## Bolton Council

## **Risk Assessment**

Task/Activity: WM01 Winter Maintenance Operations	Date assessment completed: 26/06/25	<b>Review Date:</b> 27/06/27
Brief Details of Task/Activity: Winter Maintenance including loading and unloading of gritting vehicles prior to Gritting/Ploughing of the highway network	Assessment completed by: Mark Treen	Signature: M. Treen

What are the hazards? e.g. slip/trip hazards, electricity, manual handling, work equipment	Who might be harmed and how? e.g. staff, service users, visitors etc and likely injury e.g. bruises, muscle strain, fracture, poisoning etc	What are you already doing to control the hazard?	What further action or additional controls are required (if necessary)	Risk rating (after control measures)	Action by who	Action by when	Date completed
R.T.C with other depot users. R.T.C with members of the public.	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Fatality, major/minor injuries, slips, trips, and falls on icy surfaces.	All operatives CAT C LGV trained with CPC units as required, City and Guilds training in Winter Service Operations completed every five years Correct PPE to be worn. Daily vehicle checks carried out by the user of all vehicles and ancillary equipment any defects reported immediately and replaced/repaired as necessary before use. Regular servicing and checks by competent person to ensure gritter, spreader and ploughing equipment is operating correctly. Operators to have a safe working area, qualified persons only to use equipment, within the depot. All accidents and incidents	Maintain operative/supervisor Winter Maintenance City and Guilds training and driver CPC training. Ensure PPE is being worn as advised and replace as necessary.	E			

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Fitting snow ploughs and working with/setting	Staff, agency, contractors, and	reported as soon as possible. Refer to the driver's handbook. (Don't admit liability, let the insurance do the investigations etc.) Take photos if possible. Adequate lighting within the depot. First aiders on all shifts. Operators trained and experienced in work activity	Refresher of manual handling training as required.	D			
up/adjusting ancillary equipment on gritting machinery	depot visitors Major/minor injuries, broken bones, crushed hands and fingers, musculoskeletal disorders	Wear correct PPE including gloves. Follow correct manual handling procedures, (SEE MANUAL HANDLING LIST 1 and manual handling risk assessment RA05) Operatives to have personal first aid kit on site which is up to date and replenished as necessary.	Maintain operatives City and Guilds Winter Maintenance training every five years. Ensure PPE is being worn as advised and replace as necessary. Econ (Plough supplier) videos shown annually at the drivers' meetings.				
Slip, trip and fall type injuries.	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Major/minor injuries.	If necessary grit the operational depot prior to commencing shift.					
Pedestrian traffic in loading area.	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Major/minor injuries.	Area out of bounds to non gritting personnel. Ensure people have correct PPE in yard and stick to marked walkways.	Ensure PPE is being worn as advised and replace as necessary.	E			

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e.g. slip/trip hazards, electricity, manual handling, work equipment	e.g. staff, service users, visitors etc and likely injury e.g. bruises, muscle strain, fracture, poisoning etc		required (if necessary)	(after control measures)			
Night working	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Fatigue, nausea and dizziness associated with tiredness.	Gritting vehicle drivers working hours will be monitored and controlled. Wear correct PPE including gloves. Drivers to be supervised during night working, adequate rest periods allowed for in the three- team rotating shift system. Adequate lighting. Vending machines available for hot / cold drinks & snacks. All staff are advised to bring in refreshments to keep up energy levels whilst on shift. First aider on all shifts. Health screening as required, i.e. Flu Jabs.	Ensure PPE is being worn as advised and replace as necessary.	E			
Lone Working – Assault from irate/aggressive members of the public. Smashed windows	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Major/minor injuries, cuts and bruises.	Operatives briefed not to engage with irate or aggressive members of the public whatever the circumstances and to adhere to BMBC's <i>Lone Working Policy</i> Copies available upon request.	Reaffirm the <i>Lone Working</i> <i>Policy.</i>	E			

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Hazardous fluids i.e. hydraulic oils, diesel, grease, lubricants	Dermatitis, skin disorders, ingestion or inhalation causing nausea.	Operators trained and experienced in work activity and to wear correct PPE. Fluids to be stored in approved containers/locations. Vehicles refuelled from depot via bunded fuel tank and vehicle sat over interceptor Operatives to have personal first aid kit on site which is up to date and replenished as necessary. Washing facilities in depot. Eye wash stations in salt barn, plant maintenance area and in control room replenished at start of season and as used, eye wash in each gritter. Refer to relevant COSHH sheets if required.	Maintain operative/supervisor training, Ensure PPE is being worn as advised and replace as necessary.	E			
Inclement weather Vehicular collisions due to poor visibility or loss of vehicle traction.	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Fatality, major/minor injuries	Operators trained and experienced in work activity, Vehicles checked daily and maintained in accordance with manufacturers recommendations. Vehicles fitted with winter tyres. Snow shovels in cabs to allow the spreading of salt under the tyres.	Maintain operatives City and Guilds Winter Maintenance training.	E			

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Contaminated air (due to salt particles, spray and mist)	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Chest infections, skin and eye injuries from contact with salt/salt spray/solution	Salt contained and loaded in a well-ventilated area, Safety spectacles to be worn whilst loading and eye wash stations in salt barn, plant maintenance area and in control room replenished at start of season and as used, eye wash in each gritter. Operatives to have personal first aid kit on site which is up to date and replenished as necessary.	Maintain operatives/supervisors training. Ensure PPE is being worn as advised and replace as necessary.	E			
Struck by vehicle, loading machinery arm or bucket, or salt (Foreign objects in salt) while loading	Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Load falling from bucket while loading/unloading	All loading operations to be controlled by Supervisor/Controller. Other employees, agency staff instructed to keep clear. Operatives to have personal first aid kit on site which is up to date and replenished as necessary. Dangers of working with or near mobile plant must be understood. Hard hats and appropriate PPE provided and used whilst loading. Signage to be adhered to outside the salt barn. Only 1 gritter allowed in the barn for loading at any one time., to	Check operatives have had appropriate training prior to use of loading machinery. Ensure PPE is being worn as advised and replace as necessary.	E			

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Washing off Water / salt solution in your eyes, face, skin. Cuts, abrasions from the high-pressure jet wash Vehicles moving in and out of wash bays including reversing vehicles into gantry bay Slips, trips, and falls due to wet work area creating slip hazards Debris from the washing operation creating trip hazards	etc Staff, agency, contractors, and depot visitors Collision with another vehicle or pedestrian. Injuries may result in sprains, strains, cuts, bruising, fractures, and fatalities.	allow a safe working / loading area.(Only enter when advised to do so by the loader operator).Staff using wash area made aware of risk assessment and safe system of work by appropriate service manager before using the vehicle wash.Signs erected directing drivers on safe vehicle movements including reversing manoeuvres.Reversing in or out of bays should be assisted or undertaken with cautionVehicles are fitted with reversing warning bleeper, hazard warning lights and beaconsGritting Vehicles fitted with reverse camera aid and cab monitors.Safe system of work instructs staff to be vigilant and cautious when moving vehicles in or out of		D			
		All bays fitted with floodlights Only one vehicle per time allowed in each bay.					

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		Site speed limit of 5 mph (maximum) must be followed on approach to and exit to from wash bays. Barriers / cones are available to block of entrance / exit to bays and should be used as per safe system of work.					

	CATEGORIES OF LIKELIHOOD
Highly Likely	Expected to happen/reoccur, possibly frequently.
Possible	Might happen/reoccur at some time depends on circumstances.
Unlikely	Not expected to happen/reoccur but possible in certain circumstances.
Very Unlikely	Would only occur in very exceptional circumstances.

	RISK RATING						
	Highly Likely	Possible	Unlikely	Very Unlikely			
Catastrophic	Α	Α	В	Е			
Major	A	В	С	E			
Significant	В	С	D	E			
Minor	С	D	E	E			
Negligible	E	E	Е	E			

CATE	CATEGORIES OF CONSEQUENCE SEVERITY					
Catastrophic	Incident could result in one or more fatalities.					
Major	Major injury resulting in incapacity, hospitalisation >24 hours.					
Significant	Injury requires attention of a Doctor or Hospital treatment or hospitalisation <24 hours.					
Minor	Small cut, bruise, abrasion, basic first aid treatment provided.					
Negligible	Some discomfort, self help. No treatment required.					

	RISK CLASSIFICATIONS
Α	<b>Unacceptable risk,</b> requires immediate attention. Work <u>should not be started or continued</u> until the level of risk has been reduced.
В	<b>High risk,</b> requires immediate attention. Control measures must be identified and put into place as soon as possible.
С	<b>Medium risk,</b> requires attention as soon as possible. The risk should be only be tolerated in the short term and only when further control measures are being planned and introduced, Timescales must be short.
D	<b>Low risks,</b> confirm that there are no low/no cost solutions which may eliminate/ reduce the risk further.
E	<b>Trivial risk,</b> no further action required but review at regular intervals to ensure controls remain effective.