

## **Environmental Information Regulations – Response - 27060**

*Could you please tell me how often you check trees growing along grass verges on busy roads such as the A137 road in Ipswich/Wherstead area for damage or decay/ dangerous condition.*

*I would like to know in particular*

*- who is responsible for the verges here and when the trees were last inspected on the A137 along the stretch just past the roundabout with Wherstead Road/The Strand heading towards the A14.*

The extent of our highway boundary can differ along a stretch of road. The verges along the A137 do form part of our highway; however, in some places we are responsible for approximately 4 metres, in others we own up to 18 metres. As the Highway Authority, part of our statutory duty is to undertake routine carriageway safety inspections. As part of these inspections our officers survey everything within our highway boundary. Visual inspections of trees and vegetation are undertaken. If any abnormalities with trees are noted, they are passed over to the Soft Estates team for a full arboricultural survey. We also inspect and respond to all customer reports, so if we receive a report concerning a dead, dying or diseased tree it will be inspected and the necessary action will be taken. We have not received any customer reports for the trees along the A137, nor have we commissioned any arboricultural assessments for trees at this location.

*-How often should they be inspected?*

There are no specific legal requirements on how often trees should be inspected.