

## 55413 High Hedge Data

I note that 8 of the applications received by CEC since 2018 have been considered not to be a high hedge.

I would be grateful if you could undertake a further FOI enquiry and advise how many of these 8 cases failed because of:

1) the parameters explained in Para 1(a), (b) or (c), ie not mainly in a row of 2 or more trees, not 2m high or did not form a barrier to light.

2) para 1(2), ie gaps significantly reduced the overall effect.

3) Parameters not in the Act but suggested by the 2019 Guidance, ie (a) did not meet the narrow dictionary definitions of conventional hedges given as examples, (b) was not commonly recognised as a hedge, (c) was not spaced according to the guidance para 50 & 51 (d) not managed as suggested in para 52 on (e) not formed of traditional hedging plants as suggested by para 54.

4) any other reason not included above.

Please note that the wording of this question suggests that the finding that an application is ineligible because the vegetation is not a hedge is based on "parameters not in the Act". The City of Edinburgh Council does not agree with this suggestion. The Act requires the vegetation to be a hedge before the other parameters can be considered, and findings of ineligibility based on this factor are made in accordance with the wording of the Act.

Of the eight cases since 2018 which were found to be ineligible on the grounds that the vegetation was not a high hedge, the reasons were as follows:

- One case: because the application related to a single shrub.
- One case: because the vegetation did not constitute a hedge and had significant gaps.
- One case: part of the vegetation was found to constitute a hedge, and part did not (the applicant declined to pursue a case against the part that was found to be eligible).
- Five cases: because the vegetation did not constitute a hedge.