1. I have been following this process with high hopes for quite a few years now. I am very disappointed that the bill will not help us at all since it only includes evergreen hedges. Our house and garden is blighted by high deciduous trees which severely block our sunlight and which are also now a tree fall hazard to our house. The bill for some reason, which I cannot understand, does not take account of this type of problem which is fairly common and often more severe than evergreen high hedges. I would also note that applying to the local council to have the trees dealt with may not be ideal since it is often trees on Council land which are the problem.

2. I believe that the bill as it stands will only deal with part of the issue and will still leave a major problem which will not go away. There is an opportunity to include deciduous trees and single trees of all types in the bill. I believe that the bill should do a complete job instead of a partial one.

3. Perhaps too much account has been taken of local authority concerns, maybe because they own many of the problem deciduous trees and do not want the bother of dealing with them, no matter what problems they cause to their constituents.

4. I also believe that too much weight has been given to the views of tree experts who, in my opinion, are always biased towards retaining problem deciduous trees rather than removing them or reducing their height to alleviate the severe problems they cause to people.

5. The most weight on this issue should be given to the opinions of people whose lives are blighted by high trees of all types.

6. I would therefore urge the Committee to reconsider the wording of the bill to include single trees of all types and deciduous hedges.

7. I sincerely hope that the Committee will support the amendments to the bill which I have requested.