



## **HEDGE CUTTING AND LANDOWNER/OCCUPIER OBLIGATIONS**

### **HEDGE CUTTING SEASON FINISHES ON 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

Are you a landowner or land occupier? Are you aware of your obligations under the Roads Act 1993?

Did you know that since 1<sup>st</sup> September hedge cutting season is open? This remains open until 28<sup>th</sup> February each year.

In the interest of safety and the protection of all people who use the public roads in our County, landowners and occupiers of land are requested to:

- take all reasonable care to ensure that roadside structures, trees, hedges, shrubs and other vegetation growing on their land is not or could not become a danger to those using or working on the public roads.
- ensure that all debris is removed from roads following hedge cutting.

The Roads Act 1993 (Section 70) places a statutory obligation on all landowners/occupiers of land or structures to ensure that roadside structures, trees, shrubs or other vegetation do not present a danger to those using and working on public roads.

Where a landowner fails to carry out this statutory obligation, the Council may issue a Hedge Cutting Notice under Section 70 of the Roads Act, 1993.

Where a land owner /occupier fails to comply with this notice, and where Carlow County Council considers that a roadside structure, tree shrub, hedge or other vegetation presents an immediate and serious hazard to persons using a public road, it may take immediate action to reduce/remove the hazard. In such circumstances, Carlow County Council may recover any reasonable costs incurred by it from the landowner /occupier.

It is important to note that any hedges where Japanese Knotweed is present should not be cut under any circumstances.

Please remember, under Section 40 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 hedge cutting is only permitted during the period 1<sup>st</sup> September – 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Landowners be aware of your obligations and please keep our roads safe.

Carlow County Council would like to thank all landowners who have carried out their hedge cutting obligations so far.

**PÁDRAIG O’GORMAN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES.**