

CASE STUDY

DOC
CLEANING



MEWP Access Overview

Mobile Elevating Work Platforms, commonly referred to as MEWPs, are a safe and controlled method of accessing building façades where fixed access systems are not available or where architectural features require flexible positioning.

MEWPs allow operatives to reach elevated glazing, façade elements, recessed sections, and external louvres with precision. It is positioned to suit the elevation being cleaned, helping operatives work safely while maintaining control over cleaning standards.

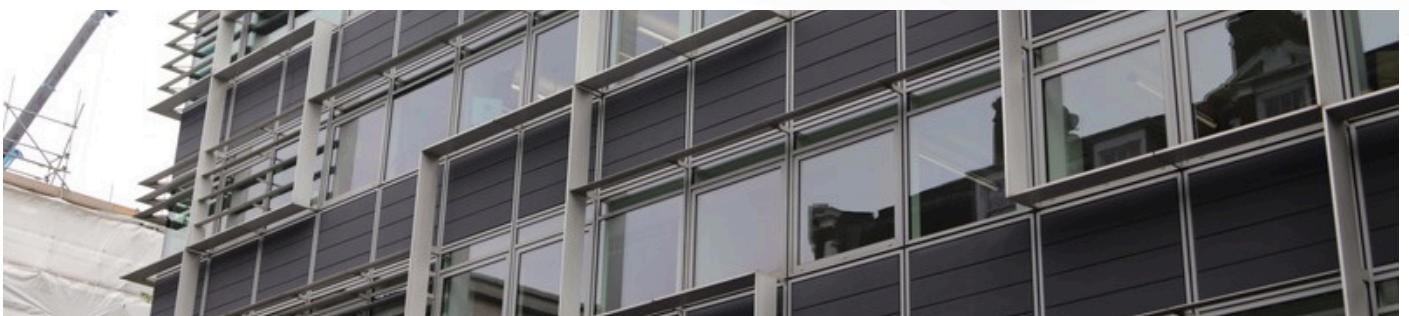
At 101 New Cavendish Street, the MEWP formed the primary access method for the works, enabling DOC Cleaning's operatives to carry out high-level façade cleaning from a stable working platform. This approach is particularly suited to the building's design, which includes extensive glazing, recessed windows, and areas where direct access from ground level is restricted.

101 New Cavendish Street

101 New Cavendish Street is a modern multi-storey building in a busy central London setting. Its façade has a varied profile, with glazed elevations, recessed window sections, and cladded areas. These features give the building a layered and contemporary appearance while also creating a range of access and cleaning considerations across different parts of the exterior.

A prominent part of the building's streetscape, requiring careful attention to maintain a consistent finish.

The works at 101 New Cavendish Street focus on preserving the visual quality of the building, ensuring the glazing, cladding, and architectural detailing are cleaned in a way that supports the building's overall appearance and the standards expected of a well-maintained central London property.



Access Strategy & Equipment

Access to the façade is achieved primarily through the use of a MEWP, positioned externally at street level to allow operatives to work at height from a secure platform. The MEWP gives controlled vertical and horizontal reach, so the team can clean glazing and façade elements across multiple levels of the building.

Consideration to the surrounding environment, includes parked vehicles, nearby trees, pedestrian routes, road signage, and the building line. Requiring coordination between operatives on the platform and ground-level support staff to ensure movements are controlled and the working area remained safe.

Professional window cleaning equipment is used from the platform, including applicators, squeegees, microfibre detailing cloths, and suitable cleaning solution. The team work section by section, adjusting the MEWP position as required to maintain safe access and a consistent finish.

Ground-level support is provided by a reach and wash operative using an extendable water-fed pole. This enables accessible sections of glazing to be cleaned from ground level and helped support the wider cleaning programme without relying solely on the MEWP for every area.



Safety & Compliance

Safety is central to the planning and delivery of any operation. Working at height from a MEWP requires competent operatives, and clear communication.

Before work commences, the MEWP and associated equipment are subject to pre-use checks to confirm that they're suitable for operation. The working area is assessed to identify risks relating to ground conditions, pedestrian movement, nearby vehicles, trees, street furniture, and the building façade.

Ground-level controls are also important. Exclusion zones, safe working practices, and clear signage help protect pedestrians, residents, building users, and road users while the works are being completed.

The reach and wash operative also maintains awareness of the wider working area, particularly when using extended poles near the road and public footway.

All works are supported by suitable risk assessments, method statements, trained operatives, and supervision appropriate to the nature of the task.

Cleaning Methodology

The cleaning operation is carried out using a structured, section-by-section approach. Work is planned around the building's elevations, façade layout, access limitations, and site conditions.

From the MEWP, operatives apply cleaning solution to the glazing using professional applicators, loosening dirt, dust, traffic film, and atmospheric residue from the glass surface. Particular attention is given to edges, corners, recessed sections, and areas around the horizontal fins, where dirt can accumulate and become more difficult to remove.

Once the glass has been prepared, operatives use squeegees to remove the solution and leaving a streak-free finish. Frames, and visible edges are detailed when required to ensure a consistent standard across each completed section.

The MEWP allows the operative to work close to the façade, which is essential for cleaning around the building's louvres and recessed glazing. This level of access helped ensure that architectural details are cleaned carefully without compromising the appearance of the building.

The reach and wash team support the process from ground level using purified water and extendable poles.

This method is used for lower-level and accessible glazing, helping to remove surface dirt while reducing the need for additional platform repositioning. Where required, the water-fed pole is also used to assist with areas adjacent to the MEWP working zone.

Throughout the operation, the team visually check completed sections to ensure the finish meets DOC Cleaning's standards before moving to the next area.



Conclusion

The window cleaning operation at 101 New Cavendish Street demonstrates DOC Cleaning's ability to plan and deliver façade cleaning in a complex urban environment using specialist access equipment.

The MEWP provides the primary access solution, allowing operatives to work safely and effectively at height. The reach and wash team complement the operation from ground level, supporting efficient coverage of accessible areas, helping reduce unnecessary disruptions.

Through careful planning, safe working practices, and the use of appropriate access methods, DOC Cleaning deliver a controlled and effective cleaning operation tailored to the requirements of 101 New Cavendish Street.

About DOC Cleaning

DOC Cleaning is a family-owned business with over 50 years of experience delivering professional cleaning services, with a portfolio spanning cultural landmarks, corporate headquarters and commercial spaces across the UK. As we continue to grow, we remain committed to building trusted partnerships, investing in our people and innovating for a cleaner, more sustainable future.

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