

December

# BULLETIN

## Gritting reminder...

Every year we remind you of our gritting routine, so here are all the stats and facts you need to know about Buckinghamshire's roads this winter.

## Decisions, decisions...

We make daily decisions on whether to salt the roads, based on forecasts from weather stations across the county. Salting runs are not cheap, so the decision is not taken lightly. The main factor to consider is road temperature. If this is set to drop below zero, our gritters will be sent out.



## How will I know?

All our gritting decisions are posted onto Twitter [@tfbalerts](https://twitter.com/tfbalerts) and can also be found on our website [www.buckscc.gov.uk/winter](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/winter).

## Where are they?!

We try to send our gritters out when the roads are not too busy. Salt needs the action of tyres to make it work, but we don't want to clog up the network at peak times. Therefore, they'll usually be out in the early hours of the morning or late at night – when you're probably tucked up in bed! We have 25 gritting routes, each with their own gritter – this year three new gritters joined our fleet. You can track them all on our online map [www.buckscc.gov.uk/winter](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/winter).

## Driving in the cold weather

Salt is not magic. And we don't treat every road in the county. Therefore some roads may still be icy. We always recommend driving to the conditions of the road and being aware that some may be slippery. If we have to wait for rain to clear before we salt, wet roads may freeze before they are salted. And in severe cold weather, if roads hit -8°C, even salt will not prevent ice from forming.

## Grit bins

This year TfB's grit bins will be replenished with a 50/50 mix of salt and sharp sand. This is a change from previous years when it has been 100% pure salt and has occurred due to the unfortunate increase in theft and misuse, resulting in great expense refilling each time. This mix is still appropriate for use on public highway, and as always, please think about where you're spreading it, and remember that a little goes a long way.



Transport for Buckinghamshire



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