

The parish salt scheme

The parish salt scheme is only triggered when winter conditions become very severe. The county council reviews the conditions, forecasts and any other relevant information and may authorise the offer of a small quantity of salt / grit mix to parishes to boost local stocks and also allow communities to spread additional grit on local roads and footways.

If your local grit bin is empty then contact the Highways Hotline on the details below.



Clearing footways

We spread salt/grit onto footways when the forecast predicts long periods of icy weather. We concentrate on the footways with the higher levels of use, which are usually in the main shopping areas of towns.



Could you be a Snow Champion?

Cumbria County Council is looking to recruit more volunteers to help clear snow and ice from footways and pavements within their communities.

Volunteers are given suitable equipment (high visibility vest, warm gloves, snow shovel and a supply of salt) to allow them to treat snow on agreed lengths of footway in local communities.

There's no law stopping you from clearing snow and ice on the pavement outside your home or from public spaces.

If you're interested in becoming a snow champion to help keep local footways safe for others, contact us on 0300 303 2992 or visit cumbria.gov.uk



Winter driving

Glovebox
Guide
2018-19



In this guide...

- Map showing the priority of roads that are gritted
- Be prepared guidance
- Information on footway clearance



Live gritting updates-online

Cumbria County Council has an innovative online map and Twitter service so that people can keep track of gritting during the winter months. The interactive map, which can be viewed on the council's website at cumbria.gov.uk is regularly updated to show which roads the council's in-house fleet of gritters are treating during periods of snowy and frosty weather.

Gritting updates from the new online service can also be tracked through Cumbria County Council's Twitter gritter account at @CumbriaGritters and by subscribing to an RSS feed at cumbria.gov.uk/winter

You can also view, via our website, local road conditions at a number of locations around the county via regularly updated images from webcams at our weather observation stations.



Who do I contact about road problems?



If you have a problem with a local road, then please contact the Cumbria Highways Hotline on 0300 303 2992 or you can report your problem online by visiting cumbria.gov.uk

When reporting a problem, it is helpful if you can provide as much information as possible, including the location of the fault – either the road name and house number the problem is closest to or a post code. This information will help Cumbria Highways locate the fault more easily. If you have a problem with the M6 motorway or a trunk road, contact the Highways England on 0300 123 5000.

Be prepared

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Despite our best efforts, winter weather can still make roads treacherous and there is no guarantee that roads will always be completely free of ice and snow. The key to safe driving this winter is to make sure you and your vehicle are fully prepared and to make sure you always drive with due care for the weather and condition of the roads.

Your vehicle: Keep it in good condition and follow this checklist before you go out



- Check all lights are clean and working, and washer bottle is full (use a little window antifreeze).
- Make sure your windscreen and all windows are clear and unobstructed.
- Check your tyres are at the correct pressure and are in good condition with plenty of tread.
- Ensure the battery is fully charged and topped up.



Your journey: Don't take risks

- Check local weather forecast and try to use gritted roads, see our map.
- Don't use roads which are closed – you will put yourself and others in danger and abandoned vehicles hamper snow clearance.
- Tell someone at your destination what time you expect to arrive.
- Don't use a mobile phone while driving. Stop somewhere safe or ask a passenger to make the call.



Your survival kit: Keep these things in your car

- Thick jumper, warm coat, thick gloves, blanket, mobile phone, hot drink in a flask, energy boosting food, cloth, pen, good torch and a shovel.
- If possible, include a tow rope, jump leads, some sand and a solid wooden board for the jack.
- If you have to leave your vehicle to get help, make sure other drivers can see you.