

Open Government
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AIAC 15/11/02

HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE

AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AIAC)

Overview of the AFAG meeting held on 12 May 2015 (updated 14 October 2015)

Significant matters discussed

1. European Chainsaw Certificates – an update was provided regarding chainsaw certificate of competence certificates issued by EFSCE and ABA international – certificates are likely to be comparable to those issued by UK awarding bodies. - *AFAG to consider guidance for employers for legacy certificates*
2. Report back from FISA
3. FISA/Lantra have issued a further joint statement on FISA members accepting chainsaw refreshers delivered by Lantra trainers
4. Small-scale forestry machinery – consideration being given to the development of a European standard – *The Forestry Commission have produced guidance on the use of small scale forestry machinery.*
5. Guidance on the felling of large trees is now likely to be an issue taken forward by a FISA WG
6. NPTC/City & Guilds gave an overview of the development of future college based training in forestry and arboriculture for qualifications awarded after 2017. Looking for input from employers within the industry.
7. Guidance on the use of chainsaw jackets – *amendment of HSE's website proposed (with examples)*
8. Guidance on the use of arboriculture helmets in groundwork – *industry to promote current HSE guidance*
9. Arrangements for revising/refreshing FISA guides and AFAG guides which overlap the forestry and arboriculture industries – *agreement reached between FISA and Arboriculture Association*
10. Guidance for use on top-handled chainsaws – *AFAG to consider whether further statement is needed*
11. Development of career structures within the industry and the role of existing qualifications
12. The future of forestry training – *any further action likely to be highly targeted*

Andrew Turner
October 2015