#### Grass cutting heights standards; and

| Category | Type | Min / max height (mm)  Level | Min / max height (mm)  Banks | Collect arisings? |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Grassed Area: General Grass | 25 -100 | 50 - 200 | no |
| 2 | Grassed Area: Cut and Collect | 15 – 50 | 15 – 100 | yes |
| 3 | Sports facilities |  |  |  |
| Bowls greens | 4.0 – 4.5 (playing season)  6 – 10 (winter) | N/A | yes |
| Putting greens | 6 – 10 (playing season)  15 – 20 (winter) | N/A | yes  no |
| Fairways | 25 – 50 (playing season)  50 -100 (winter) | 25 – 50 (playing season)  50 -100 (winter) | no |
| Rough | 50 – 150 (playing season)  75 – 200 (winter) | 50 – 150 (playing season)  75 – 200 (winter) | no |
| 4 | Semi-natural and landscape buffer areas  (in all categories) | Cut once to 75 max Sept - Dec | Cut once to 75 max Sept - Dec | no |

#### 55.1.2.3 Performance Standards specified in paragraphs 56.1.8, 56.1.10 to 56.1.13, 56.2.3 to 56.2.5, 56.3.5, 56.4.3 to 56.4.4 and 56.6.4 to 56.6.5.

### 55.1.3 Minimum and maximum cutting heights are specified in the Grounds Maintenance Performance Standards. The minimum cutting height may be increased according to the weather conditions and time of the year. The Contractor shall agree the cutting heights with the relevant Authorised Officer in advance of the cut.

# OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

## Grassed Areas

### The Contractor shall achieve and maintain the Grounds Maintenance Performance Standards applicable for the type of Grassed Areas (i.e. *General Grass, Cut and Collect* and *Wildlife/Wildflower Grass* as identified in Appendix 11).

### Where bulbs are planted within Grassed Areas, cutting of the specific bulbed area shall not commence until the plants have flowered and they have died down naturally. Arisings on the bulb area shall be raked up and removed. The area shall subsequently be maintained to the specified Grounds Maintenance Performance Standard of the surrounding grass area.

### The Contractor shall cut and edge grass and weeds around all obstructions, obstacles and along fence and wall lines within or forming a boundary to the grass area to the same standard as the adjoining grass area.

### The Contractor shall neatly cut back to the edges of the adjacent hard surface, beds, borders and channels to a standard appropriate to the category of grass.

### Particular care shall be taken when cutting around isolated trees in grass areas to avoid damaging tree bases. The Contractor may maintain a grass free area of up to 250mm width around the bases to aid mowing.

### The Contractor shall cut grass banks within the General Grass areas. It should be noted that some banks are steeply sloped and the Contractor’s proposals for maintaining such areas in a safe and legally compliant way shall be described in his Grounds Maintenance Services Plan (Method Statement 13).

### The Contractor shall ensure that there are no large accumulations of fallen leaves on Cut and Collect Grassed Areas, associated beds, borders or paved areas.

### Following maintenance visits to Grassed Areas, the Contractor shall:

#### blow, sweep and/or remove any arisings that have been deposited on a hard surface; and

#### not leave the grass in piles after any cut.

### It shall be noted that, on occasions, Grassed Areas may be reclassified. Should this occur the relevant Authorised Officer shall notify the Contractor and issue a Contract variation.

### Areas of wildlife grass shall be managed in accordance with the agreed management plans presented in Appendix 12. Wildlife grass which is not subject to management plans shall be left uncut until the end of the growing season when a single cut shall be undertaken and all arisings left on the ground until one week after cutting when they shall be cleared by hand.

### Areas of wildflower meadow shall be left uncut except for a single cut at the end of each flowering season. The arisings from such a cut shall remain in situ for a period of 1 week after which they shall be hand raked and removed from the Grounds Maintenance Sites.

### Footpaths in areas of wildflower meadow and wildlife grass shall be cut regularly to a width of 1.5m and maintained throughout the year.