

Complaint form: high hedges



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

Use this form to submit a complaint to the Council about a high hedge, under Part 8 of the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003. It should be completed by the person making the complaint or their representative.

Before completing this form, please read the guidance notes sent with it and the leaflet *High hedges: complaining to the council*. Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS** and black ink.

YOU MUST PAY A FEE WHEN YOU SEND IN THIS FORM. The current fee is £350.

The Council will rely on the information you provide so please make sure it is clear and accurate.

1. Attempts to resolve the complaint

Please describe what you have done to try to settle this matter. Give dates and say what the result was. Please provide copies of any letters that you mention.

1.1 Approached neighbour/hedge owner and asked to discuss problem

SINCE 2021 I HAVE BEEN ASKING MY NEIGHBOUR ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IF HE WOULD LOWER THE HEIGHT OF HIS FIVE LAUREL CHERRY BUSHES/TREES TO AN ACCEPTABLE HEIGHT. AS YET HE HAS DONE VERY LITTLE TO RECTIFY THIS.

1.2 Asked neighbour/hedge owner to try mediation

I AGAIN TRIED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH MY NEIGHBOUR. I HAVE EVEN ON THE ADVICE GIVEN BY HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL WROTE MY NEIGHBOUR A LETTER EXPLAINING MY CONCERNS. PLEASE SEE ANNEX A A LETTER DATED 4 AUG 2024 WHICH WAS GIVEN TO MY NEIGHBOUR REGARDING MY CONCERNS OVER THE HEIGHT OF HIS 5 LAUREL CHERRY BUSHES/TREES.

1.3 Informed neighbour/hedge owner of intention to complain to council

On 8 MAR 25, I VERBALLY INFORMED MY
NEIGHBOUR THAT IT WAS MY INTENTION TO
COMPLAIN TO THE COUNCIL & PLANNING.

If you have not tried all the above steps, the Council might not proceed with your complaint.

1.4 Anything else

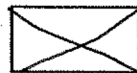
SEE ANNEX 6.
DISCUSSION WITH NEIGHBOUR ON 22 AUGUST
2024.

2. Criteria for making a complaint

About the hedge

2.1 Is the hedge - or the portion that is causing problems - made up of a line of 2 or more trees or shrubs?

Yes

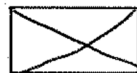


No

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2.2 Is it mostly evergreen or semi-evergreen?

Yes

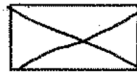


No

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2.3 Is it more than 2 metres above ground level?

Yes

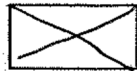


No

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2.4 Even though there are gaps in the foliage or between the trees, is the hedge still capable of obstructing light or views?

Yes

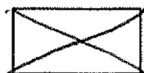


No

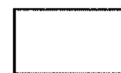
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2.5 Is it growing on land owned by someone else?

Yes



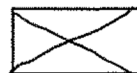
No



Who can complain

2.6 Is the complainant the owner or occupier (eg tenant) of the property affected by the hedge?

Yes



No

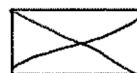


Please delete whichever does not apply.

Owner / ~~Occupier~~

2.7 Is the property residential?

Yes



No



If you have answered 'No' to any of the questions in this section, the criteria have not been met and so the Council cannot consider your complaint.

3. Grounds of complaint

Please describe the problems actually experienced as a result of the hedge being too tall, and say how serious they are. It will save time and help your case if you stick to the facts and provide all relevant information to back up the points you are making.

CONCERNS I HAVE AND THE GROUNDS OF MY COMPLAINT.

THE 5 LAUREL CHERRY BUSHES/TREES ARE DEPRIVING US OF LIGHT AND SUNSHINE TO SOME OF OUR GARDEN WHICH IS NOT VERY BIG AND ALL OF OUR MORNING BREAKFAST PATIO. (SEE ANNEX B) (ANNEX B1)

THE SUMMER BERRIES FALLING INTO OUR GARDEN ARE POISONOUS TO OUR PET DOG IF INGESTED AND ARE ALSO STAINING THE GARDEN PATHWAY AND SEEDING IN OUR FLOWERBED.

THE FIVE LAUREL CHERRY BUSHES/TREES ARE GROWING RAPIDLY AND HAVE NOW ~~GROWN~~ GROWN MUCH HIGHER THAN THE NETTING I HAVE TO PUT UP EACH YEAR DURING THE BERRY SEASON TO TRY AND AVOID THE BERRIES FALLING INTO OUR GARDEN. ANNEX C SHOWS THE HEIGHT THE TREES HAVE GROWN IN TWO YEARS SINCE USING THE NETTING.

VERY CONCERNED THAT THE ROOTS AS THE BUSHES/TREES GROW EACH YEAR WILL CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE FOUNDATIONS OF MY GARDEN ROOM AND THE POTENTIAL LIFTING OF OUR GARDEN PATHWAY.

OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS I HAVE BEEN CUTTING BACK THE OVERHANGING BRANCHES WITH THE PERMISSION OF MY NEIGHBOUR, BUT DUE TO THE HEIGHT IT IS BECOMING VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME TO CONTINUE CLIMBING MY LADDERS DUE TO MY AGE & HIP INJURY.

THIS IS VERY STRESSFUL FOR BOTH MY WIFE AND MYSELF.

ANNEX D SHOWS THE PROPERTY AFFECTED AND THE LOCATION OF THE TREES.

ANNEX E SHOWS HEIGHT OF TREES AT THE HIGHEST POINT (DEC 2024)

ANNEX F SHOWS AFFECTED PROPERTY INCLUDING ROAD NAMES AND NORTH DIRECTIONS

To help the Council understand your situation, please provide a photo of the hedge and a plan or sketch of both the site where the hedge is growing and the property it is affecting, with the hedge clearly marked on it.

4. Previous complaints to the Council

4.1 Has a formal complaint been made to the Council before about this hedge?

Yes

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No

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4.2 If you have ticked 'Yes', do you know the date and/or reference number of the Council's decision letter?

Date

Ref

number

4.3 What has changed since the Council last looked at this?

If nothing has altered, the Council might not proceed with your complaint.

5. Who's who/The parties

5.1 Complainant's contact details

Name	Title	Forename	Surname
	MR	DEREK	BRAMLEY
Address	23 PASSCHENDAELE DRIVE		
	BURBAGE		
City/Town	HINCKLEY		
County	LEICESTERSHIRE	Postcode	LE10 2FP
Daytime Telephone No.			
Mobile Telephone No.			
Fax No.			
Email Address			

Is the complainant content for us to contact them by email, at the address provided?

Yes



No

☐

5.2 Address of the property affected by the hedge and name of the person living there, if different to 5.1

Name	Title	Forename	Surname

Address		
City/Town		
County		Postcode
Daytime Telephone No.		
Mobile Telephone No.		
Fax No.		
Email Address		

5.3 Contact details of Agent or other person acting on behalf of the complainant (if any)

	Title	Forename	Surname
Name			
Address			
City/Town			
County		Postcode	
Daytime Telephone No.			
Mobile Telephone No.			
Fax No.			
Email Address			

Is the Agent, or other person named above, content for us to contact them by email at the address provided?

Yes

☐

No

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5.4 Address of the site where the hedge is growing and name of person living there, if known

	Title	Forename	Surname
Name	MR	SIMON	HAYWARD
Address or description of location	25 PASSCHENDAELE DRIVE BURBAGE		
City/Town	HINCKLEY		
County	LEICESTERSHIRE	Postcode	LE10 2FP
Daytime Telephone No.			
Mobile Telephone No.			
Fax No.			
Email Address			

5.5 Name and address of the person who owns the property where the hedge is situated, if different to 5.4 and if known

	Title	Forename	Surname
Name			
Address			
City/Town			
County		Postcode	
Daytime Telephone No.			
Mobile Telephone No.			
Fax No.			
Email Address			

6. Supporting documents

6.1 Have you enclosed the following:

Tick
box

A photo of the hedge

☒

A location plan of the hedge and surrounding properties

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Copies of correspondence with your neighbour about the hedge

☒

Copies of any other documents that you mention (please list these separately)

☒

7. Sending the complaint

7.1 I confirm that I have completed as much of this form as I can and that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided is accurate.

Tick box

☐

7.2 I enclose the fee of £350.

Tick box

☐

Name

Date

7.3 POST OR EMAIL THIS FORM AND ALL ENCLOSURES TO:

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
Argents Mead
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1BZ

7.4 Please also send a copy of this form to the people identified in Section 5 above.

Tick the box to show you have done this

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