

CABINET MEETING 13 OCTOBER 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Winter Service Policy 2022/23

Author(s):

Report of the Director of Environmental Services

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of the report is to seek approval to adopt and publish the Winter Service Policy Statement 2022/23

Description of Decision:

Cabinet is recommended to:

- i) Approve and adopt the Winter Service Policy 2022/23; and
- ii) Approve the publication of the Winter Service Policy 2022/23 on the Council's Website

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? *Yes

If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

Under the Highways Act 1980 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 there is a requirement for the Council, as Local Highway Authority, to introduce systems to ensure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic by ensuring, so far as is reasonably practical, safe passage along the highway without danger from snow or ice, the proposed Winter Service Policy ensures that clear and appropriate plans are in place to meet the required legal duties.

Alternative options to be considered:

That the Council does not adopt a Winter Service Policy - this option was considered and rejected as without a Winter Service Policy the Council would fail to meet its legal duties as it would have no structured plans or management arrangement in place.

Impacts analysed;

Equality

N/A

Privacy

N/A

Sustainability

N/A

Crime and Disorder

N/A

Is the Decision consistent with the Council's co-operative values? Yes/

Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? Yes

Is it included in the 28 day Notice of Decisions? Yes

WINTER SERVICE POLICY 2022/23

Report of the Director of Environmental Services

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval to adopt and publish the Winter Service Policy 2022/23

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:

- i) Approve and adopt the Winter Service Policy 2022/23, and
- ii) Approve the publication of the Winter Service Policy 2022/23 on the Council's Website

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Highways Act 1980 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 requires authorities to introduce systems to ensure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic by ensuring, so far as is reasonably practical, safe passage along the highway without danger from snow or ice.
- 3.2 The Council aims to maintain the city's highways in a condition that is safe and efficient for use by vehicles and pedestrians. A Winter Service Policy provides a clear framework on how the Council will manage and respond to winter weather that adversely impacts upon the highway and other priority areas.

4.0 Winter Service Policy Statement 2022/23

- 4.1 A Winter Service Policy 2022/23 has been prepared to respond in a proactive and structured manner to ensure that the Council discharges its duties during the winter period. The proposed Winter Service Policy 2022/23 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 4.2 The Council through the Policy will provide a winter service to the highway network and priority pedestrian areas. This will ensure as far as reasonably practicable, that designated roads and footpaths are treated, and snow is removed.
- 4.3 As a key Policy of the Council it is proposed that Cabinet approve and adopt the revised Winter Service Policy 2022/23 and that the document is published on the Council's website and other communication media so that the winter service arrangements are accessible
- 4.4 As part of the Winter Service arrangements a review has taken place by Officers in Environmental Services and the Highways Team of the previous highway network treating plans and the treating routes have been developed. These can be seen within Appendix 2.

5.0 Reasons for the Decision

- 5.1 Under the Highways Act 1980 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 there is a requirement for the Council, as Local Highway Authority, to introduce systems to ensure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic by ensuring, so far as is reasonably practical, safe passage along the highway without danger from snow or ice, the proposed Winter Service Policy ensures that clear and appropriate plans are in place to meet the required legal duties.

6.0 Alternative options to be considered:

- 6.1 That the Council does not adopt a Winter Service Policy – this option was considered and rejected as this without a Winter Service Policy the Council would fail to meet its legal duties as it would have no structured plans or management arrangements in place

7. Impact Analysis

- (a) **Equalities** -n/a
- (b) **Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA)** – n/a
- (c) **Sustainability** – The Policy will employ appropriate considerations for any environmental impacts.
- (d) **Reduction of Crime and Disorder – Community Cohesion / Social Inclusion** – No impacts are anticipated from this decision.

8. Other Relevant Considerations / Consultations

- (a) **Financial Implications.** Provision for the cost of the delivery of winter services exists within the revenue budget.
- (b) **Legal Implications** – The Assistant Director of Law and Governance has been consulted to ensure that the Policy addresses the Council's legal duties under the Highways Act 1980 and Traffic Management Act 2004 on the clearing of snow and ice from Highways.
- (c) **Health & Safety Considerations** – The delivery of the winter service is fully assessed in line with current Health and Safety requirements.
- (d) **Procurement** – All service and purchasing arrangements impacting from the Policy are covered within existing procurement frameworks and arrangements put in place through the Corporate Procurement Team.
- (e) **Risk Analysis-** The Policy supports the management and discharge of the Council's legal duties and provides a safer environment for road users and pedestrian across the City

9. List of Appendices

- APPENDIX 1 – Winter Service Policy 2022/23
- APPENDIX 2 - Highway network treating plans

