

From: Central SHEQ Team

Date: 3rd April 2017

The Theme for April 17 will be: Working with Trees and Hedgerows



Our Environment Health and Safety

- Damage to trees and hedgerows can be caused by physical injury to branches, trunk or roots, or by changing the soil structure around the roots.
- **Check if protected** - before removing / affecting trees and hedgerows or working in close proximity.
- If protected, **do not start work** until permission has been obtained from the Local Authority.
- **Check if there are any ecology considerations** (e.g. nesting birds, bats, red squirrels and dormice).
- A Tree Removal or Protection Plan may be necessary for works affecting trees.
- Install tree protection fencing around the Root Protection Area as appropriate. No works or material storage to take place within this area, unless an Environmental Advisor or Arborist has been consulted.
- See guidance note [EVGD01-32](#). Consult an Environmental Advisor if unsure.

Your Health and Safety

- Working with trees and hedgerows usually involves the use of chainsaws, woodchippers, strimmers etc.
 - The use of these is **high risk** and specialists with correct training, experience and equipment should be engaged.
 - **Do not attempt** to hire this equipment and do the work yourself.
- Risk Assessments and Method Statements are to be reviewed by a member of the H&S Team.
- Exclusions zones should be maintained while high risk equipment is in use, with only the operator in the zone.
- For felling of trees use a competent arborist.
- Prior to works commencing, please seek advice if you have any doubts.

Quality Requirements

Subcontracts

- Subcontracts **must** be in place for all tree / hedgerow removal work **prior to commencement** (see Procedure [PMPR03 Subcontracts](#)).
- Subcontractors must be **approved on IFS** for the correct **Part Number**.
- A pre commencement meeting must be held to confirm arrangements and recorded on [CDFR16-02 Subcontractor Pre-Commencement Meeting Record](#)

Replanting

- Check planning conditions for specific requirements.
- Do not forget, if you are landscaping any areas following removal, complete a C18 Landscape & Fencing Test Sheet (in [CDFR02-03 Project Inspection & Test Plan](#)).