



Fact Sheet

Open plan grounds maintenance

Under a Service Level Agreement Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council provides a grounds maintenance service to all neighbourhoods throughout the borough on behalf of St. Leger Homes of Doncaster.

This Fact Sheet tells you about the service you can expect to receive.

The service only covers open plan land managed by St. Leger Homes. The service does not include enclosed gardens. There is a separate information leaflet explaining the garden scheme.

Under the agreement, the Council will do the following:

1. Grass cutting

The cutting season is between April and September. During this time the grass will be cut every two weeks on average, this will result in all the open plan areas being cut 13 times per year. All litter will be removed by the contractor before each cut. If litter is excessive it could be classed as dumped rubbish, this will then be reported to St. Leger Homes to be removed. The grass cuttings are left on the surface to mulch. Except on paths of open plan bungalow estates where they will be swept or blown away.

2. Hedge cutting

Only hedges on the open plan areas and public footpaths managed by St. Leger Homes will be maintained. The hedges around enclosed gardens will not be included.

Hedges will be left clean and tidy the contractor will remove any cuttings from the site. Any weeds visible at the time the hedges are cut will be removed or treated with a suitable herbicide.

Hedge cutting will be carried out twice per year, avoiding the bird nesting season during May-July.

3. Rose and Shrub Beds

What work will take place:

- A bark mulch will be applied to the whole of the rose bed
- Before the start of the growing season (March) litter will be removed from each rose/shrub bed and then regularly removed throughout the year.
- At the same time of year, the soil surface will be lightly forked over
- Rose bushes will be pruned twice a year, once in the Autumn and once in the Spring.
- A herbicide application will be applied twice a year
- Shrub beds will be pruned once a year, usually between October - April

4. Bins

Litter bins will be emptied once a week.

5. Play areas

- All the equipment in the children's play areas will be inspected monthly for signs of wear and tear and vandalism and minor repairs will be carried out.

Continued overleaf



- All play equipment within a site will be painted annually.
- The bark areas will be dug over and forked level weekly, with all debris removed.
- The rubber matting will be swept weekly to remove all debris.
- Grass within play areas will be maintained by standard grass cutting operations, as described in section one.

6. Cleansing work

- All furniture such as litterbins and seats will be inspected monthly.
- All scheduled seats will be cleaned annually.
- Litterbins and dog waste bins will be emptied throughout the year. Litterbins are typically emptied one a week and dog waste bins will be emptied twice a week.

7. Weed Spraying

A mowing strip is formed to create a weed free area to the base of walls, fences, hedges and other obstacles such as lamp-posts, trees and under / around seats, this strip will be created twice a year. Footpaths are not routinely sprayed.

If you would like to speak to someone to discuss the grounds maintenance work in your area, please use one of the contacts listed below.

Central - 01302 862278 - Covers - Balby, Clay Lane, Hexthorpe, Hyde Park, Intake, Town Centre, Wheatley,.

East - 01302 862441 - Covers - Armthorpe, Barnby Dun, Dunscroft, Edenthorpe, Fishlake, Hatfield, Kirk Sandall, Moorends, Stainforth, Sykehouse, Thorne.

North - 01302 734145 - Covers - Adwick, Arksey, Askern, Bentley, Campsall, Carcroft, Clayton with Frickley, Hampole, Highfields, Moss, Norton, Scawthorpe, Skelbrooke, Skellow, Toll Bar, Woodlands.

South - 01302 734183 - Covers - Austerfield, Bawtry, Blaxton, Braithwell, Branton, Cantley, Finningley, Loversall, Micklebring, Rossington, Stainton, Tickhill, Wadworth.

West - 01302 735806 - Covers - Adwick on Dearne, Barnburgh, Cadeby, Clifton, Conisbrough, Cusworth, Denaby, Edlington, Mexborough, Sprotbrough, Scawsby, Warmsworth.

Information can be made available in other languages, or other formats such as Braille or Audio Tape, on request. Please ask a member of our staff for more information, or if you need any other help or advice. They can arrange to speak to you in your own language if you need them to.