

Item 11 - Question Time

Response to Mr H Morrison

The Council has 114 (including 3 spares) winter maintenance road gritting vehicles and 48 tractors used on footways. Over 50,000 tonnes of salt has been spread this winter, 40,000 of those during December and January. Total usage by the end of the financial year will be significantly in excess of that for an average winter.

Preparation of winter maintenance vehicles and plant is undertaken over the summer and autumn with a target to have the majority ready by the 1 October and all completed by the end of October when the likelihood increases that all vehicles may require to be deployed. It is generally the case that full deployment is not required till mid-November.

Vehicle maintenance and repair is proactively managed utilising the private sector for specialist work and to cover peaks in demand that cannot be met by redeployment within our own workshops. If a high number of breakdowns is experienced in one location then firstly spare vehicles are deployed and secondly vehicles from another location are redeployed to assist.

The detailed information about servicing and repairs is recorded in the workshop management system and can be made available to Members who want to review it. Requests should be made to the Head of Roads and Transport after this meeting.