

Grass Cutting Update 2018



POS Commercial Services

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



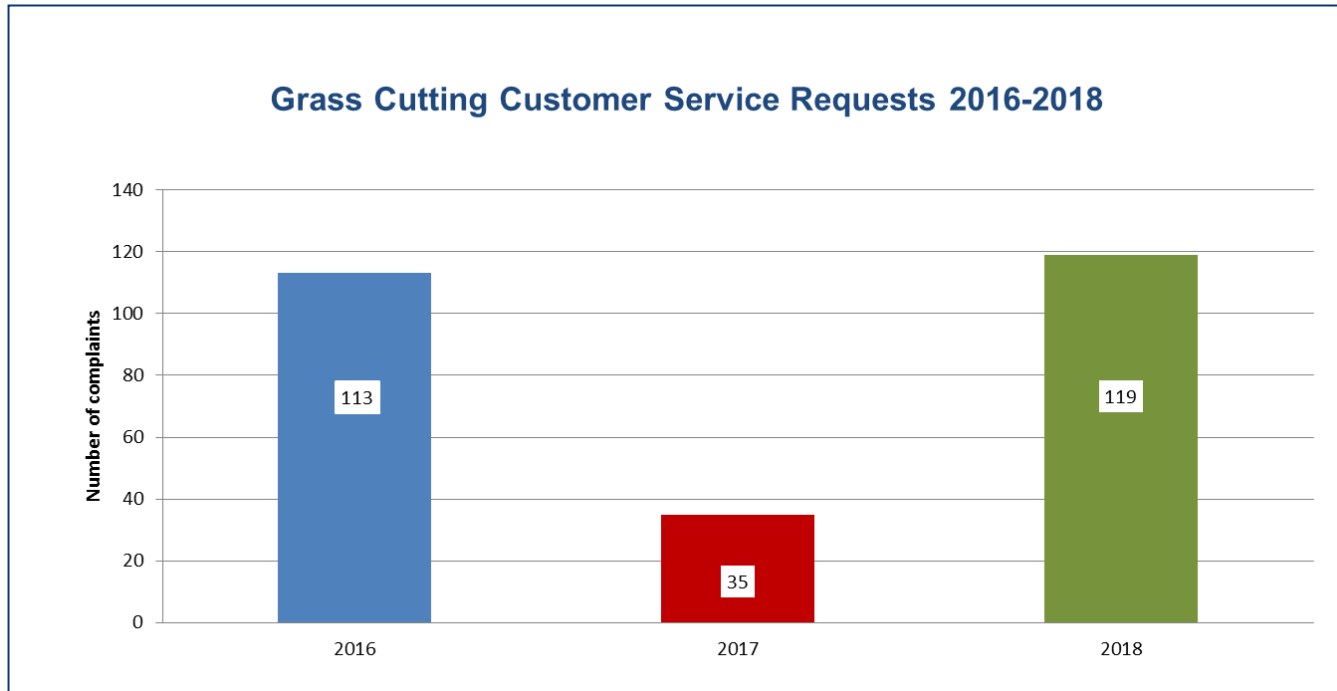
Grass Cutting Regime

- Cutting season lasts around 36 weeks
 - Beginning March/April
 - Ending October/November
- Most areas receive the following number of cuts:
 - 18 (every two weeks);
 - 12 (every 3 weeks);
 - 6 (every 6 weeks).
- Areas maintained by tractor flail are cut either once, twice or three times a year.
- Larger areas are maintained by tractor-drawn equipment.

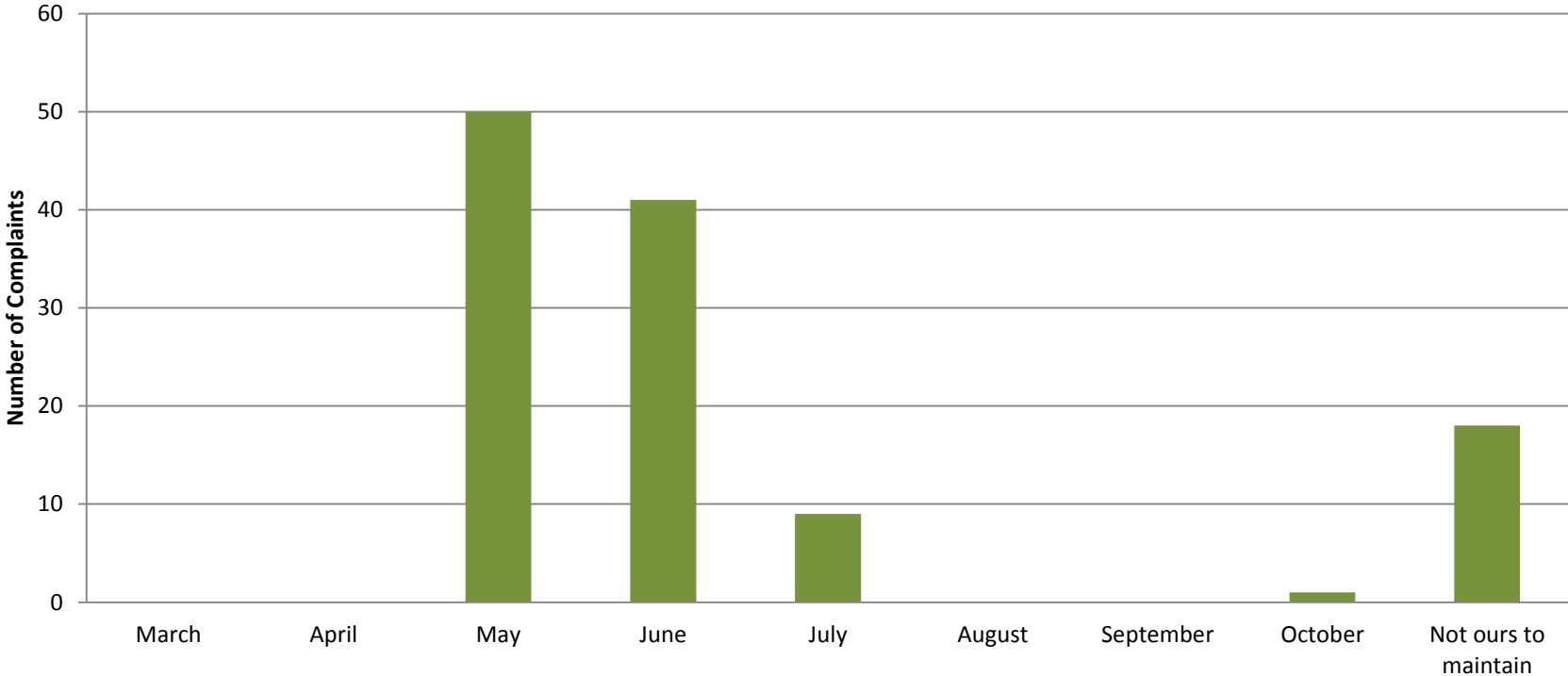


How is the regime monitored?

- To log and review service requests/feedback.



Grass Cutting Service Requests By Month 2018



Service Requests 2018

- **Who has submitted service requests?**

Origin	No.
Public	94
Parish Council *	5
BC Cllrs	2
Not ours to maintain	18

*Parish Councils

- Heacham
 - Walsoken
 - Tilney St Lawrence
 - Methwold
 - Barton Bendish
- **What were the reasons for the majority of requests?**
 - Length of grass
 - State of ground after cut
 - Grass arising's left after cut

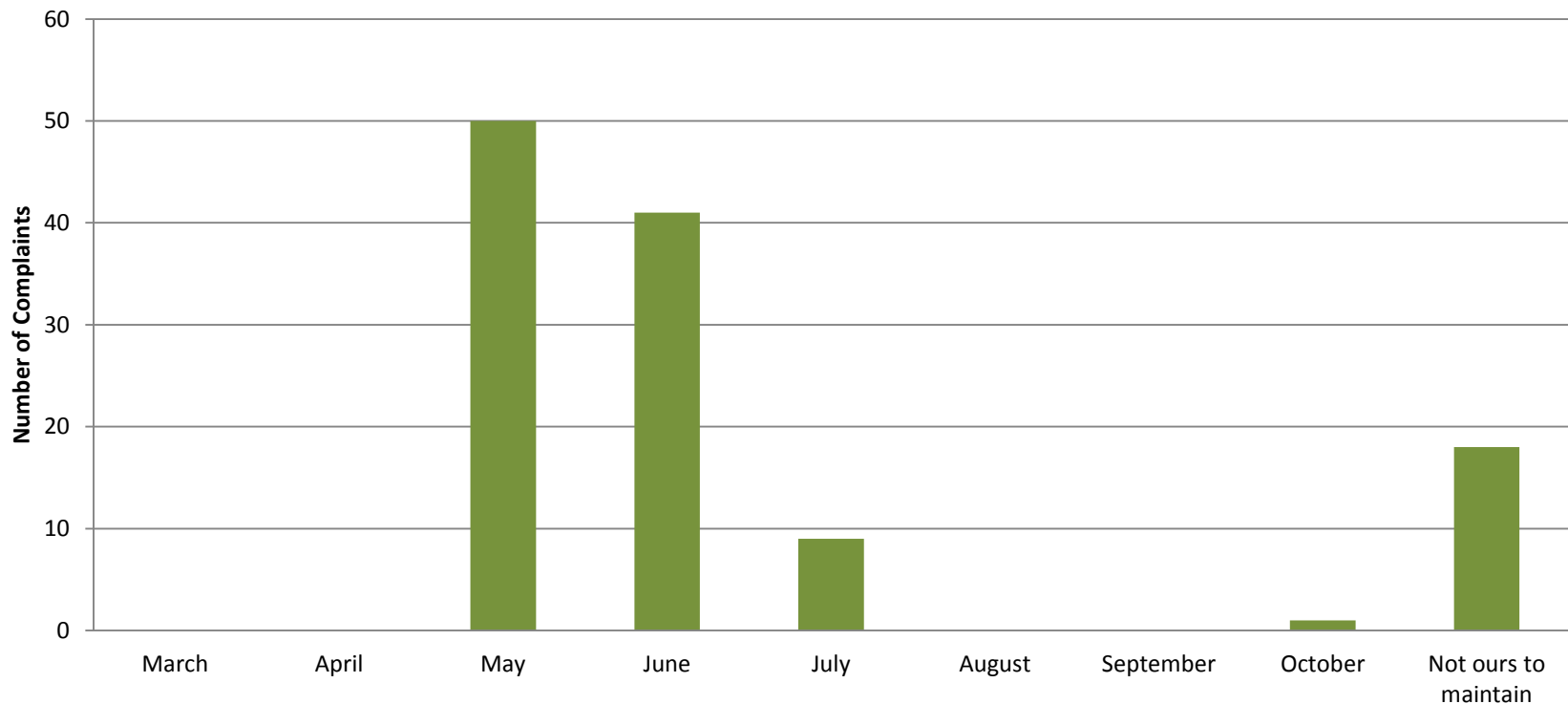
Early Season Conditions - Waterlogged



Types of Cutters



Grass Cutting Service Requests By Month 2018



Mid-season Conditions – Hot and Dry



Cutting slowed due to conditions

BUT

Watering Increased

- Formal Gardens
- Floral Displays
- New Trees

Summary 2018

- Climatic Conditions
 - Early Season Waterlogging
 - Late Season Drought
- Effect of Long Term Sickness on Workload
- Recruitment Issues
 - Staffing levels were lower than required as it is becoming increasingly difficult to recruit, as is the case across a number of service areas.



Staffing

Team	Permanent Actual	Seasonal Actual	Permanent Required	Seasonal Required	Fully Staffed
Arterial Routes	2	0	2	0	✓
Northern Area	2	1	3	2	✗
Central	5	1	5	2	✗
Gaywood	3	0	3	0	✓
North Lynn	4	0	4	1	✗
South/West Lynn	2	0.5	3	1	✗
Fairstead	2	0	3	0	✗
Walks	2	4	2	4	✓
Southern Area	2	3	2	3	✓
Crem / Cem	3	1	3	1	✓
Total	27	10.5	30	14	



Summary 2018

- How to adapt the service?
 - Little could have been done to limit the service requests early season due to conditions
 - Look in to the recruitment/staffing process
 - Start recruitment drive earlier to give time for a second wave
 - Annualised hours contracts
 - Flexible contracts – Shorter/Longer/Students
 - Relax recruitment process for returning seasonal staff
 - Investigate new methods for staff recruitment



Not Only Grass Cutting.....

- All Street Cleansing across the Borough
- Formal Garden Floral Displays
- Town Centre Floral Displays
- Britain in Bloom Campaign
- Anglia in Bloom Campaign
- Green Flag Campaign
- Events



Thank You

Any Questions?

