

Domestic Dwellings/Household Cleans

METHODOLOGY

On receipt of a cleaning request for a Crime Scene De- contamination (to clean a domestic dwelling) following an incident or investigation. The requirements of each clean will differ case by case

The cleaning is undertaken in accordance with the specified request from the Force Crime Scene De – contamination Report.

The Operations Manager in charge will brief the Solo mobile Incident team on the requirements and will arrange any additional services for the removal of furniture, household items, carpets etc. by an approved contractor.

All Mobile Operatives will be instructed to remove all bodily spillages as specified in the Decontamination Report and will adhere to Safe Working Practices for the removal of bodily spillages and Infection control as per the requirements of the Force Crime Scene De-Contamination Report. The mobile operatives will not be responsible to remove any clinical waste and sharps waste.

On receipt of the Incident Call out and arrival at call out location, the mobile operative must report to Officer in Charge. The Officer in Charge will debrief you on the soilage to be cleaned, area of clean and precautions to be undertaken. Pending on the nature of soilage to be cleaned. All Infection Control and Removal of Bodily spillage procedures will be followed, and clinical wastes and Sharps at to be reported.

On close of clean a Solo Infection Control document will be completed with the Officer/Person in charge of the Crime Scene.

Scenes of Crime Cleans all present the main hazard of the potential contact with sensitive waste. Sensitive waste can be defined as:-

Body Fluid Spillages; Vomit, Urine, Blood, Saliva, Semen, Animal / Human Waste

Clinical Waste; Animal / Human Tissue, Plasters, Swabs, Dressings, Drugs and other Pharmaceutical products, Medical waste

Sharps; Hypodermic Syringes, Broken Glass, Scalpels, Razors, Blades

In most instances South Wales Police Scenes of Crime will have prior removed all sharps.

It is imperative that all control measures are complied with when working within this environment and directly with body spillages / clinical waste as it can be a prime source of infection for blood borne viruses such as Hepatitis A, B, C, D, HIV and other diseases.

If the body spillage, sharp or clinical waste is infected with a blood borne virus, these can be transmitted directly in the workplace through open wounds, skin abrasions, skin damage, and if the person suffers with eczema and splashes to the nose, eyes or mouth. Hence, strict controls will be required for the cleaning, collection, storage and disposal of such waste on behalf of Leicester Police and Solo Service Group. It will be paramount to ensure the following:-

1 Good Hygiene Practices;

Hand washing is the most important method of preventing the spread of infection. Ensure hands are washed before work commences with the provided alcohol anti bacterial gel, after visiting the toilet,

after handling body spillages, after wearing protective gloves, before handling food, smoking or making contact with your face/ mouth. Anti bactericidal Gel and liquid soap will be provided for use which will remove micro – organisms from the skin. Paper towels/roll is provided to dry hands after washing and should be disposed of immediately.

2 Prohibition of certain activities;

When cleaning operatives are cleaning up body spillages, eating, drinking, smoking and making contact with the face is prohibited under safe controls. Any open wounds, cuts, abrasions must be covered with waterproof dressings and suitable protective gloves.

3 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), First aid and Emergency Procedures;

All cleaning operatives must ensure PPE issued is worn at all times whilst undertaking the task and when using any hazardous substances. It is important PPE is worn correctly as it is a control measure to protect your skin, eyes and clothes from becoming contaminated which will lead to infection. If any PPE becomes damaged or faulty inform the contract manager who will arrange for new equipment. Any damaged / old PPE should not be used. In the interest of health and safety all PPE provided needs to be stored safely and in accordance with Solo, site rules and procedures. All cleaning operatives will be instructed on first aid and any emergency procedures on recruitment. This information will be obtained from conducting a risk assessment of the client premises.

The minimum PPE which should be worn when working with or within an environment of clinical waste & body spillages is the following:

1. Nitrile disposable gloves
2. Rubber Boots / plastic disposable overshoes
3. Protective clothing – Disposable waterproof suit / coveralls and latex disposable apron
4. Eye / face protection – Anti Mist Safety goggles
5. Face Mask

In addition, water resistant protective clothing must be provided in some situations to avoid contamination. This will be determined from conducting a risk assessment of the dwelling and the specific situation.

The majority of PPE issued is disposable; this then renders the requirement for decontamination for re-use of protective wear and equipment. Operatives are instructed to dispose of such equipment in biohazard bags and transfer to location for Incineration disposal.

4 Immunisation;

All cleaning operatives will complete a pre employment questionnaire to identify any existing health ailments. This is important for future health surveillance and the likelihood of any adverse reactions when working with body fluids/spillages and clinical waste. All operatives will be advised to be Immunised for hepatitis B and tetanus, and will be placed on an Occupational Health Monitoring programme for the monitoring of this.

5 Supervision and Monitoring;

All work will be controlled by the mobile cleaning operative's who will ensure the safe system of work is complied with. The mobile cleaning operative's will liaise with the contract manager to ensure any health and safety concerns and quality of work is encountered.

METHOD OF CLEANING SCENES OF CRIMES

Procedure A

The following procedure is to be adopted for Body fluid's cleaning / disposal:-

- 1. Erect Appropriate Warning Signs**
2. Cleaning operatives must cover any open wounds, cuts, grazes or abrasions of the skin with a waterproof plaster prior to conducting the task.
3. Put on disposable overall/coveralls, gloves, goggles, masks, overshoes/rubber boot's
4. Pre visually check all equipment to be used.
5. If the waste is in a liquid state it will be required to be prior treated with absorbing Crystals. The crystals must be liberally sprinkled upon the waste and allow enough contact time for the waste to gel and become solid.
6. Remove the bulk of the crystallised waste in the solid form using the colour coded scraper, scoop and dustpan and dispose within yellow clinical waste bag.
7. Place/dispose of the waste within a yellow bio hazard bag.
8. Wipe any excess with damp disposable colour coded cloth.
9. Liberally spray on and apply the cleaning, disinfecting solution (Selgiene Ultra for all surfaces) and leave for one minute.
10. Use disposable absorbent towels to absorb as much as the moisture as possible. Dab in and tread on towels to absorb as much of the moisture as possible.
11. Remove disposable mask and over suit and put inside bag
12. Pull gloves inside out and put inside bag
13. Use alcohol hand wipe sachet, put into yellow clinical waste bag
14. Seal and date bag, take to lockable storage area
15. Put on new disposable gloves.
16. Decontaminate goggles and steam cleaner
17. Remove Cleaning and Wet Floor Warning signs when carpet area is completely dry.
18. All sensitive waste must be kept in a secure section of the mobile Vehicle until transfer to Incineration Plant and/or appropriate force receptacle.
19. Inform Solo contract manager / Helpdesk.
20. Arrange for a new body spillage kit (if applicable).

It is the responsibility of the Contract/Operations Manager in charge to emphasize and ensure that the above systems of working is implemented and maintained at all times.

