

INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL/FORESTRY FATALITY

- This notification is issued by HSE’s Agricultural Sector to Farm Safety Partnership, FISA and AIAC members, to assist timely promotion of key health and safety messages.
- The details below are based on initial notification and media coverage and do not fully reflect the detailed circumstances of the incident. At the moment the death has been treated as work related BUT this will be subject to further assessment when more details are known.
- The links to existing H&S guidance are intended to help recipients to promote health and safety and should not be taken to imply anything specific about the circumstances of the incident.
- Recipients are asked to feedback a summary of action they have taken within 2 weeks of receipt of this notification.

Notification number:	2018/01
Release date of fatal alert:	10 January 2018
HSE Sector contact for further details:	Andrew Turner (andrew.turner@hse.gov.uk)
Cleared for release by head of Sector on:	09 January 2018
Feedback to be provided to HSE by:	24 January 2018
Please send feedback to:	nick.sangha@hse.gov.uk
Action required by FSP/AIAC members	
To disseminate relevant safety messages amongst your membership and your other industry contacts to influence those that engage in tree work, either professionally or as an occasional feature of their business. We should aim to promote the guidance on managing the risks involved in tree work remembering that from time-to-time this work is also carried out on estates, farms and other agricultural locations.	

Incident summary as notified to HSE or reported in the media

Age of person killed	<16 <input type="checkbox"/>	25-34 <input type="checkbox"/>	45-54 <input type="checkbox"/>	65 and over <input type="checkbox"/>
(mark age range)	16-24 <input type="checkbox"/>	35-44 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	55-64 <input type="checkbox"/>	Age not known <input type="checkbox"/>
Employment status:	Self-employed	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Employee	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Member of public	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Not yet known	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Date of incident	7 January 2018			
Geographic area	Chester			
General nature of incident	Tree work			

Brief details of incident

Initial notification is that a man was killed whilst felling and cutting trees.

Links to relevant published guidance (HSE and Partnership publications)

Further guidance can be found on the HSE [Tree work health & safety web site](#) This is primarily aimed at those carrying out frequent tree work such as [tree surgeons](#), but the principles should still be followed by occasional users such as farmers and landowners. For those with a greater interest in tree work a detailed suite of forestry safety guides, including some which are relevant to arboriculture, can be found on the [Forestry Industry Safety Accord \(FISA\) website](#).

Key messages for FSP/AIAC members to promote

Anyone involved in using chainsaws, felling or other tree work must be suitably [trained](#) and competent for the tasks they are undertaking.

The majority of fatal and major injuries in tree work are a result of work with a chainsaw, being struck by a tree/tree branch, or from falling from a tree or ladder.

Equipment including saws, ropes and harnesses and [PPE](#) must be in good condition and well maintained.

Anyone working with [chainsaws](#) needs to be trained in emergency [first aid](#), and in particular how to control major bleeding and deal with crush injuries.

Link to known media report

None identified

Feedback/evaluation *(proposed action taken by stakeholders)*