

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE	Enterprise, Planning & Infrastructure	DATE	23-02-10
DIRECTOR	Gordon McIntosh		
TITLE OF REPORT	Winter Maintenance- Salt Stocks		
REPORT NUMBER:			

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the committee of the usage in salt during the current winter operation, our current stock holding and future supplies

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that

- a) members note the current position with respect to salt stocks
- b) members note that in order to keep a supply of salt, a delivery with of 3500 tonnes of salt has been ordered from Spain. This delivery will be shared with Aberdeenshire
- c) members agree with the decision under the circumstances, to order salt outwith the current contract to ensure supplies are available to treat roads given the weather pattern over the past 9 weeks.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The salt will have an increase cost £9.16 per tonne. Given the usual split Aberdeen City will receive 1500 tonnes; this will be an additional £13,750

Use of a salt/sand mix or pure sand on City roads and footpaths will increase the costs of sweeping and gully cleaning operations. The additional costs of disposing of the sand to landfill following street sweeping and gully cleaning operations would be £80 per tonne.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

Lack of salt will put main routes throughout the City at risk of snow and ice related problems

SOA & VDFL: Aberdeen is an attractive place to do business 1.v,xviii,  
Aberdeen will have high quality employment opportunities for citizens 2.vii

Ensure education is appropriate to pupil needs and ensure pupils leave school with skills essential to living 3.viii

## 5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Council service delivery and the emergency services could find difficulty in carrying out their works in poor road conditions

## 6. REPORT

Currently salt stocks across the UK are very low with the amount available from suppliers being restricted to the daily output from their mines. The Scottish Government Resilience Room - SGoRR - has been in session since 22nd December, to pool information on the approaches being taken by the public sector in dealing with our roads and is looking at the overall salt supply across the UK along with the current salt stocks held by each Authority.

Working with our supplier, Cleveland Potash, we have managed to maintain a working stock of salt through the Christmas and New Year period up to our delivery on 17<sup>th</sup> January. Salt stocks were sufficient with management of daily usage; however the heavy snow showers at the end of January/start of February requiring almost continual ongoing treatment of the priority routes resulting in a drop in our salt stocks of more than 50% to 1900 tonnes. (See Appendix 1)

The current forecast is for the North East corner to continue with the cold weather, snow showers and overnight frosts.

There was a delivery of 900 tonnes of salt programmed for Aberdeen City on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February (as part of a joint delivery for ourselves, Aberdeenshire and Bear Scotland) but after that date there were no further programmed deliveries of salt.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> January Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire managed to secured an order for delivery of 3500 tonnes of salt from Spain with a delivery date expected to be the 13th February. Our share of this delivery is 1500 tonnes.

To ensure that we manage the remaining salt stocks we adopted the SGoRR Salt Group guidelines on preservation of salt stocks.

In essence this meant that only the 10 routes in the winter maintenance plan have been actioned using pure salt with the maximum treatment spread of 15g/m<sup>2</sup>. Area operations have been reduced from the salt sand mix to a sand only operation. These operations are being kept to a minimum ensuring that we do not use too much sand which will add to the clearing up costs associated with this operation. Grit bins etc have been refilled using only sand.

The operational changes have not altered our work with or assistance to other Council Services in the delivery of their statutory duties or with assistance to the emergency services in carrying out their respective operations.

## 7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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## Appendix 1

### Salt Usage 2009-2010

Week Ending	Total Salt Stock Level	Quantity of Salt Used	Cumulative Quantity of Salt Used	Quantity of Salt Delivered	Cumulative quantity of Salt Delivered	Salt Balance
08/04/2009	13493	0	0	0	0	13493
15/04/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
11/10/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
18/10/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
25/10/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
01/11/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
08/11/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
15/11/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
22/11/2009	0	0	0	0	0	13493
29/11/2009	13493	811	811	0	0	12682
06/12/2009	12682	0	811	1034	1034	13716
13/12/2009	13716	689	1500	0	1034	13027
20/12/2009	13027	2200	3700	0	1034	10827
27/12/2009	10827	4888	8588	1783	2817	7722
03/01/2010	7722	5777	14365	445	3262	2390
10/01/2010	2390	3422	17787	2962	6224	1930
17/01/2010	1930	414	18201	3274	9498	4790
24/01/2010	4790	248	18449	0	9498	4542
31/01/2010	4542	1574	20023	0	9498	2968
07/02/2010	2968	0	20023	0	9498	2968
14/02/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
21/02/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
28/02/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
07/03/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
14/03/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
21/03/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
28/03/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
04/04/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968
11/04/2010	0	0	20023	0	9498	2968