



# Report to Overview and Scrutiny

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010  
**Title:** Answers to Members Winter Maintenance Queries  
**Contact Officer:** Tim Fowler (x3767)

## Background

During the course of the April planning meeting for the Task and Finish Group Members raised a number of queries. The Area Maintenance Manager North, Tim Fowler, took these away and has supplied the following answers.

## Answers to Members Queries

- **How many claims from motorists have been made for winter related accidents/incidents against BCC as a result of the 2009/10 winter weather?**

In terms of numbers, winter related claims against the County Council have increased significantly over this winter, as can be seen from the comparison data below.

Please be advised that cost information should be treated with caution and does not include costs of any claims that are currently being processed. It is likely to some months before a realistic cost of winter claims is known.

01 Nov 08 - 30 Apr 09 - **Potholes** claims - 577; cost to date - £38,924.  
01 Nov 09 - 30 Apr 10 - **Potholes** claims - 1423; cost to date - £9,910

01 Nov 08 - 30 Apr 09 - **Ice/Snow** claims - 21; cost to date - £1,053  
01 Nov 09 - 30 Apr 10 - **Ice/Snow** claims - 15; cost to date - £ 960

01 Apr 08 - 31 Mar 09 - **All** claims - 925; cost to date - £93,484  
01 Apr 09 - 31 Mar 10 - **All** claims - 1974; cost to date £31,358

- **What is the cost of the claims?**

See above

- **What are the additional costs of maintaining the roads as a result of the winter weather?**

Cost of winter service i.e. precautionary and secondary salting. Info required from JB

- **Salt bins- would it be possible to have these located in private roads? What would the costs of this be?**

Salt bins can be provided on private roads at a cost of £450 and £80 for each refill. However, servicing of these bins would be a low priority during times severe weather as salt bins on the public highway will be treated with top priority.

- **House of Commons document- Section 150 (p.2 of document)- does our footway/pavement policy match with what is said in this document. (Please let me know if you would like an electronic copy of this document)**

The current Winter Maintenance Policy and Operational Plan sets out this authority's approach, response and treatments for carriageways and footways in accordance with our statutory duty (Highways Act 1980 and the subsequent new section 41 (1A) inserted under subsequent legislation in 2003) and the guidance contained in section 13 of the Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management, "*Well Maintained Highways*".