

Halesworth Millennium Green Trust



Safe System of work for using battery powered hedge trimmers

Who/What might get harmed	Hazard identified	Risk Level	Risk Likelihood	Controls
Equipment Operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact with moving parts • Flying debris • Slips, trips and falls • Noise • Vibration 	Medium	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The machines are to be used for cutting hedges, bushes and scrub only. ▪ Before starting work, survey the workarround for objects that could cause hazards. ▪ Users should be familiar with the equipment prior to using it. ▪ The trimmer should be inspected before use and not used if a significant defect is found. (The blades must move freely, be undamaged and not bent and all guards must be in place). ▪ Always remove battery during work breaks, transport or maintenance of machine. ▪ The battery must not be damaged in any way. ▪ Leaking fluid from a battery must be washed off skin/eyes immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. ▪ The user should be physically capable of using the equipment, an adult and not under the influence of alcohol. ▪ Long hair should be tied back to prevent it bring caught in the machine. ▪ Wear long snug fitting sleeves and full length trousers. ▪ Strong footwear and gloves shall be worn. ▪ A hard hat must be worn when working overhead. ▪ Moving blades should never be touched by the operator. ▪ Safety glasses shall be used when operating this equipment. ▪ The operator must stand on solid ground and should not work off a ladder. ▪ Work above shoulder height for short periods only and take regular breaks.
Members of the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Flying debris 	Medium	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A banksman will be used at all times to alert the operator of approaching public. ▪ Banksman and the machine operator will wear high visibility vests. ▪ Signs should be placed either side of the work area to alert members of the public of the cutting operation.
The Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Batteries 	Medium	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do not store the battery at temperatures below -10°C or above +50°C.