



Reminder from the Emergency Plan

Committee

Snowfall is predicted again! Think ahead and make sure you have your prescriptions in good time! Don't be caught out.

CLEARING SNOW AND ICE FROM PAVEMENTS AND PUBLIC SPACES

This guide is designed to help you to act in a neighbourly way by safely clearing snow and ice from pavements and public places.

Will I be held responsible if someone falls on a path I have cleared?

There is no law preventing you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your property, pathways to your property or public spaces. It is very unlikely that you would face any legal liability, as long as you are careful, and use common sense to ensure that you do not make the pavement or pathway clearly more dangerous than before. People using areas affected by snow and ice also have responsibility to be careful themselves.

What can I do to help clear snow and ice from pavements and public areas?

Practical advice from highway engineers is given below. This is not a comprehensive list.

- Start early: It is much easier to remove fresh, loose snow compared to compacted ice.
- **DO NOT USE WATER.** This will melt the snow, but may replace it with black ice, increasing the risk of injury.
- **Be a good neighbour:** some people may be unable to clear paths leading to their property or the footway in front. Snowfall and cold weather pose particular difficulties for them gaining access to and from their property or walking to the shops.
- If shovelling snow, consider where you are going to put it, so that it does not block people's paths, or block drainage channels.
- Spread some salt on the area cleared, avoiding plants. Table or dishwasher salt works. Allow a tablespoonful for each square metre. **LEAVE THE SALT IN SALTING BINS FOR THE ROADS.**
- Take particular care to remove snow and ice from steps and slopes. They might need extra salt.
- Use the sun! Removing the top layer will allow it to melt the snow underneath, but this will need re-salting to prevent re-freezing.

If there is no salt, sand or ash will help to improve grip, though it will not have salt's de-icing effect.