What we’re going to do

Unless there is an emergency, we will not start risk reduction tree work until the annual active assessments have been carried out. That way, we’ll know how much work there is, where it is, and how much of our tree management budget we have to spend on it. This will enable us to prioritise risk reduction work over other tree maintenance, and plan it in a cost-effective way.

Emergencies

Where there is an unacceptable risk, and tree failure appears to be imminent we’ll get a tree crew there to deal with it as soon as we can.

Unacceptable Red Risks

Our contractors will prioritise unacceptable risk reduction works. However, this will be done pragmatically. For example, we will avoid sending a tree crew from one side of our area to another to carry out two different jobs where more time is spent traveling than doing the work.

We also have to deal with other risks from trees, such as low branches, road signs being obscured, and visibility splays. On top of that, other work is necessary like planting and pruning to ensure our trees are providing the benefits we need. When they are close enough to each other, we’ll combine these other works with risk reduction to get the most from our tree maintenance budget.

Tolerable NOT ALARP Amber Risks

Amber Tolerable NOT ALARP risk reductions will be co-ordinated with other tree maintenance works. If there is not enough budget to carry out amber risk reduction and other works, then priority will be given to the risk reduction work.

Review

We will meet our contractors every month and monitor how risk reduction work priorities are being carried out. If we can make any improvements in our work priorities they will be made here, and noted in Appendix C the Tree Risk-Benefit Management Plan.