

# Safety Alert



**SUBJECT:** Unsafe guttering due to snow & ice build up

**RECIPIENTS:** All Council Services (including schools)

**ISSUE DATE:** 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2010    **REF:** HSA2

## Guttering Collapse and falling icicles



### **COMPACTED SNOW IS THREE TIMES HEAVIER THAN FRESHLY FALLEN SNOW**

Due to the heavy snow fall and freezing temperatures over the last week some guttering may have torn away from the building or been weakened by a thick build up of compacted snow/ice increasing the risk of them failing and falling. There is also the risk of large icicles or heavy ice/snow falling from the roof/guttering.

It is therefore essential that you assess the guttering on your building to confirm its structural safety and any overhanging and/or thick snow/ice on roofs above footpaths/doors.

This conformation assessment can be done through either:

- Mouchel Property Services – Tel:01522 836222
- Your own property services contact/company/competent person
- The company who built/installed the guttering/roof.

All assessments, findings and actions relating to this **MUST** be recorded

**The controlled removal of dangerous overhanging snow/ice may be part of a planned maintenance programme with due consideration given to a safe method of work.**

**If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:**

Mouchel Safety Adviser Tel: 01522 836714 or Corporate Health & Safety Ext:3675