

OUTCO

OUTSTANDING OUTDOOR MAINTENANCE



PREPARING FOR WINTER

WINTER MAINTENANCE TIPS AND
INFORMATION FOR PROPERTY MANAGERS

OUTCO.CO.UK



THE HIGH COST OF WINTER WEATHER
ON UK BUSINESSES

Lost Productivity:

Research indicates that **nearly 21 million workdays are lost each year** in the UK due to snow and ice-related issues. This accounts for around **£500 million annually in lost productivity alone**, as employees face delayed commutes, inaccessible workplaces, and hazardous conditions.

Increased Accident Liability:

Winter hazards, particularly slips and falls on icy surfaces, are responsible for a rise in workplace injury claims, with each incident potentially costing thousands in insurance claims and legal fees. Ensuring effective gritting and snow clearance can dramatically reduce these risks, helping to lower injury-related costs.

Impact on Supply Chains and Logistics:

Snow and ice disrupt delivery schedules, cause delayed shipments, and lead to stock shortages. With estimates indicating that winter delays can cost businesses up to **£150 million in lost revenue per severe weather day**, preparedness is key to safeguarding supply chains.

By implementing proactive winter maintenance, businesses can reduce these costs significantly. Services like those provided by OUTCO, which include real-time monitoring and rapid response to adverse weather conditions, can help minimize operational disruptions and avoid the high costs associated with winter weather impacts.

21
MILLION
WORKDAYS ARE
LOST EACH YEAR
DUE TO SNOW
AND ICE-RELATED
ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

£1BN

LOSS TO UK
BUSINESSES DUE
TO DISRUPTIONS
FROM SNOW
AND ICE YEARLY

Winter weather can cause significant operational and financial disruptions for businesses across the UK. Snow, ice, and freezing temperatures increase the risk of accidents, reduce accessibility, and lead to costly downtime.

According to recent reports, UK **businesses lose over £1 billion annually due to disruptions from snow and ice**, including lost productivity, increased operational costs, and liabilities from accidents.

This white paper provides essential winter preparedness tips and showcases OUTCO's comprehensive winter maintenance services designed to minimize risks, safeguard assets, and ensure operational continuity during winter.



PREPARING YOUR SITE FOR WINTER

The following tips are key for maintaining safety, compliance, and smooth operations throughout winter.

Assess Site-Specific Needs with a Pre-Season Survey

Conduct a site-specific survey to customize your requirements for winter services, factoring in surface types, exposure levels, and foot traffic to tailor effective winter safety solutions.

Monitor Compliance and Liability

Winter services should align with health and safety regulations. OUTCO for example provides insurance-backed services to minimize liabilities and manage risks associated with slips and falls.

Choose Reliable De-Icing Products

Opt for sustainable and effective de-icing options like white marine salt.

This is the product OUTCO uses due to its eco-friendliness and effectiveness in icy conditions. It reduces staining on surfaces and vehicles, which is advantageous in high-traffic areas.

Regularly Check and Restock Grit Bins

Make sure grit bins are stocked and accessible. These bins are crucial for immediate, on-site response in unexpected icy patches.

Prepare Snow-Clearing Equipment

Have appropriate equipment like UTVs and ploughs ready for larger areas such as car parks and pathways. Equipment choice is crucial for efficient snow and ice management in various site types.



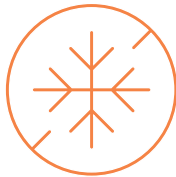
KEY TIPS FOR WINTER MAINTENANCE



Weather Monitoring

Being proactive about changing weather conditions can prevent issues before they arise. Utilizing weather data to plan gritting and snow removal can reduce unexpected costs.

OUTCO uses cutting-edge forecast tools to determine the optimal times for gritting based on site-specific temperatures, ensuring services are triggered when most needed.



Gritting and De-Icing

Gritting surfaces is one of the most effective methods to prevent accidents on icy pathways and car parks.

OUTCO uses white marine salt, which is environmentally sustainable and minimizes staining, reducing the need for additional cleaning or repairs.



Snow Clearance

Accumulated snow not only blocks access points but can lead to structural strain. Clearing snow from critical areas can prevent these issues.

OUTCO provides tailored snow clearance based on each site's layout and requirements, ensuring safe, accessible entrances for both employees and customers.

HOW OUTCO CAN HELP YOU WITH WINTER MAINTENANCE SERVICES

99.8%
CUSTOMER
SATISFACTION

OUTCO offers a fully managed, end-to-end winter maintenance service, with gritting, snow clearance, and real-time service monitoring tailored to each client's unique needs. With 20 years of experience and a data-driven approach, OUTCO's solutions ensure sites remain safe, compliant, and operational in winter.

Key Features of OUTCO's Winter Services

- ✔ **Proactive Temperature-Activated Gritting:** Services are activated based on pre-set road temperatures for proactive site protection
- ✔ **Snow Clearance:** Coverage for high-traffic areas such as car parks, walkways, and entrances
- ✔ **24/7 Operations and Helpdesk:** OUTCO's helpdesk and support centre are fully operational throughout the winter, with dedicated staff to handle service requests during severe weather
- ✔ **Advanced Technology Platform:** Powered by our NIMBUS platform, OUTCO's forecasting technology enables data-driven, automated responses to snow and ice conditions

Flexible Pricing Options

OUTCO offers pricing plans suited to various business needs:

- ✔ **Fixed-Cost Plans** for predictable budgeting
- ✔ **Pay-Per-Visit Options** for flexible usage
- ✔ **Hybrid Models** customized to meet site-specific demands

Environmental and Sustainability Benefits

Using white marine salt as a de-icing agent, OUTCO prioritizes both effectiveness and sustainability. Marine salt is more concentrated, allowing for quicker de-icing with less product, ultimately reducing environmental impact. This approach also eliminates unsightly residues that can stain properties, vehicles, and interior flooring.



CASE STUDY: OUTCO'S IMPACT ON WINTER SAFETY AND EFFICIENCY

One of OUTCO's valued clients, NHS Property Services Ltd, experienced improved site safety and compliance since implementing OUTCO's proactive winter solutions. With 24/7 helpdesk support and automated service activation, NHS sites have maintained accessibility even during severe winter events, ensuring continuity critical healthcare services.



OUTCO's Service Portal: Real-Time Visibility and Control

OUTCO's Service Portal provides businesses with full transparency and control over their winter maintenance services:

- ✔ **Real-Time Updates:** Monitor live status updates for each service
- ✔ **Service Verification:** Access photographic proof and GPS tracking, ensuring accountability
- ✔ **Easy Call-Out Requests:** Request additional services on-demand
- ✔ **Compliance Reporting:** Download and review service history for safety audits and compliance

Winter Preparedness: Investing in Safety and Continuity

With the right winter maintenance plan, businesses can reduce the costs associated with snow and ice, safeguard employees and customers, and protect their reputation. OUTCO's data-driven approach and comprehensive winter services empower clients to stay prepared, keeping operations running smoothly regardless of the weather.

For more information on winter maintenance solutions, contact OUTCO at **0800 0432 911** or visit our website at **outco.co.uk**.

No1
AWARD
WINNING
GRITTING
AND WINTER
MAINTENANCE
SERVICES

OUTCO

Thorncroft Manor, Thorncroft Drive, Leatherhead KT22 8JB
info@outco.co.uk | 0800 0432 911 | outco.co.uk