

From: [Arlene Goss](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to official information request
Date: Friday, 3 February 2017 03:33:57 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

03-Feb-2017

John Scott
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Scott,

Official information request for: RULES RELATING TO TREE HEIGHT AND OVERHANGING TREES

Reference Number: 289449

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your official information request dated 26-January-2017 for RULES RELATING TO TREE HEIGHT AND OVERHANGING TREES.

I have looked into this and can inform you that the council does not have any rules related to trees growing on private land or over-hanging boundaries on private land. This is because trees on private property are considered to be a civil matter and disputes between neighbours are usually resolved in the civil courts as a last resort.

I understand that Otago Community Law, a free legal service at 52 Filleul St, phone 03-474 1922, holds information on this topic, so I suggest you contact them for help. I have also found the following information about trees on their website:

<http://communitylaw.org.nz/community-law-manual/chapter-11-neighbourhood-life/trees-chapter-11/>

If the trees you are concerned about are heritage listed trees, trees growing on council land, or trees overhanging a boundary with a footpath or road, Council does have rules related to these and I can help you further. Please get back to me if this is the case and I will investigate further.

The elected community board members may also be able to help you negotiate a problem with trees. Here is a list of the community board members in the Port Chalmers area:
<http://www.dunedin.govt.nz/your-council/community-boards/west-harbour> Feel free to contact one of them for help.

I hope this helps.

Yours sincerely

Arlene Goss

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