

<b>Post title</b>	<b>Arborist</b>
<b>Division / Section</b>	<b>Environment / Parks, Greenspace &amp; Cemeteries</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Place</b>
<b>Responsible To</b>	<b>Lead Arborist</b>
<b>Number of post holders</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Acting up/ Secondment</b>	<b>No</b>

### **Purpose of Job**

A member of a specialist arborist team carrying out potentially hazardous arboricultural and forestry operations, may be required to operate specialist forestry machines including heavy plant lifting equipment, and LGV operations.

Provide an emergency standby rota, to ensure the council is able to respond on a 24hour a day, 365 day a year basis to deal with all out of hours emergency tree work events. This includes all public holidays including Easter, Christmas and New Year periods.

### **MAJOR TASKS/JOB ACTIVITIES**

Assist in the co-ordination, planning and execution of day to day operations for forestry / arboricultural protection, maintenance and enhancement, enforcement of tree legislation when required.

Ensure compliance with Health and Safety standards and manage day to day safety of the workforce and the public.

Assist in the achievement of performance targets and contribute to an effective and efficient forestry team.

Assist squad members in preparing for training and assessments which enhance and develop their arboricultural skills.

Assist the Lead Arborist to execute all appropriate aerial and ground arboricultural operations as described in work instructions.

Drive vehicles as required, including tractors and towing of trailers with and without lifting equipment to support operational activity and operate a range of specialist forestry machinery, technology as required.

Plan and execute tree establishment works to the highest British or industry standards:

Required to carry out an aerial rescue for squad members undertaking climbing operations.

Assist in the training of staff, including trainees and apprentices.

## **Supervision and Management of People**

None, other than providing general guidance and support in work familiarisation.

## **Creativity and Innovation**

Use arboricultural and forestry skills to identify opportunities for advancing quality standards.

Be prepared to vary the approach to service delivery as required to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

Required to maintain an up-to-date understanding of best and innovative practice in arboriculture and forestry.

Assess timber types and conditions of wood and determine the quality for the purpose of telling whether it is suitable for firewood or furniture.

## **Contacts and Relationships**

Working in a front-line service within public places and at public events, the Arborist Climber will be meeting and responding to the public on a daily basis.

Contacts will be at officer level within the Council, including colleagues within the department and local and centralised level; as well as site users.

## **Decisions (Discretion)**

Decide on the safe method of felling trees and the method of implementing other potentially dangerous site operations.

Interpret legislation to determine and decide on compliance with technical standards, codes of practice in specified areas of work and provide advice to others in this regard.

Use knowledge and skills to resolve problems and deal with problems quickly, seeking help from colleagues when required.

Responds to issues and queries from members of the public and community representatives in line with service delivery obligations.

Assists in identifying potential breaches of legislation and takes appropriate action.

## **Decisions (Consequences)**

Decisions made will impact on the implementation of forestry and arboricultural work, and the extent to which this is carried out in a safe and effective manner.

Decisions made relate to leading and on site management of staff.

## **Resources**

Shared responsibility for a range of specialist equipment, machinery and vehicles.

## **Environment – Work Demands**

Required to work safely and to schedule in a potentially hazardous working environment and in doing so to manage risk effectively.

Assist the Lead Arborist with responsibility for safety of the work force and public on the work site, which are usually parks, streets and woodlands where the public generally have free access.

Out of hours working and being a part of a standby rota will be required to deal with emergencies and severe weather.

## **Environment – Physical**

90% of working day spent outdoors, in all weather conditions.

Physically demanding duties, including lengthy periods (60% of time) of heavy manual work

30% of daily outdoor duties involve performing aerial operations within the crown of a tree from a rope and harness or MEWP.

There is extensive use and maintenance of motor manual equipment (chainsaws, hand tools and other associated forestry equipment) which requires physical strength and manual dexterity.

Periods of walking significant distances carrying equipment and / or loads is required.

## **Environment – Working conditions**

The majority of work required by the post involves the use of machinery. Required to work outside in all weather and ground conditions and in moving traffic on a daily basis. The post holder may be required to work near or in water courses. May be exposed to vibration, noise, dust, dirt, fuels and oils, fumes, rubbish and contaminated waste, including syringes & faeces.

## **Environment – Work Context**

Operate a range of vehicles, machinery and equipment associated with protecting, maintaining on a daily basis.

30% of time working at height or making trees safe.

**Knowledge and Skills**

Educated in a relevant professional discipline to SVQ level 3. In certain cases this requirement will be satisfied through relevant experience and demonstrated competence.

**Health and Safety**

The Council must abide by relevant health & safety and employment law, as well as the common law duty of care. All members of staff are required to take care for their personal health and safety and that of others who may be affected by their actions or inactions. You are therefore required to carry out your duties in a safe manner in accordance with instructions and in compliance with safety rules/procedures, regulations and codes of practice. You are required to advise your line manager if you become aware of any unsafe practice or condition or if you have any other safety concerns and should comply with accident and near-miss reporting procedures.

If you supervise, manage or lead other staff, you are also responsible for ensuring that the Council's operations are carried out in such a way that ensures, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of those staff and that of any others who may be affected. You will therefore conduct relevant risk assessments and assign duties with appropriate instructions, in compliance with safety rules/procedures, regulations and codes of practice. You will address and/or escalate any issues of any unsafe practice, condition or any other safety concerns you identify or that are brought to your attention, taking appropriate advice as necessary and will ensure that accident and near-miss reporting procedures are understood and complied with.