

What we don't do

We never lose interest in client outcomes.

And we don't:

- Pile it high and sell it cheap: look what happened to Woolies
- Operate a cost-driven business model that relies on barely qualified people: our clients need experts, not trainees
- Attend meetings simply to build up fees (too busy!)
- Compromise our professional integrity by defending the indefensible
- Say 'next week' when really we mean 'next month'
- Let our clients walk into ambushes at planning application
- Go into bat with anyone else's data: if you want FLAC, we have to start from scratch
- Provide 'subsidence risk assessment' reports for mortgage purposes
- Undertake tree work: we are consultants, not contractors
- Work for nothing: please do not instruct us if our terms of business are unacceptable (click [here](#) to download them)



Who we are

We are client focussed, commercially realistic, efficient, approachable, dedicated.

Forbes-Laird Arboricultural Consultancy (FLAC) is a small professional practice working throughout the UK and overseas. We cover all aspects of arboriculture though specialize in planning and litigation matters, and environmental hazard assessment and risk modelling. Click [here](#) to visit our natural hazard management microsite.

Principal Consultant [Julian Forbes-Laird \(JFL\)](#) is a Chartered Arboriculturist, a Chartered Surveyor and an [Expert Witness](#) to High Court level.

JFL is also:

- A technical editor for BS5837:2012
- Member of BSI Committee B/213 'Trees and Tree Work'
- Consultant to Union Internationale des Chemins de Fer, Paris
- Lead author of the draft International Railway Standard 'Technical aspects of vegetation and tree risk management'
- Special advisor to Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd on tree risk management
- Member of the Expert Witness Institute



If you need an arboricultural consultant, you don't need a trainee, someone with no relevant qualifications, or someone trying his or her hand at 'trees' because they've failed to make a success of something else. You need an expert. At FLAC, all technical staff are qualified to NQF Level 6 (equivalent degree level qualification) or higher. A summary of our consultants' typical qualifications (by grade) is as follows:

Associate Director: Chartered Arboriculturist, Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant, NQF6 qualification, >15 years' experience, ten with FLAC

Associate: Chartered Arboriculturist or MSc Arboriculture, NQF6 qualification, >5 years' experience

Senior Consultant: NQF6 qualification, >3 years' experience

Consultant: NQF6 qualification

JFL is supported by a team of six regionally based consultants, giving FLAC [national reach](#).

Our Operations Director for Planning & Development, Patrick Stileman, and Associate Director Ben Abbatt, are respectively among the UK's leading authorities on the restoration and management of historic avenues, and tree safety inspection system design. Both Patrick and Ben are also Arboricultural Association Registered Consultants and experienced planning and civil court witnesses.

Click [here](#) to download company profile & JFL's CV.

If you would like to talk to us about your project please [Contact Us](#).