

Adverse Weather Policy

Network Scaffolding Contractors Ltd recognise that employees may face difficulties attending their place of work and returning home during periods of severe weather. However, the business must ensure that disruption caused to its services remains minimal.

It is the responsibility of the staff member to make every effort to attend for duty at their normal place of work, in accordance with their contract of employment. This includes adapting their means of travel if necessary, or using a combination of travel options, even if this results in arriving late for work.

General Health & Safety

Employees are reminded of their duty to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions. This includes taking extra care when travelling to and from work in severe weather conditions.

It should be noted that where additional expense is incurred as a result of using different travel methods these expenses cannot be reimbursed by the business. If it is unavoidable for staff to be absent from the workplace, staff will take all reasonable steps to report his or her inability to attend work to their manager as soon as is practicably possible.

With the agreement of their line manager and subject to operational need, the line manager in discussion with the staff member may agree suitable options such as being able to work from home; take the time as annual leave; or make up for the time at a later date. Failure to comply with reporting arrangements may amount to unauthorised absence and could therefore be unpaid.

Scaffold Erection

Weather conditions must be considered as part of the risk assessment and planning for work at height. Adverse weather conditions can significantly increase the risk of a fall when scaffolding at height e.g. lightning, high winds, rain, snow, ice and extreme temperatures. High winds and icy or wet surfaces can be especially hazardous.

Supervisors will check weather conditions on a daily basis, prior to work commencing, and will ensure that operatives are aware of weather related hazardous conditions, and make for the provision of suitable weather protective clothing. Wind speeds will be assessed in accordance with the Wind Speed and Emergency Action procedure, and where wind speed reaches 40mph, scaffolding operatives will be stood down.

Task risk assessment must consider all aspects of working in adverse weather conditions, including protective clothing, footwear, skin protection and maintaining clear visibility.

Suitable welfare facilities will be available for staff to take regular breaks, and will be equipped with appropriate clothes drying provision.



Stephen Guthrie
Managing Director