

FEE LEVELS FOR HIGH HEDGES COMPLAINTS IN LEEDS



+ a flow chart illustrating the process of validation

The Council has taken the view that investigations and decisions relating to high hedge complaints are to be largely self-funding, rather than a general additional burden on all council tax payers. The total fee payable is £330, as at December 2009, subject to review. Please note the fee is payable on submission of a complaint. Complaints will not be progressed if the full fee is not payed.

Standard Fee

application screening, site visit and preliminary assessment, to see if there's a valid case and whether the Council would support serving a Remedial Notice. Assessing the hedge owner's position; calculation of the "action height," applying the Building Research Establishment's guidelines on access to light; assessing any wider amenity issues and the arboricultural implications of height reduction; serving a Remedial Notice; dealing with appeals; enforcement/prosecutions £330.00

Concessions

There is a 50% fee reduction for people on low income, who are able to produce evidence of the following:

1. Council Tax benefit
2. Housing benefit
3. Disability allowance
4. Income Support or Guarantee Credit
5. Income based Jobseeker's Allowance

Fee (Concessions)

Service elements, as above £165.00



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Fee Stage 1 Flow Chart To Determine Complaint Eligibility

Taken from the document "High Hedges Complaints: Prevention and Cure" ODPM 2005. References cited are to paragraphs within the document.

