

Keeping Nottingham Moving This Winter

10 Most Frequently Asked Questions

1) Which roads are gritted?

We grit the roads carrying the most traffic and the highest risk of accidents; 445kms of Nottingham's 804km of roads are covered on a typical grit run. You can view a list of roads and a map showing where we grit online at www.transportnottingham.com/driving/winter-travel/

2) Why aren't all roads gritted?

There are approximately 804km of roads in the city. It would be impossible to treat them all in one night, which is why we tackle the most important ones first. We have to treat the busiest roads first and once they are clear, keep them clear! These roads tend to be the ones that take most of the overall traffic and the bulk of a typical trip from home to a place of work or the hospital.

3) How is it decided when to grit?

We receive frequent forecasts from our forecast provider throughout the day to enable us to monitor the weather conditions. If frost, ice or snow is forecasted, then we will start our grit routes a few hours before they are due to arrive. Rain will halt any gritting work as this will wash the treatment work away.

4) When can we expect roads to be ready?

The target treatment time for roads to be treated is four hours. All primary routes will normally be treated before the start of the working day. Snow clearing will be carried out across the network where appropriate and practicable.

5) Who do I speak to if a road needs gritting?

If you know of a street or road that you find dangerous let us know and we will try and help. We are unable to grit every road, but if resources and sufficient salt levels are available we will add a road to the request list. If you wish to report an issue please call 0115 915 2000 or via the **Report a Problem website**.



6) How do I find out when and where you are going to treat the roads?

We proactively inform citizens on our activity every day through our social media channels and Stay Connected. This is a list of the channels you can use to keep to up-to-date.



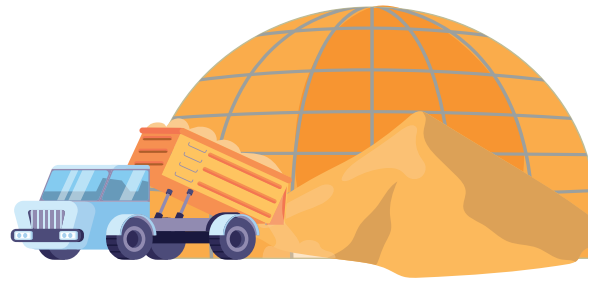
Sign up for **Stay Connected** at
nottinghamcity.gov.uk/stayconnected



Phone – **0115 915 2000 (24 hours)**



transportnottingham.com/driving/winter-travel



7) Where are the grit bins and who can use them?

These are put on roads which are not covered by the gritting routes, and on the footways in places where there are steep hills, cross falls or are exceptionally exposed and ice forms more frequently. Currently there are in the region of 250 bins, you can find where they are located at transportnottingham.com/driving/winter-travel. These grit bins are for you to use on the public footpaths and roads, and will be kept well stocked. If bins are damaged or low in salt please call 0115 915 2000 or via the **Report a Problem website**.

8) How does grit work?

Grit is actually salt. When the salt is spread across the road it lowers the freezing point of the road surface. This prevents ice forming. Just spreading salt on its own has a small impact, but when cars drive over the salt this helps to turn the salt into a brine solution - this is the most effective way of melting and preventing ice. When we know that snow is coming, we aim to spread a good layer of salt to prevent the road from freezing and snow settling. Salt itself does not prevent snow from settling, but the critical factor is the road surface temperature. As each snowflake lands, it lowers the surface temperature and it also dilutes the salt solution. This is why heavy snow will settle and then accumulate despite gritting. Traffic is needed to help work the grit into a brine solution. All of our gritting lorries can be fitted with a snow plough at the front to clear settled snow. The ploughs cannot go right down to the surface of the road because this would damage it, so we still need to grit behind us to help the roads to clear.

9) I own a business, what should I do?

All employers and businesses need to make sure that frequently used access paths which get covered with frost or snow are cleared, gritted or salted to help prevent people slipping. However, there is no need to clear an entire area of snow if the public or employees are unlikely to walk on it.

10) Should I clear a path outside my home?

If you can, then please do. It's easier to move fresh, loose snow rather than hard snow that has packed together from people walking on it. So, if possible, start removing the snow and ice in the morning. If you remove the top layer of snow in the morning, any sunshine during the day will help melt any ice beneath. You can then cover the path with salt before nightfall to stop it refreezing overnight. Pay extra attention to clearing snow and ice from steps and steep pathways - you might need to use more salt on these areas.

Communications during adverse weather

In case of snow and ice, there may be some disruption to our services due to access problems for our vehicles.

- Bin collection
- Schools
- Public transport
- Adult social care

For the latest updates on these services check the Council's adverse weather page www.transportnottingham.com/driving/winter-travel/. Please note this page is only live at times of adverse weather when normal services are disrupted.



SCAN ME FOR
GRITTING ROUTES
AND GRIT BIN
LOCATIONS