**INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF FORESTRY/ARBORICULTURE FATALITY**

* **Issued by HSE’s Agricultural Sector to the Arboriculture & Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG); to assist with timely promotion of key health and safety messages.**
* **The details are based on initial notification and media coverage and do not fully reflect the detailed circumstances of the incident. The death has been treated as work related BUT this will be subject to further assessment.**
* **The links to existing H&S guidance are to help recipients promote health and safety and should not be taken to imply any detail about the cause of the incident.**

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| **Incident summary as notified to HSE or reported in the media** |
| **Date of incident** | 06/10/2022 |
| **Geographic area** | Nottinghamshire |
| **General nature of incident** | Person struck by tree during felling work |
| **Brief details of incident**  |
| Initial notification is that a worker was killed when felling a tree using a chainsaw and a ladder.  |
| **Links to relevant published guidance (HSE and industry publications)**Guidance can be found on the [HSE Tree work health & safety](https://www.hse.gov.uk/treework/index.htm) web site, the [Arboriculture Association](https://www.trees.org.uk/) and the [Forestry Industry Safety Accord (FISA)](https://ukfisa.com/Safety/Safety-Guides) websites, specifically [FISA 301 Chainsaw use](https://ukfisa.com/Safety/Safety-Guides/fisa-301) and [FISA 302 Chainsaw felling](https://ukfisa.com/Safety/Safety-Guides/fisa-302).  |
| **Key messages to promote**Being struck by a tree, or branches, during felling or other tree work is a significant cause of death and major injury in forestry, arboriculture and other land-based industries. Tree work is common, and the risks need to be managed. * Anyone involved in tree work, including felling, must be trained and competent for the task being done. Keep other people well away from work areas.
* Tree work must be planned and supervised. Check trees for signs of decay and other factors that may affect felling or the work to be done. Where necessary set up exclusion zones.
* Mechanised means of work such as grapples saws and tree shears are preferred to using chainsaws.
* Look out for dead wood, insecure/unstable branches and broken tops in the tree to be cut, and in adjacent trees.
* During felling, keep other people more than two tree lengths away.
* Keep the escape route and work area, clear of obstructions.
* Emergency arrangements should include first aid provision and ability to quickly contact emergency services.
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| **Link to known media report – None** |