

19 December 2008

Geoffrey William and Neroli Anne Inkersell
18 Downing Street
CHRISTCHURCH 8025

COPY



Dear Sir/Madam

OVERHANGING TREES/VEGETATION – 18 DOWNING STREET

During a recent inspection of the area it was noticed that trees/vegetation growing on the above property overhang/cover the footpath to such an extent that pedestrian traffic is or is likely to be obstructed. (You may recall finding a leaflet about this in your letterbox.)

Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1974 enables the Council to require the owner of the land to remove any plants that protrude over the footpath or, lower or trim any tree or hedge overhanging any road in cases where it is necessary to prevent obstruction to pedestrians using the road. Note: 'Road' includes the footpath and grass berm.

It would be appreciated if you could carry out the following work to ensure that pedestrians using the footpath do not meet with obstructions.

1. Trim any trees and shrubs **overhanging** the footpath or berm up and back so they do not hang below 2.5 metres over the sealed footpath or berm.
2. Trim any trees, shrubs, hedges, flax bushes or plants **protruding** over the footpath and berm back to the property boundary fence line so that the sealed footpath and berm is available for pedestrians.
3. Trim any trees **overhanging** the **roadway** up to a height of 5 metres so vehicular traffic and machinery are not obstructed.

If possible this work should be completed within 14 days of the above date and the growth should be kept trimmed back as necessary to avoid further obstruction of the footpath and to comply with the provisions of the Act. If the work is not completed in accordance with the above requirements, and within the time specified, then the Council can, in accordance with the above Act, engage a contractor to do the work at the owners expense.

Should you have difficulty determining the offending growth, we suggest you walk along the edge of the footpath or berm closest to your property boundary. Any growth that would touch any pedestrian needs to be cut right back.

If you think you may have difficulties either meeting this timeframe or determining the work we are requesting be done, I can be contacted at this office as per the contact details at the bottom of this letter.

If you have trimmed the trees or vegetation since our inspection was carried out, please ignore this letter as sometimes there is a delay between the date of the inspection and the letter being received.

Your co-operation in this matter would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Rowell des Forges
ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

PLEASE NOTE – PROTECTED TREES:

This is not to be taken as an authorisation to cut down or otherwise carry out major tree surgery to any tree(s) which may be subject to a tree protection order under Appendix 4, Part 10, Volume 3 of the City Plan.

Inspections and Enforcement Unit • Civic Offices • 163-173 Tuam Street • P O Box 237 • Christchurch
New Zealand • Telephone 941-8999 • Fax 941-8792 • www.ccc.govt.nz

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