

Standard in development

L4: Arboriculturist

Title of occupation

Arboriculturist

UOS reference number

ST0921

Core and options

No

Option title/s

Level of occupation

Level 4

Route

Agriculture, environmental and animal care

Typical duration of apprenticeship

30 months

Target date for approval

28/2/2020

Resubmission

No

Would your proposed apprenticeship standard replace an existing framework?

No

Does professional recognition exist for the occupation?

No

Occupation summary

This occupation is found in arboricultural, utility, facilities management and grounds maintenance organisations. These include local authorities, arboricultural consultancies, estates, commercial organisations and charities. The broad purpose of the occupation is to undertake tree inspections and surveys, recording information on tree management databases and to evaluate each tree individually.

Although evaluating a tree requires balancing a wide range of factors and is complex and varied by nature, Arboriculturists focus on well-defined and more commonly found situations. They supervise contractors undertaking specified tree works and can check for the safety of the site and quality of work.

Arboriculturists comply with legislation in relation to trees including making sure relevant authorities have approved work to be undertaken. They provide tree related advice – management and law. They manage woodland, having oversight of budgets, make grant applications and preparing quotes. They manage clients and engage with the public.

In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts with colleagues, the general public, stakeholders, clients, landowners, lawyers, insurers, budget holders and organisations managing built infrastructure (e.g. utility companies, highways, street lighting, waterways, railways).

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for:

- Assessing tree health and risk
- Managing contractors
- Dealing with complaints
- Understanding and applying law relating to trees
- Planning and prioritising survey requirements to ensure work delivery and discharge of legal Duty of Care and to prepare and assess planning applications
- Complying with legislation and regulation regarding trees, woodlands and forests to include tree preservation orders, conservation zones, felling licenses and other designations.

Typical job titles

Arboriculturist Tree Officer, Arboricultural Consultant, Arboricultural Officer, Junior/Assistant Arboricultural Consultant, Assistant Tree Officer, Arborist Sales Representative

Are there any statutory/regulatory or other typical entry requirements?

No

Occupation duties

DUTY	KSBS
<p>Duty 1 Advise about trees including tree management (e.g. pruning, watering, tree protection, roots), health, the law (e.g. tree preservation orders, conservation zones), risk and the role of trees in development to the public, clients and colleagues.</p>	<p>K1 K3 K4 K5 K9 K10 K12 K13 K19 K22 K26 K28 K33 K35 K36 K37 K38 K39 K40 K43 K44 K45 K46 S2 S3 S5 S7 S8 S9 S10 S12 S13 S19 S20 S23 S27 S29 S30 S31 S32 B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6</p>

DUTY**KSBS**

Duty 2 Interpret and deliver tree / woodland management plans with reference to the role of trees in national / local planning policy and the context in regard to development proposals.

K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6 K7 K8 K11 K12 K14 K15 K16 K17 K18 K19
K20 K21 K22 K23 K24 K25 K26 K27 K32 K36 K43 K44
S1 S2 S3 S4 S6 S12 S13 S14 S15 S17 S20 S22 S26 S27 S29 S30 S
31
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 3 Survey tree populations in relation to design, demolition and construction including species identification, protections, size measurements, condition management recommendations, assessment of 'useful life' and quality assessments.

K1 K2 K4 K5 K6 K7 K8 K14 K15 K18 K20 K21 K22 K23 K24 K25
K27 K44
S2 S3 S6 S10 S11 S12 S13 S14 S15 S18 S19 S21 S22 S23 S24 S25
S27 S28 S29 S30 S31
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 4 Survey trees to enable management e.g. for tree health, condition risk or aesthetic purposes.

K1 K2 K4 K5 K6 K7 K8 K9 K10 K14 K18 K21 K22 K24 K25 K37
S8 S10 S13 S14 S15 S17 S29 S30 S31
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 5 Inspect individual trees including identification, pests and diseases, health, defects, planning requirements, risk, site / location factors and recommendations for future actions / monitoring.

K1 K2 K3 K4 K5 K6 K7 K8 K9 K10 K13 K14 K20 K21 K22 K24 K
25 K35 K36 K37 K44
S1 S2 S3 S6 S7 S9 S10 S12 S13 S14 S15 S16 S17 S20 S29 S30 S3
1
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 6 Identify and respond to tree pests and diseases e.g. reporting, biosecurity measures, nursery stock selection, removal, treatments.

K2 K6 K7 K18
S10 S11 S13 S15 S16 S17 S18 S29 S30 S31
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 7 Use tree management software including databases and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

K22 K23 K28 K37
S2 S3 S4 S5 S6 S7 S8 S9 S10 S32
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 8 Enforce legislation and regulation regarding trees, woodlands and forests to include tree preservation orders, conservation zones, felling licenses and other designations.

K3 K12 K13 K15 K16 K28 K35 K44
S1 S7 S10 S11 S12 S13 S19
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

DUTY**KSBS**

Duty 9 Supervise tree work operations to specification e.g. planting, felling and maintenance operations, to include health and safety on site, environmental, access and quality of works.

K1 K4 K6 K22 K26 K27 K35 K36 K37
S7 S13 S20 S22 S23 S24 S25
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 10 Supervise contractors, including motivation, quality of work, coordination of resources, health and safety. Develop relationships with customers, stakeholders and colleagues.

K1 K4 K6 K26 K28 K30 K31 K32 K34 K35 K36 K37 K38 K39 K40
K42 K45 K46
S2 S5 S7 S11 S19 S20 S23 S24 S25 S27 S33
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 11 Provide good customer service, deal with complaints and identify new opportunities for income generation. Promote the organisation, products, services or activities and the benefits trees, woodlands and forests.

K28 K29 K30 K31 K32 K33 K34 K38 K39 K42 K45 K46
S1 S4 S5 S7 S11 S18 S19 S21 S24 S25 S32 S33 S34
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 12 Work within defined budgets. Assist with sourcing of additional funding e.g. through grant applications. Write estimates and quotes for work. Develop costings for jobs.

K17 K29 K30 K31 K32 K33 K35 K36 K39 K41 K42 K45 K46
S7 S9 S10 S24 S26 S27 S28
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 13 Follow systems and processes required by the organisation and report on information from those systems to monitor organisational performance.

K26 K28 K29 K30 K31 K32 K39 K42 K45 K46
S1 S2 S5 S7 S9 S10 S11 S18 S20 S26 S32 S33 S34
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Duty 14 Engage local communities in tree care and management.

K26 K27 K28 K29 K30 K32 K33 K36 K38 K39 K40 K41 K44 K45
K46
S5 S12 S22 S23 S24 S25 S26 S27 S28
B1 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6

Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours

Knowledge

K1: British Standards relevant to arboricultural works including 3998, 5837 and 8545 and how they are practically applied.

K2: Understanding of different tree inspection methodologies and when to use them to provide informed management decisions.

K3: The legal framework around trees including statutory protection for trees and penalties associated with breaches of legislation and regulations.

K4: Identifying relevant tree management principles based on a survey requirement and how to apply these.

K5: Risk assessment methodologies.

K6: Tree pest and disease identification, implication, treatments and monitoring including identifying appropriate biosecurity principles to reduce impacts.

K7: Principles of tree growth (monocots, dicots, angiosperms and gymnosperms) and family classifications.

K8: Tree species identification, physiology, characteristics and reaction to pruning.

K9: Awareness of the principles of bio-mechanics in relation to trees and tree dynamics.

K10: Benefits of trees (climate adaptation, health and wellbeing) and how these could influence management decisions.

K11: Principles of silvicultural practices and woodland management principles.

K12: The implications of National Planning Policy for trees.

K13: Structure of the planning hierarchy and procedures, for example, appeals process.

K14: Tree valuation systems, methodologies and their purposes.

K15: Statutory designations (SSSI, archaeology, land designations).

K16: The impact of European protected species on arboricultural works.

K17: Sources of information on funding schemes for tree planting and management and techniques for making funding applications.

K18: The principles for resilience of trees and woodlands (biosecurity).

K19: The life stages of a tree (including propagation techniques, aging process, deadwood habitats and veteran tree management).

K20: Identify and differentiate between ancient trees, veteran trees and trees of historical or cultural significance.

K21: Implications for tree health, safety, aesthetics and specifying works related to tree form, function, and client expectation.

K22: Tree inventory systems and their uses.

K23: Different software applications and their uses (For example: GIS, CAD, MS Products).

K24: Tree inspection tools and equipment and their uses.

K25: Tree decay and structural stability equipment using advanced tree assessment technology.

K26: Health & safety legislation and regulations; principles related to work placed risk assessment and management, including method statements.

K27: Project Management principles.

K28: Principles of customer service including confidentiality, data management and appropriate use of social media.

K29: Principles of sales and marketing both direct service promotion and indirect industry promotion.

K30: Components of business planning systems and their purpose.

K31: Techniques for financial management and accounting.

K32: Resource management principles.

K33: Roles of different stakeholders in management of trees e.g. client, public, councillors.

K34: Staff and team management principles including motivation, performance and quality.

K35: The principles and constraints around tree work operations including relevant legislation, regulations and best practice (e.g. NPTC, Working at Height LOLER, PUWER, AFAG, COSHH) and their implications for leading teams, setting policy and process.

K36: Tree planting systems, site considerations, species selection.

K37: Tree bracing styles, systems and uses.

K38: Methods for community engagement.

K39: Principles and use of different communication tools.

K40: Principles of equality, safeguarding and diversity and their importance.

K41: The role of an Arboriculturist and how this occupation collaborates with other professions e.g. engineers, land managers, ecologists, landscape architects and planners.

K42: Tendering, procurement processes and scoring systems.

K43: Principles of soil science.

K44: The interaction of trees with the built environment (eg. damage (direct or indirect) to infrastructure, low rise buildings, SUDs, rooting volumes, utilities).

K45: Understand contractual terms and processes (e.g. the role of the client brief, the fee proposal, the scope and the instruction).

K46: Understanding constraints (e.g. cost and resource) and how to define the context of what is known and what is unknown.

Skills

S1: Write reports with clear specifications in accordance with best practice and standards.

S2: Collect data, analyse and identify trends.

S3: Interpret maps, both printed and electronic.

S4: Define maps that clearly communicate the necessary information.

S5: Choose and utilise the appropriate formats to communicate information (e.g. table, image, map, text, graph).

S6: Utilise GIS and CAD software.

S7: Specify tree works with priorities to meet a range of criteria, including long term tree health, tree risk management, nuisance management (consider available budgets and the requirements of the tree owner / manager).

S8: Apply tree risk management quantification method to inform decision making.

S9: Apply tree valuation methods to inform decision making.

S10: Visually assess trees, record findings and draw conclusions and make recommendations in relation to various standard scenarios including tree risk management, planning and design (BS5837), subsidence claim and risk.

S11: Apply research and analytical skills, knowing where to find relevant arboricultural information or what leads to follow to obtain it.

S12: Interpret and advise on implications of policy, legislation, regulation and best practice.

S13: Decide on management options for a tree(s) based on evidence and quality assessment.

S14: Use tree survey tools.

S15: Choose the appropriate tree inspection methodology related to the reason for the inspection.

S16: Choose appropriate biosecurity protocols in context.

S17: Choose the appropriate decay detection equipment.

S18: Seek further information from managers, supervisors or colleagues, when necessary.

S19: Communicate decision-making process to stakeholders in a relevant format and style.

S20: Specify, plan, audit, feedback, review and monitor outputs.

S21: Follow clear instruction and process.

S22: Manage projects.

S23: Communicate clearly in an appropriate manner to meet objectives.

S24: Network proactively with clients, customers and colleagues, including senior management to deliver business outcomes and in an appropriate timeframe.

S25: Negotiate effectively with colleagues and stakeholders to achieve desired outcomes.

S26: Organise, manage and prioritise your own work.

S27: Produce quotations by defining a scope / specification of work which delivers the clients objectives clearly communicating necessary information for example fees, timeframe, the process, terms and conditions / caveats.

S28: Understand record keeping to monitor income, expenditure and project performance indicators.

S29: Use the appropriate software-based tree management systems, including associated laptop and handheld remote working equipment.

S30: Recognise, from visual inspection, symptoms of structural degradation (e.g. wood decay fungi, stem growth patterns) of trees' woody tissue and prescribe appropriate management responses.

S31: Identify symptoms of physiological stress and / or poor health (e.g. necrotic leaves, upper crown dieback) and draw conclusions of causes and / or recommend appropriate detailed analysis and / or appropriate treatment.

S32: Present information to technical and non- technical audiences using a range of techniques.

S33: Manage meetings ensuring that minutes / notes are recorded which include any agreed decision(s); defined action(s); timescale(s) and performance indicator(s).

S34: Take meeting notes / minutes.

Behaviours

B1: Always put the interests of your clients or others to whom you have a professional responsibility above your own and respect their confidentiality. Always consider the wider interests of society when making your judgments.

B2: Be open and transparent in your dealings. Share the full facts with your clients, making things as plain and intelligible as possible.

B3: Treat everyone fairly with courtesy, politeness and respect and consider cultural sensitivities and business practices.

B4: Be accountable for all your actions. Take full responsibility for your actions and do not blame others if things go wrong.

B5: Set a good example. Remember that both your public and private behaviour could affect your own reputation and that of the profession or business you represent.

B6: Practice your profession with due regard to sound ecological, social, economic and environmental principles to the advantage of present and future generations.

Qualifications

English & Maths

Apprentices without level 2 English and maths will need to achieve this level prior to taking the End-Point Assessment. For those with an education, health and care plan or a legacy statement, the apprenticeship's English and maths minimum requirement is Entry Level 3. A British Sign Language (BSL) qualification is an alternative to the English qualification for those whose primary language is BSL.

Does the apprenticeship need to include any mandated qualifications in addition to the above-mentioned English and maths qualifications?

No