What is VALID? | Tree Risk-Benefit Management & Assessment

1 Uncomplicated, intuitive, smarter

1. Whether you manage or assess tree risk, we’re here to help make your life less complicated and more effective.

From Strategy to App, we’ve got all your bases covered with the first complete tree risk-benefit management system. By taking out the bafflegab (vague and ambiguous words) and numberwang (questionable maths that you can easily get wrong) from tree risk, we’ve made it:

"Uncomplicated...intuitive...simpler...clearer...smarter"

This is what Duty Holders, Arborists, and other staff who we’ve trained as Basic Validators are all saying. These are some words you’ll likely use to describe how you feel after you’ve validated your approach to tree risk.

1.1 Tree risk-benefit management

2 Whether you’re a Government Agency, Landowner, or Homeowner you have a duty of care to manage the risk from your trees falling or dropping branches. That duty of care says you should be reasonable, proportionate, and reasonably practicable when managing the risk to an Acceptable or Tolerable level.

VALID’s got your back here with our full range of easy to understand and common sense Tree Risk-Benefit Management Strategies. As part of our not-for-profit goals, they’re released under a creative commons license. That means they’re free and open to everyone. Validators can help you customise these strategies. They also have a potted version to help you if you’ve not yet formally adopted a strategy.

1.2 Tree risk-benefit assessment

3 Our Tree Risk-Benefit Management Strategies do more than 99% of your assessments for you. When you need to carry out a Detailed Assessment, you’ll use our super smart and intuitive Tree Risk App.

The engine of the App has been built with a Professor of Natural Hazards & Risk Science. The Professor’s an internationally distinguished expert in this field. He’s test-driven the model to breaking point:

"We have stress-tested VALID and didn’t find any gross, critical sensitivities. In short, the mathematical basis of your approach is sufficiently robust and dependable for any practical purpose."

Willy Aspinall
Cabot Professor in Natural Hazards & Risk Science
University of Bristol

1.3 Tree risk ratings

4 Yes, it really is that clear and easy to understand. There’s no confusion about what vague and ambiguous words or complicated numbers mean. We have four easy-to-understand traffic light coloured risk ratings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Not Acceptable</td>
<td>Risks will be reduced to an Acceptable level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Not Tolerable</td>
<td>Risks will be reduced to an Acceptable level, but with a lower priority than red Not Acceptable risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Tolerable</td>
<td>Risks will not be reduced but may require an increased frequency of assessment than green Acceptable risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Acceptable</td>
<td>Risks will not be reduced</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1.4 Tree risk-benefit management advice & training

5 We work with duty holders to help them manage the risk and benefits from their trees. We also train Arborists to become Validators, or staff who aren’t Arborists to be Basic Validators.