



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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SPECIFICATION FOR CUTTING OF GRASS VERGES WITHIN THE PARISH BOUNDARY

Specification Ref: Ve2025

Date September 2025

CONTRACT TERM:

2 years from 1st January 2026 – 31st December 2027.

LOCATION:

Willand Parish

INFORMATION:

The Parish Council cuts the grass verges within the Parish on behalf of Devon County Council.

Some residents have been cutting the verges outside their own properties and provision in any contract will allow that to continue if they so wish although the area will be included in any pricing in case residents cease doing so.

Maps [Appendix A] are provided showing the areas to be cut marked in red. The maps do provide some duplication/overlap but this is necessary to ensure that the whole area is shown.

CUTTING SPECIFICATION:

There will be a requirement for 10 cuts per year during the growing season. Flexibility of when cuts are carried out will be required to compensate for fast growing periods or times of drought. Additional cuts may be authorised by the Parish Clerk if required at the price per standard cut as set out in the quote.

If it is clearly obvious that a resident or business provider is cutting an area of grass which meets the specified cut height at the time of visit then that area should be left.

Grass should be cut at a height of 60 to 70mm evenly all over the area leaving no prominent and unsightly grass tufts, ridges or weeds. Strimming should take place along all kerb edges, fence/hedge lines and other obstacles as required to give an even appearance. If there is an undefined edge to the verge the grass will be cut back to the hedge base, wall/fence or ditch edge.

It will be at the discretion of the contractor as to whether grass is collected or left on site. If the grass is collected it will be removed from the site before the Contractor leaves the

site. If the grass clippings are left on site they must be evenly distributed across the full width of the machine swath and not left in clumps or ridges.

If, at the beginning of the growing season, or after a period of wet weather where the grass has grown vigorously, the first cut may be set longer than specified provided that the next cut follows soon enough after to recover the normal height. This procedure is to reduce the likelihood of excessive grass clippings being left on site.

The type of machinery used to achieve the specification is at the discretion of the contractor and may be varied to suit conditions.

All cut grass which comes to rest on pavements or footpaths to be removed within one hour.

Jaycroft, Meadow Park against the woodland and fields, Dean Hill Road and the very wide areas along Somerville/Station Roads will have a metre strip regularly cut along the edge with the pavement or road edge. This will be cut much wider in some areas to allow clear visibility for traffic on junctions and bends. It will also be cut wider to give a clear margin and access to planters, dog/litter bins and seats which may be situated on the area. The rest of the area will be left wild until the last cut of the year when it will all be cut down to the specified level.

PRICE AND INVOICING:

Price quoted should be net of VAT and inclusive of labour and hire charges. If the contractor charges VAT this must be clearly indicated, and a VAT number provided.

The quote must specify the price per cut, cost for each year of the contract and the total cost over the three-year contract period.

Invoices to be submitted monthly at the end of the month in which the verges have been cut and the invoice must show date(s) of the cut (s).

Invoices received by the 5th of the month will be paid by the Parish Council within 30 days of receipt, by bank transfer.

INSURANCE:

The contractor must provide evidence of Public Liability Insurance.

HEALTH & SAFETY:

The contractor will be responsible for carrying out their own risk assessments and all Health and Safety provision. This will include the provision of safety measures in relation to moving traffic and pedestrians. It will also include procedures to ensure safety of workers when operating on uneven surfaces or slopes.

The contractor will be responsible for carrying out their own inspections of sites before a cut and will remove all litter, stones, molehills and the like which may damage their machinery or cause injury to the public. This will include the removing and replacing of any temporary road signs so that the grass can be cut.

OTHER CONTRACTOR REQUIREMENTS:

Information to be provided as to the number of employees available to undertake the work to demonstrate that the contract can be maintained during periods of holiday/sickness etc...

Information as to machinery available to carry out the work required and any 'backup' arrangements in case of breakdowns etc...

Name of the main contact.

TERMINATION:

The Contract runs for two years as stated in the Contract Term, however once a contract has been agreed, either party may terminate the Agreement without cause at any time, upon at least 2 calendar months' written notice