



As you are aware SSEN have been carrying out tree work operations at Radford park for the last few weeks and I have been asked to give you an update as to where we are with the current works, an estimated completion date and a reason for the extent of the works.

There are several reasons for the extent of the tree work operations we are carrying out at Radford park. Primarily it is for safety for the public, integrity of our network, continuity and quality of supply of power to the area and we carry these operations out under the government regulations ESQCR. The surrounding areas of Radford park and Radford park itself has been affected by areas of overgrown vegetation. This vegetation has been interfering with the network, and in areas has been in contact with the network causing vegetation to become live and cause power outages due to either growing through the network or trees failing and falling onto the network. We operate a clearance of 3m plus 4 years growth to ensure the integrity and safety of the network. This also take into account the species of the trees i.e. fast or slow growing species, also whether the trees are considered to be dead dangerous or dying. We are not only looking for a short term gain but long term, hence why heavily leaning and biased weighted trees being removed. Although the works seem drastic, I have been working alongside the local Arb officer and gained consent from the council for the works and your local councillor James. Where possible we have tried to maintain trees where we can and limit the amount of removal, but due to the boggy location there is an inherent hazard for trees to fail. Once such species, the bog alder, has a tendency to do this and these have been removed where necessary but not completely in all areas.

The pre shut down works have been completed, all that remains is the works to be carried out with the power being switched off. Due to the nature of the work being to dangerous to do live. We were hoping to finish this works on Tuesday just been, but unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances we had to cancel the outage. We are hoping to get a new date booked in as soon as possible and I will inform you as and when this will be. Once the works have been done there will be no need for us to return for the next few years. We hope in the long run the extent of our works will reduce the amount of power outages unless in extreme conditions i.e. Storms.

We hope there has been minimal disruption to the area, and I hope that our operatives have been professional at all levels and carried out a very high standard of work.

**Tim Clay**

Field Manager – South East Tree Cutting