

CORE OFFER BUDGET FOR WINTER MAINTENANCE

WHY DOES THE COUNCIL HAVE TO PROVIDE THIS SERVICE AND WHAT DOES IT NEED TO COVER?

As far as reasonably practicable the Council has a duty to ensure highways are not endangered by snow or ice.

This service is not only a requirement by law but is important in terms of both road safety and the economy. We undertake winter maintenance to assist in the safe movement of road users including buses, cyclists, motorcyclists and pedestrians and to minimise delays caused by adverse weather conditions.

HOW DOES THE CORE OFFER BUDGET MEET THE COUNCIL'S OBLIGATIONS?

It is not reasonably practicable to cover the entire highway network. Priorities are developed through a Winter Maintenance Plan that is reviewed annually and follows national best practice guidance.

The Council operates the service between October and April (inclusive). When conditions dictate the service will include:

- Gritting and ploughing the priority networks (circa 320 kilometres)
- Gritting/removal of snow in town centre, including car parks.
- Maintaining and filling grit bins across the Borough.

DOES THIS DIFFER FROM THE CURRENT SERVICE?

No

WHAT IS THE CORE BUDGET MADE UP OF?

2019/20 budget £455,904

The core budget of £455,904 is made up of:-

- The costs associated with the storage and purchase of salt used to spread on the roads
- Weather prediction systems and services
- The vehicles and machinery used in the service
- The staff costs associated in providing this out of hours service.

The Council allocates a budget based on experience. However, the expenditure is dependent upon weather conditions and extreme winters can result in budget pressures and vice versa.

| | Budget 2019/20 £ |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Employee | 161,772 |
| Transport | 168,260 |
| Supplies & Services | 94,302 |
| Support Services | 17,628 |
| Overheads | 13,942 |
| Total | 455,904 |