

ASSESSOR COMMENTS:

Please continue on reverse if necessary

TECHNICAL VERIFIER SIGNATURE:

Cost:
£200 Half Day
£300 Full Day

DATE:

ASSESSOR SIGNATURE:

Guidance

The following information provides indicative content of the technical evaluation. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate practical skills and knowledge greater than that of a candidate, including exemplary performances upon demand. These guidance notes should also be read in conjunction with the relevant Qualification Guidance.

Legislation and environmental considerations

The person being evaluated should have knowledge of the key principles and practical relevance of the following legislation:

- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations
- Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations
- Lifting Operations Lifting Equipment Regulations
- Work at Height Regulations
- Wildlife and Countryside Act
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act
- European Protected Species Directive

Applicants will be asked to demonstrate further knowledge of how they would make arrangements to comply with above Regulations.

Sources of reference information and industry good practice guides

Applicants will require knowledge of the basic content and relevance of the following:

- Industry Code of Practice (ICOP): Tree Work
- BS3998: Recommendations for Tree Work

Risk assessment and environmental considerations

Applicants will be required to carry out a site specific risk assessment, and identify the nature and level of the risks associated with pruning operations.

Knowledge to be demonstrated on the impacts of specific wildlife such as bats and nesting birds on the pruning operation.

Tree identification

Applicant must be able to identify the species of tree to be worked upon, and at least two others on site. It will be expected the Applicant can comment and provide examples of how the following factors may effect tree pruning operations:

- Time of year
- Tree condition
- Tree species

Site and Tree Assessment

Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate site layout and possible factors to consider e.g.

- Access and egress

- Personnel
- Targets
- Selection of work equipment including pruning tools
- The Applicant will be expected to undertake a tree condition assessment.

Standards

The Applicant will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of how tree pruning work can be specified in accordance with BS3998.

Familiarity with a range of different tree pruning terms, their application and limitations

- Crown thinning
- Formative pruning
- Crown reduction
- Crown lifting
- Pollarding – information is to be provided by the Applicant on specific techniques that they may need to adopt during repollarding operations e.g. V-Cuts, false anchors, awareness of anchor point strength.

Pruning

The Applicant will be required to demonstrate knowledge of the following:

- Natural Target Pruning
- C.O.D.I.T
- Branch bark collar and branch bark ridge

Pruning Tools

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate the use of at least three different pruning tools, explaining the use and limitations of at least one additional pruning tool.

Technique selection

A specification is to be provided to the Applicant by the Assessor, in order to demonstrate the following techniques on an open grown tree:

- Crown thinning
- Crown reduction

