## City of York Council Snow Warden Scheme

Coping with snow and ice in York's communities



## **Environment and Community team**





### We work with ...

- Individual volunteers -
- Community organisations
- York Open Spaces Volunteers
- GoodGym
- York Cares (employee volunteering)
- Local businesses

- 250 Snow wardens
- 314 Litterpickers
- 105 Gardeners
- 89 Park Lockers/Unlockers
- Volunteer roles for Leaf Blowers and Leaf Clearers have been set up
- In addition there are Friends Groups involved with 26 CYC sites

## York Winter 2010 / 2011

Local communities struggle to cope with heavy snow and a prolonged period of sub-zero temperatures and ice.



# 2011 - Time for action

City of York Council agree to launch a Snow Warden scheme

Look to Sheffield City Council as an example

Publicity

Trainings sessions organised



As you know, during recent bad weather in York, many residential streets and pavements became treacherous for a number of days as the council is unable to grit every road and pavement in the city.

As a way of easing this problem in future months and years, City of York Council would like to invite local residents to become **Volunteer snow wardens**. We will provide the volunteers with training, high visibility gear, snow clearing kit and grit so that they are able to make a real difference in their neighbourhoods by clearing pavements and roads.

As a starting point City of York Council Neighbourhood Management Unit is gathering names to build up a database of volunteers.

We would be very interested to hear from you if you feel able to give up some of your time to clear snow when the next bad weather hits us. If you would like to volunteer for this new project, please contact Michal Czekajlo on (01904) **551841** or e-mail: michal.czekajlo@york.gov.uk.



## Getting started

Target of 50 volunteers

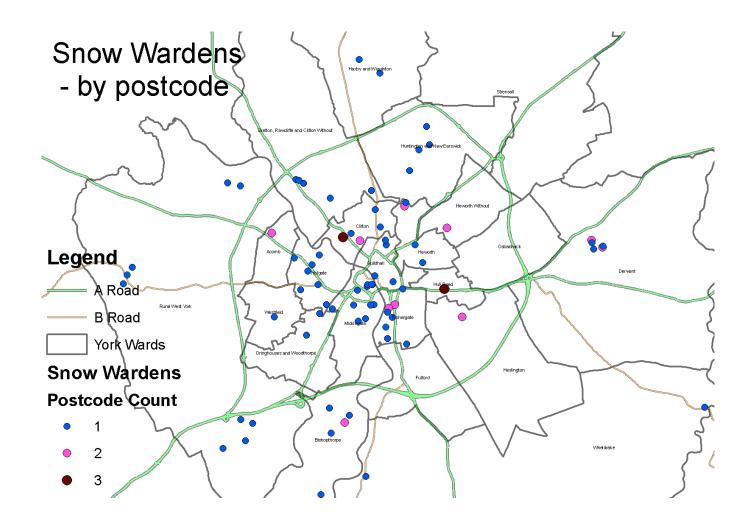
Training sessions delivered

Kit supplied

Public liability insurance

Grit delivered

81 volunteers registered



## Up and running

Text messaging

Email list

Facebook group

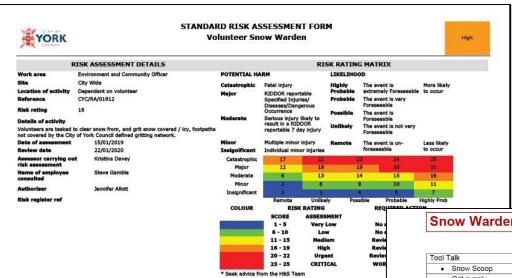
Local groups

Annual training sessions



## Keeping up to date

Risk Assessment updated Electronic system Health implications





I am volunteering on behalf of City of York Council to help care for the open spaces in the City.

#### **Environment and** Community

Eco Depot, James Street. Hazel Court York YO10

www.york.gov.uk

For more information please contact the Environment and Community Team on 01904 551551 or environmentandcommunity@york.gov.uk

#### **Snow Warden Induction**

Tool Talk	Signature	Date
Snow Scoop		
Grit supply		
Looking after your health		
PPE		
Checking in policy		
What to look for when assessing work area.		
Dealing with sharps and dog fouling		
Manual Handling		
Keeping safe		
Sign for equipment given out		
Contact details for Environment and Community Officer		

Risk Assessment provided.
Volunteer Name:
Address:
Phone number:
Email:
Environment and Community Officer:

I have received the training outlined above and read and understood the



# Ongoing management

Order in equipment

Annual letter / email

**Update induction** 

**GDPR** 

Grit / Equipment

Daily / targetted email weather alerts

Daily Facebook weather alerts / sharing information

Publicity – posters / social media

Train up further volunteers

## \* Volunteer Snow Wardens

York has over 200 Snow Wardens across the city.
Volunteers receive training, equipment and insurance cover. They pick where and when to keep pavements free of ice and snow and make a real difference to their neighbourhoods.

City of York Council issues volunteers with a high visibility vest, warm hat, gloves, a snow shovel and a supply of grit which is topped up when required.



If you would like to find out more, or if you would like to become a Volunteer Snow Warden, contact the Environment and Community team on **01904 553676** or **environmentandcommunity@york.gov.uk** 



# Additional volunteer role

2019 launch of Volunteer Leaf Clearer role

Keeping paths and pavements leaf / slip free

Keeping gullies clear to reduce localised flooding

Reducing build up of leaf mould next to kerbsides to reduce weeds

Further opportunity to involve community through leaf composting

## Volunteer Leaf Clearers

City of York Council are introducing a Volunteer Leaf Clearer role on council owned, or maintained, land. Volunteers will receive training, equipment and insurance cover. The purpose is to maintain safe walkways and to help prevent localised flooding by keeping gullies free of leaves. Volunteers will pick where, and when, is convenient for them to keep pavements and drains free of leaves and make a real difference to their neighbourhoods.

City of York Council will issue volunteers with a highvisibility vest, broom, shovel and leaf scoops and, where necessary, will assist with the disposal of green waste.



If you would like to find out more, or if you would like to become a Volunteer Leaf Clearer, contact the Environment and Community team on 01904 553676 or environmentandcommunity@york.gov.uk



## Thank you and any questions?

