

FOI Ref

**11194**

Response sent

**08 July 2022**

### **(CCC) Damage to private property**

What measures are in place across all parts of the City Council to prevent damage to private property when employees are engaged in work to maintain public and council owned spaces?

How for how many private properties are specific measures in place to prevent such damage?

### **Response**

What measures are in place across all parts of the City Council to prevent damage to private property when employees are engaged in work to maintain public and council owned spaces?

For how many private properties are specific measures in place to prevent such damage?

In order to respond to this request the following areas of the Council were consulted, as these services all work with Council land and property assets.

- Council's commercial property services
- Council's residential property services
- Streets and Open Spaces operations team

Firstly the Council's assets are recorded in computerised mapping system called the 'Property Terrier' This holds the details of the land and property assets held by the Council, as well as disposals and other information linked to an asset.

With the extent of the council asset (land or property) identified via the Terrier, maintenance or development of council assets are managed either in-house, via the council's planned work and maintenance systems, or via contract with an external company.

Specifications for the extent of the works carried out and obligations on the contractor would be included in the contract and schedule of works.

The council may also be bound by legal obligations such as Party Wall Act when undertaking works on or developing council estate.

Streets and Opens Spaces have specific procedures for vegetation that overgrows the curtilage of privately owned property into public property or adopted highway. A copy of this guidance is attached.

The information maintained by the council focuses on understanding the extent of the council's property and land assets and working with these. It would not be in line with the way in which the council maintains its business assets to record information against private properties beyond that already outlined in the terrier. If there is doubt over the ownership of land or property, or dispute over the extent of boundaries the Council will refer to the Land Registry website.

There is no information on the Council's property terrier system relating to access to specific private properties.

We aim to provide a high-quality service to you and hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Further queries on this matter should be directed to [foi@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:foi@cambridge.gov.uk)