

**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Communities**

Report to:	<b>Councillor W S Webb, Executive Councillor Highways and Transport</b>
Date:	<b>03 December 2012</b>
Subject:	<b>Winter Maintenance Plan 2012-13</b>
Decision Reference:	<b>02117</b>
Key decision?	<b>Yes</b>

**Summary:**

A review of Winter Highway Maintenance Services was carried out during the winter of 2009/2010 in a review by the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee and the 2010/11 Winter Maintenance Plan was adopted.

Further consideration has been given to ongoing national developments, especially in Community Engagement, and a revised Winter Maintenance Plan for 2012/13 has been developed and was considered by the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee on 10 September 2012.

The Winter Maintenance Plan sets out the Council's winter maintenance policies, legal duties and standards.

**Recommendation(s):**

That the new Winter Maintenance Policy, attached as an appendix to the report to Highways Transport and Technology Committee, is accepted.

**Alternatives Considered:**

The new Policy is based on recommendations arising from a consideration of the current policy by the Highways Transport and Technology Scrutiny Review Committee and of national best practice.

**Reasons for Recommendation:**

The policy is in need of approval in readiness for the winter of 2012/2013 due to the need to:

1. Develop robust standards.
2. Take account of lessons learnt and pressures from the last few severe winters.
3. Comply with necessary legal changes.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 The background and conclusion are included in the report to Highways Transport and Technology Committee on 10 September 2012 which is attached as Appendix A to this report.

## **2. Conclusion**

- 2.1 See Appendix A

## **3. Legal Comments:**

The Winter Maintenance Plan is within the Council's statutory function as Highway Authority for Lincolnshire. This decision is therefore lawful and within the Executive Councillor's remit, provided he has the delegated authority of the Leader.

## **4. Resource Comments:**

Approval of this report updates the Winter Maintenance Plan. Expenditure arising from the operation of the plan will be funded from the current Winter Maintenance revenue budget.

The Winter Maintenance budget is set up to fund expenditure in keeping with an average winter. The Council has established a reserve for this, where, If expenditure is above budget the reserve can be used to fund the shortfall, equally if the weather is more mild then any funds remaining at the year end can be transferred into the reserve.

## **5. Consultation**

### **a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?**

n/a

### **b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?**

Yes

### **c) Scrutiny Comments**

Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee considered the report on 10 September 2012 and requested more detail to be added to sections 7.5 and 7.6 on the definition and treatment of snow.

The above changes were implemented and are included within the Winter Maintenance Plan 2012/13, attached as Appendix B to this report.

#### **d) Policy Proofing Actions Required**

The draft strategy is consistent with the existing policies of the County Council.

### **6. Appendices**

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Report to Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee 10/09/12: Winter Maintenance & Mutual Aid - Preparations for Winter 2012/2013
Appendix B	Winter Maintenance Plan 2012/13

### **6. Background Papers**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by David Davies, who can be contacted on 01522 553080 01522 553080 or [DavidJ.Davies@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:DavidJ.Davies@lincolnshire.gov.uk)