

## LANTw30 - SQA Unit Code H2NF 04

### Carry out aerial cutting of trees using free-fall techniques



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#### Overview

This standard is about the removal of single limb/parts of tree canopy to the complete removal of trees without the use of rigging equipment. It is also about the removal of tree sections from the crown using free-fall or hand thrown techniques

You will need to carry out a tree hazard evaluation and perform a 'working at height' assessment before starting this work. You will carry out cutting operations using appropriate access techniques

You will gain access and carry out cutting operations in line with the above assessment from a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP) or from a rope and harness

Your work must conform to all current legislation and codes of practice

This standard is for those who remove sections of trees

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

- P1 assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed works
- P2 perform a tree hazard evaluation and a 'working at height' assessment prior to work commencing
- P3 meet specified legislative and organisational environmental requirements in relation to carrying out treework
- P4 select and use access and positioning methods appropriate to the assessed risks and the method statement
- P5 select an appropriate anchor point to access/position for the **access equipment** so that the anchor point/position will not be compromised by the tree or any part of the work being carried out
- P6 inspect access equipment to ensure it is safe and fit for use under manufacturer's instructions and relevant legislation
- P7 assess the size, timber diameter length and weight of the pieces to be removed
- P8 identify desired drop zone
- P9 select, prepare and use tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
- P10 select and execute appropriate cut
- P11 communicate and control ground staff in relation to the progress of operations
- P12 use associated equipment to aid removal of sections into desired drop zone to protect infrastructure and targets
- P13 deal appropriately with the arisings
- P14 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with current legislation

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the risks associated with the site and the proposed works
- K2 how to select and implement appropriate working method in accordance with the assessed risks
- K3 emergency planning and procedures relevant to the site
- K4 how to evaluate the tree for hazards and the implications of the hazards when identified
- K5 how to select appropriate anchor points/position of access equipment so the anchor point will not be compromised by the work being carried out
- K6 the importance of accurate and appropriate cuts when removing tree sections and their effect on the section being removed
- K7 the potential effects of tree section removal on the retained parts of the tree
- K8 the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively
- K9 how to communicate and control ground staff when using free-fall and cast methods of work
- K10 how to identify tree species and how the species and condition of trees will affect your work
- K11 how to use associated equipment to aid removal of sections
- K12 the potential impacts of your work on the environment and how this can be minimised
- K13 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation

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**Developed by** Lantra

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**Version number** 1

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**Status** Original

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**Relevant occupations** Arboriculture and forestry; Chainsaw and forest machine operators

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**Suite** Treework

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