

# Winter Information



## **Our Roads Winter Service** **West Dunbartonshire Area**



### **Snow Clearing and Gritting**

Our aim is to help keep you safe on the roads, whether you're driving or walking. From October through to April we have a fleet of ten gritting vehicles with snowploughs on 24-hour standby, and staff who constantly monitor weather forecast information.

### **How Do We Decide Where To Grit?**

As resources are limited and it is not possible to grit every Council road at the same time, the Council has developed a strategy giving priority to our most important roads.

### **Roads Priorities**

| <b>Priority</b> | <b>Road Type</b>  |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>1</b>        | "A" class roads, access routes to hospitals and emergency services, local danger spots, bus routes, roads with steep gradients leading to main housing areas and routes to sheltered housing. |
| <b>2&amp;3</b>  | "B" & "C" class roads, Local concentration of employment, unclassified and all other roads maintained by the Council.   |

Our most important roads are treated first. Second and third priority roads will only be treated during prolonged severe weather.

### **Private Roads**

The Council is not responsible for maintaining private roads but may treat them during extended periods of bad weather when resources are available and all public roads have been treated.

### **Footway Priorities**

Priority footway treatment will normally commence at the same time as the treatment of roads. Priority is given to areas of high pedestrian concentration, urban shopping areas and precincts, around hospitals, factories and homes for the elderly, steep hills and main access routes.

### **Trunk Roads**

A winter maintenance service for the A82 between the Erskine Bridge and Balloch is provided separately by the Scottish Executive using contractors BEAR and Amey, contact number

**0800 028 1414.**



## Grit Bins

Grit bins are placed throughout the Council area. These are provided for public use. Please use them when necessary. If you clear snow or ice from footways outside your house follow these simple guidelines:

- Only work in the dark if it is absolutely essential for you to do so
- Always wear bright clothing
- Wear suitable footwear with a good grip
- Watch out for traffic
- Exercise care next to the Road
- Do not put snow where it might create a hazard for pedestrians or vehicles
- Spread salt on the surface after you have cleared the snow
- A little salt goes a long way, use sparingly
- Salt is corrosive-clean metal shovels after use to prevent rusting
- Clean footwear to avoid trailing salt into your house

If the grit bin is empty or vandalised please phone; 01389-737633

Residents of West Dunbartonshire can obtain small quantities of rock salt for private use from our Roads depots at Elm Road, Dumbarton or Stanford Street, Clydebank.

(Please bring your own container to transport the rock salt)

## You Can Help

Gritting lorries and snowploughs are large vehicles that have difficulty treating narrow residential streets with tight bends and junctions. You can help by avoiding double parking or if possible, park your car off the road.

## Look Out For

Rain showers followed by clear skies can cause ice to form on roads very quickly. The rain may have washed any salt off the road leaving it vulnerable to icing.

Sunrise after a clear night can cause frost to form on roads even if it is dry.

Black roads do not mean ice-free roads. Black ice is extremely dangerous, as it is often localised and not readily visible. It can persist or recur even after the road surface has been treated with salt.

Water running off grass verges or embankments onto the road can cause isolated icy patches to form even if the rest of the road seems fine.



## Remember

All of your intended route may not have been gritted, so take care when driving. During extreme weather conditions it may be necessary to direct all of our resources to First Priority roads in order to keep them open for emergency services.

Driving in winter always involves the risk of an icy road surface, even after gritting or snowploughing. You must take great care at all times.

## Our Address

**Commercial and Technical Services  
Policy and Development Unit  
FREEPOST SCO6367  
DUMBARTON  
G82 3BR**

(This is a FREEPOST address – no stamp required)

## Our E-Mail Address

[cats@west-dunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:cats@west-dunbarton.gov.uk)

## Telephone

Roads Office 01389 737633

RALF 0800 373635  
(Roads and lighting faults)

CaTS 01389 737105  
(Commercial and Technical Services  
24hr answering service for enquiries)