

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**NEIGHBOURHOODS
CABINET MEMBER**

WINTER SERVICE: DESK TOP REVIEW UPDATE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Cabinet Member of the progress made to date on the Winter Service Policy desk top review prior to the start of the winter season 2015/16.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Officers have undertaken a desktop review of our current Winter Service Policy. They have concluded that the policy employed last winter performed very well and that it continues to robustly comply with the national Code of Practice.
- 2.2 Officers have ensured that the Winter Service Procedures reflect the most recent guidance contained in Chapter 13 of the Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance management, "Well Maintained Highways".
- 2.3 The council has received three additional requests for the inclusion of roads etc in the schedule of precautionary salting routes. Officers have assessed each request against the policy criteria. As a result, The Car Park at the rear of Scunthorpe Market has been included in the Winter Service Policy Section 1.4; Station Road, Brigg (which is not an adopted highway) and Shore Road, Garthorpe have both failed to meet the criteria for inclusion on the precautionary routes (see Appendix 1 for full details). Officers are continually assessing requests for the provision of additional salt bins.
- 2.4 The Winter Service policy continues to include the provision of devolved budget allocations for snow clearing to Town and Parish Councils. It is proposed to maintain these at the same level as last year (Appendix 2).
- 2.5 We have recently made contact with all registered contractors asking for current Insurance certificates and any amendments to their available plant or hire rates. As a result, we now have an up to date register in place in readiness for the start of the 2015-16 winter season.
- 2.6 During this season, we will manage and operate our winter operations from the Billet Lane Depot facility. It is proposed that consideration will be given for the use of 6mm rocksalt from season 2016/17. This is made possible owing to the fact that the stock is now stored undercover. The major benefit of the proposed change is that a

reduced amount of salt is likely to be required. Officers are also investigating the benefits of utilising salt that is coated in a molasses based substance. Evidence suggests that this option may also yield further cost saving benefits. This exercise will continue throughout the coming season with a recommendation in readiness for the 2016/17 season.

2.7 A winter preparedness article is ready for publication in the autumn edition of the council's residents' publication. We will also continue with the social networking site communications that we successfully used last season. e.g. Twitter etc.

2.8 We will make contact with all Lead Snow Wardens, Snow Wardens and Town/Parish clerks to identify any changes to personnel and/or contact details and also to seek requests for any further salt supplies in 1 tonne bags. Additional green salt bins are also available if required. These will cost Town/Parish Councils £145 per bin.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 The Cabinet Member is asked to formally approve the Winter Service Policy for 2015/16.

3.2 The Cabinet Member is asked to approve the addition of a car park at the rear of Scunthorpe Market for inclusion in the Winter Service Policy Section 1.4

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 There is an undertaking in the current policy to review the winter service annually. The proposed amendments will ensure that the policy continues to develop and improve.

4.2 The addition of the additional car park is in line with the criteria and the policy.

4.3 Doing nothing is not a viable option if we are to continually improve our delivery of the winter service.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 Financial

5.1.1 The addition of the additional car park will incur minimal additional cost. The winter service revenue budget will meet all costs.

5.2 Staffing

5.2.1 The operational element of the Winter Service will change this season to reflect the recommendations that were made in the approved Cabinet Report for the review of Highways and Neighbourhood Services. A two shift system will replace the standby system that was used in previous years from Monday to Friday. Weekend cover will be provided using a formal standby

arrangement. Additional drivers are being utilised and where necessary, trained from within other council service areas. This has given a larger pool of available drivers for the overall operation.

5.2.2 A staffing rota for the full season is now in place.

5.3 Property

5.3.1 No issues.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1 Not applicable.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 Officers will consult with all Lead Snow Wardens, Snow Wardens and Town/Parish clerks with regard to arrangements for the forthcoming season.

7.2 Trade Union representatives were fully consulted and informed on the operational stand by rotas and have raised no issues.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the amendments to the Winter Service Policy for 2015/16.

8.2 That the Cabinet Member approves the addition of an additional car park as detailed earlier in this report.

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

Civic Centre
Ashby Road
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN16 1AB
Author: Rob Beales
Date: 21 September 2015

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Highways Act 1980
Transport Act 1968
"Well Maintained Highways – Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance
Transport Resilience Review : A review of the resilience of the transport network to extreme weather events – Richard Brown CBE, July 2014

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF SALTING ROUTE REQUESTS AND DECISIONS 2015

REQUEST	REQUESTED BY	RECOMMENDATION
Brigg, Station Road	Member of Public	Does not meet the criteria for Precautionary Routes. It is not an adopted Highway.
Scunthorpe, Market Car Park	Scunthorpe Market	Meets the treatment requirements for Car Parks. Add into list of Car Parks to be treated.
Garthorpe, Shore Road	Member of Public	Already included on Secondary Routes. Does not meet the criteria for Precautionary Routes.

APPENDIX 2

Devolved Budget by Town & Parish Council for Snow Clearing

Parish	Budget (£)
Alkborough	250
Amcotts	250
Appleby	250
Ashby Parkland	250
Barnetby-le-Wold	1,250
Barrow upon Humber	1,500
Barton	2,000
Belton	1,500
Bonby	250
Bottesford	2,000
Brigg	2,000
Broughton	2,000
Burringham	400
Burton upon Stather	1,500
Cadney cum Howsham	250
Crowle and Ealand	2,000
East Butterwick	150
East Halton	250
Eastoft	250
Elsham	250
Epworth	2,000
Flixborough	1,000
Garthorpe and Fockerby	250
Goxhill	1,000
Gunness	1,000
Haxey	2,000
Hibaldstow	1,000
Holme	150
Horkstow	150
Keadby with Althorpe	1,000
Kirmington and Croxton	250
Kirton in Lindsey	1,500
Luddington and Haldenby	250
Manton	150
Melton Ross	150
Messingham	2,000
New Holland	500
North Killingholme	250
Owston Ferry	750
Redbourne	250
Roxby Cum Risby	250
Saxby All Saints	250
Scawby	1,000
South Ferriby	400
South Killingholme	500
Thornton Curtis	250
Ulceby	1,000
West Butterwick	600
West Halton	250
Whitton	250
Winteringham	750
Winterton	2,000
Wootton	250
Worlaby	250
Wrawby	750
Wroot	250
Total	43,150