RACKHEATH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MANAGEMENT OF OUTDOOR SPACES IN SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS AT RACKHEATH PAVILION

Introduction

The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to provide employees and facility users and others who enter the premises with a safe environment.

The Council is committed to complying with the requirements of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Occupiers' Liability Acts 1957 and 1984 and other regulations that require, so far as is reasonably practicable, the provision and maintenance of a safe means of access to and from the premises.

Hazard

During the winter, the risk of injury from slips, trips and falls is increased by the presence of snow and ice, on foot paths and other areas of pedestrian traffic.

Persons affected

Staff, visitors, contractors and facility users.

Risk Rating

Medium - risk of frequent slips & trips resulting in minor injury or occasional risk of major injury

Existing Control measures

The Council has adopted the procedure below in order to control the risk of injury in the presence of ice and snow.

Further action required

The Clerk will monitor the effectiveness of these procedures throughout the winter season and amend any aspect that is found to be ineffective.

Winter Gritting Procedure

The Council will take the following steps to ensure safe access and exit during severe weather when the risk of injury from slip and trip accidents is increased due to snow and ice.

- The Council will arrange for the treatment of access routes and priority areas at the earliest opportunity when severe weather leaves the footpaths hazardous due to snow and ice. It is acknowledged that the Council will not always know beforehand on all occasions and there may be times when staff are not present on site due to their contracted working hours. Staff must also heed the advice of the Met Office and consider working from home should the need arise.

- Whilst every effort will be made to clear snow and ice it must be remembered that individuals have a responsibility for their own safety and that of others. This means being aware of the potential hazards of walking or driving in icy conditions and acting reasonably in the circumstances.

- The Council will review the effectiveness of the winter gritting policy before each winter or if circumstances change.

- Priority access routes for winter gritting will be –
    * The pathway running around the front of the Pavilion building up to and including the side patio area around to the fire door.

Adopted: October 2021
Reviewed annually: 2022, 2023, 2025 and most recently March 2026