

Dirty offices distracting to Canterbury workers

Newly-released research shows Canterbury workers are conscious of the importance of having clean and hygienic work spaces, especially given an increase in hot-desking and a harsh winter of illnesses only just behind us.

Building Service Contractors of New Zealand Inc (BSCNZ) – the only trade body representing the cleaning industry – commissioned the independent research to coincide with its launch of “Thank Your Cleaner Day”.

BSCNZ chief executive Lillian Small said it is a world-first initiative aimed to recognise and

value the skilled contribution of the tens of thousands of cleaners in New Zealand.

Thirty-five per cent of Cantabrians were mindful of sharing their work space and equipment with sick people, with 35 per cent believing that superbugs were the cause of this

winter’s worst cold and flu virus season in years.

When asked on what surfaces you’d find the most germs in the

work place, 26 per cent of those surveyed said a work place phone or mobile, followed by personal keyboards (16 per cent).

Psychologist Sara Chatwin believes a clean and tidy office

environment is as important as the bottom line. “People are influenced by their surroundings and can become anxious about disease and germs particularly on the back of the cold, wet winter which brought with it so many illnesses and ailments.”

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