

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

- 1. How many miles of road are you overall responsible for to date?**
- 2. How many miles of that overall road do you grit?**

ANSWER

We are responsible for 503 miles of roads in total.

We routinely grit 183 miles of roads as a precaution against frost and in advance of snowfall. These are our primary gritting routes, such as main roads, key commuter routes and bus routes.

During severe weather such as snow & ice, we grit a further 40 miles of "severe weather routes" as and when resources become available after treating the primary gritting routes.

Some further background for you:

Road Gritting.

Leicester City Council aims to provide a Winter Service that, as far as reasonably possible, permits the safe movement of traffic and keeps delays and accidents caused by adverse weather conditions to a minimum on roads within Leicester. Unfortunately, we do not have the resources required to grit all the roads within the city and we therefore have to prioritise the roads we treat. The priorities for salting and snow clearing treatment are main roads, bus routes and other important commuter routes. Non-priority roads are not normally gritted as this would require significant additional resources and annual expenditure.

Some key facts / points / resources:

- We routinely grit around 183 miles of roads (36% of the total network). These are known as primary gritting routes.
- During snowfall, and when resources permit, we grit a further 40 miles of roads (8%), known as severe weather routes.
- Resources include 6 gritting lorries and 4 snow plough attachments, with a team of 15 gritter drivers.

- A specialist road gritting weather forecast service is used to help decide when to grit the roads in advance of frosty or snowy conditions.
- We currently hold in excess of 2,700 tonnes of road salt in stock in our depot at Leycroft Road. This is enough to cover 100 days of precautionary gritting or 15 days of snowfall.
- Our gritting routes cover all the local hospitals, fire stations and main police stations.
- Our gritting routes encompass many of the City's schools. Where the location of a school is such that a gritting lorry cannot safely access the street, we endeavor to grit as near as possible (within 300m).

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

Information Governance Manager
Information and Customer Access
Leicester City Council
FREEPOST (LE985/33)
New Walk Centre
LEICESTER LE1 6ZG

e-mail: info.requests@leicester.gov.uk

Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Please be aware that the Information Commissioner does not normally consider appeals or complaints until the internal appeals and complaints processes of the public authority which is answering the request have been exhausted. You are therefore advised to complain or appeal to the Information Governance Manager before contacting the Commissioner.