

Winter Maintenance: Preparing for Winter Additional Income Midlothian Style Jonathan Gordon Midlothian Council



Midlothian Council

- Located to the south of Edinburgh and adjacent to East Lothian Council and Scottish Borders Council.
- Responsible for 658Km of carriageway.
- Mixture of both Urban and Rural routes.



Background

- Midlothian council's director of social work who has a joint role within NHS Lothian.
- Through collaborative working discussions NHS Lothian identified that winter maintenance was an area which could be explored.
- This led to a pilot being suggested where we took over the gritting responsibilities for two NHS facilities.

Pilot Scheme

- Incorporated the two NHS locations into existing gritting routes.
- Location of Properties.
- Impact on our service.

Resources

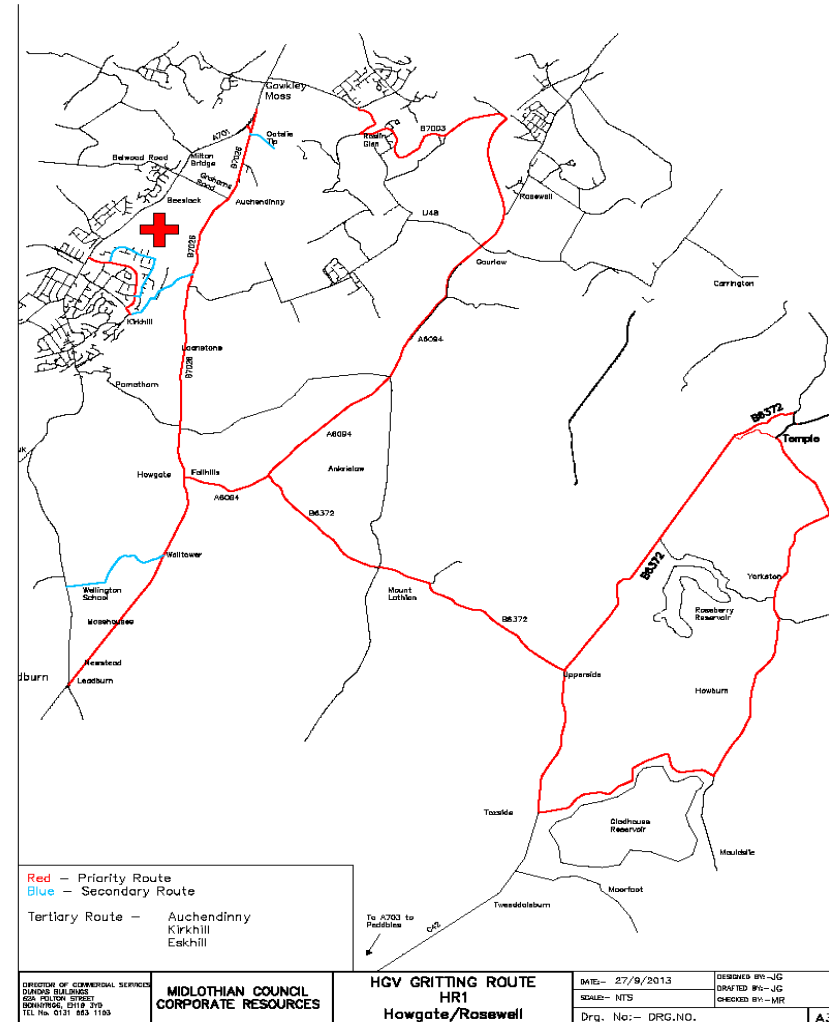
Midlothian council has a various vehicles it uses to carry out winter maintenance –

- 6 26ton lorries
- 2 Multi body gully vehicles
- 2 mini gritters mounted on pick-ups
- 10 Mini tractors

We incorporated the treating of the 2 NHS Facilities into existing routes which allowed us to treat them with very little extra cost to ourselves,

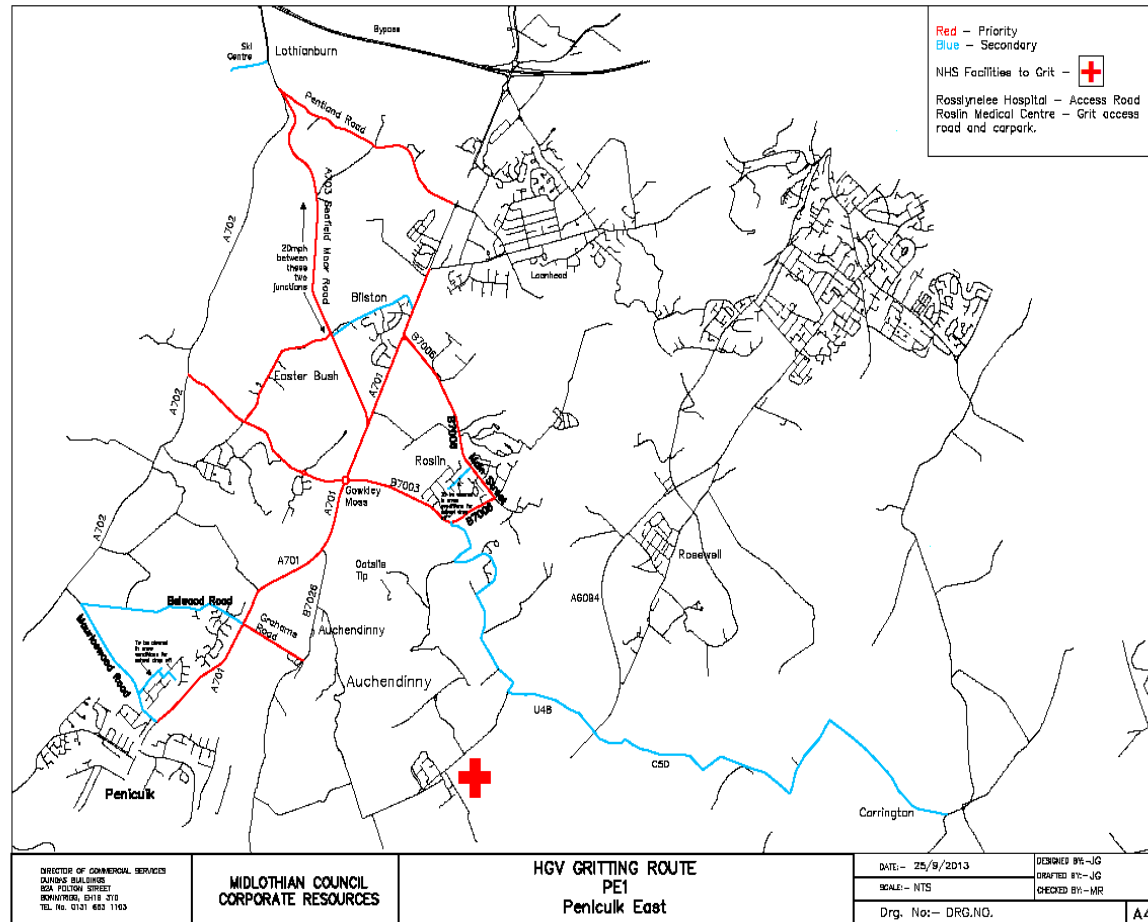
NHS Locations

- Priority routes are red
- Secondary routes are blue
- NHS location next to gritting route



NHS Locations

- Priority routes are red
- Secondary routes are blue
- NHS location away from the main gritting route.



NHS & MLC Gritting Policies

In the event of a weather forecast of +2 or below NHS Lothian will treat –

- Access roads to facilities
- Facility car parks
- Footpaths leading from car parks to entrance of facility

In the event of a weather forecast of 0°C where there is a risk of ice/frost Midlothian Council will treat –

- Main routes into town centres
- Access to schools
- Secondary routes in town centres
- Town centre footpaths
- Midlothian council facility car parks

Issues

To revolve any decisions making issues a few points were highlighted.

- Our decision making process.
- Interpreting the weather forecast

Training need

Midlothian Council provided a half day course to NHS staff explaining our decision making process, forecast reading and gritting operation.

Pilot Outcome

- Winter 2012/2013 35 days extended snowfall.
- Winter 2011/2012 had around 5 days of snowfall
- Saving was still delivered to NHS Lothian.

The Pilot was deemed a success and awarded the contract to Midlothian Council for year 2013/2014 based on our service level agreement.

Winter 2013/2014

- Midlothian Council responsible for treating all NHS Lothian facilities within the Midlothian boundary.
- Additional resources were allocated to this task.

2013/2014 Outcome

- Further training sessions for NHS staff
- Record sheets for NHS purposes
- Last year was again seen a success by both parties with a significant saving being seen by NHS Lothian and Midlothian Council making a profit.

Summary

This collaborative working Pilot and subsequent winter maintenance contract have been successful for everyone involved allowing the NHS to make a significant saving while Midlothian council can make a profit with very little cost or disruption to its usual service.