

3 ACTIONS FOR ARBORICULTURE GENERAL ELECTION 2024

It is increasingly recognised that trees are good for us, and provide a wide range of environmental, social and economic benefits to society. However, not everyone knows about the profession which is responsible for these amenity trees: **arboriculture**.

The Arboricultural Association works to **inspire, support** and **promote** the tree care community for a society that better appreciates and cares for trees. We're working in tree time, not within electoral cycles.

However, we must act now so that the benefits of trees will be felt by future generations. We're calling on prospective MPs and the next government to work with us to deliver against our three recommendations.



Invest in people

Arboriculture is an exciting industry with varied roles that appeal to all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. Tree care should be for everyone, and we must ensure that the next generation of arboriculturists represent the communities they live and work in.

We must see increased support for training, education and apprenticeships for the next generation of entrants into these important green jobs.



Allocate funding and resources

Trees outside woodlands are critical infrastructure which can contribute towards tackling many of the problems society faces. To maintain and increase canopy cover and improve access to trees where people live, we must retain and protect existing trees where possible and take appropriate steps to fully establish those we plant. This requires an adequate, skilled workforce across both the private and public sector.

We must see increased money and capacity available for tree care.



Enable arboriculturists

Despite the crucial role of arboriculture in daily life, and in tackling the climate and nature crises, there is low general awareness about the work of tree care professionals. To realise the potential of trees, arboriculturists must be involved at the earliest stages of planning for all projects involving amenity trees in both urban and rural settings. Greater valuing of arboriculturists alongside other professional industries allow us all to benefit from their skills and expertise.

We must see increased recognition for arboriculture and its role in society.