

# Winter Management Offer 2017/18

## Frequently Asked Question's

Question	Answer
<b>Can the existing Winter Plan roll over to this winter?</b>	<p>All existing plans and agreements with local farmers/contractors need to be reviewed annually in case there are changes and resubmitted to WSCC.</p> <p>You will need to review and highlight any changes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Details of nominated persons.</li> <li>• Gritting and Snow Clearing routes identified in the plans.</li> <li>• Locations of salt bins/bags and highlighting any additional bins or bins that have been removed.</li> <li>• Check with your local farmer/contractor is still happy to support your winter plan.</li> </ul>
<b>What is the pre-arranged financial contribution towards local farmers and contractors?</b>	<p><b>To be able eligible you must have submitted following information by the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A plan showing the roads that Farmer / Contractor will be gritting or snow ploughing which is agreed by the local Area Highway Manager</li> <li>• Email addresses for 2 key contacts that will receive the winter trigger information – one of whom should be the Farmer/Contractor.</li> <li>• Farmer / Contractor details and contact information</li> <li>• A valid Public Liability Insurance (covering Winter 2017/18) document for the Farmer / Contractor</li> </ul> <p>WSCC will enter into an Agreement with the local Farmer / Contractor based on the information provided in your plan.</p>
<b>How much is the pre-arranged financial contribution towards local farmers and contractors?</b>	<p><b>Financial Contribution consists of:</b></p> <p><u>Financial Contribution can only be claimed for once a Trigger Email has been sent from WSCC Highways advising of a forecasted significant snow event and to put the Winter Maintenance Plan into Action.</u></p> <p>In line with national agreed standards with the NFU and other neighbouring authorities WSCC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide £35 per hr towards local farmer / local contractor to fill salt bins as required during the winter with salt from the bulk bags stored locally <b>following a significant snow event.</b></li> <li>• Provide £35 per hr towards farmers/local contractor to carry out precautionary salting to local roads</li> </ul>

	<p>identified in the agreed Local Community Winter Maintenance Plans <b>as a result of a WSCC notification in advance of a significant snow event.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide £35 per hr towards farmers/local contractor to clear snow <b>as a result of a significant snow event</b>, from local roads identified in the agreed Local Community Winter Maintenance Plans and whose activities have been activated through the agreed Trigger Mechanism</li> </ul> <p><b>In order to take part in the “Local Farmers and Contractors Agreement” the contractor must be covered by their own Public Liability Insurance at the date they carry out the work.</b></p>
<b>What is the Trigger Mechanism to activate Winter Maintenance Plans and Farmers/Contractors?</b>	<p>The Winter Management Plan is intended as a response to <b>significant weather events ONLY.</b></p> <p>WSCC Highways will issue an email directed at the particular areas forecasted to experience significant weather event.</p> <p>Example Email: (<i>Insert Appropriate Location Name</i>) is forecasted to have a significant snow event in the next 3 to 4 days’ time please put your Winter Maintenance Plans into Action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Precautionary Salting:</b> Advisory email of a significant weather event will be the trigger mechanism for paying farmers and/or local contractors to move bulk bags, undertake precautionary salting.</li> <li>• <b>Snow Clearance:</b> Advisory email of a significant weather event will be the trigger mechanism for paying farmers and/or local contractor’s snow clearance is 2” (50mm) of accumulated snow.</li> </ul> <p><b>WSCC have no objections to local councils/community groups using the salt provided at their discretion and cost.</b></p>
<b>How do we pay the local farmer/contractor for any work relating to our winter plan?</b>	<p>WSCC will only cover the costs of filling salt bins, precautionary salting and snow clearance when the trigger has been activated.</p> <p>If the trigger is activated the payment from WSCC will be made directly to the local Farmer/Contractor.</p> <p><b>This will only happen where there is an agreement in place.</b></p>
<b>Can we request extra bulk bags on top of what they already have stored for filling up their bins?</b>	<p>The offer is not to provide communities free salt on top of what they already have in storage. This should be used to top up any existing salt/grit bins.</p> <p>Communities have the option to purchase any additional salt.</p> <p>Contact <a href="mailto:active.communities@westsussex.gov.uk">active.communities@westsussex.gov.uk</a> and contact the Routine and Cyclical Maintenance Team</p>
<b>What are the arrangements to fill the bin this winter?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Salt/Grit held locally:</b> If you have salt/grit stored at a local farmer this needs to be used to fill up the salt/grit bins before requesting further supplies from WSCC.</li> <li>• <b>No salt/grit held locally:</b> WSCC Highways will top up bins less than 75% full and identified through the community audit submitted by <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>No bins will be filled after 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 2017.</b></p>

<b>The Parish or Town Council or Community group would like some new bins is this possible?</b>	<p>WSCC will not be supplying any new bins in 2017/18.</p> <p>You will need to obtain agreement to place a salt/grit bin on the highway from the Highway Manager for the area before obtaining a new bin.</p>
<b>Parish/Town Council or Community Group has purchased a new grit bin, how do they get it refilled and is there a cost for this?</b>	<p>Include the new salt bin and its location into the salt audit before 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017 it will be taken into account with the existing bins.</p>
<b>Existing Hippo bags - Top Up or Replace.</b>	<p>Top up existing hippo bags identified through the Community Audit is included in the Winter Offer. No free additional bags will be delivered for 2017/18.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Councils, schools and hospitals that wish to purchase bulk bags in conjunction with an agreed plan may do so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ £80 per 1 ton bag: To supply, fill and deliver if part of a programme of countywide bag deliveries.</li> <li>○ £150 per 1 ton bag: To supply, fill and deliver as a one off operation (ad hoc)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Existing Hippo bags – Removed or Moved</b>	<p>WSCC will not remove or move Hippo Bags once they have been delivered.</p> <p>If communities wish to move existing hippo bags they can utilise any local agreements with Farmers/Contractors at their own cost.</p>
<b>Bins/hippos bags where salt has risen to the top, gotten wet or is clumpy.</b>	<p>Salt/Grit mix is still usable if salt has risen to the top or gone clumpy and can be mixed by a stick or shovel/spade to break up.</p> <p>If salt/grit mix has become very wet this should be left to dry and then can be used. Place the hippo bag on a wooden pallet and cover with tarpaulin</p>
<b>How will Daily Decisions by Highways be communicated?</b>	<p>Daily forecast will be monitored between October and April and appropriate action taken. Issue a Daily Decision to all interested parties via <b>@WSHighways</b> <a href="#">sign up here</a></p>
<b>Salt/grit supplies in the event of either a prolonged or several extreme winter weather events</b>	<p>In the event of a prolonged or several extreme weather events priority will remain to the precautionary salting network and we would have to consider the position of whether any salt/grit would be available more widely at that point on a needs basis e.g the areas that have had snow will get priority.</p>