



Employee PPE Guidance

Cemeteries Section

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Summary

Under the Health & Safety at Work etc 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

General cemetery duties including digging graves, topping up graves, carrying or lowering a coffin, emptying bins, digging for exhumations etc.

PPE is worn in the event that 2 metre distance cannot be maintained. Not only FFP 1 or FFP 2 face protection worn but also IIR face protection.

PPE in use for role

Uniform workwear with logo.

Safety Boots

Gloves (general industrial gloves with rubber palm and woven material)

Disposable nitrile gloves to EN374 (single use)

Facemasks – FFP1 and FFP2 to EN149 (single use) or IIR face protection

Removal of PPE after use

PPE should be removed in an order that minimises the potential for cross-contamination.

Gloves

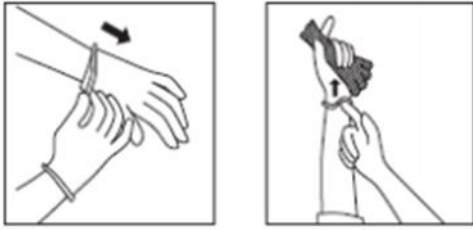
Grasp the outside of the glove with the opposite gloved hand; peel off.

Hold the removed glove in gloved hand.

Slide the fingers of the un-gloved hand under the remaining glove at the wrist.

Peel the glove off and discard appropriately. – see link below.

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/mvr/assets/videos/removing-gloves.mp4>



Fluid Resistant/Surgical facemask

Remove after leaving area of work

Untie or break bottom ties, followed by top ties or elastic and remove by handling the ties only and discard as clinical waste.

To minimise cross-contamination, the order outlined above should be applied even if not all items of PPE have been used.



Perform hand hygiene immediately after removing all PPE.

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

Provision/Accessibility

PPE is collected from Strathclyde Park depot. It is ordered from here from the supplier and passed on to cemetery staff.

At the time of writing all PPE is available and no restrictions appear to be in place.

Storage/Cleaning/Disposal

Nitrile gloves discarded after single use, or at end of shift.

Masks can be used for up to an hour continuously and disposed, or disposed at the end of an 8 hour shift
No requirement for the re-use of PPE
No cleaning of PPE required.
Used personal protective equipment should be disposed of in line with current guidance from Health Protection Scotland.

Reporting of Issues

Reported via local manager.

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