

# TREE MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE VOTING RESULTS

Tree Management For Public Safety  
Royal Geographical Society  
29th May 2008  
Summary Data

Which is your favorite tree species? (A question simply to get you used to the handsets)

	Total/Average	Total %
Oak	91	42.32%
Beech	52	14.88%
London Plane	15	6.98%
Other broadleaf	48	22.33%
Cedar	8	3.72%
Other conifer	21	9.77%

Do you see trees as an asset or liability?

	Total/Average	Total %
Positively an asset	188	73.73%
Asset	52	20.39%
No view	3	1.18%
Liability	6	2.53%
Serious liability	6	2.53%

Do you see trees as an asset or liability?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant %	Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %
Positively an asset	8	72.73%	82	74.54%	15	88.25%	56	71.80%	2	66.67%	5	55.50%	11	78.58%
Asset	2	18.18%	24	21.82%	1	5.88%	17	21.79%	1	33.33%	3	33.33%	1	7.14%
No view	0	0%	1	0.91%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	11.11%	1	7.14%
Liability	1	9.09%	1	0.91%	0	0%	3	3.85%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Serious liability	0	0%	2	1.82%	1	5.88%	2	2.56%	0	0%	0	0%	1	7.14%

Which of the following best describes your principal involvement with trees?

	Total/Average	Total %
Private owner	11	4.44%
Public sector agent (eg. local government employee)	112	43.17%
Charity agent	17	6.85%
Professional adviser/consultant	82	31.06%
Contractor	3	1.21%
Policy-maker	9	3.63%
Other	14	5.65%

Are the populations of trees with which you are mainly concerned urban or rural?

	Total/Average	Total %
Urban	43	16.67%
75% urban/25% rural	42	16.28%
50% urban/50% rural	37	14.34%
25% urban/75% rural	92	35.66%
Distinction not relevant to my involvement with trees	44	17.05%

Are the populations of trees with which you are mainly concerned urban or rural?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant %	Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %
Urban	0	0%	26	23.65%	2	11.77%	8	10.13%	0	0%	3	33.34%	1	7.70%
75% urban/25% rural	0	0%	23	20.91%	1	5.88%	14	17.72%	1	33.34%	2	22.22%	0	0%
50% urban/50% rural	0	0%	16	14.55%	1	5.88%	16	20.25%	1	33.33%	0	0%	0	0%
25% urban/75% rural	6	54.55%	34	30.91%	12	70.59%	29	36.71%	1	33.33%	1	11.11%	2	15.38%
Distinction not relevant to my involvement with trees	5	45.45%	11	10%	1	5.88%	12	15.19%	0	0%	3	33.33%	10	76.92%

What is the scale of the tree population with which you are concerned?

	Total/Average	Total %
National (eg. FC)	44	16.74%
Large (eg. regional/country)	78	29.66%
Intermediate (eg. district/borough/large estate)	107	40.68%
Small (eg. estate/garden open to public)	15	5.70%
Other	19	7.22%

What is the scale of the tree population with which you are concerned?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant %	Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %
National (eg. FC)	0	0%	11	9.81%	7	41.17%	14	17.50%	0	0%	6	66.67%	4	30.78%
Large (eg. regional/country)	2	18.19%	35	31.25%	4	23.53%	30	37.50%	1	33.34%	2	22.22%	1	7.69%
Intermediate (eg. district/borough/large estate)	6	54.55%	64	57.14%	3	17.65%	23	28.75%	2	66.67%	1	11.11%	1	7.69%
Small (eg. estate/garden open to public)	3	27.27%	2	1.79%	1	5.88%	4	5%	0	0%	0	0%	2	15.38%
Other	0	0%	0	0%	2	11.76%	9	11.25%	0	0%	0	0%	5	38.46%

What proportion of your working time tends to be concerned with tree safety issues?

	Total/Average	Total %
<10%	95	36.81%
11-25%	54	20.39%
26-50%	43	16.67%
51-75%	35	13.57%
>75%	31	12.02%

What proportion of your working time tends to be concerned with tree safety issues?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant %	Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %
<10%	9	81.82%	25	22.32%	11	64.72%	27	34.18%	1	33.34%	7	77.78%	10	90.91%
11-25%	1	9.09%	25	22.32%	3	17.65%	19	24.05%	1	33.33%	1	11.11%	1	9.09%
26-50%	0	0%	27	24.11%	1	5.88%	11	13.92%	1	33.33%	1	11.11%	0	0%
51-75%	0	0%	21	18.75%	2	11.76%	9	11.39%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
>75%	1	9.09%	14	12.50%	0	0%	13	16.46%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Place in order of greatest risk to one's health and safety?

	Total/Average	Total %
Attending this conference	529	20.77%
Being struck by a tree	188	11.87%
Drowning while bathing	545	34.41%
Smoking	925	58.40%
Driving	266	79.02%
Walking along a cliff edge	545	34.41%

Place in order of greatest risk to one's health and safety?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant %	Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %
Attending this conference	21	31.82%	167	25.30%	13	13.54%	70	14.40%	4	22.22%	21	38.89%	18	23.88%
Being struck by a tree	9	13.64%	101	15.30%	6	6.25%	39	8.02%	5	27.78%	8	14.81%	1	1.26%
Drowning while bathing	22	33.33%	296	44.85%	24	25%	129	26.54%	8	44.44%	18	33.33%	9	11.54%
Smoking	31	46.97%	425	64.39%	46	47.92%	262	53.91%	11	61.11%	39	72.22%	43	55.13%
Driving	43	65.15%	560	84.85%	74	77.08%	390	80.25%	18	100%	35	64.81%	43	55.13%
Walking along a cliff edge	30	45.45%	365	46.21%	12	12.50%	119	24.49%	7	38.89%	22	40.74%	14	17.95%

Current tree accident statistics do not provide sufficient information for the development of safety policy.

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	74	28.57%
Agree	116	44.79%
No view	32	12.36%
Disagree	33	12.74%
Disagree strongly	4	1.54%

Current tree accident statistics do not provide sufficient information for the development of safety policy.

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant %	Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %
Agree strongly	3	27.27%	32	29.10%	4	23.53%	24	30.38%	2	66.67%	2	25%	4	36.37%
Agree	6	54.55%	49	44.55%	3	17.65%	37	46.84%	1	33.33%	4	50%	5	45.45%
No view	2	18.18%	9	8.18%	6	35.29%	6	7.59%	0	0%	2	25%	2	18.18%
Disagree	0	0%	18	16.36%	4	23.53%	10	12.66%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	2	1.82%	0	0%	2	2.53%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

It is impossible to inspect all trees nationally for risks annually therefore a risk based approach to prioritising management is essential.

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	184	71.05%
Agree	63	24.32%
No view	4	1.54%
Disagree	6	2.32%
Disagree strongly	2	0.77%

It is impossible to inspect all trees nationally for risks annually therefore a risk based approach to prioritising management is essential.

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant %	Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %
Agree strongly	7	63.64%	71	64.54%	13	76.47%	60	77.93%	1	33.33%	9	100%	10	90.91%
Agree	4	36.36%	33	30%	3	17.65%	14	18.18%	2	66.67%	0	0%	0	0%
No view	0	0%	1	0.91%	1	5.88%	1	1.30%	0	0%	0	0%	1	9.09%
Disagree	0	0%	4	3.64%	0	0%	1	1.30%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	1	0.91%	0	0%	1	1.30%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

It is impossible to identify a tree as safe.

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	64	24.42%
Agree	127	48.47%
No view	11	4.20%
Disagree	51	19.47%
Disagree strongly	9	3.44%

# TREE MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE VOTING RESULTS

It is impossible to identify a tree as safe.	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Agree strongly	2	18.19%	19	17.26%	6	35.30%	24	31.16%	0	0%	2	22.23%	3	25%
Agree	4	36.36%	65	59.09%	6	32.29%	32	41.56%	2	66.67%	2	22.22%	4	33.33%
No view	0	0%	3	2.73%	1	5.88%	3	3.90%	0	0%	1	11.11%	2	16.67%
Disagree	5	45.45%	20	18.18%	4	23.53%	12	15.58%	1	33.33%	4	44.44%	3	25%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	3	2.73%	0	0%	6	7.79%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Tree safety management could be divided into stages: 1) Assessment of the area under management to prioritise the frequency and level of inspection of zones 2) Basic inspection of zones to identify trees that cause concern 3) Expert/professional inspection of those trees that cause concern. Do you agree with the idea that these steps require different knowledge and expertise and while they often are performed by one individual they can be seen as separate processes?

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	59	22.86%
Agree	156	60.47%
No view	13	5.04%
Disagree	28	10.85%
Disagree strongly	2	0.79%

Tree safety management could be divided into stages: 1) Assessment of the area under management to prioritise the frequency and level of inspection of zones 2) Basic inspection of zones to identify trees that cause concern 3) Expert/professional inspection of those trees that cause concern. Do you agree with the idea that these steps require different knowledge and expertise and while they often are performed by one individual they can be seen as separate processes?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Agree strongly	3	27.27%	18	16.81%	3	18.75%	26	33.34%	0	0%	3	37.50%	2	15.38%
Agree	6	54.55%	71	66.36%	10	62.50%	43	55.13%	1	33.34%	4	50%	7	53.85%
No view	0	0%	2	1.87%	2	12.50%	2	2.56%	1	33.33%	1	12.50%	4	30.77%
Disagree	2	18.18%	14	13.08%	1	6.25%	7	8.97%	1	33.33%	0	0%	0	0%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	2	1.87%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

It is regularly stated that there is a very low level of fatality from trees. Which one of the following most closely reflects your view of this statistic?

	Total/Average	Total %
Simplistic statements on overall risk are dangerous in that they mask the very much higher risks to the public by un-managed trees in some areas	112	43.57%
The statistic demonstrates the fact that existing management processes are effective and need to be reinforced	67	26.07%
This provides justification for low levels of policy intervention in this area	25	9.33%
None of these reflect my view	53	20.62%

It is regularly stated that there is a very low level of fatality from trees. Which one of the following most closely reflects your view of this statistic?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Simplistic statements on overall risk are dangerous in that they mask the very much higher risks to the public by un-managed trees in some areas	1	9.09%	48	44.87%	6	35.30%	36	48%	1	33.34%	4	44.45%	4	33.34%
The statistic demonstrates the fact that existing management processes are effective and need to be reinforced	6	54.55%	36	33.64%	5	29.41%	12	16%	0	0%	1	11.11%	3	25%
This provides justification for low levels of policy intervention in this area	2	18.18%	7	6.54%	2	11.76%	9	12%	1	33.33%	2	22.22%	1	8.33%
None of these reflect my view	2	18.18%	16	14.95%	4	23.53%	18	24%	1	33.33%	2	22.22%	4	33.33%

Landowners (public private and charitable) owe a Duty of Care in respect of the trees they own. The lack of a freely available nationally agreed approach to how this duty can reasonably be discharged is a significant problem.

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	126	47.91%
Agree	129	45.63%
No view	2	0.76%
Disagree	13	4.94%
Disagree strongly	2	0.76%

Landowners (public private and charitable) owe a Duty of Care in respect of the trees they own. The lack of a freely available nationally agreed approach to how this duty can reasonably be discharged is a significant problem.

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Agree strongly	9	81.82%	49	45.80%	7	43.75%	38	48.10%	2	100%	2	22.22%	8	61.54%
Agree	2	18.18%	52	48.66%	8	50%	36	45.57%	0	0%	6	66.67%	5	38.46%
No view	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1.27%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disagree	0	0%	5	4.67%	0	0%	4	5.06%	0	0%	1	11.11%	0	0%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	1	0.93%	1	6.25%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

The court process has been designed for settling dispute and not for developing policy. By considering the facts of a specific case with experts drawn to support a narrow viewpoint it is unreasonable to expect this process to develop a reasoned approach to tree safety management.

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	88	33.71%
Agree	136	52.11%
No view	16	6.13%
Disagree	18	6.90%
Disagree strongly	3	1.15%

The court process has been designed for settling dispute and not for developing policy. By considering the facts of a specific case with experts drawn to support a narrow viewpoint it is unreasonable to expect this process to develop a reasoned approach to tree safety management.

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Agree strongly	4	36.37%	31	29.25%	7	46.66%	28	35.45%	1	50%	2	22.22%	5	38.47%
Agree	5	45.45%	63	59.43%	6	40%	36	45.57%	1	50%	6	66.67%	5	38.46%
No view	1	9.09%	5	4.72%	1	6.67%	5	6.33%	0	0%	1	11.11%	2	15.38%
Disagree	0	0%	6	5.66%	1	6.67%	9	11.39%	0	0%	0	0%	1	7.69%
Disagree strongly	1	9.09%	1	0.94%	0	0%	1	1.27%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Health and safety law such as The Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA) has been designed around the controllable industrial/office environment. A modified approach is needed for risks to the public from the natural environment including trees.

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	88	53.85%
Agree	119	45.77%
No view	14	5.38%
Disagree	31	11.92%
Disagree strongly	8	3.08%

Health and safety law such as The Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA) has been designed around the controllable industrial/office environment. A modified approach is needed for risks to the public from the natural environment including trees.

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Agree strongly	2	18.18%	36	34.28%	7	43.75%	26	32.92%	0	0%	1	11.12%	9	69.23%
Agree	7	63.64%	49	46.67%	6	37.50%	35	44.30%	1	50%	2	22.22%	4	30.77%
No view	0	0%	4	3.81%	2	12.50%	5	6.33%	0	0%	2	22.22%	0	0%
Disagree	2	18.18%	12	11.43%	1	6.25%	10	12.66%	1	50%	3	33.33%	0	0%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	4	3.81%	0	0%	3	3.80%	0	0%	1	11.11%	0	0%

In lower risk areas (such as rural unclassified roads) is it reasonable to expect any individual to be able to undertake a basic inspection of trees sufficient to meet Duty of Care requirements?

	Total/Average	Total %
Yes	9	3.52%
Yes with adequate experience	97	37.89%
With basic training and accreditation (1 day course)	100	39.06%
No	47	18.56%
No view	3	1.17%

In lower risk areas (such as rural unclassified roads) is it reasonable to expect any individual to be able to undertake a basic inspection of trees sufficient to meet Duty of Care requirements?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Yes	0	0%	3	2.85%	2	12.50%	3	4%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Yes with adequate experience	7	63.64%	32	30.18%	6	37.50%	35	46.67%	1	50%	4	44.45%	2	16.67%
With basic training and accreditation (1 day course)	3	27.27%	46	43.40%	7	43.75%	22	29.33%	1	50%	4	44.44%	6	50%
No	1	9.09%	23	21.70%	0	0%	15	20%	0	0%	1	11.11%	4	33.33%
No view	0	0%	2	1.89%	1	6.25%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

# TREE MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE VOTING RESULTS

**Who is best placed to prioritise sites and determine levels of inspection required based on knowledge of the level of exposure and other characteristics of that site?**

	Total/Average	Total %
Site owners	64	24.70%
Professional tree inspectors	72	27.80%
Insurers/risk managers	11	4.25%
Agents/site managers/foresters	98	37.84%
Other	14	5.41%

**Who is best placed to prioritise sites and determine levels of inspection required based on knowledge of the level of exposure and other characteristics of that site?**

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Site owners	3	27.27%	23	22.34%	4	26.67%	20	25.63%	0	0%	3	33.34%	1	7.70%
Professional tree inspectors	1	9.09%	37	35.92%	0	0%	18	23.08%	1	50%	2	22.22%	5	38.46%
Insurers/risk managers	0	0%	3	2.91%	0	0%	4	5.13%	0	0%	2	22.22%	1	7.69%
Agents/site managers/foresters	7	63.64%	34	33.01%	11	73.33%	32	41.03%	0	0%	2	22.22%	5	38.46%
Other	0	0%	6	5.83%	0	0%	4	5.13%	1	50%	0	0%	1	7.69%

**Assuming that a basic level inspection has been properly carried out and some problem trees have been identified. What is an appropriate qualification for an individual to undertake a final higher level professional inspection? (Check all that apply.)**

	Total/Average	Total %
An arboriculturist	126	48.65%
An individual with specific experience in the management of trees for safety	152	58.69%
An individual accredited from a professional course in tree safety management	136	52.51%
Other	19	7.34%

**Assuming that a basic level inspection has been properly carried out and some problem trees have been identified. What is an appropriate qualification for an individual to undertake a final higher level professional inspection? (Check all that apply.)**

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
An arboriculturist	3	27.27%	55	52.38%	5	31.25%	42	54.55%	0	0%	6	75%	3	23.08%
An individual with specific experience in the management of trees for safety	10	90.91%	58	55.24%	13	81.25%	45	58.44%	1	50%	2	25%	9	69.23%
An individual accredited from a professional course in tree safety management	3	27.27%	61	58.10%	7	43.75%	38	49.35%	1	50%	5	62.50%	8	61.54%
Other	1	9.09%	12	11.43%	1	6.25%	2	2.60%	1	50%	0	0%	1	7.69%

**Do you believe that development of a technical standard for expert/professional inspections of trees requires a separate approach from that of developing a nationally agreed approach to how landowners discharge their Duty of Care to the public?**

	Total/Average	Total %
These are in fact the same issue and need to be considered together with the aim of developing one technical standard	64	24.34%
They are separate aspects of the same problem and require different approaches. However	129	49.05%
Any guidance for landowners needs to be non-technical	59	22.43%
No view	11	4.18%

**Do you believe that development of a technical standard for expert/professional inspections of trees requires a separate approach from that of developing a nationally agreed approach to how landowners discharge their Duty of Care to the public?**

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
These are in fact the same issue and need to be considered together with the aim of developing one technical standard	3	30%	27	25.47%	3	17.64%	14	17.94%	1	33.33%	2	22.22%	4	33.34%
They are separate aspects of the same problem and require different approaches. However	5	50%	55	51.89%	11	64.71%	37	47.44%	0	0%	7	77.78%	6	50%
Any guidance for landowners needs to be non-technical	2	20%	22	20.75%	3	17.65%	24	30.77%	0	0%	0	0%	1	8.33%
No view	0	0%	2	1.89%	0	0%	3	3.85%	2	66.67%	0	0%	1	8.33%

**If the expertise of qualified professional tree inspectors have never been questioned either by public or the courts why is there a need for a standardised approach to professional tree inspection?**

	Total/Average	Total %
They are being questioned by the courts	44	16.92%
Because there is poor agreement between professionals and this could be resolved by a standard	111	42.69%
There may become a time when existing qualifications and courses are questioned and we need to be prepared	53	20.38%
The public is asking for a standard	4	1.54%
There is no need for a standard	23	8.83%
Other	25	9.62%

**If the expertise of qualified professional tree inspectors have never been questioned either by public or the courts why is there a need for a standardised approach to professional tree inspection?**

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
They are being questioned by the courts	0	0%	16	15.85%	1	6.25%	16	20.25%	0	0%	2	22.22%	1	8.34%
Because there is poor agreement between professionals and this could be resolved by a standard	6	54.55%	43	42.57%	9	56.25%	32	40.51%	3	100%	3	33.33%	6	50%
There may become a time when existing qualifications and courses are questioned and we need to be prepared	4	36.36%	27	26.73%	1	6.25%	10	12.66%	0	0%	2	22.22%	3	25%
The public is asking for a standard	1	9.09%	1	0.99%	1	6.25%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
There is no need for a standard	0	0%	4	3.96%	2	12.50%	11	13.92%	0	0%	1	11.11%	1	8.33%
Other	0	0%	10	9.90%	2	12.50%	10	12.66%	0	0%	1	11.11%	1	8.33%

**The HSE Sector Information Minute (SIM 01/2007/05)**

**'Management of Risk from Falling Trees' acknowledges risk of death from tree failure being statistically insignificant though distinguishes these 'real risks' from the public's higher 'perceived risk'. Perceived risk should not over-ride the statistical basis for investment in risk reduction typically applied in other sectors of industry.**

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	78	30.70%
Agree	137	53.94%
No view	10	3.94%
Disagree	26	10.24%
Disagree strongly	3	1.18%

**The HSE Sector Information Minute (SIM 01/2007/05)**

**'Management of Risk from Falling Trees' acknowledges risk of death from tree failure being statistically insignificant though distinguishes these 'real risks' from the public's higher 'perceived risk'. Perceived risk should not over-ride the statistical basis for investment in risk reduction typically applied in other sectors of industry.**

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Agree strongly	2	18.18%	27	27.27%	5	31.25%	26	33.33%	0	0%	5	62.50%	5	41.67%
Agree	6	54.55%	60	60.61%	8	50%	38	48.72%	1	33.33%	3	37.50%	6	50%
No view	1	9.09%	2	2.02%	2	12.50%	4	5.13%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disagree	2	18.18%	9	9.09%	1	6.25%	8	10.26%	2	66.67%	0	0%	1	8.33%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	1	1.01%	0	0%	2	2.56%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

**Who would need to be involved in setting tree safety standards? (Check all that apply)**

	Total/Average	Total %
Local government tree officers	219	82.95%
Foresters	207	78.41%
Arboriculturists	246	93.18%
Courts/legal specialists	163	61.74%
HSE	200	75.76%
Tree owners	191	72.35%
National government	140	53.03%
Insurance/Risk analysis profession	167	63.28%
Society/Other	142	53.79%

**Who would need to be involved in setting tree safety standards? (Check all that apply)**

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Local government tree officers	6	54.55%	98	93.33%	14	82.35%	57	73.08%	3	100%	7	77.78%	9	75%
Foresters	9	81.82%	86	81.90%	15	89.24%	60	76.92%	2	66.67%	6	66.67%	8	66.67%
Arboriculturists	10	90.91%	102	97.14%	16	94.12%	72	92.31%	3	100%	8	88.89%	9	75%
Courts/legal specialists	4	36.36%	78	74.29%	8	47.06%	46	58.97%	3	100%	4	44.44%	4	33.33%
HSE	7	63.64%	89	84.76%	14	82.35%	57	73.08%	2	66.67%	5	55.56%	3	25%
Tree owners	9	81.82%	75	71.43%	13	76.47%	56	71.79%	2	66.67%	7	77.78%	7	58.33%
National government	2	18.18%	71	67.62%	5	29.41%	37	47.44%	3	100%	4	44.44%	4	33.33%
Insurance/Risk analysis profession	7	63.64%	71	67.62%	7	41.18%	50	64.10%	2	66.67%	5	55.56%	6	50%
Society/Other	3	27.27%	51	48.57%	12	70.59%	39	50%	2	66.67%	8	88.89%	9	75%

**In severe weather conditions (defined by Met office as Strong Gale and above) tree failure should always be considered an "Act of God".**

	Total/Average	Total %
Agree strongly	24	9.52%
Agree	74	29.37%
No view	21	8.33%
Disagree	105	41.67%
Disagree strongly	28	11.11%

**In severe weather conditions (defined by Met office as Strong Gale and above) tree failure should always be considered an "Act of God".**

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Agree strongly	2	18.19%	5	5.20%	2	11.77%	7	9.00%	0	0%	1	12.50%	2	18.19%
Agree	4	36.36%	31	32.29%	7	41.18%	16	20.78%	1	33.33%	1	0%	4	36.36%

# TREE MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE VOTING RESULTS

No view	2	18.18%	10	10.42%	0	0%	7	9.09%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disagree	3	27.27%	41	42.71%	6	33.20%	33	42.86%	2	66.67%	5	62.50%	4	36.36%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	9	9.38%	2	11.76%	14	18.18%	0	0%	2	25%	1	9.99%

Can the obligations of the public sector to inspect trees along public highways be integrated into the Duty of Care requirements of landowners? In the case of highways could landowners be subsidised to perform what could be seen as a shared duty?

Total/Average Total %

This would result in excessive bureaucracy and should not be considered	76	58.26%
Landowners can not be trusted to take seriously their Duty of Care	37	14.74%
This is an issue worth considering further	106	42.23%
No view	52	12.75%

Can the obligations of the public sector to inspect trees along public highways be integrated into the Duty of Care requirements of landowners? In the case of highways could landowners be subsidised to perform what could be seen as a shared duty?

Private owner Private owner % Public sector Public sector % Charity agent Charity agent % Adviser/Consultant Adviser/Consultant Contractor Contractor % Policy-maker Policy-maker % Other Other %

This would result in excessive bureaucracy and should not be considered	1	10%	36	36.74%	2	13.33%	21	26.92%	0	0%	4	50%	4	36.37%
Landowners can not be trusted to take seriously their Duty of Care	0	0%	20	20.41%	1	6.67%	8	10.26%	2	66.67%	0	0%	2	18.18%
This is an issue worth considering further	9	90%	31	31.63%	10	66.67%	35	44.87%	0	0%	2	25%	5	45.45%
No view	0	0%	11	11.22%	2	13.33%	14	17.95%	1	33.33%	2	25%	0	0%

How well do you believe that the HSE Sector Information Minute (SIM 01/2007/05) 'Management of Risk from Falling Trees' reflects current good practice in the management of tree risk?

Total/Average Total %

Exceptionally well	4	1.99%
Well	69	34.33%
Neutral	99	49.25%
Badly	22	10.95%
Very badly	7	3.48%

How well do you believe that the HSE Sector Information Minute (SIM 01/2007/05) 'Management of Risk from Falling Trees' reflects current good practice in the management of tree risk?

Private owner Private owner % Public sector Public sector % Charity agent Charity agent % Adviser/Consultant Adviser/Consultant Contractor Contractor % Policy-maker Policy-maker % Other Other %

Exceptionally well	0	0%	1	1.36%	1	9.09%	2	5.08%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Well	2	22.22%	25	32.48%	3	27.27%	27	41.53%	1	33.34%	4	57.14%	1	10%
Neutral	7	77.78%	36	46.75%	6	54.55%	29	44.62%	1	33.33%	1	14.29%	6	60%
Badly	0	0%	10	12.99%	1	9.09%	5	7.69%	1	33.33%	2	28.57%	3	30%
Very badly	0	0%	5	6.49%	0	0%	2	3.08%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

To what extent do you believe tree safety management should reflect the benefits of trees including their landscape environmental and biodiversity value?

Total/Average Total %

Environmental/landscape considerations are paramount	7	3.26%
Environmental/landscape considerations are more important than health and safety	24	11.15%
Environment/landscape and risk need to be balanced	164	76.28%
Environmental/landscape considerations are less important than health and safety	11	5.12%
Health and safety is always paramount	9	4.19%

To what extent do you believe tree safety management should reflect the benefits of trees including their landscape environmental and biodiversity value?

Private owner Private owner % Public sector Public sector % Charity agent Charity agent % Adviser/Consultant Adviser/Consultant Contractor Contractor % Policy-maker Policy-maker % Other Other %

Environmental/landscape considerations are paramount	1	11.11%	4	4.94%	0	0%	1	1.43%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Environmental/landscape considerations are more important than health and safety	0	0%	11	13.58%	2	15.39%	4	5.71%	1	33.33%	2	22.22%	3	27.27%
Environment/landscape and risk need to be balanced	8	88.89%	61	75.31%	10	76.92%	56	80%	2	66.67%	6	66.67%	8	72.73%
Environmental/landscape considerations are less important than health and safety	0	0%	3	3.70%	1	7.69%	7	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Health and safety is always paramount	0	0%	2	2.47%	0	0%	2	2.86%	0	0%	1	11.11%	0	0%

Do you believe a proper mechanism needs to be available for tree risk assessments to account for and balance risks from tree failure with the environmental and social costs of reducing those risks?

Total/Average Total %

It would be impossible to develop a mechanism	18	8.58%
No mechanism exists but it should be developed	111	52.86%
Mechanisms exist but they are not adequately explained	57	27.14%
It is implicit in all guidance and therefore covered	7	3.33%
No view	17	8.10%

Do you believe a proper mechanism needs to be available for tree risk assessments to account for and balance risks from tree failure with the environmental and social costs of reducing those risks?

Private owner Private owner % Public sector Public sector % Charity agent Charity agent % Adviser/Consultant Adviser/Consultant Contractor Contractor % Policy-maker Policy-maker % Other Other %

It would be impossible to develop a mechanism	0	0%	5	6.33%	1	7.70%	8	11.43%	1	33.34%	0	0%	1	9.99%
No mechanism exists but it should be developed	8	88.89%	43	54.43%	6	46.15%	33	47.14%	0	0%	6	66.67%	9	81.82%
Mechanisms exist but they are not adequately explained	0	0%	21	26.58%	5	38.46%	22	31.43%	1	33.33%	3	33.33%	1	9.99%
It is implicit in all guidance and therefore covered	1	11.11%	3	3.80%	0	0%	2	2.86%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
No view	0	0%	7	8.86%	1	7.69%	5	7.14%	1	33.33%	0	0%	0	0%

Tree-related fatality and serious injuries are infrequent events. Consequently the combination of coping with unfamiliar procedures at the same time as a human tragedy is both an unusual and highly stressful event. Representative organisations insurers and other relevant parties should consider how it is possible to provide support to individuals involved (eg landowner adviser) in these situations.

Total/Average Total %

Agree strongly	65	30.67%
Agree	123	58.96%
No view	14	6.66%
Disagree	6	2.83%
Disagree strongly	2	0.94%

Tree-related fatality and serious injuries are infrequent events. Consequently the combination of coping with unfamiliar procedures at the same time as a human tragedy is both an unusual and highly stressful event. Representative organisations insurers and other relevant parties should consider how it is possible to provide support to individuals involved (eg landowner adviser) in these situations.

Private owner Private owner % Public sector Public sector % Charity agent Charity agent % Adviser/Consultant Adviser/Consultant Contractor Contractor % Policy-maker Policy-maker % Other Other %

Agree strongly	3	33.33%	31	39.24%	5	38.46%	15	21.12%	0	0%	1	12.50%	4	36.36%
Agree	6	66.67%	44	55.76%	7	53.85%	46	64.79%	2	100%	4	50%	6	54.55%
No view	0	0%	2	2.53%	0	0%	8	11.27%	0	0%	2	25%	1	9.99%
Disagree	0	0%	0	0%	1	7.69%	2	2.82%	0	0%	1	12.50%	0	0%
Disagree strongly	0	0%	2	2.53%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

If national government will not pay for the costs of developing a standardised national approach to tree safety management and that document should be freely available what is the best way to pay for its development?

Total/Average Total %

Subscription from interested representative organisations	11	5.29%
It should not be free - user pays to purchase standard	24	11.54%
Industry levy	9	4.33%
Approaches to other parties including insurers and utilities	15	7.21%
A combination of approaches	149	71.63%

# TREE MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE VOTING RESULTS

If national government will not pay for the costs of developing a standardised national approach to tree safety management and that document should be freely available what is the best way to pay for its development?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Subscription from interested representative organisations	0	0%	6	7.50%	0	0%	1	1.49%	0	0%	0	0%	1	10%
It should not be free - user pays to purchase standard	1	12.50%	10	12.50%	0	0%	9	13.44%	0	0%	1	12.50%	1	10%
Industry levy	1	12.50%	4	5%	0	0%	4	5.97%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Approaches to other parties including insurers and utilities	0	0%	4	5%	1	1.25%	4	5.97%	0	0%	3	37.50%	2	20%
A combination of approaches	6	75%	56	70%	12	15%	49	73.13%	3	100%	4	50%	6	60%

Who is best placed to coordinate the development of a nationally agreed approach to the risk management of trees?

	Total/Average	Total %
Courts	4	1.86%
Insurance industry	4	1.86%
BSI	13	6.04%
Industry consensus (Tree officers/owners/Arboricultural/Forestry sector)	147	68.37%
Arboricultural sector alone	8	3.72%
HSE	15	6.98%
Government	10	4.55%
Natural England	2	0.93%
The general public	8	3.72%
Other	4	1.86%

Who is best placed to coordinate the development of a nationally agreed approach to the risk management of trees?

	Private owner	Private owner %	Public sector	Public sector %	Charity agent	Charity agent %	Adviser/Consultant	Adviser/Consultant Contractor	Contractor %	Policy-maker	Policy-maker %	Other	Other %	
Courts	0	0%	1	1.23%	0	0%	2	2.90%	0	0%	1	11.12%	0	0%
Insurance industry	0	0%	4	4.94%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
BSI	0	0%	6	7.42%	0	0%	5	7.24%	1	33.33%	0	0%	1	9.88%
Industry consensus (Tree officers/owners/Arboricultural/Forestry sector)	7	77.78%	49	60.49%	9	69.23%	50	72.46%	2	66.67%	4	44.44%	6	54.55%
Arboricultural sector alone	1	11.11%	3	3.70%	0	0%	4	5.80%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
HSE	1	11.11%	6	7.41%	0	0%	5	7.25%	0	0%	2	22.22%	1	9.89%
Government	0	0%	7	8.64%	0	0%	2	2.90%	0	0%	0	0%	1	9.89%
Natural England	0	0%	0	0%	1	7.69%	0	0%	0	0%	1	11.11%	0	0%
The general public	0	0%	2	2.47%	3	23.08%	1	1.45%	0	0%	1	11.11%	1	9.89%
Other	0	0%	3	3.70%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	9.89%