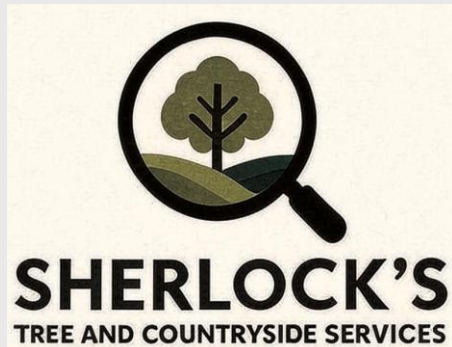




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# Health and Safety Policy

**Sherlock's Tree and Countryside Services – Ivybridge, Plymouth & South Hams**

## 1. Policy Statement

We are committed to maintaining the highest standards of health, safety, and welfare for our staff, clients, the public, and the environment. Our operations are guided by UK legislation, industry best practices, and ecological responsibility.

## 2. Legal Compliance

We comply with all relevant health and safety legislation, including:

- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (where applicable)

## 3. Responsibilities

- Owner/Operator (Mark Sherlock): Responsible for implementing, monitoring, and reviewing health and safety procedures.
- Operatives/Subcontractors: Must follow all safety protocols, wear appropriate PPE, and report hazards immediately.
- Clients: Must ensure safe access and notify us of any site-specific risks.

## 4. Risk Assessments & Method Statements

- Site-specific risk assessments are conducted prior to work.
- Method statements are provided for council contracts and high-risk operations (e.g. flail mowing, invasive species control).
- Dynamic risk assessments are carried out on-site as conditions change.

## **5. Training & Competence**

- All operatives are trained in safe machinery use, ecological awareness, and manual handling.
- Ongoing CPD ensures competence in new equipment (e.g. robotic flail mower, Jensen chipper).
- Chainsaw, pesticide, and machinery certifications are held by operators.

## **6. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

We supply and enforce the use of appropriate PPE including:

- Chainsaw trousers, helmets, visors, gloves, and boots
- Hi-vis clothing for roadside and public-facing work
- Respirators and chemical-resistant gear for herbicide use

## **7. Machinery & Equipment Safety**

- All equipment is regularly inspected and maintained.
- Operators follow manufacturer guidelines and site-specific protocols.
- Battery-powered tools are used where possible to reduce noise and emissions.

## **8. Environmental Hazards & Wildlife Protection**

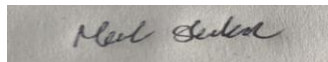
- Work is scheduled to avoid nesting seasons and sensitive habitats.
- Biosecurity protocols are followed for invasive species control.
- Herbicide use is targeted, documented, and compliant with regulations.

## **9. Accident Reporting & Emergency Procedures**

- All incidents are recorded in our accident book and investigated.
- First aid kits are carried on all vehicles.
- Emergency contacts and procedures are briefed before high-risk jobs.

## **10. Monitoring & Review**

- This policy is reviewed annually or following significant changes in operations.
- Feedback from clients, operatives, and audits informs continuous improvement.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Mark Sherlock".

Mark Sherlock

27/09/25