Method Statement

Risk Assessment/COSHH	Title
RA–069	Chainsaw
RA-033	Re-Fuelling Of Plant In Depot
RA-040	Straight Fell
RA-041	Sectional Fell
RA-042	Removal of Trees
Resources for Activity	Chainsaw, 2 Stroke Oil Mixture, Petrol, Combi Can, Operative, His Vis Clothing, Chainsaw Safety Trouser, Chainsaw Boots, Chainsaw Gloves, Chainsaw spec helmet combination inc ear & face protection First Aid Kit

Work Sequence	
1.	**Chainsaw; General**
1.1	Only commence use if you have received appropriate training and are competent in the use of chainsaw
1.2	Read **all** of the instructions before you use the chainsaw.
1.3	The Chainsaw is designed to cut wood only. DO NOT USE IT FOR ANYTHING ELSE. Carelessness or misuse could cause a serious or fatal accident.
1.4	Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
1.5	Dust or sparks from your work can damage things nearby. Ensure appropriate safeguards are in place to prevent this.
2.	**Before Starting Work**
2.1	Undertake pre-use checks. Check your machine, engine and all equipment. Do not use anything found damaged - contact your supervisor.
2.2	All operatives to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment. Minimum six points of PPE:- 1. Hi Vis long sleeved jacket (Class 3) 2. Hi Vis Trousers (Type C Class 1 Chainsaw trousers) 3. Hard Hat (Chainsaw spec helmet combination including ear & face protection) 4. Safety lace up boots – No Rigger boots (Class 1 chainsaw boots) 5. Suitable Gloves (Chainsaw gloves class 1) 6. Eye protection
2.3	Carry out a 5 minute briefing prior to leaving for site and ensure that all documentation required for the day's activities are contained within the job pack

Work Sequence	
2.4	Upon arrival at site carry out a site specific risk assessment (SSRA). Amend the SSRA as required during the day's activities
2.5	Make sure the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.
2.6	Protect other people from the noise and dust. Warn others to keep away while the chainsaw is in use. Additional safeguards such as barriers may be required when working in the vicinity of members of the public.
2.7	If other members of the gang need to work in the same area as the hedge-cutting work they will need to wear ear protection and face protection. Do not operate the chainsaw in a confined site.
2.8	Make sure you carry out a regular visual inspection of the cutting blades for any imperfections. If there are any report the damage, DO NOT CONTINUE TO USE
2.9	Replace chain when it has reached its sharpening mark on the blade.
2.10	Always hold the chainsaw correctly with two hands and do not cut above shoulder height
2.11	Make sure you understand all of the controls. Before you start the machine you must know how to stop it
2.12	Ensure good footing when operating Hedge-cutter and do not overstretch.
3.	**Refuelling**
3.1	Petrol is highly flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion
3.2	NO smoking.
3.3	Use a mixture of two-stroke engine oil freshly mixed with petrol at the ratio stated by the manufacturer of the chainsaw.
3.4	Stop the engine and let it cool down.
3.5	Shake the fuel can to mix the petrol and oil
3.6	Use a funnel. Do not spill any fuel on yourself or the machine.
3.7	If you spill any fuel on the ground, use a spill kit or other spill granules to mop up the spill. Ensure all spill granules and absorbents are collected and returned back to the depot for disposal.
3.8	If you spill any fuel on your clothes, change them straight away.
3.9	Put all fuel caps back on properly, and move your fuel can to a safe, cool place.