Re Leyland Cypress Hedge at

It may be a worthwhile exercise to lay out the principal facts relating to the above.

The hedge was planted 27 years ago.

It is no longer a "hedge" but has grown into a row of trees bordering on ten houses.

The trees have now grown higher than the houses which is totally out of proportion to the small gardens they overlook, approximately 25 – 30ft.

The trees therefore have a very detrimental effect on the houses and gardens, drying out soil and blocking out light and several hours of sunshine, not to mention a view to the hills. Trimming overhanging branches is no longer a possibility due to the height.

The owner of the trees, who planted them herself, appears to be a lady who has adamantly refused all requests to reduce the height or remove the trees.

At this stage of their growth there is no sensible alternative to felling them. The cost of this is obviously very high, approximately £150 per tree has been estimated.

The action suggested clearly has to be covered by new legislation, and would have to be enforced as considerable physical objection is envisaged by the owner. It is hoped that those concerned in introducing the necessary legislation can produce the results needed to end this very unsatisfactory situation without further delay. The trees continue to grow, month by month, which only exacerbates the problem for the residents. The longer it takes, the more difficult will be the task of removal. Those concerned have already endured this annoying and disturbing situation for a very long time and it can only get worse.

Therefore your urgent and forceful support in the Scottish Parliament is the only way that a normal state of affairs can be restored to those living in the shadow of the trees.

22 August 2011