

# Arboricultural Work Safety Plan

## Summary

All ASG Services work is carried out in accordance with this policy, there are no exceptions. Adherence to this policy ultimately protects the customer and the trees being worked on.

This is a live document and customers wishing to review this policy should ensure they have downloaded the current version from: <https://asg-services.co.uk/tree-surgery-safety>

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# Version Control

The following table details version details of this document.

Version	Date	Change	Author
0.1	02/05/2026	Initial draft	A Scott
0.2	09/06/2025	Updated to include SAFE-T methodology	A Scott
1.0	14/06/2026	Initial release	A Scott
1.1	16/06/2026	Minor modifications to correct typos and grammar	A Scott

## Purpose

This safety plan outlines the procedures and controls implemented to ensure arboricultural work is carried out safely, professionally, and in compliance with relevant health and safety legislation.

The objective is to protect clients, employees, members of the public, property, and the environment from foreseeable risks associated with arborist work.

## Scope

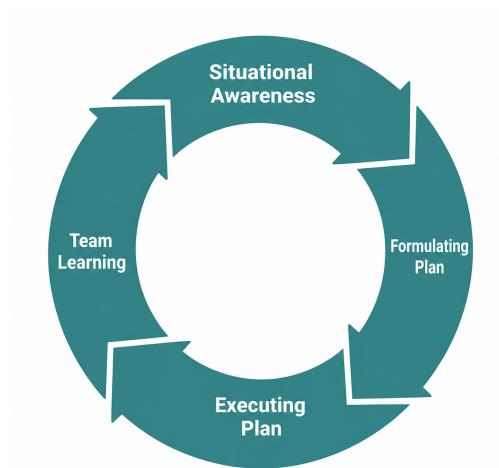
This plan applies to all arboricultural activities undertaken by ASG Services, including:

- Tree pruning and crown management
- Tree felling and dismantling
- Hedge maintenance
- Tree inspections and surveys
- Use of chainsaws and powered equipment
- Climbing and aerial tree work
- Work near roads, utilities, and public areas

## SAFE-T Analysis

All Arborist work completed by ASG Services, regardless of scale, must first undergo analysis using the SAFE-T methodology.

The purpose of SAFE-T is to ensure the safe and secure completion of all works, all aspects are mandatory and are recorded on ASG Services systems for record keeping for 7 years.



Stage 1 and 2 of this process must be completed in advance of any work starting however when necessary these can be reinitiated during stage 3 and all stages are to be considered during stage 4.

### Situational Awareness:

- Prior to any work, we undertake a comprehensive survey of the site. This involves assessing the subject, surrounding vegetation, ground conditions, nearby structures, public access areas, utilities, wildlife habitats, and any other factors that could affect the safe and effective delivery of the work
- Where necessary a drone survey shall also be completed

### Formulating Plan:

- By developing a clear understanding of the environment and potential risks before operations begin, we can plan the most appropriate approach, minimise disruption, and ensure the highest standards of safety, environmental stewardship, and professional plant care

### Executing Plan:

- All works carried out are completed in accordance with the plan formulated in the previous step. Where modifications are required to this plan during the course of completing the works an ad-hoc **Situation Awareness** and plan **Formulation** process shall be completed and the plan **Execution** updated accordingly

### Team Learning:

- Working toward continuous improvement all works completed are assessed post completion to ensure continued adherence to optimum safety for all parties involved and to the benefit of plants in scope

## Responsibilities

ASG Services shall:

- Provide suitable equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Ensure all staff are trained and competent
- Conduct regular equipment inspections
- Monitor compliance with safety procedures
- Provide emergency arrangements and first aid resources
- Follow all safety procedures and risk assessments
- Use equipment correctly and safely
- Report hazards, incidents, and near misses
- Stop work if conditions become unsafe

## Risk Assessment

A site-specific risk assessment shall be completed before work begins. The assessment will consider:

- Plant condition and structural defects
- Weather conditions
- Overhead and underground utilities
- Traffic and pedestrian movements
- Ground conditions
- Wildlife and protected habitats
- Falling objects and work-at-height hazards
- Equipment and machinery risks

Control measures will be communicated to all during the site briefing.

## Personal Protective Equipment

The following PPE shall be worn as appropriate:

- Safety helmet with chin strap
- Eye protection
- Hearing protection
- Chainsaw protective trousers
- Chainsaw protective boots
- Chainsaw protective gloves
- Climbing harness and associated equipment, if required

All PPE must be inspected before use and replaced if damaged.

## Work at Height

Where climbing operations are required:

- Only trained and competent climbers shall undertake aerial work
- Climbing equipment shall be inspected before each use
- Suitable anchor points shall be identified
- A rescue plan shall be established before climbing commences
- Two qualified personnel shall be present during rope climbing operations

## Chainsaw Safety

- Chainsaws shall only be operated by trained and competent personnel
- Pre-use inspections shall be completed daily
- Appropriate chainsaw PPE must be worn
- Safe starting procedures shall be followed
- Chainsaws shall be maintained according to manufacturer guidance

## Traffic and Public Safety

Where work is carried out near roads, footpaths, or public areas:

- Work zones shall be clearly marked
- Appropriate signage and barriers shall be installed
- Traffic management measures shall be implemented where required
- Public access shall be restricted from hazardous areas

## **Environmental Protection**

ASG Services are committed to minimising environmental impact by:

- Protecting wildlife and nesting birds
- Preventing pollution from fuels and oils
- Recycling green waste where possible
- Complying with conservation and tree protection legislation
- Minimising disturbance to surrounding habitats

## **Emergency Procedures**

The site supervisor shall ensure:

- Emergency contact details are available on site
- First aid equipment is accessible
- Rescue equipment is available for aerial operations
- All staff understand emergency arrangements
- Emergency services can be directed to the work location
- All incidents, accidents, and near misses shall be reported and investigated

## **Review**

This safety plan shall be reviewed annually or following any significant change in operations, legislation, equipment, or after a serious incident.

## **Safety Commitment**

ASG Services are committed to maintaining the highest standards of health, safety, and environmental responsibility. No task is so urgent that it cannot be completed safely.