

Flintshire County Council.
Grass Cutting Policy (January 2018)

1. Roadside verges Cut by tractor flail

a) Rural Verges (outside 30mph) - **1 cut per year in July** (subject to weather conditions)

- 1 swathe widths on all principal roads
- 1 swathe width on all non-principal and unclassified roads

Visibility splays at junctions **4 cuts per year** in –

- April
- June
- August
- September/October

Full width verge cutting for weed and self-sown sapling control on all classifications of rural roads **once every 4 years** in September/October

Additional cuts may be carried out on Health and Safety grounds in specific locations as identified by the Area Coordinators.

b) Urban verges (within 30 mph zones) – **4 cuts per year**

- April
- June
- August
- September/October

2. Amenity Areas

Maximum of 13 cuts per year as required.

Flexible start required for the start of the cutting season, in February/March, subject to weather conditions.

Frequency of cuts based on every 2 weeks in April to June, extended to every 3 weeks July to Oct, subject to weather conditions.

(Removal of grass cuttings will only take place in exceptional circumstances i.e. First-Cut of the season)

3. Public footpaths / Cyclic Routes

A **maximum of 4 cuts** per year as required, to prevent rural footways being lost to grass ingress and verge creep due to lack of usage.

4. Hedges

The majority of highway hedges are the responsibility of the adjacent land owner. Where the hedge has grown to an extent that it is causing an obstruction to the highway user, notice will be served on the land owner to cut the hedge accordingly. Highway hedges owned by the Council will be cut **once a year** after the nesting season has passed.

5. Bus-stops

A maximum of 4 cuts per year as required across the grassed areas either side of rural Bus-stops, up to 20 metres across the length of the stop.

6. Village / Town Gateways

A maximum of 4 cuts per year as required across the grassed areas either side of Village / Town Gateways signs, up to 10 metres either side of the gateway.

7. Recreation Sports Grounds –

Up to 16 cuts per year March to October. Subject to separate procurement arrangements and direct liaison with the Schools.

8. Cemeteries

Flexible start required for the start of the cutting season, in February/March, subject to weather conditions.

Frequency of cuts based on **every 2 weeks in April to June**, extended to **every 3 weeks July to Oct**, subject to weather conditions.

(Removal of grass cuttings will only take place in exceptional circumstances. i.e. First-Cut of the season)

Additional key dates outside of the cutting season to include **Christmas** and **Mothering Sunday**.

9. Tenants Gardens

Where tenants have requested and qualify for the assisted gardening service. The service is provided by contractors who will provide the following:

Maximum of 13 cuts per year as required.

Flexible start required for the start of the cutting season, in February/March, subject to weather conditions.

Frequency of cuts based on every 2 weeks in April to June, extended to every 3 weeks July to Oct, subject to weather conditions.