Outlook

November 2026 - Newsletter

From Grosvenor and Lansdowne Gardens Committee <glcgardenscommittee@gmail.com>
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2 attachments (1 MB)
Appendix 1 Newsletter November 2026.pdf; Variation Notice - Grosvenor Crescent HH.pdf;

Official Gardens Committee
Grosvenor & Lansdowne Crescents
November 2026 Newsletter

Dear Proprietors

Once again, the Official Gardens Committee finds itself having to **correct** the mis-representations being distributed by the purported 'elected committee'. We summarise below various items in their recent emails which considerably mis-inform proprietors regarding the recent activity carried out in the management of the Gardens.

Recent Essential Tree Works

In the purported 'elected committee's' email of 16 October 2026, they intimate that it was themselves that instructed the recent tree works. The **truth** is that it was the Official Gardens Committee that organised and paid for the essential tree work carried out on 28 and 29 September 2026 in compliance with the recommendations of our arboriculturist's report. This makes their suggestion that we had interfered with essential tree maintenance totally unacceptable.

Failure to Adhere to Arboriculturist's Report

It is of concern that Richard Spalding has obtained council approval for tree works in the Gardens, see Appendix 1, which are neither necessary (as per our arboriculturist's report) nor approved by proprietors. In particular our arboriculturist stated 'No Work Required' in relation to the following tree numbers: 265, 256, 216, 182 & 225, which comprises the hollies. This is a further example of inappropriate unilateral decision making by the **self-appointed** head gardener who has no qualifications in either forestry or horticulture, but nevertheless considers himself entitled to employ proprietor's funds without proper input from a qualified arboriculturist.

The Official Gardens Committee continues to focus on essential tree work required to ensure we meet our legal obligations and our insurance remains valid.

Leylandii

Please be assured that the Official Gardens Committee **will be complying** with Edinburgh Council's High Hedge Notice.

We are currently considering a number of options in consultation with several tree contractors to identify the most appropriate and cost-effective means of compliance. In doing so, we remain mindful of the outcome of the November 2024 proprietors' poll, in which 81% of votes cast opposed the felling of the trees, and of the two possible approaches within our arboriculturist's report.

Edinburgh Council advised the Official Gardens Committee that the compliance deadline has been extended from 30 November 2026 to 28 February 2027, the High Hedge Variation Notice is attached for your information. This extension provides sufficient time for informed consideration of the available options and for further discussion before any decision is taken regarding the future management of this important feature of the Gardens.

Yours faithfully,
The Official Grosvenor & Lansdowne Crescents Proprietors Committee

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