Working in the winter can be quite unpleasant at times; you start work in the dark and go home in the dark, often very wet, cold, and windy. What starts off as a simple task can sometimes turn out to be very hazardous. Activities can take longer to complete during the winter due to the working conditions, and allowances should be made when planning work activities during the winter period.

Adverse weather
- Layers of thin clothing are warmer than a thick jumper or coat. Thermal underwear will give good protection against the cold
- Ensure sufficient waterproofs are readily available and in good condition
- Maintain sufficient welfare arrangements
- Fuel your body with hot drinks and a hot meal

Icy conditions can be extremely hazardous for pedestrians and very challenging for drivers of moving vehicles. Pedestrian walkways, site entrances and roads must be gritted to avoid people slipping and vehicles losing control.
Working with water in freezing temperatures requires extra care to ensure that ice patches are not created by work activities.

When driving in the dark or adverse weather, leave more space between you and the vehicle in front as this will give you more reaction time for braking. Make sure all vehicles are maintained, checking all lights are working. Check tires are in good condition, windows clean and ensure the washer bottle is topped up

Lighting
- Ensure provisions are made to light all working areas outside daylight hours
- Keep all traffic cones, signs, and boards clean so they remain visible to road users
- Maintain sufficient lighting for pedestrian walkways to prevent people tripping over in the dark

General
  Manual handling
- Ensure weather conditions and the working environment are risk assessed
- Take extra care whilst undertaking manual handling activities in the cold, Warm up before undertaking any manual handling

Using vibration tools
- Ensure gloves are worn
- Take regular breaks to warm hands
  Exercise fingers to maintain good circulation