

# Hedgerow Structures

Over-trimmed



## H1 Over-trimmed

- Over-trimmed, hard knuckle at trim line
- Many gaps
- Sparse stems
- Bases may be gnarled or rotting
- May be invaded by invasive species
- Usually low and narrow
- Lacks branches and foliage in the lower parts
- Closely and frequently flailed to the same line

## H2 Over-trimmed

- Over-trimmed, hard knuckle at trim line
- Infrequent stems, too sparse to be 'let up' for laying
- May be developing mushroom shaped growth form
- Often low and narrow
- Closely and frequently flailed to the same line
- May lack branches and foliage in the lower parts
- Base canopy may or may not extend to the ground (hedge may or may not be leggy)

## H3 Over-trimmed

- Over-trimmed, hard knuckle may be starting to form
- Still has frequent healthy stems
- Base canopy may or may not extend to the ground (hedge may or may not be leggy)

## H4 Rejuvenated - Recently laid

- Hedge stems cut at base and laid on their sides.
- Depending on time since being laid, significant re-growth may have grown from the base. The horizontal stems (alive or dead) should still be visible
- Approximately laid within the last 5 years

## H5 Rejuvenated - Recently coppiced

- Stems all cut at ground level, stumps may be visible
- Significant regrowth may be visible from cut bases
- Approximately coppiced within the last 5 years

## H6 Rejuvenated - Recently planted

- Approximately planted within the last 5 years
- Stems may still be protected by tree guards

Structurally managed



## Dense and managed



### H7 Dense and Managed

- Healthy dense hedgerow
- Have obviously been trimmed in the fairly recent past. (May have shoots protruding but retains basic shape)
- Frequent healthy stems
- Dense amongst most of their length
- Can be about 2m in height

### H8 Dense and managed

- Healthy dense hedgerow not recently trimmed.
- May have 'straggly' appearance with protruding woody branches
- May be in a non-intervention stage of management
- May be on a longer trim rotation, e.g. 3 year cut
- Can be up to 3m in height

### H9 Dense and managed

- May have a very straggly appearance with numerous long woody branches protruding from the main body
- Usually still quite dense, but increasing volume may start to shade the lower branches
- Has frequent healthy stems, up to 4m high.
- This is an unmanaged, overgrown version of 8

## Tall and overgrown



### H10 Tall and overgrown

- **Over-mature hedgerow, tall and leggy**
- May have spreading tops
- Not been trimmed for many years
- Lacks significant foliage in the lower parts
- Stems still healthy, but may be infrequent and getting too large to lay

### H11 Tall and overgrown

- **Over-mature hedgerow, tall and leggy**
- Spreading tops might be dying back
- Collapse possible
- No significant woody foliage in the lower parts
- May be developing gaps

### H12 Tall and overgrown – line of trees

- Hedgerow has developed into a **line of trees**
- Very little, if any, woody undergrowth