

EastendHomes Gritting Policy

1. Statement of Intent

- 1.1 EastendHomes aims to, as far as reasonably possible, maintain passable surfaces during periods of inclement cold weather, and will take actions to minimise risks to residents and staff members caused by ice, snow or frost.

2. Detail

- 2.1 EastendHomes will obtain in the autumn period of each year, a supply of rock salt (or suitable alternative) to cover expected requirements throughout the winter period. If these supplies prove insufficient due to an exceptional period of severe weather, additional supplies will be sought.
- 2.2 An Estate Co-ordinator will be designated as the lead officer for obtaining regular updates of severe weather and subscribe to the Met Office severe weather warning service - (<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/warnings>). This will allow timely arrangements to be put in place for appropriate treatment of pathways.
- 2.3 EastendHomes will aim to maintain clear pathways on EastendHomes estates. This will not include estate roads or public roads, which will not be gritted to preserve grit supplies.
- 2.4 If there is a significant level of snow, Estate Services staff will work to clear this before commencing gritting. Where heavy snow is forecast, grit will not be used where this is likely to be ineffective, to preserve resources.
- 2.5 Gritting or snow clearance on affected areas will take place in order of the following priorities:
- 2.5.1 Communal pathways and external landings for blocks primarily housing elderly residents
 - 2.5.2 Pathways from communal entrances to highways or boundary walls; and to bin areas
 - 2.5.3 External landing areas
- 2.6 In times of severe weather, Estate Services staff will be removed from normal duties and will be tasked with gritting or snow clearance.

- 2.7 If extreme severe weather prevents some EastendHomes staff members from being able to reach work, gritting or snow clearing will be carried out by available staff members, with work being carried out in accordance with the priorities identified in 2.5, as far as staff resources allow.
- 2.8 EastendHomes will aim to respond to elderly or disabled residents who request gritting or clearing of the pathway to their front entrance doors, where resources allow this to take place and after treatment of communal areas has been completed. EastendHomes cannot guarantee that this service will be offered.
- 2.9 Efforts undertaken by EastendHomes to preserve the condition of communal pathways will in no way constitute responsibility for the condition of these surfaces, and EastendHomes cannot be held liable for any trips, falls or other incidents caused by inclement weather.

3. Review

- 3.1 This strategy will be reviewed every three years, unless legislation or further developments require it to be reviewed before this date. This will ensure the strategy meets its objectives and takes account of good practice developments.