

## Keeping you updated

For all the latest gritting updates, winter weather advice, school closures and more visit:



[www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter)

**twitter**

[www.twitter.com/lancashirecc](http://www.twitter.com/lancashirecc)

Share your winter tweets using the **#lancswinter**

**facebook**

[www.facebook.com/lancashirecc](http://www.facebook.com/lancashirecc)

**flickr**

Share winter photos on our 'Winter in Lancashire' Flickr group  
[www.flickr.com/lancashirecc](http://www.flickr.com/lancashirecc)

[highways@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@lancashire.gov.uk) 0300 123 6780

Traffic conditions [www.trafficengland.com](http://www.trafficengland.com)

Weather forecast [www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk)

Or listen to your local radio station.

# Are you prepared for winter?

# Together we can help keep Lancashire moving...



# How you can prepare...

There are a number of steps you can take to help you, your family and your community stay safer, warm and healthy throughout the winter months.

- **Keep warm and safe** - make sure you heat all the rooms you use in the house and set the timer on your heating to come on before you get up and switch off when you go to bed. If you are sedentary wear warm clothing indoors and heat your home to at least 18°C (65F).
- **Check on friends, relatives and neighbours** who may be more vulnerable during cold weather. Some people may have difficulties getting out to do the food shopping, visiting the doctor, picking up prescriptions and even keeping warm.

If you, or someone you know, is struggling to get out and about during winter or need some help around the home, we can support you **call 0300 123 6720** or visit [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk)



## Clearing snow and ice yourself

We have over 1,800 grit bins and 600 salt heaps in key locations around the county to help keep public areas clear. We fill these before the start of winter and refill them as often as we are able to.

The salt is there to make the roads and pavements safer for everyone and is not for private use. If you see it being taken away or used inappropriately, please contact the police. You can buy grit for your personal use from a range of DIY stores.

We assess all requests for new grit bins based on a number of factors including; the gradient of the road and whether it is on a steep bend; how close to a junction with a main road it is and the number of premises the road provides access to. Not all locations will meet the criteria.

**Requests for new grit bins should be made through our customer service centre on 0300 123 6780.**

## Tips for clearing snow and ice:

- **Start early** - it's easier to move fresh snow than hard snow that has been packed together by people walking on it.
- **Be careful** - make a line down the middle of the path, so you have a safe surface to walk on. Shovel the snow from the centre of the path to the sides; take care not to block other people's paths or drains.
- **Use grit sparingly** - sprinkle grit on the area needed to give a fine coating. Around a tablespoonful is enough for one square metre, so a shovelful will go a long way.



## Businesses...

If you have a large private area to keep clear, please remember it's your responsibility to buy your own grit or contract a company to carry out the work for you.

## What we do...

During winter we work to keep Lancashire's roads as clear and safe as possible. Ideally, our gritters would treat every road in Lancashire, but in reality this is just not possible.

Of the 7,000 kilometres of roads we are responsible for, 2,900 kilometres are part of our priority roads for salting and snow clearing.

This includes:

- Motorways and A roads which are the main routes across Lancashire;
- B roads which are routes in and out of towns;
- Single routes into villages.

We also treat the second most important roads during periods of continuous ice and snow, in daylight hours and after the higher priority roads have been cleared. Please note not all bus routes are treated.

It can take our gritters up to four hours to salt a route and therefore, it will take this length of time before some roads are treated.

Find out more about which roads we treat at [www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter)

## Footpaths

In severe weather we prioritise footpaths in main employment areas, hospitals and those that provide access to public transport. Once these are treated, the remaining footpaths and cycle routes will then be prioritised and treated.

In icy and snowy weather, think whether your journey is absolutely necessary and always wear appropriate footwear that has a good grip.