

Level 3 Award in Utility Arboriculture – Surveyor (Railway Networks)



At a glance...

Qualification

Prerequisites: Before doing this qualification, you must have completed the Level 2 Award in Utility Arboriculture - Basic Electrical Knowledge, or industry accepted equivalent.

Introduction

Show that you have what it takes to survey the vegetation on rail networks with this Lantra qualification.

Overview in brief

With thousands of miles of line, the UK railway network is a marvel of engineering, however the network is dependant on vegetation management to keep the lines working as they should. The surveying of vegetation near railway lines is an essential part of the work to keep trains moving, this qualification allows you to demonstrate that you have what it takes to carry out this highly specialised work safely and efficiently.

The finer details

This qualification is regulated by Ofqual.

Completing the qualification will count as a license to practice for those that wish to do vegetation surveys around rail networks.

The qualification is made up of four mandatory units and two mandatory optional units to give two distinct pathways within the qualification and one optional additional unit. Learners must complete all the mandatory units and at least one mandatory optional unit in order to gain the qualification.

This page relates specifically to the railway networks pathway - if you search for Level 3 Award in Utility Arboriculture – Surveyor (Electrical Networks), you can see the information regarding the other pathway.

Who should attend?



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This qualification has been developed for individuals carrying out roles in surveying and controlling vegetation in proximity to power lines, particularly in the utility arboricultural sector.



What will be covered?

This qualification covers the following:

- Understanding of the significance of botanical nomenclature
- Being able to identify broadleaf tree species
- Being able to identify coniferous tree species
- Being able to identify a range of shrubs
- Understanding of the significance of the differing characteristics of species in relation to overhead line clearance
- Understanding of hazards associated with climbing plants
- Understanding of hazards and defects related to trees
- Understanding ill health in trees
- Be able to identify decay fungi and its significance
- The ability to demonstrate a knowledge of trees and their characteristics
- Understanding of how veteran trees in proximity of utilities should be managed
- Understanding of what is meant by the term 'dangerous overhang' and how it can affect utilities
- Understanding of the use of pruning in maintaining the infrastructure
- Understanding of the need to deal with arisings appropriately
- Understanding of the implications of environmental legislation
- Understanding of the limitations of the use of herbicides
- Understanding the importance of linear utilities as wildlife corridors
- Understanding the importance of managing hedgerows
- Demonstration of an understanding of protected species
- Health and Safety Management
- Understanding of the role of utility surveyor
- Negotiation of the necessary permissions for work to be carried out
- Carrying out a line span survey and making recommendations
- Understanding where additional contact/precautions over and above the standard contact with the landowner might be required
- Demonstration of knowledge of the legislation and guidelines pertaining to vegetation management in proximity of rail infrastructure
- Being able to identify types of rail infrastructure assets and their function
- Being able to understand how trees interact positively and negatively with rail infrastructure
- Being able to understand the operational requirements within standard control frameworks
- Being able to understand requirements regarding operational planning and on site risk control.



There is also an optional additional unit that covers:

- The ability to understand the safe working requirements for undertaking tree surveys and inspections
- Being able to understand the legal framework relating to tree inspection and survey
- Understanding the significance of 'survey' as opposed to 'inspection'
- Understanding of the application of a range of equipment for tree inspections
- Being able to identify the signs and symptoms of tree hazards
- Understanding of the categorisation of risk
- Carrying out tree inspections.

