



SNOW CLEARANCE EMERGENCY PLAN

1. SCOPE OF ARRANGEMENTS

The snow clearance activities set out in this plan will be carried out on a best endeavours basis, subject to resources being available. Activities will only be carried out if conditions allow people to work safely.

2. ROADS TREATED BY STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Staffordshire County Council is responsible for gritting the roads within the Parish.

The duty of a highway authority under section 41 of that Act is 'to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that safe passage along a highway is not endangered by snow or ice'.

The primary gritting network covers A and B roads only. Other roads will only be gritted in severe weather. The following roads are part of the Primary gritting Network:

- The A5
- Ivetsey Road
- High Street
- Long Street
- Lapley Road (From Long St to Roman Road)
- Marston Road,
- Roman Road
- Lapley Lane
- Congreve Road (From Roman Road to A5)

The following Roads are gritted in Severe Weather only:

- Congreve Road (From Roman Road to Congreve)
- Church Lane (Lapley)
- Bickford Road
- Lapley Road (From Bickford Road to Bickford)
- Wenlock Bank (Towards Church Eaton)

(see Appendix A for Map)

3. GRIT / SALT BINS

Staffordshire County Council provide the following advice on grit bins. The salt/sand mix in the yellow salt bins is to be used on roads and pavements only. They are not for private use. Careful consideration is given to where grit bins are placed so that they are present in places where additional gritting may be required. By using grit from the yellow bins on anything other than public highways you could potentially put road users at risk, should the bin run out of grit. If you wish to clear your driveway or footpaths, salt can be purchased from local building suppliers and DIY stores. Or, as an alternative, you can use table salt or dishwasher salt.

There are grit bins in the following locations (see map in Appendix A):

- Pinfold Lane
- Yew Tree Drive

If a grit bin near you needs refilling, you can report this to Staffordshire County Council quickly by going to Report It. To log a refill request, select 'Report a new fault', 'Weather related' and 'Grit bin refill'. The grit bins will be replenished just as soon as the crews are back in the location.

If you do not have a grit bin near you, you can request to have one installed. You can do this by filling out the online form at Report It. To request a new grit bin, select 'Report a new fault', 'Weather related' and 'New grit bin'. Locations which qualify for grit bins have been risk assessed against a set of criteria that includes but is not limited to: Steep gradients, Severe bends, Junctions onto major routes.

4. ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO CLEAR SNOW

Every member of the community can play an important part in clearing snow and ice. Clearing snow and ice from the pavement outside your home or public spaces can help prevent slips and falls. Here's some handy advice issued by the Department for Transport.

Don't be put off clearing paths because you're afraid someone will get injured. Remember, people walking on snow and ice have a responsibility to be careful themselves. Follow the advice from the Department for Transport below to make sure you clear the pathway safely and effectively. And don't believe the myths - it's unlikely you'll be sued or held legally responsible for any injuries if you have cleared the path carefully.

Clear the snow and ice early in the day

It's easier to move fresh, loose snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it. So if possible, start removing the snow and ice in the morning. If you remove the top layer of snow in the morning, any sunshine during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight.

Clear and prevent slips

- Pay extra attention to clearing snow and ice from steps and steep pathways - you might need to use more salt on these areas.
- Use salt or sand - not water. If you use water to melt the snow, it may refreeze and turn to black ice. Black ice increases the risk of injuries as it is invisible and very slippery.
- You can melt snow or prevent black ice by spreading some salt on the area you have cleared. You can use ordinary table or dishwasher salt - a tablespoon for each square metre you clear should work. Don't use the salt found in salting bins - this will be needed to keep the roads clear unless your council advises otherwise. Please contact your local council for more advice.
- Be careful not to spread salt on plants or grass as it may damage them.
- If you don't have enough salt, you can also use sand or ash. These won't stop the path icing over as effectively as salt, but will provide good grip underfoot.

Take care where you move the snow

When you're shoveling snow, take care where you put it so it doesn't block people's paths or drains. Make sure you make a path down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on. Then shovel the snow from the centre of the path to the sides.

Offer to clear your neighbours' paths

If your neighbour will have difficulty getting in and out of their home, offer to clear snow and ice around their property as well. Check that any elderly or disabled neighbours are alright in the cold weather. If you're worried about them, try contacting their relatives or friends, or if necessary the local council.

Appendix 1 – Gritting Route Map & Grit Bin Locator

The primary Gritting network covers A and B roads only. Other roads will only be gritted in severe weather



An interactive version of this map is available online. See link below:-

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/transport/staffshighways/winterdriving/salting/Saltingroutes.aspx