



Bentham Town Council Winter Gritting Policy

Adopted: March 2026 Minuted: 253.3 Review date: March 2029

This policy sets out the Town Council's approach to winter gritting of key pedestrian routes during periods of freezing weather, with the aim of reducing the risk of slips and falls and maintaining safe access to essential services and community facilities.

Scope of Gritting

The Council will prioritise gritting of the main pedestrian routes (pavements) within the town. The designated routes are:

From Main Street down Station Road to the junction of Wenning Avenue

From Main Street underneath Abbeyfield to the Medical Centre

North of the pavement from Bowland View to Goodenber Road

South of the pavement from Pye Busk to Victoria Institute.

Pavement up to the junction of Bowland View

In addition, gritting will also take place in **Low Bentham**, specifically:

- Around the **Victoria Institute**.

These routes have been identified due to their high pedestrian use and importance in providing access to essential services, schools and community facilities.

Conditions for Gritting

Gritting will be undertaken when:

- The temperature is forecast or observed to drop below freezing (0°C), **following a period of rain**,
- And there is a significant risk of ice forming on pavements within the designated routes.

The decision to grit will be based on reasonable judgement, using available weather forecasts and local observations.

Authorisation Procedure

1. The **Town Clerk** or a **Town Councillor** may initiate consideration for gritting;
2. Before action is taken, agreement must be obtained from **two Councillors**;
3. Once agreement is confirmed, the Clerk or the Chair/Vice Chair:
 - Contact the **Parish Caretaker**.
 - Instruct that gritting be carried out on the designated routes.

Grit Supply and Procurement

- The Parish Caretaker will obtain the required quantity of grit;
- Grit will be booked to the Council account at **Myers**;
- The amount collected will be proportionate to the expected conditions and extent of gritting required.

Limitations

The Council's gritting operations are limited to the routes specified in this policy and are subject to:

- Availability of personnel and materials,
- Budgetary constraints,
- Weather conditions and access.

The Council cannot guarantee that all surfaces will remain ice-free at all times.

Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically by the Town Council to ensure it remains appropriate, effective, and reflective of local needs.

