

If your bus is parked outside, before leaving the garage check:

- Snow or ice does not impair visibility from the cab
- Lights are visible
- The number plates are clearly visible and legible
- Your mirrors are clear and the windscreen is demisted

Driving your bus – keeping yourself and others safe

Drive with extra care, some parts of a route may have been gritted whereas other parts may be untreated.

Drive to current conditions; be aware they can change from location to location rapidly.

Brake and accelerate as smoothly as possible.

Don't let dirt build up on your windscreen, reducing visibility.

Take particular care on bends – brake before the bend and steer smoothly, avoiding any sudden actions.

Pedestrians and cyclists will be much less visible.

Stopping distance can be ten times greater – keep well back from the vehicle in front.

Take care if you overtake vehicles spreading salt – the road in front may not have been gritted.

Beware of black ice – tyres make virtually no sound when travelling on ice.

Grit only lasts for a short period of time after it is applied and stops being effective at lower temperatures, never assume a route is safe or has been gritted.

If your vehicle starts to skid, lift your foot from the accelerator and steer in the direction of the skid.

Stay Informed

Your safety and that of your customers and other road users is top priority.

Please report any incidents, near misses or problems to control and your manager on return to your garage.

Speak to desk staff/supervisors or other drivers to make sure your route is safe and you have the most up to date service information.

Check your local notice boards for latest information.

Use our App. Tapping on a bus or tram stop will also show you the weather forecast for the next hour – especially useful for knowing if its likely to rain or snow in the next 60 minutes.

If you do get stuck, break down or need advice when road conditions deteriorate, contact Control via radio or mobile phone (outwith the cab).



Ice & snow...take it slow

Winter weather safety advice for employees



 **Lothian**

EastCoastbuses **Lothiancountry** 

EDINBURGH BUS TOURS **LOTHIAN MOTORCOACHES**

Be prepared for bad weather

Take a bottle of water and some high energy food, such as chocolate with you in your bag in case of emergency.

Remember to carry extra clothing, including a coat, hat and gloves.

Make sure you have the main contact numbers with you at all times:

Main control	0131 557 8766
Central	0131 475 0156
Longstone	0131 442 8919
Marine	0131 657 0407
Musselburgh	0131 653 1330
Dunbar	01368 865 500
Livingston	01506 535 430

Check trafficscotland.org for more information.

On your way to and from work

Listen to local radio weather and traffic bulletins and take note of safe routes.

Allow more time for your journey if needed.

If driving, make sure you have plenty of fuel – you may need to take a longer route.

Ensure your windscreen washer is topped up and contains enough screen wash to prevent freezing.

Think about carrying a rechargeable torch and a snow shovel.



Be wary of driving in wheel tracks – snow that is more compressed can be icier than snow that is undisturbed. Drive at a slow speed in as high a gear as possible.

What to expect at your garage

Take care when driving company or personal vehicles on company premises during the hours of darkness and when wet or icy. Use dipped headlights at all times and hazard lights if required. Never exceed 5mph if icy or snowy.

Report any hazards caused by inclement weather on walkways (such as flooding, wet or slippery areas) to your manager or supervisor immediately.

Keep all walkways clear and never block them with vehicles or equipment.

External walkways and safe routes into the premises will be gritted daily. Each garage has a gritting plan, but it may not be practical to grit all external areas of your garage during winter conditions, so please take care.

Car drivers parking on site and colleagues entering the premises other than by a walkway or safe entry route do so at their own risk.

Colleagues should always park as close to a designated walkway as possible.

Stocks of salt grit are positioned on walkways for your use, should you need to apply more grit on a walkway, please do so (e.g. clearing a safe route to your allocated vehicle). Please ask for assistance if you need it.

take extreme care and wear suitable footwear...

There may be areas around the garages which are slippery, or hazards that are hidden by snow/ice – take extreme care and wear suitable footwear.

Be careful when entering or exiting indoor areas and watch for water brought in on footwear, jackets or umbrellas etc.