

Agenda Item No. 4(b)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

29 September 2015

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**PETITION – DRONFIELD, HALLOWES ESTATE – REQUEST TO REVIEW
GRITTING SYSTEM**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To inform the Cabinet Member, following the receipt of a petition containing 392 signatures, requesting a review of gritting on Hallows Estate, Dronfield.

(2) **Information and Analysis** A petition was received by the Cabinet Member on 10 February 2015 (Minute No. 11/15 refers). The petition was headed:

“Residents of the Hallows Estate, Dronfield, are calling on Derbyshire County Council to review the gritting system in place. We ask that Hallows Rise be upgraded to a Primary Status gritting zone given that it is a main road of difficult access up and down as it is a long steep hill, it is used as a bus route and serves a large residential area. We believe the late gritting of Hallows Rise is putting the safety of pedestrians and motorists at risk and leaves residents with little or no access to main services.”

The petition was reported to the Cabinet Member – Highways, Transport and Infrastructure on 10 February 2015 (Minute No. 11/15 refers).

Officer Comment

Hallows Estate, Dronfield (Hallows Rise, Highgate Drive, Shakespeare Crescent and Hallows Drive) is currently on the secondary gritting network (SG53), salted out of the Stonegravel Depot in Chesterfield. Following the amendment of the Winter Service Plan in 2010, the gritting network was split into primary routes and secondary routes. Criteria were laid down in the plan to determine which roads were to be included as a primary route or secondary route. At the time, Hallows Estate was included as a secondary route.

Following an amendment to the bus service in October 2011, the frequency of the service was increased to serve the estate. Due to this amendment to the bus service, it has moved Hallows Estate from a secondary precautionary

route to a primary precautionary route, in line with the Winter Service Plan criteria. Also, Hallows Rise (that leads in to the estate off Cemetery Road) is extremely steep (gradient of 13%) and can be difficult to negotiate in Winter conditions.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The amendment from moving Hallows Estate, Dronfield, from a secondary route to a primary route for precautionary gritting can be met from within the existing Winter Maintenance budget.

(4) **Legal Considerations** Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 imposes a duty on highway authorities to maintain highway maintainable at public expense. In particular, Section 41(1A), as inserted by Section 111 of the Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003, imposes a duty on highway authorities to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that safe passage along a highway is not endangered by ice or snow.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(5) **Key Decision** No.

(6) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Richard Grindrod, extension 38637.)

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member approves:

8.1 The moving of Hallows Estate (Hallows Rise, Highgate Drive, Shakespeare Crescent and the Hallows Drive), Dronfield from the secondary precautionary gritting network to the primary precautionary gritting network.

8.2 That the Local Member and lead petitioner be informed accordingly.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment