

# Chesham and Chiltern Villages Local Area Forum

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<b>Title:</b>	<b>Petition Request for Pound Lane, Stoney Lane and Heath End, Hawridge to be added to the precautionary salting network</b>
<b>Date:</b>	15 February 2010
<b>Author:</b>	Bob Ayres, Engineer – Maintenance (Amersham)
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## Recommendation

Chesham and Chiltern Villages Local Area Forum is recommended **to note** that:

Buckinghamshire County Council does not have the resource available to carry out precautionary salting over its entire network, and therefore it has to prioritise to establish the levels of treatment appropriate for particular roads on the basis of route importance and risk assessment.

A risk assessment has been carried out for Pound Lane, Stoney Lane and Heath End, Hawridge and they do not meet the necessary criteria for inclusion on the Priority 1 (precautionary) salting network.

## Introduction

A petition was received on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 requesting the inclusion of Pound Lane, Stoney Lane and Heath End, Hawridge in the precautionary salting network. *Ref appendix 1.*

## Background

Subject to weather forecast and prevailing conditions, the Priority 1 salting network is treated prior to the formation of ice or fall of snow. This is in accordance with the County Councils' Winter Maintenance Policy and Operational Plan 2009/10



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The **Priority 1 (precautionary) salting network** is comprised of the following:-

### **Core network**

The core network includes roads that are classified within network maintenance hierarchy Category 2 & 3a. This includes all A and B classified roads throughout the county.

### **Risk Assessed network**

The risk assessed element prioritises roads taking into account the following factors:-

- Traffic Flows
- Gradients
- Bends not subject to a speed limit
- Community link.
- Historically salted route
- Public and School Bus Routes
- Adjacent key facilities
- Route practicality and efficiency

It is considered that these factors increase the likelihood of collision or place highway users at greater risk where frost or ice has potential to form. A risk assessment matrix is scored and roads ranked in an order of priority for salting. The extent of roads to be included in the priority 1 salting network is subject to available resources and an appropriate cut off point is determined. The cut off is currently 28 points. Roads which do not meet the required risk assessment rating are included in either the priority 2 or priority 3 salting network.

### **Conclusion**

It has been confirmed by our Passenger Transport team that none of these roads included in this petition are currently on a dedicated school bus route and therefore do not score under this criteria. In addition we have no record of their inclusion on a precautionary salting route within the last 5 years.

Pound Lane (10 points), Stoney Lane (10 Points) and Heath End (14 points) have been risk assessed in line with the current assessment criteria and do not meet the required 28 points for inclusion in the Priority 1 (precautionary) salting network.

Since these roads do however have gradients in excess of 10% they been added to the priority 2 salting network, which the County Council will endeavour to treat during prolonged periods of ice or snow, within 48 hours.

**- Report ends -**

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