

STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Services Provided

Stafford Borough Council Provides	Stafford Borough Council Does Not Provide
Maintenance of Borough Council owned public open space grass areas, playing fields, grassed areas of Council housing open space and Council sheltered housing grassed areas	Maintenance of highway verges and other highway land. This is provided by Staffordshire County Council, the highway authority
Maintenance of shrub beds, rose beds and bedding displays on Council owned land or planted on other land by Stafford Borough Council	Maintenance of shrub beds and roses on verges and other highway land. This is provided by Staffordshire County Council, the highway authority
Maintenance of formal parks	
Maintenance of Council owned football pitches, bowling greens and grass tennis courts	
Maintenance of cemeteries and crematoria grounds including digging of graves and burial of cremated remains	
Maintenance of closed church yards	Maintenance of church yards in use for burials
Maintenance of grounds of heritage sites owned or managed by Stafford Borough Council	
Provision and maintenance of town centre hanging baskets, floral displays and floral features	
Cutting of hedges on and around land owned by Stafford Borough Council	Cutting of hedges on highway land. This is carried out by Staffordshire County Council, the highway authority
Inspection and maintenance of trees on land owned or managed by Stafford Borough Council	Inspection and maintenance of trees on private land and highway land

Service Standards

Grass Cutting - General Amenity Areas

(Playing fields, public open space, Council housing open space and sheltered housing grassed areas)

Maintain grass length between 25 mm and 90 mm. Grassed areas left free from litter and dog fouling after mowing.

Grass cuttings left on grass surface but swept or blown from adjacent hard surfaced areas following cutting.

Weed-killing

(Council housing open space, sheltered housing and ornamental grassed areas)

Apply selective weed killer annually

Shrub Beds and Rose Beds

Hoe and remove all weeds six times between March and October

Prune once per annum at the appropriate time

Bedding Displays

Clear beds and plant out bedding in Spring and Autumn

Dead head, hoe and remove all weeds every two weeks March to October and every month November to February

Keep topsoil moist to a depth of 230 mm at all times.

Grass Cutting - Ornamental Areas

(Formal Parks, Cemeteries and Crematoria)

Maintain grass length between 15 mm and 45 mm. Area left free from litter and dog fouling after mowing.

Grass cuttings removed from grass surface and from adjacent beds and hard surfaced areas.

Leaves removed from grass surface in autumn.

Football Pitches, Athletics Facilities, Bowling Greens and Grass Tennis Courts

Maintain in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate national associations.

Grass Cutting - Closed Church Yards

Maintain grass length between 50 mm and 300 mm.

Heritage Site Grounds

(Stafford Castle, Izaak Walton Cottage)

Maintenance regime appropriate to site

Hanging Baskets, Floral Displays and Floral Features

Make up hanging baskets and floral displays and install in Stafford and Stone town centres. Water and dead head displays daily. Feed displays with liquid feed weekly.

Hedges

Cut hedges annually and clean out hedge bottom

Trees

Inspect trees annually and carry out work required for safety

How Well Does the Service Perform?

In 2002

Britain in Bloom

- Second place in national competition (Stafford)
- Award for best floral display in national competition (Stafford)
- Gold award in regional competition (Stafford)
- Silver gilt award in regional competition (Stone)

What do you think?

Please take a few moments to fill in the questionnaire below and return it to:-

HowardThomas
Head of Environment
Civic Centre
Riverside
Stafford ST16 3AQ

or e-mail to hthomas@staffordbc.gov.uk

Do you think we provide a satisfactory grounds maintenance service for:

Public Open Space Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Council housing open space Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Sheltered housing complexes Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Formal Parks Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Football pitches Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Bowling Greens Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Grass tennis Courts Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Cemeteries and crematoria Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Closed church yards Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Stafford Castle Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Izaak Walton Cottage Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Town centre hanging baskets and floral displays Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Hedge Cutting Yes No
If No how are we failing?

Tree maintenance
If No how are we failing?

Yes No

Which area of grounds maintenance do we perform best?

Which area of grounds maintenance do we perform worst?

What changes do you think we could make to the way we carry out grounds maintenance to improve the service provided?

We currently spend around £1 million per annum on grounds maintenance. Would you be prepared to pay more for a better service?

Yes No