



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

Community Winter Resilience Plan 2019/20

Adopted by the Council at its Meeting held on 4th November 2019

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This Community Winter Resilience Plan is produced based on information supplied by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) in helping communities in times of extreme weather.

WSCC Highways undertakes to do the following:

- Monitor the daily forecast provided by their weather forecast provider between October and April and take appropriate actions. Issue a Daily Decision on Twitter to all interested parties via @WSHighways.
- Treat the Precautionary Salting Network – approximately 1,283km of the county's roads.
- Purchase and store, at five WSCC depots, at least 8,000 tons of de-icing road salt during the summer months when prices are advantageous.
- Liaise with the Government's "Salt Cell" and actively participate in Mutual aid with adjacent Highway Authorities.
- Maintain a fleet of 18 gritters (bulk spreaders) between October and April.
- Issue a pre-snow trigger email in the event of a significant weather event to advise communities when to activate the Local Farmer and Contractor Agreement for WSCC funded activities.

WSCC Gritting Routes within the five Wards of Bognor Regis



How WSCC decide which roads to grit

The aim is to keep the priority routes - A and B roads, plus other roads of local importance, such as access roads for emergency services - safe and passable during bad weather.

This is done using gritters, to which snow ploughs can be attached when required. There are 17 routes that take three hours each to complete.

Trunk roads such as the A27, A23 and M23 are an exception as they are the responsibility of Highways England which has its own winter maintenance policy.

Precautionary Salting Network (PSN)

WSCC's routes consist of the 'County Strategic Network' as outlined in the West Sussex Transport Plan plus carriageways which satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- District distributors - A and B class roads.
- Important bus routes (daily-weekdays) with a service frequency of at least one bus an hour or more, in and between peak periods for school and work.
- Access roads leading to large industrial establishments, as identified by West Sussex Highways.
- Access roads leading to large (500 pupils and above) educational establishments, such as further education colleges or secondary schools, as identified by West Sussex Highways.
- Access roads leading to airports, hospitals, ambulance stations, fire stations, railway stations and bus depots, as identified by West Sussex Highways.
- Roads on which West Sussex Highways considers wintry conditions present a higher than normal risk to the road user for a road of that hierarchy and use.

It is not possible for West Sussex Highways to salt or clear snow from all other roads, footways or cycle-ways. Instead WSCC assist local communities by working with parish, town, district and borough councils to provide salt bins.

Salt bins are:

- To be used by the community to treat public roads, pavements and other community areas.
- Not to be used for use on private roads, driveways or land.
- Refilled once by WSCC before the start of winter.
- Sometimes locked and will only be unlocked during severe weather by trained volunteers.

Town/Parish Council Salting and Clearing Arrangements

Local Coordinator: Mrs. Erika Adams

Contacts for Daily Decisions: Mrs. Erika Adams
Town Force Manager
Bognor Regis Town Council
01243 825535
erikaadams@bognorregis.gov.uk

Bulk bags of salt to be provided by WSCC Highways during the autumn, for hand salting by identified volunteers at the problem areas highlighted below. Salt provided by WSCC is for use only on public roads and footpaths and is not to be used for complete route coverage. Bognor Regis Town Council's Town Force staff will be deployed to undertake salting in the event of emergencies, with salt to be stored at the following locations:

Area	Quantity
Town Force Lock Up Unit G2 Beeding Close Southern Cross Trading Estate Bognor Regis	2 bags

Problem areas identified within Bognor Regis

The following areas have been highlighted as areas that may require hand salting in the event of snow/heavy frost:

- 3 x WSCC subways and adjoining paths.
- London Road precinct.
- Railway footbridges at Longford Road and Ivy Lane.
- Communal areas of Bognor Regis Town Council's allotments.
- Other areas as identified as a result of snow/frost.

Identified volunteers

Bognor Regis Town Force team (paid staff)

Advice on hand salting

The photographs below illustrate some of the key features of effective hand salting.



One ton bags of salt/grit mix is delivered to agreed locations during times of adverse weather for use on the public highway as a form of self help. This material is not for use on private land.



WSCC recommends a spread rate of approximately 20 grams of salt/grit per metres square when hand salting. Although salt/grit can be spread effectively with shovels, care is required to ensure over salting does not occur. Push-along devices, as shown on the left, can be used to cover large areas with an even spread. Large areas can thus be treated quicker with less wastage.



20 grams is in fact a very small amount. You don't need a lot of salt to protect a footway. Use it sparingly. Over salting is damaging to the environment and a waste of a limited resource. Salt bins or bulk bags may not be replaced if salt stocks are critical.



The white board in the photo to the left is one metre square and has 20 grams of salt/grit spread across it. You will observe that you do not need a lot of salt to protect the footways. Spread it evenly and your salt will last longer and cover a greater area.

Advice from GOV.UK on clearing snow and ice, from a road, path or cycleway, where possible

When you clear snow and ice:

- Do it early in the day - it's easier to move fresh, loose snow.
- Don't use water - it might refreeze and turn to black ice.
- Use salt if possible - it will melt the ice or snow and stop it from refreezing overnight (you can use ordinary table or dishwasher salt).
- You can use ash and sand if you don't have enough salt - it will provide grip underfoot.
- Pay extra attention when clearing steps and steep pathways - using more salt may help.
- When you're shovelling 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.

Remember, people walking on snow and ice have responsibility to be careful themselves.

Advice from WSCC on how to prepare for winter

Keep an eye on the weather

- Sign up to [receive severe weather and school closure email alerts](#).
- [Check if you are at risk from flooding](#) and [sign up for free flood warnings](#).

Protect your home

- Order winter fuel in advance.
- [Check pipes are lagged](#) to prevent them bursting and know where to turn your stopcock off.
- Have a shovel available to clear paths.
- Prepare an [emergency bag](#) in case you or your family have to move location at short notice.
- Make sure you have a [working smoke alarm](#) on each level of your home.
- Complete a Household Emergency Plan, which should include important numbers, such as your home insurer, doctor and the police:
 - [Household Emergency Plan form \(PDF, 130KB\)](#)

Protect your business

- WSCC's [Protect your business](#) pages provide information on how to prepare a business continuity plan to help in the event of extreme weather.

Protect your health

- [Keep warm and well](#) - find out if you are eligible for [Cold Weather Payments](#).
- Fight the flu – get a flu jab.
- If you take medication make sure you have enough to get you through any bad weather.
- Check NHS Choices for [winter health guidance](#).
- Wash your hands to [prevent viruses spreading](#).
- Have your heating and cooking appliances serviced by an [approved trader](#) - carbon monoxide is a killer.
- Stock up on basic supplies at home (see WSCC's [emergency survival checklist](#) for more information) or find out about getting [Meals on Wheels](#).

Winter travel

- Ensure you have shoes with a good grip.
- Prepare your car for winter weather by following [RAC advice](#).
- Follow GOV.UK's advice about [driving in adverse weather conditions](#).
- Keep up to date with the latest travel information [around the county](#) or [around the UK](#).
- Sign up for free [train delay and disruption alerts](#).

Other resources

- [Your Energy Sussex](#) for advice about reducing your bills and increasing energy efficiency.
- Contact the [Energy Saving Trust](#) for free, impartial advice on reducing your heating bills and making your home more energy efficient.

Useful contact details/websites in an emergency

Bognor Regis Town Council	01243 867744 bognortc@bognorregis.gov.uk
Arun District Council (Enquiries)	01903 737500 info@arun.gov.uk
BBC Sussex (104.8 & 95.3 FM)	www.bbc.co.uk/bbcsussex
British Gas and Transco Gas	0800 111 999
Emergency Services	999
Environment Agency	www.environment-agency.gov.uk
Heart (97.5 & 96.7 FM)	www.heart.co.uk/sussex
Highways England	030 012 35000 info@highwaysengland.co.uk
National Flood Forum	www.floodforum.org.uk
NHS out-of-hours	111
Police (non-urgent)	101
Portsmouth Water	023 924 77999
Power Cut	105
St Richard's Hospital	01243 788122
Southern Water	0330 303 0368
Spirit FM (102.3 & 106.6 FM)	www.spiritfm.net
West Sussex County Council (Enquiries)	01243 777100 www.westsussex.gov.uk
West Sussex Highways	01243 642105 www.westsussex.gov.uk
WSCC Resilience & Emergencies	033 022 22400 emergency@westsussex.gov.uk
West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service	01243 786211 wsfrs@westsussex.gov.uk