

Terms and Conditions of Service for Tree Work Contracting (Totally Trees Limited)

The Contractor – the person or business undertaking the works & The Client – the person or business instructing the works (and in so doing, and accepting the quote, agrees to / accepts the following terms and conditions.)

- 1) Notice of the Right to Cancel “Cooling off period” – the client has a min. 14 days to cancel the contract (in writing) from acceptance date. In the event of cancellation or postponement at short notice costs may be proportionally incurred by the client.
- 2) Totally Trees Limited reserves the right to cancel any contract before works have commenced, for whatever reason, without notice.
- 3) This quotation/estimate is valid for 30 days and takes into account any ‘value’, monetary or otherwise, the arisings may have unless stated otherwise.
- 4) All works will be in accordance with the current British Standard 3998 ‘Tree Work Recommendations’ where possible unless specified otherwise. Dimensions specified are approximate and, wherever possible, will be to the nearest appropriate pruning point.
- 5) In the event of a variation to the quotation as a result of:
 - a. Amendments to works required prior to arriving on site, or
 - b. Changes in site / ground conditions since the original visit, or
 - c. Additional works requested / required whilst on sitethe quotation will be revised accordingly, either electronically in advance or in a hand written on the day of work, with agreed amendments signed by the contractor and the client.
- 6) Stump-grinding will be to a depth of 150mm below the immediately adjacent ground level and will include the removal of the stump and buttress roots but will not include lateral roots unless otherwise specified. The client will advise the contractor of any underground services in the vicinity of the stump prior to starting the job.
- 7) All arisings (inc. twigs / branches / woodchips / logs / trunks / foliage etc) will be removed from site and become the property of the contractor unless specifically stated otherwise in the quotation.
- 8) On completion of the works, an invoice will be raised and payment is required in full on completion of the quoted works unless otherwise arranged (unsatisfactory completed jobs MUST be immediately notified, in writing / by email, to the contractor or within a minimum period of 24 hours). Outstanding debts will incur a charge of £30 or 15% whichever is greater, and may be passed on to a debt collection agency.
- 9) Following written/verbal instructions from the client, the contractor will check with the Local Planning Authority (LPA):
 - a. Whether the tree(s) are the subject of a Tree Preservation Order
 - b. Whether the trees are located within a Conservation AreaThe contractor will also consider whether a Felling Licence is required from the Forestry Commission (FC) or if any other permissions / consultations are required, i.e. Natural England / Environment Agency. NB Please note, if the contractor undertakes the necessary LPA application / notification an appropriate administrative charge may be incurred. Similarly a charge may be incurred for obtainment of a FC felling licence.
- 10) Where works are proposed to third party trees, i.e. ‘neighbours trees’, the contractor will require written confirmation from the tree owner (‘the neighbours’) that the works are agreed and where necessary, that access is permitted. If works only apply to overhanging branches that can be pruned from within the client’s property then permission is not required but the neighbour should be advised where practicable (please also see 7. above as this may also apply.)
- 11) The contractor has £5 million Public Liability Insurance and a copy of the certificate is available on request. The contractor will operate in accordance with good industry practice, their Health & Safety Policy and Procedures and undertake Site Specific Risk Assessments (the outcomes of which may place constraints on the site whilst works are in progress, i.e. the client can’t access their shed without prior agreement from ground staff.)
- 12) The site will be left generally ‘clean, tidy and safe’ but because of the very nature of the works including the production of wood dust, chainsaw / wood chippings / twigs / leaves and needles etc. and the traversing of site personnel it will not be as it was prior to commencement of works.
- 13) If the works spread over multiple days, the site will be left appropriately and safe and as agreed with the client beforehand.
- 14) The contractor will undertake the works as scheduled but is aware of / may be constrained by ecological and wildlife legislation including:
 - a. Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
 - b. Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
 - c. Conservation of Habitats and Species Regs. 2012 (amendment)

This legislation requires the contractor to assess the impact of the works which may result in works being delayed as a result of nesting birds, roosting bats or similar being present.

15) Dispute Resolution

Should you not be completely satisfied with our response to any issues that may arise, you may take your complaint to one of the trade bodies we are accredited with who will investigate your complaint and aim to find a resolution to both parties satisfaction.

16) Trustmark

As a TrustMark Registered Contractor we are required by law to inform you that TrustMark provides an alternative dispute resolution service that would be competent to deal with your dispute.

We have chosen to participate in the TrustMark alternative dispute resolution service, and as such, should you wish to use this service, you must do so by sending an email to: Disputes@TrustMark.org.uk, by telephoning: 0333 555 0334 or by writing to TrustMark at:

TrustMark House
5 Prisma Park
Berrington Way
Basingstoke
Hants
RG24 8GT

17) Confidentiality

Please be reassured that we only use your personal information for the purposes of completing your tree work. Our IT systems are secure and we don't share your details with anyone unnecessarily. We would share your details with the Local Authority if we need to make an application for permission to undertake work and whilst it is unlikely, in certain circumstances work might need a licence from the Forestry Commission. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for full details on how we deal with your personal data.