

We welcome any comments/suggestions you may have on the information contained in this leaflet, please reply to:

The Parks and Countryside Section  
Stirling House  
Thornaby  
TS17 9JP

Tel: Care For Your Area 01642 391959  
Email: careforyourarea@stockton.gov.uk  
www.stockton.gov.uk

**How to contact us**

For more information about looking after trees, or tree work requests contact us as follows:

Care For Your Area on 01642 391959

Customer Services are open between 8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday - Thursday and 8.00am to 5.30pm on Fridays.

Email: careforyourarea@stockton.gov.uk

OUT OF OFFICE EMERGENCY NUMBER CONTACT THE CCTV CENTRE on 01642 618946 or 528989

For information on Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas and High Hedges contact SBC Development Control on 01642 526022

**Other useful contacts:**

**The Arboricultural Association**

Phone: 01794 368717  
Website: www.trees.org.uk

**The Tree Council**

Phone: 020 7407 9992  
Website: www.treecouncil.org.uk

**International Society of Arboriculture**

Phone: 0121 5568302  
Website: www.isa-uki.org/



# Arboricultural Service Tree Care and Management



**Trees Matter**  
Bringing lasting benefits to people in towns

Designed & Produced by design+print@abc, Resources, Telephone (01642) 526289/526299 eic0049

# Trees Matter .... bringing lasting benefits to people in towns

## How we provide the service

We employ specially trained arboricultural staff to manage our trees. This includes inspection, maintenance and planting of trees & woodland, plus an advisory service.

## Why Trees are important

The Urban Forest provides a healthy and attractive environment within the Borough. There are several species of native and exotic trees in our parks, along roadsides, and in various public open spaces and places.

**Trees have many benefits, for example they:**

- clean the air
- reduce noise
- provide shade and shelter
- create wildlife habitats
- provide an attractive landscape to live and work in

## Tree maintenance programme

The Council undertakes regular inspection and maintenance of all its trees and carries out tree pruning works throughout the year.

All Council tree work is undertaken by professional arborists in line with modern best practices. Most of this work is aimed at ensuring all trees are kept in a safe and healthy condition and do not cause obstructions or interference with their surroundings, e.g. roads/footpaths/properties etc.

**Requests for tree work or inspections will be assessed by one of our arborists.**

**Please contact Care For Your Area on 01642 391959.**

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Q A tree is blocking a street lamp/hiding a road sign/low over the road: what can be done?

The council will arrange to inspect the tree and have the necessary work carried out. Please report the problem to Care for your Area on 01642 391959.

### Q Do we clear away fallen leaves?

Usually no, except where some Council Departments have special arrangements for this, e.g. at Care homes, for clearance of roadside gullies etc. Contact Care For Your Area on 01642 391959

### Q What should I do if I think a tree is dangerous?

Please report to Care For Your Area on 01642 391959 with the following information:

- Details of exactly where the tree is
- Why you think the tree is dangerous
- Your phone number in case we need to contact you

We will inspect dangerous trees as soon as possible and action any necessary works.

### Q How tall is a tree allowed to grow?

There is no legal limit on how tall a tree can be allowed to grow, but there is a new law to control the height of evergreen hedges (e.g. conifers). Contact SBC Planning Enforcement on 01642 526022.

### Q What happens if tree roots are causing damage to property, e.g. paths, walls, drains etc?

Most trees do not cause damage, however where there is damage to private property the council will arrange an inspection and advise on appropriate further action. The council will also consider any

necessary tree work to prevent further damage, e.g. tree pruning/removal etc. If there is damage to a building you may be asked to provide technical evidence (e.g. structural report) and advised to contact your insurance company.

### Q There is sticky residue on my car/patio/drive from a nearby tree: can the Council prune the tree?

It is not Council policy to undertake tree pruning to prevent this. The sap or honeydew that falls from certain types of tree is produced by feeding insects and is mainly a mixture of sugar and water. It is a seasonal problem but can be dealt with by occasional washing of affected surfaces.

### Q Trees are shading my house - do I have a right to light?

There is no absolute right to light or to a view, however the Council will usually maintain its trees to try and prevent unreasonable loss of light to residential properties. We can also give general advice where privately owned trees are involved. Contact Care For Your Area on 01642 391959 for further information.

### Q Does the Council prune privately owned trees?

The Council does not prune privately owned trees but can provide a list of contractors on request. We recommend that you contact a qualified arborist if you want the job done properly.

### Q Can you do anything about poor TV reception if this is due to trees?

TV interference can be caused by trees but there is no legal right to TV reception. You may need to consult a television engineer to assess your aerial/signal.