

LANTw34 - SQA Unit Code H2NS 04

Carry out vegetation management in proximity to above ground utilities



Overview

This standard is about managing vegetation adjacent to above ground utilities i.e. work associated with, or in close proximity to, services and utilities including overhead utilities. The standard includes for the planned management of vegetation around the utility so it can continue to function safely and effectively. This will include safe preparation and implementation of required work with due consideration of the associated hazards. Those involved in this activity must be aware of the hazards associated with utility work, particularly electrical hazards

The use of equipment and all operations must meet the requirements of current regulations, current codes of practice and industry guidance

This standard is for those working for or on behalf of utilities will have, or may require, specialist training, knowledge and expertise to undertake work

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed works
- P2 select and implement appropriate working methods in accordance with the assessed risks
- P3 select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- P4 select, prepare and use tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
- P5 ensure that required signage and guarding controls are in place
- P6 revalidate any pre-prepared risk assessments and work instructions
- P7 select, prepare and use specialist equipment suitable for vegetation management operations adjacent to the utilities and any structures
- P8 maintain and operate specialist equipment in accordance with manufacturer's and utility's specified parameters
- P9 manage vegetation to ensure a reduction of its impact on utilities
- P10 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with current legislation, industry and utility codes of practice
- P11 carry out work to specification
- P12 maintain records to meet utility and legislative requirements

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 emergency planning and procedures relevant to the site
- K2 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K3 how to interpret risk assessments
- K4 the level of risks posed by trees and vegetation from either its bio-mechanical condition and/or proximity to the utility
- K5 how to evaluate the tree for hazards and the implications of the hazards when identified
- K6 the likely impact of proposed utility work on trees and vegetation
- K7 the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), safety equipment specific to the utility in question and tools for operation
- K8 the potential hazards and risks associated with working in close proximity to the utility, including any associated structures and safety distances and use of equipment
- K9 the optimum aesthetic tree or vegetation appearance when undertaking works adjacent to utility and structures
- K10 the purpose of utility specific safety documents
- K11 the implications different tree species, their condition and the time of year when planning to perform pruning operations and how this will affect the work
- K12 the basic principles of tree biology and the implications of crown reduction and thinning intensity to different tree species
- K13 how to resolve conflicts between retaining aesthetics and the requirements of the utility owner or licence holder
- K14 the importance of identifying, demarcating and maintaining safe work zones and appropriate routing of plant, tools and equipment
- K15 your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Additional Information

Scope/range

Working in the following situations:

- 1 sites with trees adjacent to utilities
- 2 trees adjacent to utility structures

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