

Procedure for managing the risks associated with icy, wet and slippery weather conditions Procedure

With weather changes during autumn and winter the paths can become wet and very slippery. Adding cold weather spells then cause ice to build up and can add to the risks of slips and falls. This procedure details the action to be taken to reduce the risk of injury during icy, wet and slippery conditions.

The following simple steps apply

- Monitor the weather conditions
- Put out signage where possible problem areas maybe
- Put down rock salt on areas that have been identified
- Put down extra matting inside of the building to soak up any wet brought into the building.
- Have sufficient Salt/grit available for use.

The main responsibility of making sure any measures are implemented lies with the Facilities Manager although other trustees and volunteers also have responsibility to take action where the need arises.

This procedure considers the following;

- Lighting
- Wet and decaying leaves
- Rain water
- Ice, frost, snow
- Gritting

Lighting

Ensure the outside lighting on and around the building works and lights up the area efficiently.

Wet and decaying leaves

Ensure to remove wet and decaying leaves as and where possible which may be hiding further hazards underneath.

Rain water

Try to discourage people from taking short cuts across the grassed areas which may lead to paths becoming dirty and slippery.

Look at entrances and exits to buildings to see if water is laying as this can lead to slips.

Frost and snow

Monitor the weather forecast.

Ensure sufficient grit is available for immediate use.

Inspect the pathways and car park where it is safe to do and if the Hub is due to be used

Carry out or arrange the carrying out of gritting of paths (the car park will not be gritted but will be closed if considered unsafe)

Display warning signs where possible to warn of possible slip hazards,

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remember to remove them once hazard has passed.
Contact users to warn them of the risk or In extremis cancelling use.

Guidance on De-icing

The most commonly used method for de-icing the paths is Rock salt which is used by the local highways authorities. Salt can stop ice from forming and cause ice or snow to melt. Gritting should be carried out when frost, ice or snow is forecast or when walkways are likely to be damp or wet and the floor temperatures are likely to be at or below freezing. The best time to grit is early evening before the frost settles and/or early morning before employees or hirers/users of the building arrive. Salt doesn't always work instantly and needs time to dissolve into the moisture of the floor.

If gritting is carried out when raining then it may be washed away causing problems if the rain then turns to snow. The snow will become impacted and turn to ice and then is more difficult to treat with the grit.

The overall aim of this procedure is to reduce the risk of injury to a reasonable level noting that every individual using the Hub (including its associated sports field) has duty of care to ensure their own safety.