

Method Statement

Task/Activity	Cleaning pigeon droppings	
Next Review Date	01.08.2026	
Originator	Keith Carver	Reviewed by Keith Carver
Site	Fulham Road, Fulham, London	
Site Manager	Grant Lewis	
Date	31.07.2025	

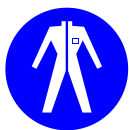
Scope of Works

The methods to be used when cleaning pigeon droppings

Background / Training Required

Competent to work in cleaning and correct procedures to be followed when dealing with contaminated waste

Safety Equipment and PPE required

Protective clothing Disposable coveralls with attached hood.		Safety footwear BS EN ISO 20346:2014 Safety footwear	
Respiratory protection P1 Respirator suitable for outdoor use (BS EN 143:2000)		Head protection BS EN 397:2012 +A: 2012 Industrial Safety Helmets	
Gloves BS EN 374-1:2003 Protective gloves against chemicals and micro-organisms		Eye protection BS EN 166:2002 Personal Eye Protection	

Tools and Equipment Required

Warning signs		Scrubbing brush	
Clinical waste bags		Labelled spray bottle	

Method of Works/Safe System of Works	Risks/Hazards/Controls/Notes
Planning 1. Register the attendance at the location. 2. Collect equipment and PPE from the storage area.	

3. Check PPE for any damages or faults, replace if required.
4. Check equipment to ensure they are fit for purpose.
5. Check COSHH assessment and SDS for correct and safe use of chemicals.
6. Place warning signs at any possible access locations.

Safe Method of Work

1. Assemble equipment required for task.
2. Move equipment to area of clean.
3. If using access equipment, ensure that you inspect it before use to make sure it is safe to use.
4. Prior to accessing any areas of clean ensure you have put on the correct level of personal protective equipment (PPE) and it is correctly fitted.
5. If using access equipment, ensure that you are wearing a safety harness with safety line attached to suitable anchor points on the equipment.
6. Follow instructions as specific in the work at height assessment.
7. If cleaning task has the potential to affect others, ensure that sufficient warning signage has been used.
8. Before removing pigeon droppings first soak the affected area with water to prevent the creation of dust whilst cleaning the droppings up.
9. Once all control measures have been put in place commence cleaning contaminated area putting waste into dedicated bags.
10. On completion of clean ensure that areas below clean are cleared of any droppings that may have fell and clean down all equipment.
11. Dispose of waste bags and all disposable PPE as contaminated waste.
12. Ensure that hands and any other part of the body which may have been exposed are thoroughly washed as soon as possible after completion of task.

Completion of Task

12. Carry out a visual inspection of the area completed.
 13. Repeat the tasks were the required standard has not been met.
 14. Return the equipment to the safe storage area.
- Clean all equipment used and place to dry in a well-ventilated area.

1. Place signs in prominent locations
2. Operatives trained and competent in task.
3. If access equipment used to reach area of clean it must be inspected prior to use to ensure that it is safe to use.
4. Prior to positioning access equipment, operatives to inspect locations and identify any visible hazards and take appropriate action.
5. When and if working from access equipment, safety harnesses worn.
6. Tools / equipment secured against falls.
7. Adequate warning signage used if task has potential to affect others.
8. Contaminated waste disposal bags only used for waste collected and disposed of in line with client procedures.
9. Operatives involved in this task to ensure that hands thoroughly washed before eating, smoking or drinking.
10. Correct level of personal protective equipment supplied and worn at all times whilst carrying out task.
11. If after completion of task any operative feels unwell a doctor should be contacted as soon as possible.

Environmental Impacts	Feral pigeons have been implicated in the transmission of several diseases harmful to both people and animals. Best known is ornithosis (also known as psittacosis). The organism concerned is Chlamydia Psittica which is secreted by the faeces and in nasal and eye secretions, thus contaminating feathers, faeces and nesting materials. Bird diseases affecting domesticated birds and mammals include Newcastles disease virus, avain tuberculosis, fowl cholera, infectious encephalomyelitis and E coli granuloma. Several pathogenic fungi find bird droppings a good medium for development. For most people, infection can appear to be little more than a bad cold, but in susceptible individuals, severe reactions can occur leading to long periods of illness. The fungi responsible for such illnesses are Cryptococcus neoformans and Histoplasma capsulatum. These diseases are of significance to people living or working close to accumulations of droppings, especially people involved in removing such materials from buildings. Perhaps of greater significance for most people will be the insects and mites associated with bird's nests. Urban birds have a number of blood feeding parasites living in their nests, which will bite humans. These include biting bugs, mites, ticks and lice. Bird's nests are also good harbourages for other insect pests which feed off feathers, droppings, dead birds and the food brought back to feed the chicks. These insects will feed of other food sources and can readily infest the remainder of the building. People most at risk from the diseases that birds carry are the ones whose job brings them closest to the droppings. People removing droppings from buildings should consider themselves to be at significant risk and it is essential therefore that they wear the proper personal protective equipment.
Emergency Arrangements	If the task includes any periods of Lone Working, follow the ABM Lone Working Procedure First aid available from the security team. 2-way radio provided to staff while at work.



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