

## Response to Request for Information

**Reference:** 5375  
**Date:** July 2015  
**Type of request** FOI

### Management of highway trees

Details of the current arrangement between Cambridge City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council for the management by the City Council of County Council owned highway trees; including any list of trees excluded from the arrangements and any price list for works carried out under the arrangement.

There are two documents that set out the current arrangements to the management of the County Council trees, and these are namely:-

Cambridge City Council. (7/11/2000). The City Wide Arboricultural Strategy: 2000 – 2007, and

Cambridge City Council. (13/7/2004). Mid-period review of the City Wide -Arboricultural Strategy: 2004-2007. unpublished report to Environment Scrutiny Committee.

These two tree related documents set out the justification to maintain all trees within the City on a three year maintenance cycle. This approach was, and still is, deemed as cost effective and efficient.

This cyclical arrangement was facilitated by a Reverse Agency Agreement. The Reverse Agency Agreement was ended by letter and was to be renegotiated from 2011/12. These negotiations have never been concluded. The future arrangement for tree maintenance, grass cutting and other items contained within the Reverse Agency Agreement remain uncertain.

The County Council has indicated that it does not wish to enter into any substantive agreement until the outcome of Highway Strategic Review is known, as this is designed to address how highway services are delivered post 2016.

Amounts paid under the arrangements, and their predecessors, for 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and the amount budgeted for/expected in 2015-16.

Year	Amount
2012/13	£56,282.97
2013/14	£60,462.25
2014/15	£62,176.00
2015/16	£50,000.00

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