

# Assessing the strength of your cleaning provider

With the importance of a clean and safe work environment now established, the thoughts of business leaders will undoubtedly turn to considering whether their current providers are delivering the optimum level of service.

With cleaning now part of a vital boardroom conversation, it is worth assessing your current provider against the list which follows on this page and the next, to ensure they are set up for success.



## Using the correct products

Whether you supply your cleaning providers with products, or they use their own, it is important that they are suitable for the job. We use specialist chemicals that have the European standard for testing and evaluating viricidal activity in the medical area (EN 14476) which has been approved by Public Health England for the treatment of COVID-19.



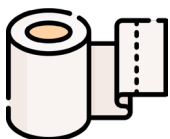
## Using the correct materials

Use disposable cloths where possible in order to eliminate the spread of the pathogen and other bacteria. Where these can't be used, reusable cloths should be colour coded for use in particular places only.



## Hand sanitising

Entrances and touchpoints, such as door handles, push plates and bannisters, must be accompanied by hand sanitation units to drastically reduce the spread of bacteria on communal surfaces.



## Washrooms

Communal washrooms should always be stocked with antibacterial soap, preferably in contactless dispensers. Swapping air dryers for disposable hand towels will limit the spread of pathogens and bacteria. Most effective, however, is the installation of suitable toilet roll holders in cubicles – those that dispense from the front, rather than underneath, being most hygienic.



## Floors

Doormats help eliminate the entry of bacteria into communal areas, but is your current mat suitable? We recommend having one that is as wide as the entrance point and as long as the door is tall to maximise its effectiveness.



### **Hygienic bin disposal**

Remove individual bins and replace them with centralised waste points. These can be installed with more hygienic bin bag removal systems. Having to walk to a disposal point discourages employees from eating at their workspaces, reducing the spread of bacteria.



### **Enhance your cleaning regime**

Does your cleaning provider have enough time to both clean and disinfect surfaces? Some cleaning schedules are kept in place for years and now is the time to make sure they are updated, giving cleaning operators time they need to carry out a proper deep clean.



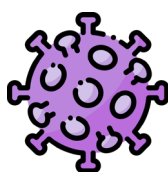
### **Working together**

Stop looking at cleaning companies as providers, as instead create a partnership that enables them to make a real impact. Welcoming them in as part of the business will allow them to create a relationship with staff, encouraging better hygiene habits such as eating away from their desk.



### **Clear signage is key**

The presence of clear signage which emphasises the importance of cleanliness is crucial to changing attitudes within the workplaces. While they shouldn't need it, signs to remind employees to properly, and thoroughly, wash their hands, or leave places tidy after use will act as a reminder. It will also show that you, as an employer, are taking it seriously.



### **Decontamination**

Cleaning is important, but in the current climate you must go one step further to ensure the working environment is free from contamination. Bacteria and viruses are spread quickly and unknowingly so carrying out regular deep cleans is a must. If your cleaning provider does not offer a full decontamination service, now is the time to consider one that does.