

# Job description

**Job title:** Senior Arborist  
**Grade:** Grade 9  
**Job evaluation reference:** NE298  
**Job family:** Natural Environment

## Purpose and impact

1. To undertake a range of Arboricultural maintenance works to Dorset Council owned trees, as directed, and assist the Council in meeting its priorities of helping to protect and enhance Dorset's environment, helping to improve the wellbeing of its residents through the maintenance and provision of tree lined streets and by helping residents to stay safe by managing and maintaining highway trees.

## Key responsibilities

2. Undertake a full range of Arboricultural works including climbing (work positioning of rope and harness) and working from height from a MEWP.
3. Drive relevant vehicles and operate Arboricultural equipment as required.
4. Inform the Arboricultural Supervisor of any mechanical defects or breakdowns to team vehicles or equipment.
5. Assist in the monitoring and management of public on site.
6. Ensure that the vehicle and equipment allocated to the team is kept clean, tidy and secure.
7. Be responsible for ensuring that all work is carried out in a safe manner, observing all health and safety requirements, such as the wearing of correct PPE.
8. Ensure that all relevant paperwork is accurate and presented on time.
9. Undertake routine maintenance of Arboricultural equipment, tools and machinery.
10. At all times, adopt an attitude which helps to promote the good image of the Council when in contact with the public, clients, agencies and other Council staff.
11. Report accidents and incidents promptly to the Arboricultural Supervisor.
12. Attend training courses to improve skills, as requested.
13. In the Arboricultural Supervisor's absence, take responsibility for the team.

NB: The duties and responsibilities of this post are not restrictive, and the post holder may be required on occasion to undertake other duties. This will not substantially change the nature of the post.

## Supervision and management

Reporting to: Arboricultural Supervisor

Responsibility for: The development and mentoring of the Senior Arborist,  
Arborist and Apprentice

## Other factors

14. Be responsible for ensuring that all tools and equipment are safe to use.



15. Daily exposure to the elements including adverse weather conditions – heavy rain, gale force winds, sub-zero temperatures, snow and ice.
16. Exposure to noise and fast-moving traffic when working next to roads.
17. Working with dangerous machinery i.e. daily use of chainsaws and chipper.
18. Working at height including use of rope and harness and chainsaws and MEWP.
19. Dealing with members of the public.
20. An Enhanced DBS check is required.

### **Our values**

Our values act as guiding principles, defining what we believe is important in the ways we work together. Our values are Respect, Together, Accountability, Openness and Curiosity. You will need to be able to demonstrate these values in action through the way you work, regardless of your role within the organisation. Information about our values can be found on our website.



# Person specification

Your application will be assessed based on your demonstration of how you fulfil the following criteria; you should include clear examples of how you meet these criteria within your application form and during the assessment process.

## Essential

Essential criteria are the minimum requirement for the above post and will be assessed through a combination of your application form, assessment, interview and references (as specified below). We will require evidence of the qualifications, training or registrations listed below.

| <b>Qualifications, training or registrations</b><br>Required by law or essential to the performance of the role or both                                 | <b>Assessed through:</b>                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1. Relevant Arboricultural qualifications such as: CS 30/31 (Unit 201/202/203); CS 38 (unit 206), CS 39 (unit 308), CS 41 (unit 309) or working towards | Application form                            |
| 2. First Aid at Work                                                                                                                                    | Application form                            |
| <b>Experience</b>                                                                                                                                       |                                             |
| 3. Substantial previous Arboricultural experience                                                                                                       | Application form<br>Interview<br>Assessment |
| 4. Experience of using chippers and stump grinders                                                                                                      | Application form<br>Interview<br>Assessment |
| <b>Knowledge</b>                                                                                                                                        |                                             |
| 5. An understanding of the application of health and safety within the area of responsibility                                                           | Application form<br>Interview<br>Assessment |
| <b>Skills and abilities</b>                                                                                                                             |                                             |
| 6. Good communication skills                                                                                                                            | Interview<br>Assessment<br>References       |
| 7. Ability to work as part of a team                                                                                                                    | Interview<br>Assessment<br>References       |
| 8. Climbing and use of chainsaw at height                                                                                                               | Interview<br>Assessment<br>References       |
| 9. Flexible and willing to study and learn                                                                                                              | Interview<br>Assessment<br>References       |
| 10. The ability to supervise and instruct an apprentice                                                                                                 | Interview<br>Assessment<br>References       |
| 11. Ability to deal with potential situations of conflict                                                                                               | Interview<br>Assessment<br>References       |
| <b>Our values</b>                                                                                                                                       |                                             |
| 12. Respect                                                                                                                                             | Interview<br>Assessment                     |
| 13. Together                                                                                                                                            | Interview<br>Assessment                     |
| 14. Accountability                                                                                                                                      | Interview                                   |



|                                                           |                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|                                                           | Assessment              |
| 15. Openness                                              | Interview<br>Assessment |
| 16. Curiosity                                             | Interview<br>Assessment |
| <b>Other</b>                                              |                         |
| 17. Ability to fulfil the travel requirements of the post |                         |
| 18. Ability to work outdoors in all weathers              |                         |
| 19. To be motivated, enthusiastic and adaptable           |                         |
| 20. Current valid <b>manual</b> driving licence           |                         |
| 21. An Enhanced DBS check is required                     |                         |

## Desirable

Desirable criteria will be used in the event of multiple applicants meeting the minimum essential requirements and if applicable, will be assessed through a combination of your application form, assessment, interview and references (as specified below). If you meet the desirable criteria, we will require evidence of the qualifications, training or registrations listed below.

| Qualifications, training or registrations                                                   | Assessed through:                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 22. Any other NPTC or LANTRA units relevant to the post e.g. chippers, stump grinders, etc. | Application form                            |
| 23. Bat awareness training                                                                  | Application form                            |
| <b>Experience</b>                                                                           |                                             |
| 24. Some experience in the use of IT e.g. tablet                                            | Application form<br>Interview<br>Assessment |
| <b>Other</b>                                                                                |                                             |
| 25. HGV Licence                                                                             |                                             |

## Approval

Manager's job title: Arboriculture & Grounds Team Manager  
Date: February 2024

