

Leaderdale & Melrose Ward	
DATE	7 th June 2021
PRESENT	Councillor Parker, Councillor Miers, Councillor Linehan Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Members complimented and recognised the efforts of all staff in delivery of the winter service.</p> <p>Points which were discussed included seeking Clarification on definitions of Pre/ Post Treatment. Members were also keen to understand who is the best contact during winter weather. Members also suggested that the service should consider ways of creating additional capacity to allow them to respond to ad hoc issues in future weather events. It was noted that the additional efforts to re-stock salt bins was very effective and well received.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Contacts requested, these are to be supplied - BY • Circulate Slides – BY • Circulate note of meeting & action points – JH • Potential locations for consideration in priority plans in future. These included ; - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harleyburn Court, Melrose and • Leaderdale Crescent, Earliston • Salt Bins: being discussed separately <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ discuss with individual CC - BY <p>Summary</p> <p>Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.</p>

Hawick and Hermitage Ward	
DATE	16 th June 2021
PRESENT	<p>Councillor Turnbull, Councillor Paterson.</p> <p>Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley</p> <p>Councillor McAteer gave his apologies</p>
OUTCOMES	<p>Members complimented and recognised the efforts of all staff in delivery of the winter service.</p> <p>Several questions were posed and discussed including, the effectiveness of salt to melt ice at very low temperatures, liabilities of householders in choosing to clear a footpath outside their property and the use of contractors to support SBC winter service delivery.</p> <p>Of note</p> <p>Newcastleton village issues around local bus supplier access to depot</p> <p>Drainage survey of the road Newcastleton to Hawick</p> <p>Consider Comms. support to promote messages during extreme prolonged weather</p> <p>Confirm the scale of spending on winter for 20/21</p> <p>Confirm liaison with D&G over travel issues in winter</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.</p>

Galashiels & District Ward	
DATE	16 th June 2021 – (1330-1500)
PRESENT	Councillor Aitchison, Jardine, Scott, Anderson Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Members registered their thanks for the efforts of the teams in delivery of the winter service.</p> <p>Councillors shared their feedback on the experiences in winter 20-21.</p> <p>Councillor Scott's issues included</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Lack of salting and clearance of snow on some footpaths particularly the Magdala Terrace area 2- It would be good to have salt bin locations on the website however a balanced approach is required as this could lead to illegitimate use of the salt for purposes other than its intended use which is for salting the public road network 3- Appreciated the efforts of contractors however had queries about the deployment of machinery and equipment which could gain access on what is sometimes steeply sloping roads. <p>Councillor Jardine raised the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4- Can we work to improve communications and links with resilience teams to give them advance warning of adverse weather conditions 5- A particular issue at Penman Place regards position of bin on route and also an unused salt bin at William Law Gardens 6- Priority footpath network can this be better promoted as many enquiries received last winter once looked at were clearly not included on the priority network <p>Councillor Aitchison raised</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7- He appreciated that the re-stocking of salt bins worked well 8- Can consideration be given to the arrangements for salting the footpath adjacent to the A7 in Stow and the Heriot underpass 9- Are the numbers of salt bins able to be increased? 10- Why salt dry roads? <p>Councillor Anderson raised</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11- Positive response to his queries about restocking of salt bins 12- Supportive of Councillor Aitchison's request for Stow and Heriot 13- Can consideration be given to the status of the public road at Langhaugh lane, Galashiels to its access with Cornerstone. <p>Feedback was provided on all aspects of the issues raised by Councillors and action agreed as follows</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- To review and supply information on the primary footways as part of a comms piece pre winter 21-22 - BY 2- Noted 3- To consider types of operational equipment to best suit the areas where steeply sloping ground is involved – KM 4- Yes - BY 5- To review – BY

- 6- As 1 above – BY
- 7- Noted
- 8- BY to review – BY
- 9- No
- 10-10 AF explained it is due to the risk assessment which we receive in which hoard frost is a winter hazard and has a likelihood of occurring, which leaves us no option but to undertake treatments on the primary network
- 11-Noted
- 12-Noted
- 13-To review and consider – BY

Finally the issue of the primary footway network from Winston road to Melrose Gait was consider and will also be reviewed as part of this year's paper

Summary

Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.

Tweeddale West Ward	
DATE	16 th June 2021 – (1330-1500)
PRESENT	Councillor Anderson, Councillor Small Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley Councillor Chapman unable to attend
OUTCOMES	<p>Several questions were raised including;- clarifying the distinction between SBC Roads and the Trunk Road, trying to make more information about winter maintenance available on the web and using social media, the nature of the complaints and enquiries that might be received about Tweeddale west and if any trends were evident and the useful impacts of resilient communities as a supplementary to the Councils own efforts.</p> <p>Actions included</p> <p>Can a 2 slide presentation be created showing the primary and secondary details along with some key stats like numbers of salt bins, and couple of critical operational details like timings of treatments etc. the members would then use those to canvass community councils on their views about winter maintenance</p> <p>Can the recent removal of a salt bin at Upper Green in West Linton be reviewed</p> <p>Can a request for a resilient bin be made at the junction of Boggsbank road and the A702 northbound exit</p> <p>Can we check with BEAR - treatment of A702 footway between Robinsland Roundabout and south end of village</p> <p>Can we clarify the number of salt bins in Tweeddale west and of those how many are resilient community bins</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.</p>

East Berwickshire Ward	
DATE	18 th June 2021 – (0900-1030)
PRESENT	Councillor Laing, Councillor Fullarton, Councillor Hamilton Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Several questions were raised including;-</p> <p>Issues around the formation of black ice, particularly on the A1, and at culvert and bridge crossings.</p> <p>Clarifying the rate of spread, calibration of equipment, use of technology such as thermal maps and pre-wetting of salt.</p> <p>An explanation was provided based on the research we have undertaken into these areas, which centres around the requirement to invest in this technology at a significant level and the management implications of sustaining the new technology. There are no significant financial benefits to be derived from pursuing these routes. We are however looking to progress automated salting which delivers treatments to the carriageway variably as the driver progresses automatically adjusting to the carriageway width, and driven sections of the route, we continue to investigate this with a view to introducing as we replenish the fleet.</p> <p>Salt bins – questions about the policy position locations, restocking, provision and usage.</p> <p>An explanation about the challenges faced this winter and the efforts which we put in to try and be proactive about restocking. During normal winter requests for restocking can be made via the 08001001800 number or by contacting us online. Any requests for new bins can be made and will be assessed via the policy</p> <p>Resilient community benefits were discussed and the support to enable them to help out during winter was recognised.</p> <p>Use of 3rd party contractors. What’s our approach?</p> <p>It was explained that we have engaged contractors to support our winter plans, the preparation of snow routes is an initiative we have developed and deployed to great effect this winter which helps us get ahead of the game in snow conditions. This is an addition to our own staffs’ efforts. The contractors are all insured. This is a procured solution</p> <p>Is the weather impacting across the borders in the same way? Parts of the west tend to see more snow events than the east, however a snow event from the East can be more extreme when it does occur</p> <p>Actions</p>

No specific actions emerged from the meeting however Councillor Laing asked if she had more queries could we resume a meeting in future which we agreed is always possible

Summary

Members thanked all the staff for the fantastic job that we deliver and wanted that to be shared with the wider workforce. Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.

Jedburgh & District Ward	
DATE	18 th June 2021 – (1100-1230)
PRESENT	Councillor Brown, Councillor Scott, Councillor Hamilton Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Several questions were raised including;-</p> <p>1- The road to Oxnam (Pleasance Brae), enquiries every year. Having been reviewed in the last major review of 2010 primary routes, the route was re-designated to secondary priority, services are provided in line with this definition. A route which has a school bus travelling across it doesn't automatically elevate it to inclusion in the primary network</p> <p>2- Braes to Lanton from Jedburgh (M Wares) problems at bottom of the road The network was considered in the town and it was observed that the route did not extend to M Wares property.</p> <p>3- Is the salt store still operational in Jedburgh? It is still used to enable the Jedburgh town and footpath salting. It also is a resilient store for the wider Council.</p> <p>4- If the road isn't coloured on the network plan, it does not mean it doesn't receive treatment it means that it is of lesser priority and will be treated when weather conditions persist and time/resources become available</p> <p>5- Ulston status was queried and clarified as being a tertiary route. Questions over the ability to contract with a farmer at this location, however this is not likely given the budgetary pressure and where roads of a higher priority remain untreated.</p> <p>6- Salt quality- is it now different salt that we use? Not from a chemical composition point of view it's the same salt. We changed supplier about 15 years previously.</p> <p>7- Salt contamination – is there a regard to contamination issue. We will engage with others over this issue to consider if any of our practices can be improved. We have history of responding to environmental issues when it comes to salt storage.</p> <p>8- Grit mixed with salt This isn't a common practice used in the service, once every 10 years or even less.</p>

9- The A68 is now treated by BEAR rather than SBC. Are we aware of any operational changes from how AMEY treated the network in the previous contract.?

We aren't aware of any changes to the treatment regime on the trunk road which would lead to any lesser performance

10-With the creation of the new Jedburgh Campus, has our winter service plan been altered?

We have created a new contract to service the school to help with access and egress

11-Brundeanlaws access to roads for a horse racing trainer. Can the routes start at the periphery rather than in the centre. This also extends to pot hole services.

It was explained that the hierarchy is designed to enable a sequential treatment of the network to benefit the wider society treating roads of a higher priority higher traffic content, eventually going to the more rural less trafficked roads

12-Can greater emphasis be put into communicating the winter service plan, at a ward level.

Yes, will work with Comms. Team in this regard

13-Can Oxnam road be treated by the Jedburgh town gritter, earlier?

No, the capacity to carry salt is limited in the town gritter

Actions

To engage with others on environmental stewardship issues and possible technological improvements we could consider which may help our performance in this area – DS

Summary

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Tweeddale East Ward	
DATE	22 nd June 2021 – (1330-1500)
PRESENT	Councillor Bell, Councillor Haslam, Councillor Tatler Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Cllr Haslam reminded officers of the need to treat Priorisford Footbridge early and the different application (UREA) required here. This was noted.</p> <p>Cllr Tatler advised that in general he thought there had been great appreciation in the Peebles area of the winter efforts. The only points he had raised with him were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Victoria Park steps – but these currently closed 2) Cul-de-sacs not receiving treatment and/or being completely cleared <p>Cllr Bell thought the team did quite well this winter. He noted that complaints tended to match the severity of the conditions and that this had been a wet and cold winter. He emphasised the need to get communications out and to let the public know what to expect in terms of footway clearance. He noted that Walkerburn don't see anything getting done and feel there is not equity. He was asked who the best person to call was, and Keith Millar advised that he was the obvious first contact.</p> <p>Cllr Haslam asked if it was possible to alternate services on occasions so for example Walkerburn was treated ahead of Innerleithen on occasions. It was noted that in policy terms this was difficult to outline but in appropriate circumstances this could be done in practice and greater flexibility was something that officers were keen to provide.</p> <p>No specific actions were identified other than to be more pro-active in what we tell the public and to be flexible in our approach where circumstances allowed.</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.</p>

Selkirkshire Ward	
DATE	24 th June 2021 – (0900-1030)
PRESENT	<p>Councillor Cochrane, Councillor Edgar</p> <p>Donald Scott, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley</p> <p>Apologies - Councillor Thornton Nicol</p>
OUTCOMES	<p>Several questions were raised including;-</p> <p>Can we support the resilient community initiative by supplying salt to a store to be located at Victoria halls?</p> <p>Damaged salt bin at top of Castle Street</p> <p>Can the route to the D&G border be added to the primary route, subj to D&G confirming their treatment of the B709 at their side.</p> <p>Can Bannerfield salt bins provision be reviewed and 3 sites suggested</p> <p>Request for bins at Forrest View/ Victoria Crescent, and at the up ramps on the approaches to the new bridge at Bannerfield.</p> <p>Ettrick and Yarrow CC have requested if a commercial arrangement can be set up to stock and restock 5 new bins in their ward</p> <p>Reports were received of private people emptying salt bins during last winter can some communications be considered to prevent</p> <p>Did the service notice impacts on efficient delivery of winter with more people working at home and cars being parked on 2ndary routes. And also about the impacts on footway treatments. A specific issue was noted at Hill Street</p> <p>Actions included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To liaise with emergency planning over support for the resilient group – BY - Salt bins both damaged and requests for new will be reviewed as part of the summer review – BY - D&G will be contacted – BY - Ettrick and Yarrow – if a contact can be supplied we will follow this up- KM - Use of salt by private individuals - consider a comms. strategy. – BY <p>Summary</p> <p>Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.</p>

Mid -Berwickshire Ward	
DATE	24 th June 2021 – (1330-1500)
PRESENT	Councillor Rowley, Councillor Moffat, Councillor Greenwell Donald Scott, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Several questions were raised including;-</p> <p>Rural salt bins, what is the process for refilling?</p> <p>Castle Street Duns, problems with servicing. Can the pedestrian gritter be deployed instead of larger vehicles which can get access?</p> <p>Can there be more comms around how decisions to deploy gritters be developed, a simple powerpoint?</p> <p>Do we liaise with RSLs over the winter maintenance programme to try and interface?</p> <p>How joined up are we with neighbouring authorities. Eg Gifford.</p> <p>Actions included</p> <p>Salt bins are restocked on demand however we have this winter taken more active approach of surveying and restocking during the extreme weather</p> <p>Consideration to treating Castle Street will be given to try and overcome parked car access problems.</p> <p>Comms will be developed – outlining assessing risk and being preventative.</p> <p>Very satisfied with winter service around Longformacus area this winter.</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.</p>

Kelso and District Ward	
DATE	24 th June 2021 – (1630-1800)
PRESENT	Councillor Mountford, Councillor Robson, Councillor Weatherston Donald Scott, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Several questions were raised including;-</p> <p>Salt bins left in situ and still full, the materials hardens over the year, can they be visited and maintained in advance of next year? The one at Primsidehill has a spade left in it.</p> <p>What are the treatment times for footways?</p> <p>Are bus routes included on Secondary routes specifically the Hownam route?</p> <p>Smailholm bends, a well used route to central borders from Kelso, regular site for cars coming off the road, what is its status and can it be promoted to serve Kelso and surrounds?</p> <p>Winter includes flooding and the B6350 is a regular source of road flooding, can some drainage channels be created and revisited to aid drainage? Particularly on the north side?</p> <p>Grilles/roadside gullies, is their a programme of regular checking and can this be timed to address those gullies being covered by leaves?</p> <p>Do we contract with farmers to undertake winter maintenance including snow clearance? – Yes we do</p> <p>The 'C' class road (C55) which goes from Jct B6350 Sprouston to Hadden. What is its current treatment designation, was this changed in the past and could it be reviewed?</p> <p>Actions included;- Salt bins, their condition and prep of materials in advance of winter 21-22 is to be undertaken – DS</p> <p>Footway treatment times to be confirmed – standard Primary Footway treatment is from 0730 but this can be advanced to 0600 when circumstances dictate</p> <p>Hownam road bus route status to be confirmed – The C41 between Morebattle and Hownam is a secondary route (also serves beyond to Chatto and Buchtrig). Typically all main school bus routes are primary or secondary.</p> <p><u>The C78 Smailholm to Leaderfoot</u> This is already a secondary priority route, and with more strategic alternatives on all sides it would be very difficult to promote a case for making it primary.</p> <p>B6350 to be checked, grilles cleared and drainage channels on the northside created – DS/BY</p>

C55 – From B6350 Sprouston to Hadden This is a tertiary route and that ranking has not changed at previous reviews. The other section of the C55 from a point further east on the B6350 via *Notty/ees* to Hadden is secondary and then continues via C69 to Holefield and then takes in Lempitlaw, Blakelaw etc. These routes were all previously part of the priority network. This can be reviewed and the implications of changing its designation reflected in report to Executive - BY

Summary

Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.

Hawick and Denholm Ward	
DATE	5 th August 2021, 1100-1230
PRESENT	Councillor Ramage, Councillor Marshall, Councillor Richards Brian Young, Keith Millar, Daren Silcock, Alistair Finnie, Jason Hedley
OUTCOMES	<p>Members understood the complex issues of this service and thanked the team for their efforts, especially in such an extreme winter</p> <p>How feasible is it to increase salt bins in communities, to aid local resilience? – potentially yes, subject to costs</p> <p>Pot hole repairs – at the early part of June we had undertaken circa 42000 repairs to potholes following winter damage</p> <p>Footpath timings – the standard time is 0730 weekdays and we have the potential to start earlier at 0600 and weekends if the prevailing weather conditions dictate</p> <p>Resilient community bins – a welcome idea, worthy of more provision.</p> <p>Use of small scheme to help with local issues – noted</p> <p>What level of engagement does SBC have with RSL around? Leading to Burnfoot, is there a winter plan for Burnfoot because of problems around ownership of the footpaths in Burnfoot.</p> <p>Wilton dean, is there info about grit bin locations? What can we do to support the resilient community initiative in this area.</p> <p>Is there a map of grit bins in the ward? – not yet but it is coming</p> <p>Are priorities influenced by location of surgeries? – not in isolation to other factors</p> <p>Salt quality? – it's not correct that the salt is not as good quality. The efficacy of the salt is linked to road surface temperatures, and the amount of traffic on the surface activating the salt and creating the solution.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>To arrange a meeting with SBHA re Burnfoot – BY</p> <p>To share the list of grit bins – BY</p> <p>To raise the resilient community idea with Wilton Dean with EPS - BY</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>Members appreciated the opportunity to discuss the issues in their ward and thanked officers for their time.</p>