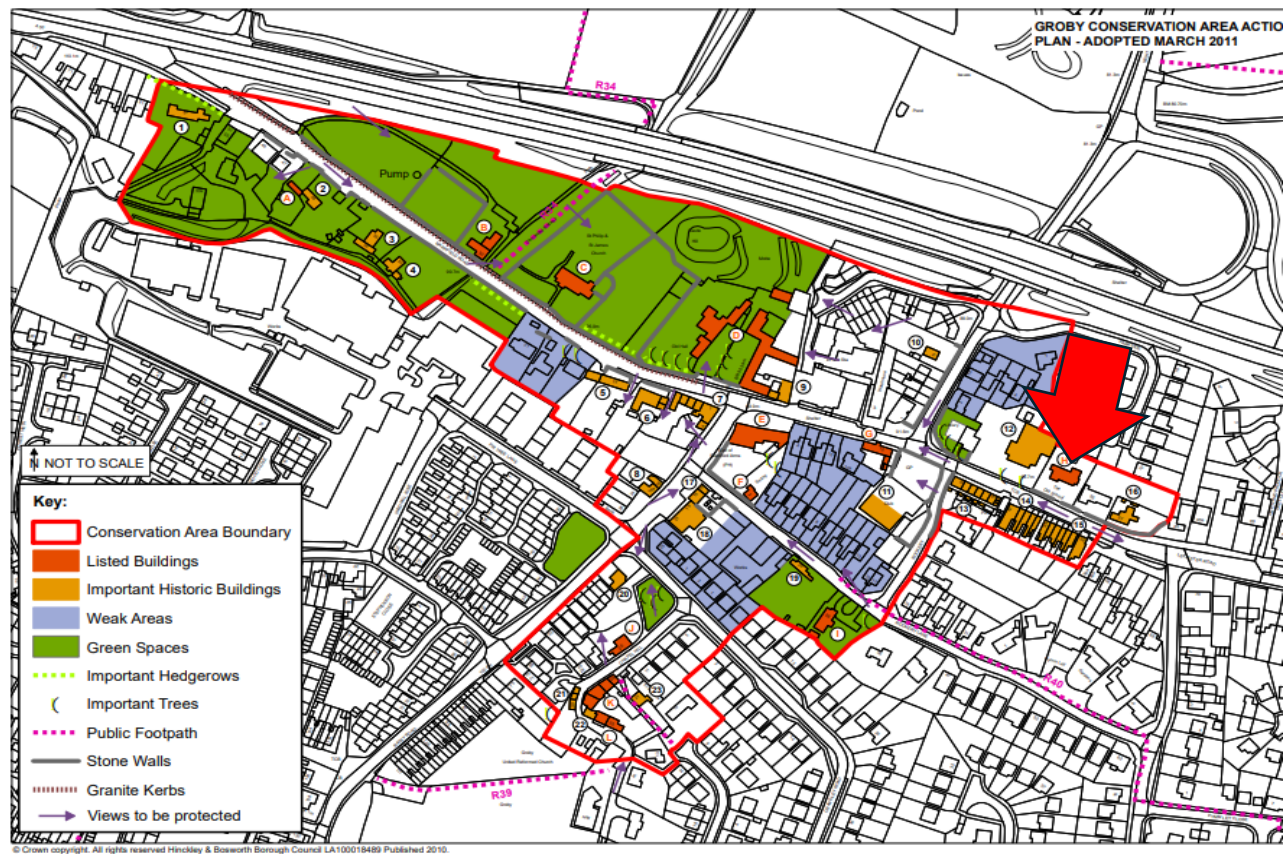
The Old School is a grade 2 listed building constructed in 1873. The trees are wholly within the grounds of the Old School, they are not straddling a boundary. The trees are not subject to a tree protection order. We have never seen birds or bats nesting in these trees.

In this document we outline the proposed work to be done to each tree.

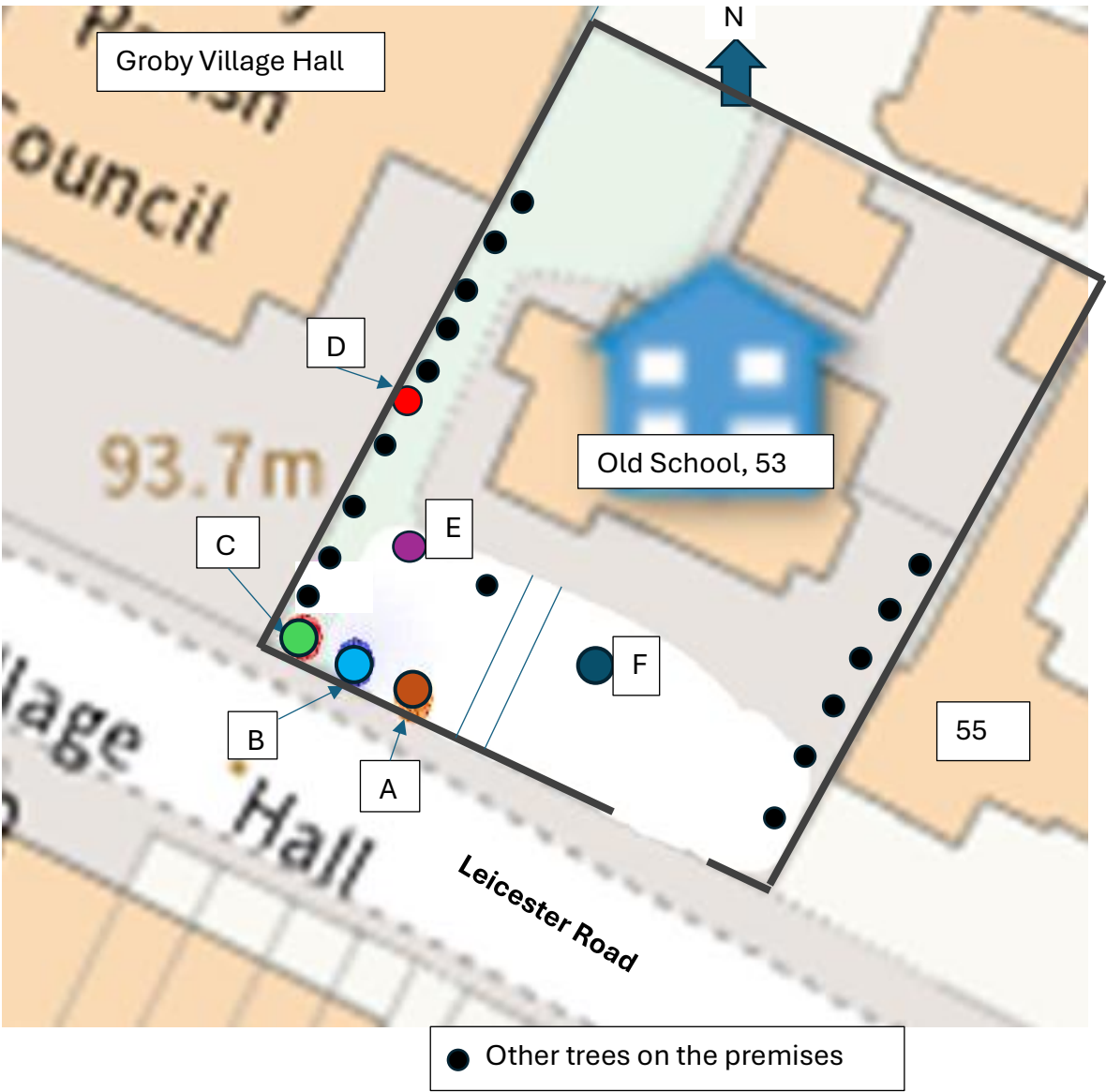
The trees at the Old School are in the Groby conservation area.



The stone walls outside the front of the house are indicated on the conservation map as part of the character of the conservation area.



Plan of the site with trees marked



Tree A, Cherry

Minimal Crown reduction, to reduce length of branches that overhang the street footpath.

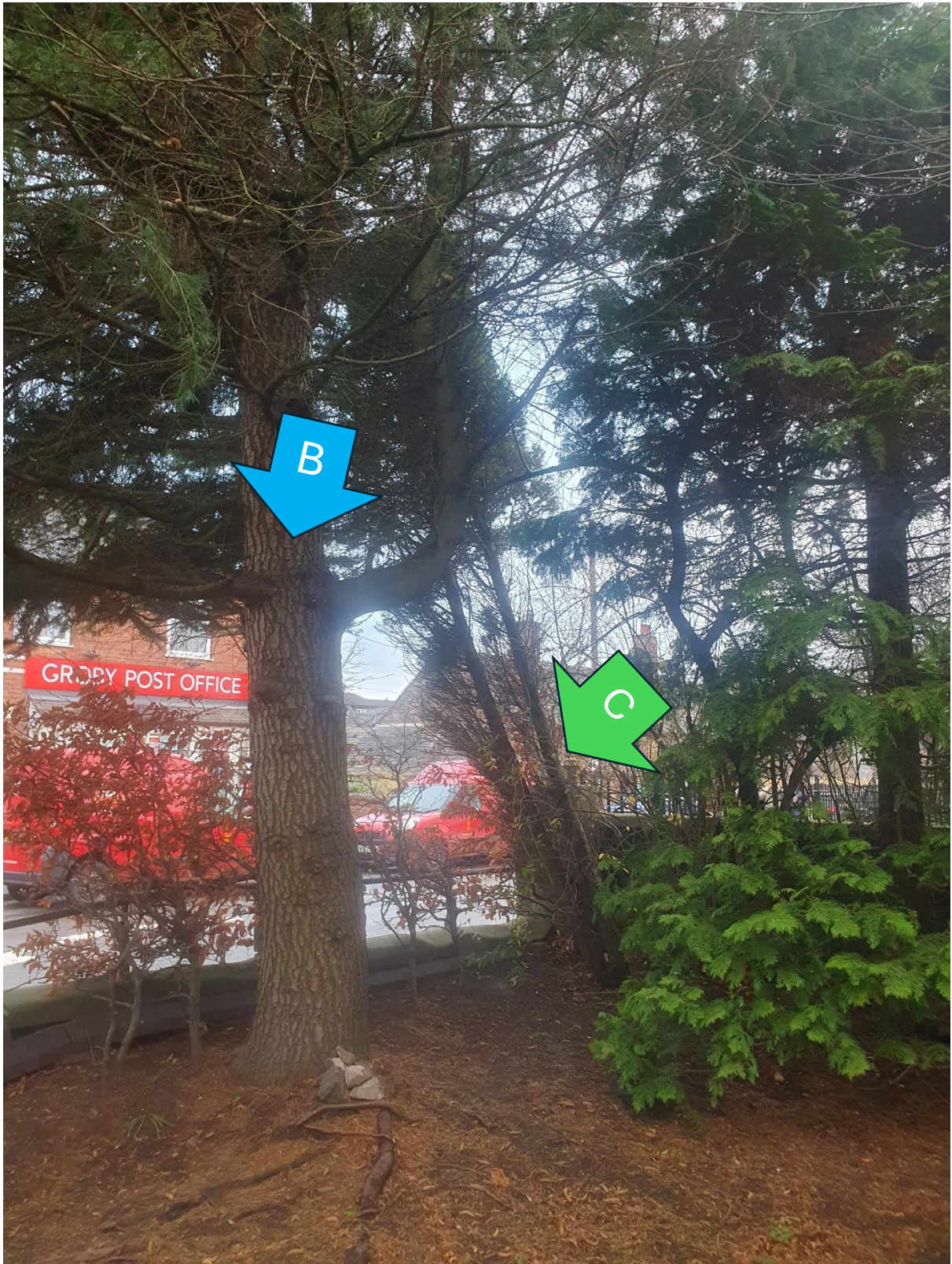


Tree B, Conifer (large evergreen)

We have received a letter Reference HMS977635 from Leicestershire County Council (dated 5/12/24, see Appendix A) instructing us to cut back the tree branches that are obstructing the bus stop sign and street light. This is the largest tree (B on the plan) and it is structurally damaging the front boundary stone wall of the premises (see photographs). The wall has been re-pointed with lime mortar before, but the tree roots are moving it upwards and stonemasons as unwilling to repair the wall because their work will be undone by the tree moving the wall again. This tree overhangs the bus stop and the branches obscure the bus stop sign and the light from the lamppost which is now engulfed by the tree. We ask permission to remove this tree so that the stone wall is no longer damaged. We would not replace this tree with another, as we would not want to damage the stone wall in future. There are many other trees on the site.

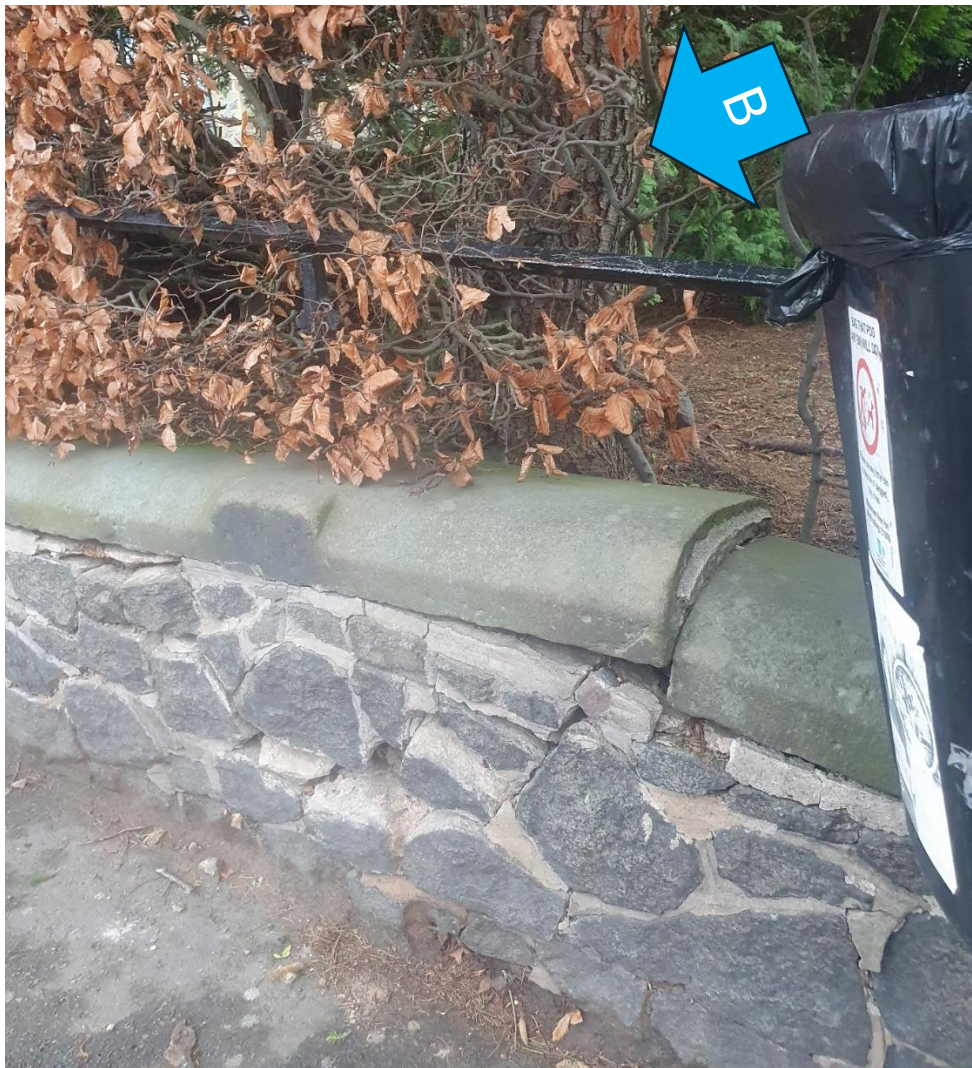








Tree B roots are pushing up the stone wall and damaging it.





The iron work is no longer in the stone, the largest stone slab is being pushed upwards and outwards by the tree roots.

Tree C, Cypress Conifer

This smaller tree, which has two trunks, has a heavy lean over the the pavement. If left to grow in its current position it also risks root damage to the boundary walls in future.

We ask permission to remove this tree.



Tree D, Silver birch

The silver birch tree is growing too close to the boundary wall and risks causing structural damage to the wall between the Old school and the Village Hall car park. It is crowded between many other large conifers and we ask to be permitted to remove this tree. It has been cut back many years ago and the trunk is partly rotten and hollow.



Tree E, Beech

The beech tree is about 40-50 feet tall, and we ask to be permitted to do a crown reduction to reduce the height to about 15 feet tall.



Tree F, Norway spruce Christmas tree

Planned crown reduction to reduce the sides by about 2-3 feet in several places to re-shape the tree.



Appendix A - letter from Leicestershire County Council requiring tree works.



The Owner/Occupier
The Old School
Leicester Road
Groby
LE6 0DQ

Date: 5 December 2024
My Ref: HMS 977635
Contact: Jill Howe
Phone: 0116 3050001

Dear Sir/Madam

Highways Act 1980 - Section 154
Tree / Hedge Overhanging the Footway, Carriageway or Verge

RE: Please cut back the tree branches which are obstructing the bus stop sign and street light

During a recent routine highway safety inspection it was noted that the tree / hedge described above requires cutting back to prevent it obstructing, or becoming a potential source of danger to, pedestrians and/or other highway users.

In order to enable pedestrians and vehicles to pass under trees and hedges safely a height clearance of 2.15m (7ft) should always be maintained over the full width of a footway, and a height clearance of 5m (16ft 6 inches) over the carriageway.

It is understood that you are either the owner of the tree / hedge or the occupier of the land on which it is situated. You are therefore requested to arrange for the tree / hedge to be cut back within 21 days from the date of this letter.

If however you are not the owner of the tree / hedge or the occupier of the land on which it is situated or for any reason you are unable to comply with this request, please contact the officer named at the top of this letter as soon as possible on the telephone number stated.

Before any work is carried out we advise you to contact the Planning Department at your local Borough or District Council, to check whether the tree / hedge is situated within a Conservation Area or is protected by a Preservation Order. If the tree / hedge is within a Conservation Area or are covered by a Preservation Order you must notify the Borough/District Council of your intended course of action.

Continued Overleaf...

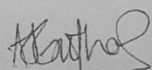
I must stress that this letter must not be taken as indicating that any other part, or parts, of the tree / hedge are in a safe condition. If you have any concerns about the tree / hedge you should obtain professional advice on its safe management.

If you enlist the services of a contractor to attend to the tree / hedge, you are advised to obtain an estimate of the probable cost of the work before you place an order for it to be carried out.

You should also have regard to the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, and the Conservation of Natural Habitats Regulations 2007. Under the Act it is an offence to deliberately disturb, injure or kill wild birds and bats, or to wilfully damage, destroy or obstruct access to bird nests and/or bat roosts. It is essential therefore that you check for the presence of nesting birds and bat roosts prior to any work being carried out on the tree.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact the officer named at the top of this letter as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully



Ann Carruthers
Director of Environment and Transport Department

Report a road problem using our dedicated online form

Customer Service Centre, County Hall, Glenfield,
Leicestershire, LE3 8ST
Telephone: 0116 305 0001
www.leicestershire.gov.uk

Contact: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/contact-information>

Alternatively, scan our QR code to reach our contact page.

