

Do not let it happen in Norway

One or Two Systems
UK working at height update in Arb



Where Did This All Start for the UK

Legal requirements dates back to 2003. EU Directive on Working at Height Regulations 2003

UK Law :- The Health and Safety at work Act 1974

Work at Height Regulations 2005 (click)

The purpose is to prevent death and injury caused by a fall from height. If you are an employer or you control work at height.

In the regulations arrangements 2.(1).

'Work at Height' is defined as:

'Work in any place from where, if measures required by these regulations were not taken, a person could fall a distance liable to cause personal injury.

This means:

There is no minimum height requirement for work at height. Work at Height includes all work activities where there is a need to control the risk of falling any distance liable to cause personal injury, regardless of work task and duration. This includes getting to and returning from the place of work.

It places a duty on employers & contractors to ensure that all work at height is:

- Risk Assessed using hierarchy of control measures
- Appropriately supervised.
- Done in a way that is – as far as is reasonably practical – safe
- Always done by competent people, including managers and supervisors, who are appropriately trained and supervised.
- Done using appropriate equipment that is regularly inspected and maintained.

More Information on UK H&S

Click this link

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/treework/safety-topics/index.htm>





This document contains brief examples of the falls from height reported to HSE under RIDDOR.
All injured persons were arborists.

Falls involving a single rope

These incidents were identified using the methodology based on search terms (described in AFAG Paper 33/02):

www.hse.gov.uk/aboutus/meetings/lacs/aiaac/afag/071118/afag3302-forestry-arboriculture-riddor.pdf

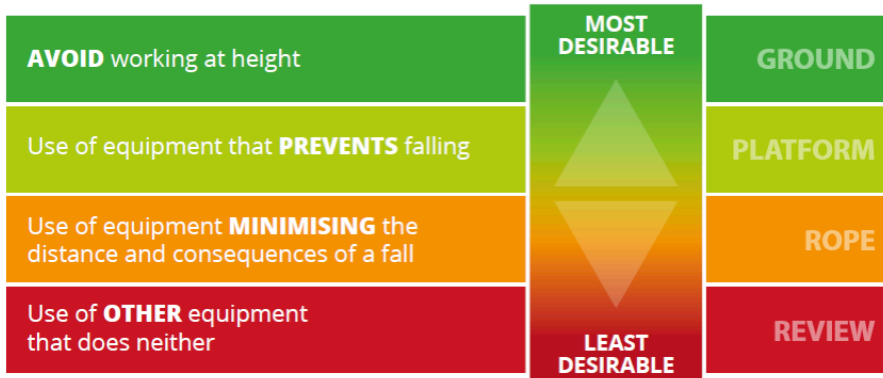
Please note the limitations on identifying arboricultural incidents reported via the RIDDOR notification system, as outlined in AFAG Paper 33/02. A further caveat to these examples include the limited search terms used.

All climbers had one point of attachment to their tree when the fall occurred.

Incident	Consequences	AAAC
2017-18		
Cut climbing rope with chainsaw whilst removing dead branches and old stubs.	Fatal injuries	N
Failed to complete the engagement on to the D ring when moving around the canopy.	Fractured ribs and head injury	N
Removing deadwood when the branch the climber was standing on failed. Upon weight transfer to higher anchor point (rope), this branch also failed.	Fractured vertebrae	Y
Cut climbing rope with chainsaw whilst removing main stem.	Fractured lower limb	N
Having removed lanyard to reach a hanger, bowline knot on climbing line came undone.	Several fractures	N
Rope slipped through mechanical friction hitch.	Fractured ribs	N
Transferred from one work position system to another with an inadequate knot.	Fractured lower limb	Y
Stem used as anchor for short rope and foot support collapsed during hedge cutting.	Fractured vertebrae	N
During descent prussik loop slipped off the end of the rope as no stopper knot had been tied.	Fractured lower limb	Y
Removed lanyard to move up the tree and friction knot did not grip the rope.	Fractured vertebrae	Y
As the secondary line was thrown around the trunk, primary line flicked over the top anchor point.	Fractured upper limb	N
Transitioned from ladder when limb used for rope anchor failed.	Specified injury	N
Changing position and single anchor slipped off stub.	Fractured vertebrae	Y
Fell while moving position.	Broken vertebrae	N
2016-17		
Ran out of climbing line.	Loss of consciousness	N
Limb used as anchor for climbing line failed during descent.	Fractured vertebrae	N
Limb failure.	Fractured lower limb	N
Fall during descent on main line. Unclear whether limb failure, equipment failure or error with knot.	Fractured vertebra	Y
Branch dislodged rope from hook attached to crane lowering climber.	Fractured vertebra	N
Accessed tree with ladder, attached lanyard, limb failed before main climbing line in place.	Fracture lower limb	Y
Stood on branch which failed as did branch providing anchor for climbing line.	Fractured ribs	Y
Fell due to issue with mechanical friction device; unclear if item failed or used incorrectly.	Fractured lower limb	Y
Disconnected lanyard while spiking having placed climbing line around main stem of adjacent tree. Unclear why climbing line did not prevent fall.	Fractured lower limb	Y

<https://www.trees.org.uk>

Planing Work at Height



ISA

PERSONAL FALL PROTECTION SYSTEMS in Tree Work

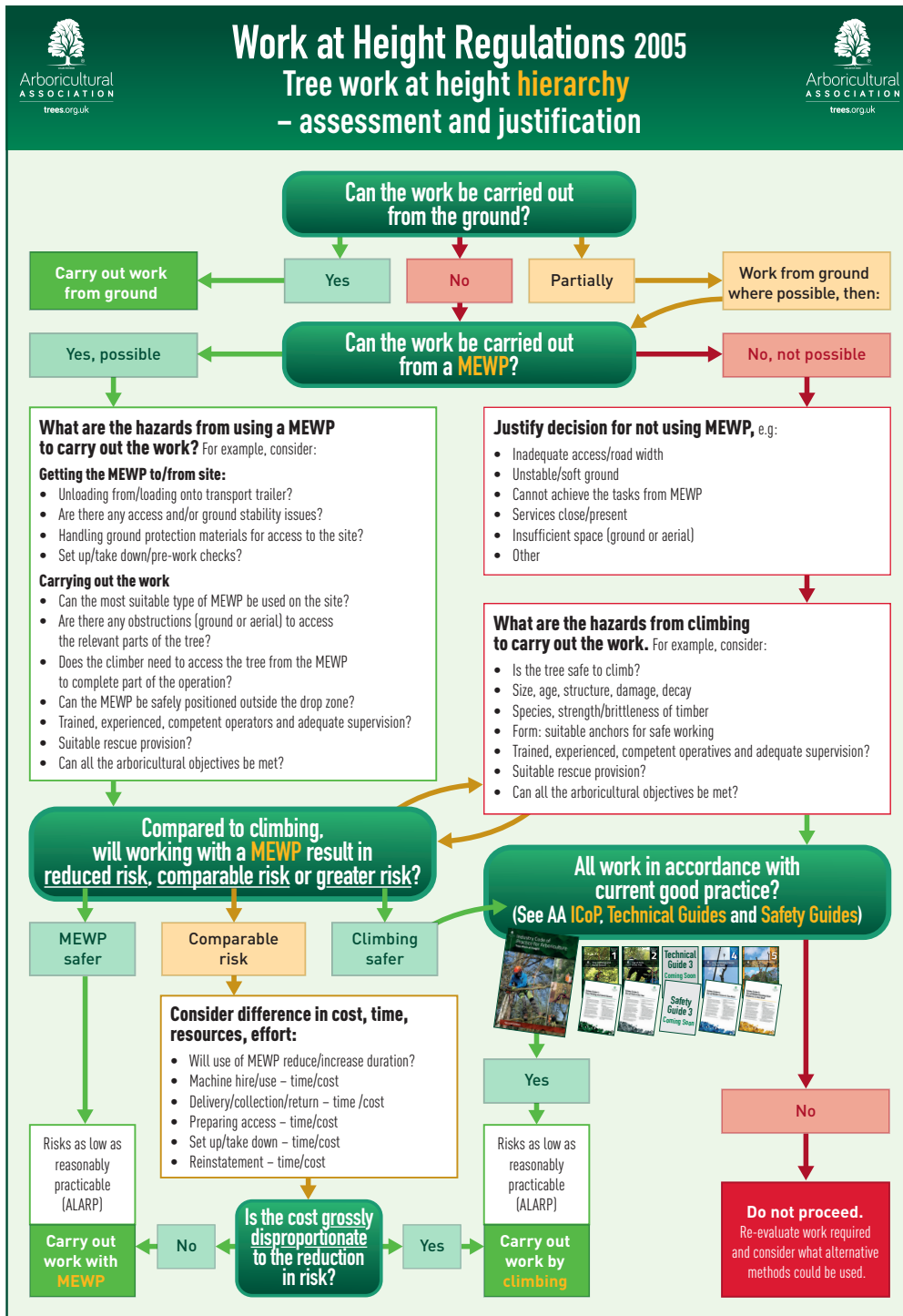


6.1.1 TG1 A personal Fall Protection System, comprising a primary system and backup, allows the user to ascend, move around the tree and descend using the branch structure for support and anchorage.

6.1.2 Personal fall protection systems used by climbers are a collection of components which, when used correctly, work together to prevent a fall, limit the potential for a fall or minimise the distance and consequences of a fall.



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