



ATM-RISK ASSESSMENT

TASK:	Tree Surgery/climbing Work	RA No:	ATMRA2020/039				
EQUIPMENT / MATERIALS USED	Chainsaw, Harness, Ropes, Rope Anchors						
PERSONS AT RISK:	OPERATIVES, PERSONS IN THE VICINITY, OTHER EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, VISITORS, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (All operatives or teams of operatives are to ensure that the daily on-site risk assessment is completed prior to commencing any work on site.)						
HAZARD / RISK	RISK LEVEL			CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK		
	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Injury from falling trees or branches Serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	A pre-climb inspection should be carried out before any work can commence, looking for evidence of cavities, decay or decaying fungi, dead wood and broken branches, dead or flaking bark, V-shaped unions, nesting insects, targets and obstacles underneath the tree. Appropriate control measures and appropriate techniques should be used to progress the works following this inspection. Alternatively should no safe method of working be identified to overcome any issues arising from the prestart inspection, then alternative methods of removal / felling should be employed.	5	2	10
overhead services Fire, explosion, burns, electric shock, serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	Supervising operatives are to check for any overhead services that may affect their ability to carry out the job safely, prior to their work commencing. Refer to ATMRA2020/027 Working Near Overhead Power Lines for control measures. Note that due consideration should be given for underground services prior to any heavy felling work where ground impact / spiking may damage UG services and in particular service ducts and surface chambers. Refer to ATMRA2020/050 Underground Services for control measures All works planned to be carried out with overhead powerlines within the working area, shall be completed in accordance with the HSE guidance " Avoiding danger from overhead power lines - GS6 ".	5	2	10

ATMRA2020/039	Original Author:	Rob Whamond	Date:	01-06-2021
	Reviewed By :	Dale Nelson	Next Review Date:	01-06-2022
Use the table below to calculate the severity and likelihood. (Severity X Likelihood = RISK)		Use the table below to indicate whether the Residual Risk Rating is:		
Severity of Outcome; 5 Fatality / Loss of Limb. 4 Serious Injury. 3 Moderate. 2 Minor Injuries. 1 Negligible.		1 – 6 = Low Risk		
Likelihood of Harm; 5 Almost Certain , 4 Very Likely , 3 Fair Chance , 2 Remote, 1 Very Unlikely.		7 – 11 = Medium Risk		
		12+ = High Risk		
		Page 1 of 3		



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	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Slips, Trips and falls Cuts, abrasions	4	3	12	<p>All staff are to take care when working on any uneven ground or adverse weather conditions. Any such hazards should be highlighted during the on-site risk assessment process and all operatives reminded of the possible hazards that may exist.</p> <p>Ensure that the working areas are kept clear as work progresses and that cut material, removed branch wood, fallen vegetation is cleared out, to avoid snagging of ropes and equipment, and avoid unpredictable landing of lowered / falling material.</p> <p>Ensure that all materials are cleared away from access and egress areas</p> <p>Operatives shall be required to wear suitable safety footwear when completing work activities and ensure they keep their footwear free from muck build up, to maintain good grip. Ensure that and vehicle access points, steps etc are free from mud.</p>	4	2	8
Noise Hearing damage Vibration Loss of dexterity, Vibration white finger	3	3	9	<p>The company has carried out a noise assessment and noise level measuring of its powered equipment. This document should be referred to as a point of reference</p> <p>All chainsaw operatives will be required to wear adequate hearing protection whilst operating this type of equipment.</p> <p>The company has carried out a HAV assessment. For information on the levels emitted by the equipment, refer to this document.</p> <p>The company's chain saws are fitted with anti-vibration devices and the operator is to report any defect noted during use. These devices are to be inspected before use and as part of any routine maintenance schedule. Where necessary, they are to be replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.</p> <p>Operatives are to ensure that they wear the ATM Standard PPE plus any specialist PPE that they have been provided with.</p>	3	2	6

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HAZARD / RISK	RISK LEVEL			CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK		
	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Refuelling Fire, explosion, burns, serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	See ATMRA2020/89 Re-fuelling of equipment.	5	1	5
Falls From Height Serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	Only competent and appropriately / formally qualified staff will carry out this type of work. All equipment will be checked by the operative prior to any work commencing. All equipment is to be LOLER inspected, in line with legislated standards and a pre use visual inspection carried out of all equipment to be used on site. The grounds man is to be trained to conduct aerial rescue, and have sufficient equipment to carry out rescues if needed	5	2	10
Use of Chainsaw Contact with moving chain, Amputation, serious injury, fatality	4	3	12	See ATM risk assessment for the use of Chainsaws. The tree climber should brief all involved in the task/operation with regard to the planned method of work, individual responsibilities and emergency procedures.	4	2	8
Lowering of branches Serious injury	4	3	12	All equipment will be checked by the operative prior to any work commencing. All equipment is to be inspected and maintained in accordance with the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER). All trees are to be climbed by trained staff. No one is to be standing under the tree when lowering operations are in process. The grounds man is to be in charge of all lowering operations, and clear communication between climber and grounds man to be maintained at all times	4	2	8

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