

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 28 MAY 2019

WINTER MAINTENANCE 2018/19 ACTIVITY REVIEW

1. INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the service delivery, weather severity and outturn expenditure on winter road maintenance for 2018/19.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The full standby period for winter treatment was established as 30 October 2018 to 31 March 2019 with two week lead in and lead out periods with reduced resources available on standby.
- 2.2 The winter just experienced was one of the mildest in recent times leading to less frequent occasions where the carriageway saw temperatures dip to minus figures (centigrade) overnight requiring treatment with day temperatures rising above zero. Many of our customers are unaware of our treatment activities during such events where freezing conditions overnight require attention. Routes frequently required retreatment with rain washing off the salt after treatment.
- 2.3 The relevant weather statistics are provided in **Appendix 1** of this report, and the treatment figures are provided in **Appendix 2**. Analysis to compare the 2018/19 winter season against the last 15 years has indicated that 2018/19 had:
- lowest number of days with fresh lying snow;
  - second equal lowest number of priority carriageway routes treated in the morning;
  - fifth lowest number of priority carriageway routes treated in the evening period; and
  - sixth lowest number of priority footway routes treatments.
- 2.4 Approximately 10,800 tonnes of salt was used during the winter of 2018/19 including leachate. Approximately 19,000 tonnes of salt was in stock at the start of winter.
- 2.5 Salt is procured by Tayside Contracts under joint tender for Dundee City Council, Perth and Kinross Council and Angus Council gaining the benefits of economies of scale. Salt was procured through our normal suppliers and with all UK road authorities having increased their resilience since 2010/11, salt orders were timeously received. Over the summer, supplies will be restocked to approximately 19,000 tonnes; 13,000 tonnes of which will be marine salt (to be stored in Forfar and Arbroath) and 6,000 tonnes of rock salt (held in the covered store in Forfar) for the start of winter 2019/20.
- 2.6 With regard to weather forecasting and data management and ice station maintenance this, together with Dundee City, Fife, Perth and Kinross, Aberdeenshire, Aberdeen City and Moray Councils, is procured through the Tayside Procurement Consortium.
- 2.7 The above are examples of effective application of shared services and collaborative working.
- 2.8 The A90 trunk road in Angus, which is maintained by BEAR Scotland Ltd on behalf of Transport Scotland, experienced generally the same weather conditions as the local roads and it was not necessary for the council to assist with winter maintenance on the trunk road at any time during 2018/19.

### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The net budget for winter maintenance was set for 2018/19 at £2,613,000. This included Standing Charges of £1,292,000 for plant, standby arrangements, depot costs; leaving a balance of £1,321,000 (50.5% of the budget) available for the day-to-day operational costs including salting/snow clearing activities and weather forecast costs.
- 3.2 The unaudited outturn expenditure figures for the 2018/19 winter service indicate a total cost of £2,458,000, which is £155,000 lower than 2018/19 revenue budget allocation for winter maintenance of £2,613,000. The completion of the 2018//19 annual accounts process is currently ongoing. Any alteration to this position will be reported at a later date to the council as part of the finalisation of the 2018/19 annual accounts process.

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#### **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Winter Maintenance Expenditure 2018/19 Review Weather Statistics  
Appendix 2 – Winter Maintenance Expenditure 2018/19 Operational Activity Statistics

SCHEDULE 1 APPENDIX 1

WINTER MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE  
2018/2019 REVIEW

WEATHER STATISTICS

	Mth	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	15 Year
		/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Avg.
No. of days with road surface temperatures below zero	Oct	0	0	0	3	6	1	4	2	7	0	0	0	0	1	4	2
	Nov	13	18	15	12	18	12	20	3	14	17	0	7	13	19	3	12
	Dec	21	21	20	24	24	26	28	24	18	10	20	9	6	24	18	20
	Jan	23	22	23	24	27	27	24	22	22	8	19	14	14	24	22	21
	Feb	23	21	15	20	16	25	13	8	22	12	20	21	11	27	17	18
	Mar	13	21	14	25	15	19	11	5	20	4	11	11	4	22	11	14
	Apr	5	8	3	12	0	5	1	4	8	0	1	3	0	5	1	4
<b>Total</b>		98	111	90	120	106	115	101	68	111	51	71	65	48	122	76	90
No. of days with fresh snow lying		26	27	14	29	26	35	27	12	43	12	15	16	8	26	7	22

**SCHEDULE 1 APPENDIX 2**

**WINTER MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE  
2018/2019 REVIEW**

**OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY STATISTICS**

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	15 Year Avg.
	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
No. of days priority carriageway routes treated (a.m.)	69	77	53	78	81	94	84	60	101	68	78	69	67	103	60	76
No. of days priority carriageway routes treated (p.m.)	48	53	53	51	57	67	62	43	68	33	55	43	42	85	50	54
No. of days non-priority carriageway routes treated	48	62	40	47	46	53	56	31	61	25	29	27	23	49	23	41
No. of days priority footway routes treated	16	33	16	17	21	35	41	27	47	9	35	19	12	51	22	27
No. of days non-priority footway routes treated	16	23	20	7	20	24	31	15	34	9	29	11	8	22	9	19
No. of days auxiliary routes treated	46	59	41	80	82	100	87	71	98	70	80	79	70	108	55	75

The above figures do not include the number of times priority and non-priority footways and carriageways were treated at times out of policy hours.