

Our reference FOI 20123348 21 October 2014

## **Place Directorate**

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## Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Thank you for requesting information about tree roots, which the Council received on 17 October 2014 and considered under the above legislation.

You have requested the following information;

- a. Which department handles these issues of tree root damage? Is there a designated officer?
- b. In view of the growing number of problems is there a plan to inspect highway trees in the area more frequently?

Place Directorate, Planning, Transport and Highways respond to concerns regarding tree root damage. The first point of contact for customers to raise concerns about Council services is through Coventry Direct the email address is:

## coventrydirect@coventry.gov.uk

There is not a designated officer who deals specifically with tree root damage. When specific concerns are raised Highways Street Inspectors will arrange a site inspection and if tree root damage is identified the Street Inspector will ask for advice from the Arboricultural Services Officer based in the Trees & Woodlands Team.

Highways are inspected according to their hierarchy and in the event tree roots are identified as causing damage a suitable repair will be ordered. It is not the Council's intention to review / change the existing inspection frequency used by the Street Inspectors or to provide additional inspections specifically for tree roots.

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If you wish to apply to reuse the information you have requested or have any other issues relating to this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy with the outcome or handling of your request you should write to us within 40 working days of the date of this letter:

Information Governance Council House, Room 21a Lower Ground Floor Earl Street, Coventry. CV1 5RR infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If having done that you are still dissatisfied, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Bernie Robinson **Business Support Officer**