

**INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE**  
**ECD-HS-PR-375-05-13 (Revised July 2015).**

**GENERAL STATEMENT**

It is the intention of the Estates and Capital Developments Programme to clear and /or treat as quickly and effectively as is reasonably practicable, footpaths, roadways, and steps, within the boundary of the Aston University Campus depending upon the severity of the inclement weather with manpower and financial resources available at that time.

**Procedure**

1. After advice from the Meteorological Office (on a daily basis) the areas as detailed below in section 1 will be treated as high priority, **Phase one on site plan**.

Area 1:

Main pedestrian walkways and boulevards including the entrances to the main buildings as indicated on the site plan.

Slopes and Steps

Car Park Entrances

Area 2

Around Car Parks and service roads, **Phase two on site plan**.

2. **If the day is** forecast for heavy frost or snow, rock salt will be applied as a preventative measure, prioritising area's 1 and 2.
3. If it is forecast heavy frost or snow **overnight** then rock salt will be applied as a preventative measure, prior to that evening or early the following morning, prioritising area's 1 and 2.
4. If required there is 'flexibility' within the grounds team allowing them to either start earlier or finish later, prioritising Area1.
5. Area 2 can then be treated throughout the following day.
6. A stock of winter treatment is held on the Campus grounds (approx. 15 tonne). This is the source for maintaining/topping up the grit bins distributed around the campus grounds, **as indicated on the site plan**. The bins are regularly inspected during periods of inclement weather by the grounds department.  
Stock items available include rock salt and winter ice treatment

7. The 'Winter ice treatment' will be used in front of the main building entrances as it does not get transported into the building (as rock salt will) thus preventing further slip hazards and unsightly residue.
8. Normally snow clearing and gritting operations will be undertaken by ECD staff using their own 'motorised/mounted' and 'hand' snow clearing equipment such as snow shovels, bass brooms, and grit spreaders. Appropriate PPE will be worn including footwear cleats as required.  
When working in areas used by passing vehicles staff will take appropriate precautions to prevent collisions with vehicles such as facing opposite directions during clearing operations covering each other's blind spots.
9. **During severe weather conditions the Head Groundsman may enlist support from the Cleaning Services team and other ECD staff. The head Groundsman will assume organisational responsibility for all co-opted staff and be supported by his/her line manager.**
10. Appendix 1 indicates the Campus boundary (within which this Policy is applicable), prioritised routes and the location of all grit bins.
11. During normal working hours the mechanism to activate these procedures is via the Estates and Capital Developments department. During out of normal working hours a combination of 'pre planning' by the Maintenance Officer (or his team) and Estates 'ON CALL' members and systems are operated.
12. This Policy will be reviewed regularly and in conjunction with ECD procedures.
13. All activities referred to within this document must be covered by a 'Safe Working Procedure' following assessment of the risks.
14. All operatives involved must be suitably trained and experienced, and working to the appropriate RAMS.

## Appendix 1

\_\_\_\_\_ PHASE 1.

\_\_\_\_\_ PHASE 2.

● GRIT BINS

