

# AGENDA ITEM No. 11.6

**Liz Pinchen**

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**From:** Local Highways <Local.Highways@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 14 October 2016 12:39  
**Subject:** Winter Gritting Routes  
**Importance:** High

To whom it may concern,

On 25<sup>th</sup> October, Cambridgeshire County Council will welcome back 26 gritters into its highway depots. From this date the gritters will be on standby, day and night, to grit the roads when necessary.

We are writing to let you know that this year, the gritting routes across the county have been revised and the Council will be reducing its gritting routes; a decision made at Full Council earlier in the year as part of the business plan.

This difficult decision has not been made lightly. The Council faces unprecedented savings targets and as a result, winter service has been identified as one area where savings can be made to help meet our financial challenges.

I would like to add that although there will be a reduction in the gritting routes, safety of the travelling public remains our priority.

Work to design the new routes has been taking place over the last few months, and as you may imagine is a large complicated piece of work. The new routes have been carefully designed and will be driven for the first time shortly, as soon as our gritting fleet is delivered. This final check may lead to some minor alterations.

In addition, we are also altering the way in which we grit. From this winter we have split the county into three sections; North/East, South/West and City. Experience shows us that temperatures and weather conditions vary across the county, and so when we grit will depend on the conditions in each area, not the county as a whole. For example, we may decide to grit in just North/East but not South/West or City. This is a more effective and efficient way of gritting and will, in turn, bring further savings.

Furthermore I would like to thank the 70 strong volunteers from Parishes and Community Groups across the county gritting the paths, helping to keep the local residents safe, during winter.

The new gritting routes for Cambridgeshire can be found here: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/wintergritting](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/wintergritting)

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact [local.highways@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:local.highways@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely,

**Highways Service**  
**Cambridgeshire County Council**

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