

Tree works at xxx.

Method statement prepared for xxx.

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1.0 Summary

- All Health & Safety regulations required by Weston Homes plc, and detailed in accompanying Felling Specification will be observed at all times.
- Trees to be removed will be felled from ground level.
- Waste to be removed from site for recycling within 48 hours of operations ending. Brash to be chipped directly into tipping trucks; timber to be cut to 1m lengths or less and manually loaded into trucks.
- Requirements prior to operations commencing:
 1. Ensure no work scheduled in exclusion zones for duration of operations

2.0 Background

2.1 Instruction:

- I have been instructed to provide a quotation, method statement and risk assessment for the tree works at xxx.
- The initial enquiry was received on 28th February, 2014. An instruction to proceed was received on the same day followed by a sub-contract order also dated February 28th.
- The client requires:
 - Quotation (supplied February 28th).
 - Method Statement.
 - Risk Assessment

2.2 Techniques used:

- Due consideration of methods and potential risks from remote location. Further specific information will be added during site attendance but before work commences.

2.3 Limitations:

- The contents are intended for the sole use of the client. No liability is accepted for their use by any other parties to advance an argument or claim (including legal or financial) without prior consent.
- No liability is accepted for defects hidden from view by vegetation or other obstacles to access.
- Formal assessment of topography, drainage, service conduits, soil conditions and the like are outside the scope of the visual assessment.
- Other specialist arboricultural surveys (eg. root collar examination or sonic tomography) have not been made and are beyond the visual assessment.
- This report considers only the method by which works as instructed may be safely completed. No liability for damage arising from any other source or mechanism is accepted.
- It is understood that any risks associated with these limitations are accepted by the clients.

2.4 Weather conditions:

- Not relevant.

2.5 Access conditions:

- Not relevant.

2.6 Validity:

- This MS is based on the best available information at the time of writing. It remains valid until an adequate on-site inspection is made at the time works commence after which a revised document will be required.

3.0 Site factors:

3.1 General:

- This method statement does not supercede any Site Safety Rules set in place by Weston Homes plc, which shall be observed by C Trees personnel at all times.
- Tree is adjacent to a site boundary. Access for machinery to as close as possible to the tree is essential to avoid RSI / excessive exertion.
- Minimum PPE to be worn at all times:
 - Steel toe boots to EN345-2
 - Hi-Vis vests & Leather gloves
 - Helmet to EN397
 - Mesh visor to EN1731
 - Ear defenders to EN352
 - Chainsaw protective trousers to EN381-5, Class C
- First aid, fire extinguishers, spill containment and the daily risk assessment / emergency planning document will be centralised in the lead vehicle, present on site at all times.
- Machinery will only be used by operatives in possession of the relevant NPTC competencies.

3.2 Requirements prior to operations commencing:

1. Ensure no other work scheduled in exclusion zones for duration of operations.

4.0 Felling Method

4.1 General

- Please refer to the Felling Specification contained in the Appendix for information relating to Health & Safety, Personal Protective Equipment, and specific Arboricultural procedures.
- On-site risk assessment and emergency planning will take place before work commences. Please refer to partially completed RA grid in Appendix.
- On-site work planning and site organisation will take place before work commences. This will allow factors such as weather, obstacles, altered ground conditions etc. to be taken into account.

4.2 Machinery, Climbing & Lowering equipment

- Chainsaws: Stihl MS250, MS480 x 3, MS201T x2 (latter saws only to be operated by personnel in possession of NPTC CS39 and when off the ground).
- Saws are to be maintained in a safe, sharp and functioning state. All safety features are to be present and fully functioning. All saws to be visually inspected and operation of chain brake

demonstrated prior to commencement of work. Chains are to be maintained in a sharp condition to minimise vibration, stress and fuel consumption. Only purpose made Stihl or Oregon chains to be used. Saws only to be operated by staff in possession of NPTC CS30/31 as minimum.

- If required, specialist, purpose-made lowering equipment will be used in accordance with the recommendations published on the AFAG and / or FISA websites.
- Climbing equipment shall meet current LOLER98 requirements, be certified safe for use, be inspected before use, and be specifically designed or approved for use in tree work. Climbing irons shall be maintained in a sharp, clean state.
- Chipper: Greenmech Arb19-28MT50. To be operated and maintained in a safe and fully functioning manner only by staff in possession of NPTC A06 or under the direct supervision of such a person. All safety features are to be present and demonstrated as fully functioning prior to commencement of work. Machine to be situated on a clear, level site a minimum of 8m from trees being worked.
- 1m tall traffic cones + fold-away 1.5m tall road signs to be used to demarcate specific work areas. Additionally, barrier tape may be used between cones to create a perimeter.
- Purpose made felling bars, wedges, timber tongs and pulp-hooks may be used as necessary to aid manual handling.

4.3 Safety stipulations

- No entry into any buildings.
- No use of roofs or walls as work platforms or access routes.
- Exposed cables, pipes, service conduits, open trenches, exposed inspection chambers or similar are to be marked and brought to the attention of Weston Homes plc. An assessment of risk will be carried out before work continues / commences.
- No smoking on-site at any time.
- No more than 15lt of mixed two-stroke fuel to be present on site in 5lt purpose made and clearly labelled fuel cans. Cans to be stored in vehicles until required. Filling of saws to be performed at a minimum of 5m from work area, vehicles, drains and buildings, in open air & on a porous surface.
- Only one climber to work at any given time unless two climbers are needed to effect safe & controlled work in the same tree. Second qualified and equipped climber to be present on site at all times when rope access being used.
- Work may proceed under most weather conditions however extremes of wind, rain and temperature must be taken into account as this can affect ground conditions, tree safety, safety of climbers, ability to control trees as they fall, hypo- / hyper- thermia, exhaustion and ability to safely operate machinery. Determination of safe working weather conditions is at the discretion of C Trees Ltd. Any decision regarding the same will be communicated to Weston Homes plc and every effort will be made to keep the overall works project on schedule.

4.4 Specific method proposal

- Fell to stump by method considered most appropriate. Either:
 - Fell from ground level with or without directional assistance provided by excavator with rope; or
 - Sectional takedown by climber.

5.0 Environmental, Waste removal and recycling:

- Waste shall be minimised / handled and the environment protected in accordance with C Trees' Environmental Protection Policy (see Appendix).
- Spill kit to be carried in lead vehicle.
- No litter to be left on-site.
- Work to proceed between 09:00 and 16:00hrs Mon-Fri only. Operation of machinery outside these times is specifically prohibited.
- Prior to manual handling sections will be reduced such that they can be moved by a single man using approved manual handling technique.
- Timber sections above 7.5cm diameter will be stacked safely for transport to an off-site location for seasoning and use as firewood.
- Stacks shall not exceed 1m height and will be positioned to minimise manual handling, provide for easy vehicle loading, and ensure safety.
- Brush, green material and sections below 7.5cm diameter will be chipped on-site directly into a trailer and transported to a composting facility for re-cycling as soil conditioner.
- All waste will be removed within 48hrs of operation ending unless otherwise agreed.

6.0 Appendix:

Double click on an icon to open the document

Felling specification.



Felling Specification

Risk assessment / emergency planning grid



Risk Assessment

Environmental Protection Policy



EPP 2013