



Winter is here so Be Prepared!

On the 24th October, the SLC councillors attended what is now an annual member's briefing on the council's roads preparation for the winter ahead. After what was a mild and wet winter last year (earlier this year): as we enter winter 2017/18 we have already seen temperatures plummet and even some snow in the Avondale over recent days. My message to constituents this year, is no different than in previous years: BE PREPARED!

I'd like to remind everyone that this winter will be no different from the last five years:

- 52% of our roads in SLC will be gritted on a precautionary basis against the Scottish average of 48%;
- Town Centre footways are being gritted and:
- During severe and prolonged snow, additional gritting is done on secondary roads and footpaths if possible.

As with the last five years: only priority residential roads are being gritted so residents should be reminded to not just take care but use the grit from the grit bins provided. We live in a rural ward and therefore extra care should be taken while driving on our rural roads and remember that many smaller rural roads are not being treated so even more care is required.

I've witnessed the grit lorries out and about at all hours of the day-and-night over recent weeks and even see the small grit tractor doing its work around Strathaven during the very early hours so I confident SLC is doing what they can to keep Avondale's road open and as safe as they can. It is however still the responsibly of every driver to drive responsibly and that means to the road conditions. Arriving a wee-bit late is better than not arriving at all!

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