

What are the hazards and how might they harm?



Slip injuries from wet or soapy surfaces



Burns/scalds from contact with hot water



Electric shock as a result of contact with electrical sockets



Cuts or lacerations from sharp surfaces



Inhalation injury, burns, skin irritation from cleaning chemicals



Bacterial or viral infections (HIV, hepatitis etc.) from contact with bodily fluids

What PPE should the individual wear?



Wear PPE as prescribed in the Task Card for the cleaning chemical you are using and to ensure infection control. This is likely to include gloves and/or goggles.

What other precautions should be taken?



Wear appropriate footwear with slip-resistant soles



Clean up any spillages immediately



Open windows to keep the area well ventilated

Cleaning of ablution areas

(including bathrooms, showers, sinks, toilets, urinals, bidets and baths):

Safety Task Card
STCCL 03

Unit Managers – use page overleaf to list any hazards and control measures specific to your site which are not listed below

Safe System of Work

1. Erect warning signage before starting and where appropriate use barriers or signage to prevent unauthorised access.
2. Examine the area to be cleaned for hazards, including damaged equipment or edges, and report any hazards to your manager before starting the work.
3. Follow the correct cleaning procedure to avoid cross-contamination by following the colour-coded system for cleaning cloths and equipment. See reverse for details.
4. Follow the correct method for cleaning sanitary ware to avoid contaminating taps from the drains.
5. Only use the designated cleaning product for the task being carried out.
6. Follow the safety precautions in the COSHH Task Card for the chemical being used. This includes wearing PPE such as protective eyewear and gloves.
7. Do not spray chemicals close to electrical sockets or shaver sockets; apply the chemical to the cloth
8. Be aware of the water temperature and where possible use a mixer tap to reduce the water temperature.
9. Place a non-slip mat or towel on the floor for stepping onto when getting out of a shower or bath.
10. Avoid standing in the bath where possible.
11. Remove any sharps correctly and discard in a sharps bin, or other suitable container following the controls in STCCE 15.

Continued on reverse

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager before proceeding.

List any additional hazards or risks you have identified and control measures required to manage these.

Cleaning of ablution areas continued

(including bathrooms, showers, sinks, toilets, urinals, bidets and baths):

Safety Task Card
STCCL 03

Safe System of Work continued

12. If removal of the shower head is required as part of a deep clean, only do this if the shower has been in regular use. If the area has not been in use recently, discuss this with your manager to make sure Legionella control measures are in place.
13. Close the toilet lid before flushing.
14. Refer to STCGE06 when cleaning bodily fluid spills.
15. Remove all barriers and signage once the task has been completed.

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager before proceeding.

SOP (Standard Operating Procedures)
