



Employee PPE Guidance

Facility Support Services - Cleaning Staff

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Summary

Under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 employers have a duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of all employees.

The management of health and safety at work regulations 1999 detail that the employer must make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks to the health and safety of employees to which they are exposed whilst at work.

In order for the Council to do this during the coronavirus outbreak risk assessments have been updated or indeed created implementing appropriate control measures to reduce the risk to employees to as low as is reasonably practicable.

Whilst PPE is regarded as a last resort when managing risk, with eliminating the risk being the preferred option, the current situation has dictated that some activities require PPE to be used as a control measure in order to manage the risk appropriately.

This employee guidance document aims to provide your employee group with information on the PPE that is required for your role.

Use of PPE/Activity – Risk Assessment Reference

NLC cleaners are based within non-residential and residential care settings. Services operating NLC buildings can request a deep clean of the premises if it is suspected to be contaminated with Covid19.

Cleaning staff will observe a 2m distance from residents and other staff within the residential care setting. However, further PPE is required for use while cleaning within the residential setting if 2m distance cannot be observed.

There is a risk assessments in place for NLC Cleaning activities in relation to Covid19:

- Deep clean of areas suspected to be contaminated with Corona Virus.

PPE in use for role

Consideration will be given to securely containing the potentially contaminated area for 72hours before a deep clean is completed.

Generally, cleaning staff do not require PPE for daily cleaning tasks. However, while cleaning a premises suspected to be contaminated with Coronavirus, a deep clean kit is issued to cleaners. The deep clean kit is disposed of after single use.

Deep Clean Kit for Non-Residential Premises

Disposable nitrile gloves
Disposable plastic apron

Cleaning staff within a residential care setting will be required to wear additional PPE while within the residential care environment.

PPE for Cleaners within a Residential Care Setting:

Disposable nitrile gloves
Disposable plastic apron
Disposable Fluid Resistant Surgical Face Masks (FRSM type IIR)
Goggles –EN166

Removal of PPE after use

Staff have been trained on the safe removal of PPE.

All PPE should be removed after cleaning infected building / area.

All PPE should be treated as if contaminated when removing.

It is critical to remove PPE in this order to prevent infection:

1. Gloves

- a. Grasp the outside of glove with the opposite gloved hand; peel off.
- b. Hold the removed glove in the remaining gloved hand.
- c. Slide the fingers of the un-gloved hand under the remaining glove at the wrist.
- d. Discard as clinical waste.



2. Apron

- a. Unfasten or break apron ties.
- b. Pull the apron away from the neck and shoulders, touching the inside of the apron only.
- c. Turn the apron inside out, fold or roll into a bundle and discard as clinical waste.



3. Eye protection – Goggles

- a. To remove, handle by headband or earpieces and discard appropriately.



4. Fluid Resistant Surgical Facemask (FRSM)

- a. Untie or break bottom ties, followed by top ties or elastic, and remove by handling the ties only.
- b. Discard as clinical waste.



Avoid touching your face with your hands until thorough hand washing has been completed.

Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing all PPE.

Provision/Accessibility

PPE deep clean kit will be distributed by area manager before cleaners enter the building.

All deep clean PPE is single use and will be disposed of after cleaning the infected area / building.

Storage/Cleaning/Disposal

Deep clean kit PPE will be disposed of and double bagged to ensure there will be no cross contamination.

Contaminated waste will be stored in a secure location for 72hours before being placed for collection.

Reporting of Issues

Employees will report any issues to their line manager, who will relay information to Margaret Reid, Assistant Business Manager.