

<b>Report on</b>	Winter Maintenance of Council Estate in Snow and Ice
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> October 2018
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Terry Scullion - Head of Property Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Eunan Murray - Grounds and Cemeteries Manager

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	<b>Purpose of Report</b>																
1.1	This report is to provide an update to members on a managed approach to Winter Maintenance for the Council Estate during periods of Ice and Snow.																
2.0	<b>Background</b>																
2.1	Following the Council decision in February 2018 it was agreed to develop a Winter Maintenance policy for the Council Estate to include Off Street Car Parks.																
2.2	The winter period is considered to be from 1 <sup>st</sup> November to 31 <sup>st</sup> March. During this period Council currently uses its resources to ensure frontline operational facilities are treated on a prioritised basis that maintains business continuity and access to essential Council services. To date this has not included any winter maintenance during periods of ice or snow in any of the off street car parks.																
3.0	<b>Main Report</b>																
3.1	Rather than policy development it is considered more practical to apply a managed approach to the treatment of properties in the Council Estate in periods of Ice, snow or other unfavourable weather conditions.																
3.2	It is proposed that properties across the estate will be treated in the following order based on providing safe access to Council services, resources available, and the extent to which local weather conditions are unfavourable: <table><tr><th>Property Type</th><th>Which Service</th><th>What Areas</th><th>When</th></tr><tr><td>1. Council Depots</td><td>Property Services</td><td>Car Park areas, and essential access routes</td><td>As and when required from 0700 Monday to Friday</td></tr><tr><td>2. Council Offices</td><td>Property Services</td><td>Car Park areas, and essential access routes</td><td>As and when required from 0730 Monday to Friday</td></tr><tr><td>3. Cemeteries</td><td>Property Services</td><td>Car Park areas, and essential access routes for a burial</td><td>As and when required from 0800 to facilitate a burial only</td></tr></table>	Property Type	Which Service	What Areas	When	1. Council Depots	Property Services	Car Park areas, and essential access routes	As and when required from 0700 Monday to Friday	2. Council Offices	Property Services	Car Park areas, and essential access routes	As and when required from 0730 Monday to Friday	3. Cemeteries	Property Services	Car Park areas, and essential access routes for a burial	As and when required from 0800 to facilitate a burial only
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	4. Leisure Centres, Sports Arenas & Recycling Centres	Property Services to provide salt, salt bins and pedestrian spreaders. Treatment carried out by Service responsible for facility	Car Park areas, and essential access routes determined by Responsible Service	As and when required during hours of operation determined by Responsible Service
	5. Other frontline Properties	Property Services to provide salt, salt bins and pedestrian spreaders on request. Treatment carried out by Service responsible for facility	Essential areas determined by Responsible Service	As and when required during hours of operation determined by Responsible Service
	6. Off Street Car Parks	Property Services including provision of signage and self help bins	Car Park and footways in retail areas of the five main town centres	At same time as the TNI Winter Maintenance Agreement are triggered by TNI.
3.3	Property Services will treat property types in the estate from '1 to 3' above in ice and snow. Property types '4 to 6' will be provided grit bins, replenished on a regular basis for self help or application in icy conditions. Support will be provided for snow clearance to properties '4 and 5' during Depot Operational hours, and by request outside of these hours. All of which is subject to availability of resources and by agreement.			
3.4	In exceptional circumstances where treatment is required in unfavourable weather and no Council resources are available, efforts will be made to engage a third party to assist on a pay as you go basis. It may also be necessary for a temporary closure of part, or all of a Council property, depending on weather conditions. This would be similar to precautions applied across the Council estate on Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 and since as a result of Storm Ali.			
3.5	Considering the limited resource available, and respecting the important roles the car parks play to provide access to local services, treatment would be limited to the settlements included in Council's Winter Maintenance Agreement with Transport NI. It should be noted the off street car parks are outwith of this agreement. However, the car parks in each of these towns would be treated when TNI trigger the agreement for the pre agreed Town Centre footways to be treated.			

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>A limited budget is available for snow and ice clearance of the estate during the winter period using in house resources. There is no budget in year to support a winter maintenance programme that includes regular weather monitoring and treatment of the off street car parks.</p>
	<p>Human:</p> <p>Staff time coordinating snow and ice clearance and liaising with facilities managers on same. Maintenance support response may have to be provided by a competent third party if in-house capacity is limited as a result of specific weather conditions.</p>
	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>Council has responsibility for upkeep and maintenance of its property, and associated facilities used by public, staff and visitors; arrangements must be in place to mitigate risk. As a minimum this is currently controlled through fixed warning signage, asset inspection and defect repair.</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	<p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>None.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>A Rural Needs impact assessment is required to consider the impact across the Estate.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report and approve the managed approach to the treatment of properties in the Council Estate in periods of Ice, snow or other unfavourable weathers conditions during the winter period.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	None.