

# Package L

## **Risk Management**

#### Introduction

Whether it is the collection of litter from high speed roads, mowing on slopes or working with hazardous chemicals, all work activities which present a significant risk of injury must be adequately risk assessed. New work must not commence until a suitable and sufficient risk assessment has been carried out.

The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations place a legal duty on employers to ensure that effective procedures are in place to manage health and safety risk. Local authorities who employ staff directly through Direct Service Organisations will be aware of their responsibilities to produce risk assessments. Councils who employer external grounds maintenance contractors are not exempt from this as they also have a duty of care to ensure that their contractors adequate risk assessments and safe working methods are in place.

The primary objective of health and safety risk assessment is to ensure that effective precautions are in place to prevent accidents and damage to health. These risk assessment should be reviewed and updated regularly by competent people, and amendments made as required.

We are pleased to offer a risk management package developed especially for grounds maintenance operations. GroundsConsulting can offer a risk management service which will provide:

- A structured examination of all potentially hazardous activities carried out as part of the grounds maintenance operations.
- Guidance on selecting the most appropriate control measure for the risk identified.
- A means of prioritising risks ensuring resources are targeted in the most cost effective and appropriate manner.
- A system which meets your specific requirements for the recording of assessment.

### Methodology

GroundsConsulting will review grounds maintenance operations carried out by your in-house team or contractor, examining any current risk assessments and safe systems of work specific to these operations. We will look at the responsibilities of your in-house team, identifying key tasks and operations such as grass cutting, hedge cutting, shrub bed maintenance, weed spraying and maintenance of floral displays.

We will follow a 5 step risk assessment which will enable us to develop bespoke Risk Assessments for carrying out these tasks. This includes:

- 1. Look for the hazards associated with the work activities
- 2. Decide who might be harmed
- 3. Evaluate the risk and decide on the controls
- 4. Record the findings and implement them
- 5. Review your assessment and update if necessary

This package will ensure that you have adequate site specific and task specific risk assessments in place that meet the requirements of your health and safety responsibilities.

#### **Additional Services**

In addition to reviewing and carrying out risk assessments, GroundsConsulting can provide an external audit of your risk assessments.

GroundsConsulting can provide further specialist risk assessments such as:

- Highway Working Risk Assessments
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Assessments
- Manual Handling Assessment
- Display Screen Equipment Assessment
- Fire Risk Assessment
- First Aid Risk Assessment
- **Drivers Risk Assessment**
- Predictive Risk Assessments (Hand Arm Vibration)
- Predictive Risk Assessments (Noise Management)