

## **Guidance note - Statutory Controls**

### **Trees and Hedges**

Subject to specified exceptions, an application must be made to the local planning authority [LPA] to carry out work on or remove trees that are protected by a tree preservation order [TPO]<sup>1</sup>

Six weeks' notice must be given to the LPA of intention to carry out work on or remove trees within a conservation area and not protected by a TPO<sup>1</sup>

LPA consent may be required to carry out work on or remove trees, shrubs and hedges that are affected by planning conditions

LPA consent may be required for the removal of hedgerows<sup>2</sup>

**Your Council's planning department will advise whether or not any of the above controls apply to your trees, shrubs and hedges**

Subject to specified exemptions, a licence may be required for the felling of growing trees<sup>3</sup>

**Your nearest Forestry Commission or Natural Resources Wales office will advise whether you require a felling licence**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-hedgerows-regulation-and-management>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-felling-licence-when-you-need-to-apply>

## **Wildlife**

Nesting birds and all species of bat are afforded statutory protection.<sup>4</sup> It is an offence to:

- disturb a nesting bird
- disturb a roosting bat or damage, destroy or block access to a bat roost
- intentionally kill, injure or take a bat
- sell, hire, barter or exchange a bat, dead or alive
- be in possession or control of a bat or anything derived from a bat

**Your local Wildlife Trust or your Council's Ecologist will provide guidance on statutory controls relating to wildlife.**

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/topic/planning-development/protected-sites-species>