



CASE STUDY

T&LC attended many call-outs as trees across the county blew over and caused a degree of chaos in the region.

Storm Ciara swept across the whole of the UK on Sunday 9th February, bringing heavy rain and strong winds. It was the first of a powerful and long-lived European windstorm to impact the United Kingdom and Ireland at peak intensity, followed later by Storm Dennis.

Hailed as one of the most significant storms of the decade, across Essex and Suffolk buildings were battered, roofs removed and trees uprooted.

With up to 80mph winds across the county, it's not surprising that T&LC attended many call-outs across this period, this particular project involved multiple trees, road closure and a cherry picker.

The Project

Due to Storm Ciara, multiple trees had blown over onto a fibre optic cable in a residential area located in Chapel, near Colchester. T&LC were contacted by Highways England to attend and to secure the location, providing safe entry and exit for the residents.

After assessing the damage, it was paramount that the T&LC team worked efficiently and quickly to prevent any further damage from happening. Access was tight, due to the location being down a narrow dead-end road, but T&LC were up for the challenge.

The Outcome

The T&LC team first set about the task of closing the road to guarantee that health and safety measures were at the forefront of securing the area.

We then assembled a cherry picker and rigging to ensure that we could safely dismantle the trees. Given the nature of the job, it was paramount to protect the adjacent fibre optic cabling, making sure there wasn't any further damage.

The trees in question involved a large Oak, smaller Oaks and a plethora of Ash trees. The project took longer than it usually would for the T&LC team to complete, due to these trees leaning on the optic cable across the length of the road.

Although access was tight and posed an initial problem, our experienced staff were able to devise a plan and quickly execute it to ensure minimal disruption to the surrounding area. Residents were happy that they could then get in and out of their homes safely, following our work.



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