



**SOUTHAMPTON**  
CITY COUNCIL

# Covid Local Testing Sites – Winter Maintenance Plan

Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response

Version 1.0 December 2020

## Foreword

This plan has been produced in response to Covid 19. Southampton City Council have been working with Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) to make getting tested for COVID-19 in Southampton easier. This has seen four Local Testing Sites (LTS) being built within the City where Southampton residents are able to get tested for Covid 19. This plan has been produced following direction from Department Health and Social Care (DHSC) to have a winter plan in place for the LTS and outlines the temporary arrangements in response to Covid 19.

## Amendments

Version	Date	Amendment	By
0.1	Nov 2020	First Draft	JP
0.2	Nov 2020	Final Draft for Consultation	JP
0.3	Dec 2020	Final Draft following Initial Consultation	JP
1.0	Dec 2020	Plan Approved	IC

## Plan Ownership

Prepared for: Southampton City Council  
Plan Author: Emergency Preparedness Resilience & Response Officer  
Plan Owner: Head of Emergency Planning & Business Resilience  
Department Responsible: Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response  
Implementation Date: December 2020

## Protective Marking

This Plan has been given the protective marking of **OFFICIAL**

This Plan will be made available to staff who require access to it as part of their role and become fully responsible for document security and dissemination as per its classification.

## Contents

Foreword .....	2
Amendments .....	2
Plan Ownership .....	2
Protective Marking .....	2
1.0 Introduction .....	4
1.1 Planning for snow/ice surrounding test sites .....	4
1.2 Introduction of new structures to sustain winter weather .....	4
1.3 Aim and Objectives .....	5
2.0 Existing arrangements.....	5
3.0 SCC Winter Plan for Local Testing Sites .....	7
3.1 Temporary Extension of Priority 1 Gritting Routes .....	7
3.2 Temporary Pathway Gritting Routes .....	10
3.3 Severe Weather (Snow) Response.....	12
4.0 Activation and Response.....	13
4.1 Triggers and Notification .....	13
4.2 Activation .....	14
5.0 Records.....	14
Appendix A - Maps .....	14

## 1.0 Introduction

Southampton City Council (SCC) has worked with the Department for Health & Social Care (DHSC) to make getting tested for Covid-19 easier in Southampton. Four Local Testing Sites (LTS) have been built in Southampton and are now operational 7 days a week 08:00 - 20:00hrs. These sites are:

- University of Southampton Avenue Campus Car Park (North);
- Woodley Road Car Park (East);
- Guild Hall (Centre);
- Marlborough Road South Car Park (West).

In October 2020 Southampton City Council was made aware of DHSCs plans for “Winterisation” for the LTS network. DHSC have announced different elements to this plan.

### 1.1 Planning for snow/ice surrounding test sites

This is an integral part of winter planning for the existing network, and there are some details below of the relevant responsibilities/accountabilities of each party involved in the delivery of the Local Test Site:

- Service Management Partners are responsible for appropriate gritting and clearing of snow and ice from the necessary access routes and paths in the demise of their sites;
- Local Authorities will grit and clear snow and ice from pavements and roads immediately surrounding testing sites in their areas;
- Where site access routes are owned and managed by Local Authorities, including highways and footpaths, the Local Authorities or Highways Agency are responsible for maintaining the routes;
- Where sites are situated within private land, the land-owner is responsible for maintaining access routes, up to and between the site boundary and local authority owned/managed land.

DHSC has advised that to ensure winter preparedness the following actions should be taken by Local Authorities:

- Local authorities to include testing site access routes in winter maintenance plans e.g. gritting routes.

### 1.2 Introduction of new structures to sustain winter weather

DHSC has worked to procure new modular solutions to form part of the Local Test Site network as we approach winter. All sites within Southampton have received essential work required to prepare them for winter months.

### 1.3 Aim and Objectives

**Aim:** to outline Southampton City Council's temporary winter arrangements for the LTS

**Objectives:**

- Outline temporary Priority1 (P1) gritting routes to include LTS
- Outline additional temporary gritting areas in immediate areas of LTS

## 2.0 Existing arrangements

Following advice from DHSC that Local authorities are to include testing site access routes in winter maintenance plans (e.g. gritting routes), Southampton City Council has reviewed its existing arrangements and agreed the temporary gritting of access roads and pavements in the surrounding roads of testing sites in the Southampton area.

Existing P1 routes have been reviewed and show all sites are located off a P1 route and pavements are not gritted. Existing arrangements and areas of consideration are outlined on the following maps

### University of Southampton Avenue Campus Car Park (North) – Existing Arrangements

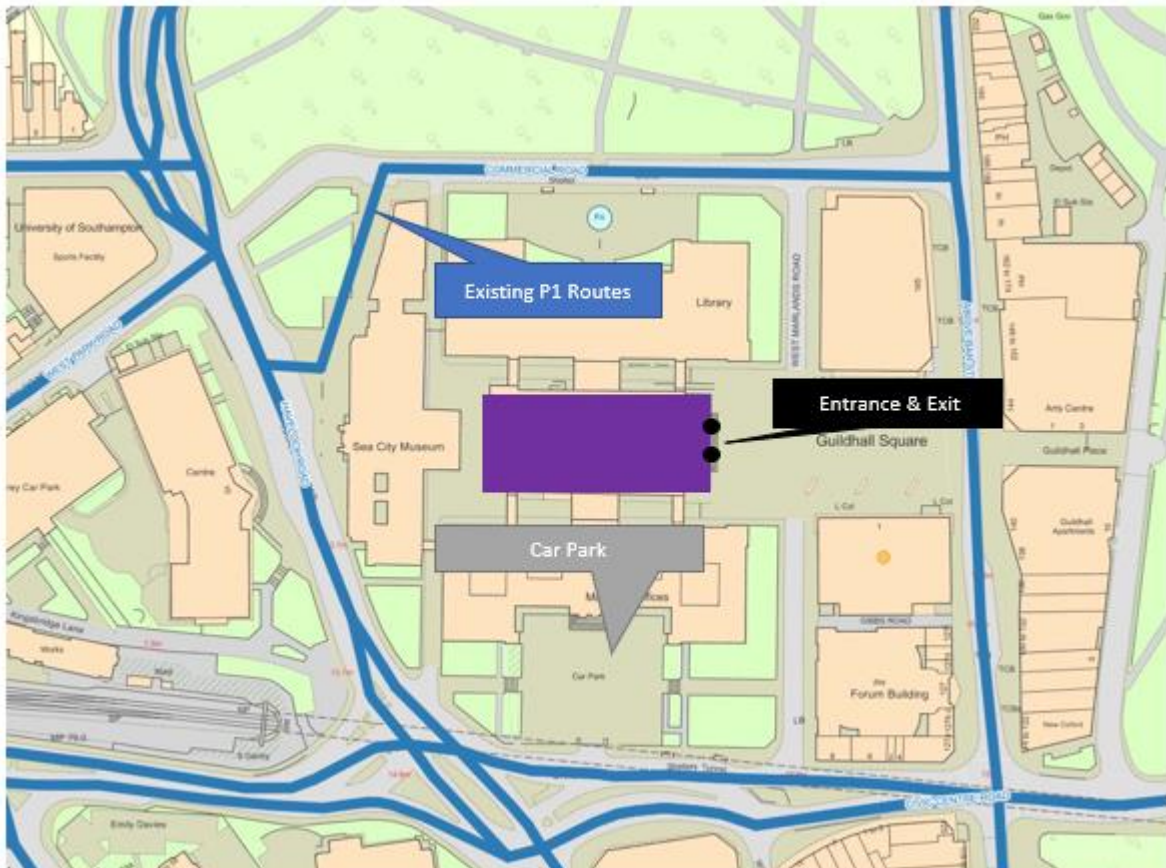




### Woodley Road Car Park (East) – Existing Arrangements



### Guild Hall (Centre) – Existing Arrangements





## Marlborough Road South Car Park (West) – Existing Arrangements



### 3.0 SCC Winter Plan for Local Testing Sites

The Advice from DHSC states “Local Authorities will grit and clear snow and ice from pavements and roads immediately surrounding testing sites in their areas” and “Where site access routes are owned and managed by Local Authorities, including highways and footpaths, the Local Authorities or Highways Agency are responsible for maintaining the routes”.

DHSC has provided limited clarification on the definition of pavements and roads immediately surrounding the testing sites. As a result Southampton City Council has taken a proportionate approach to winter preparedness, this includes:

- Temporary extension of priority 1 gritting routes (outlined in section 3.1);
- Temporary gritting of pavements on access roads to the testing sites (see section 3.2); Where sites have multiple public car parks, x1 car park to be identified as part of winter plan and include as part of temporary gritting of pavements.

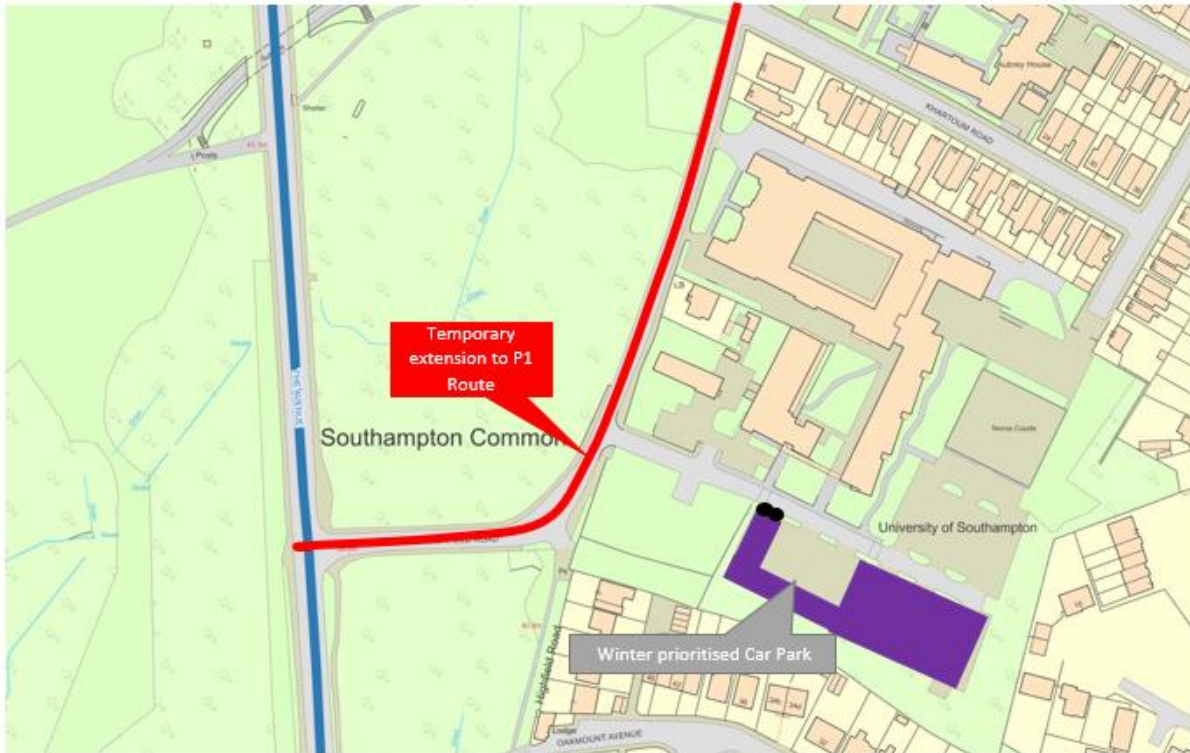
#### 3.1 Temporary Extension of Priority 1 Gritting Routes

Following this advice Southampton City Council has reviewed the existing Winter arrangements (See Section 2.0) and has extended P1 routes to include the access roads to the LTS for the duration of its operation during winter months.

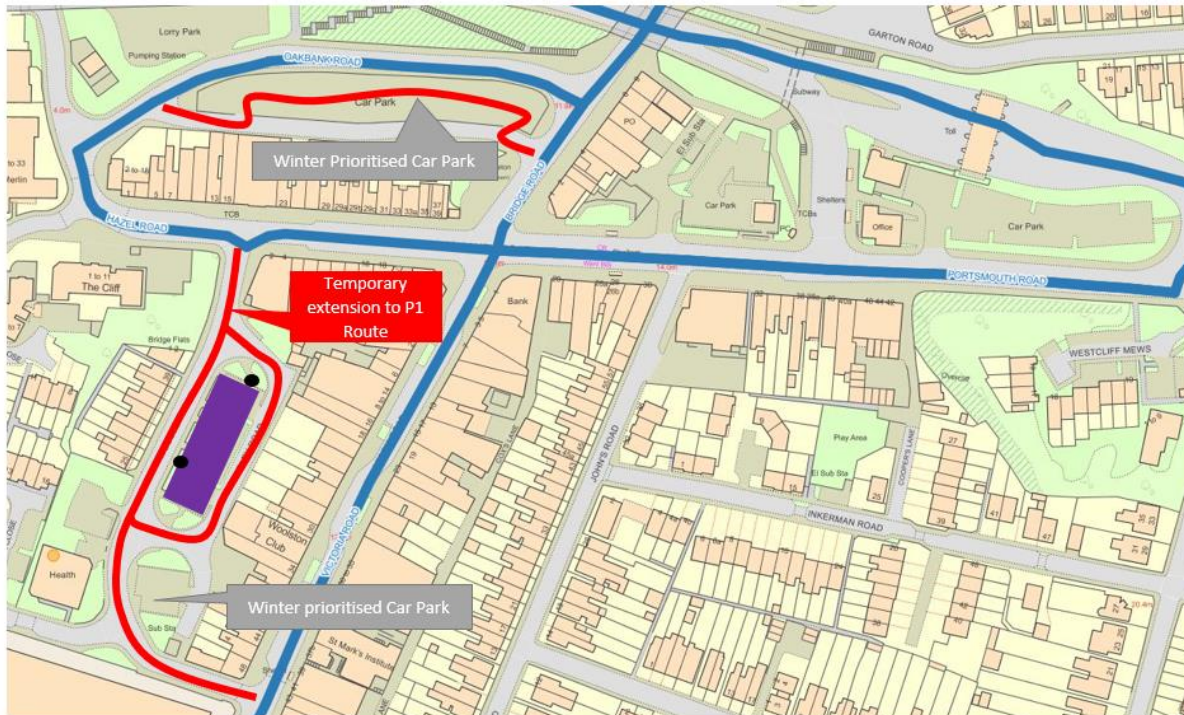
These routes will be included in the normal P1 routes and activated in accordance with existing winter arrangements.



### University of Southampton Avenue Campus Car Park (North) - Temporary P1 Routes

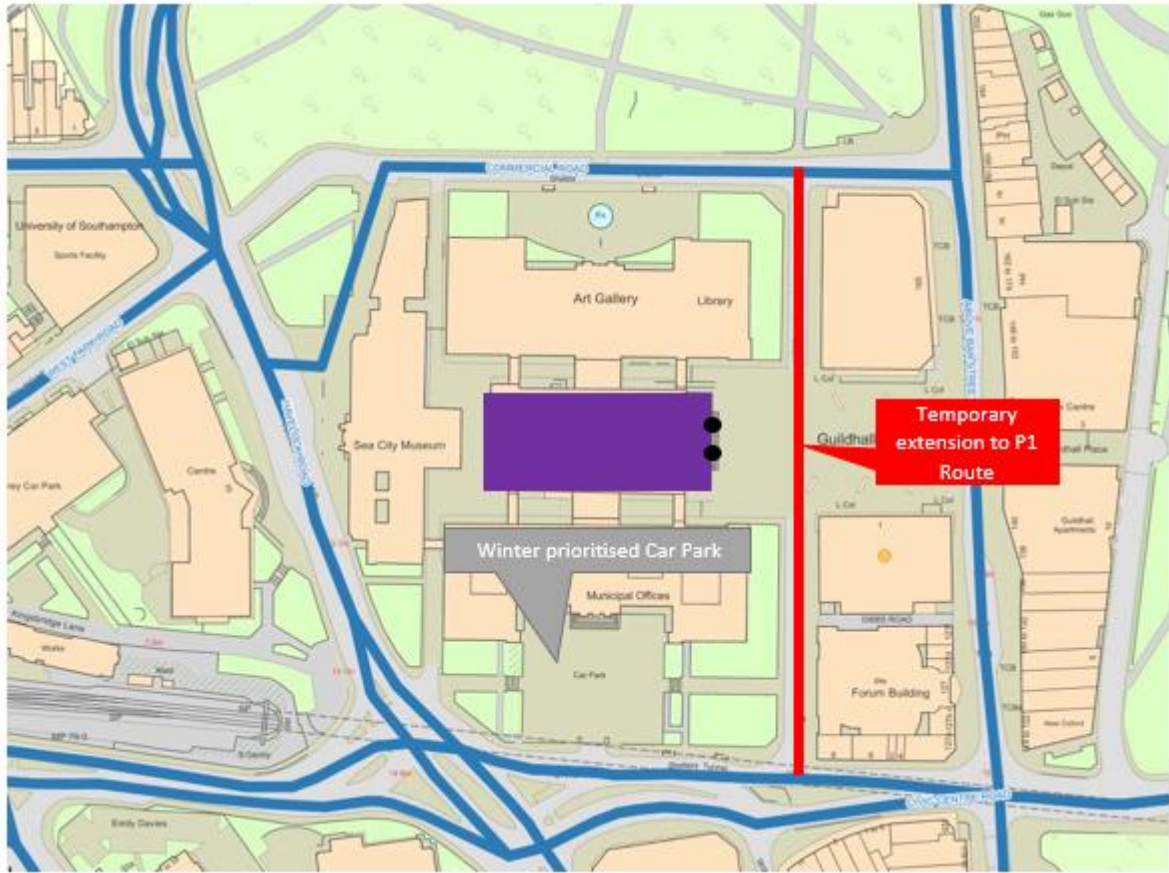


### Woodley Road Car Park (East) - Temporary P1 Routes





### Guild Hall (Centre) – Temporary P1 Routes



### Marlborough Road South Car Park - Temporary P1 Routes



### 3.2 Temporary Pathway Gritting Routes

Southampton City Council does not normally grit pavements. However, following advice from DHSC, the City Services Team has been identified to be responsible for gritting pavements and car parks in areas outlined in this plan for the duration of the LTS operation during the winter months.

In sites where multiple car parks are available, the car park closest to the testing site has been identified as the car park that should be prioritised for winter maintenance.

These areas will be gritted by City Services in line with Priority 1 routes and existing winter arrangements (see Section 2.0).

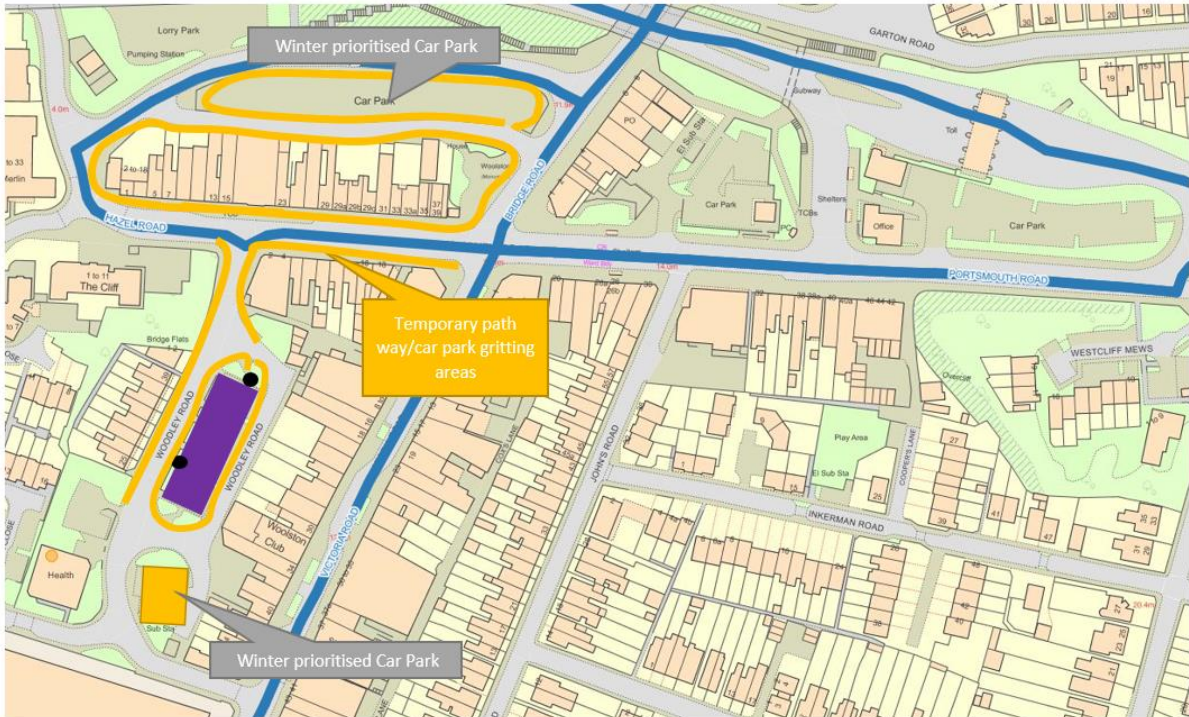
#### University of Southampton Avenue Campus Car Park – Temporary Pavement and Car Park gritting areas

As the University of Southampton Avenue Campus Car park is located on private land, it is the University's responsibility for maintaining access routes, up to and between the site boundary and Local Authority owned/managed land (as shown in the image below).

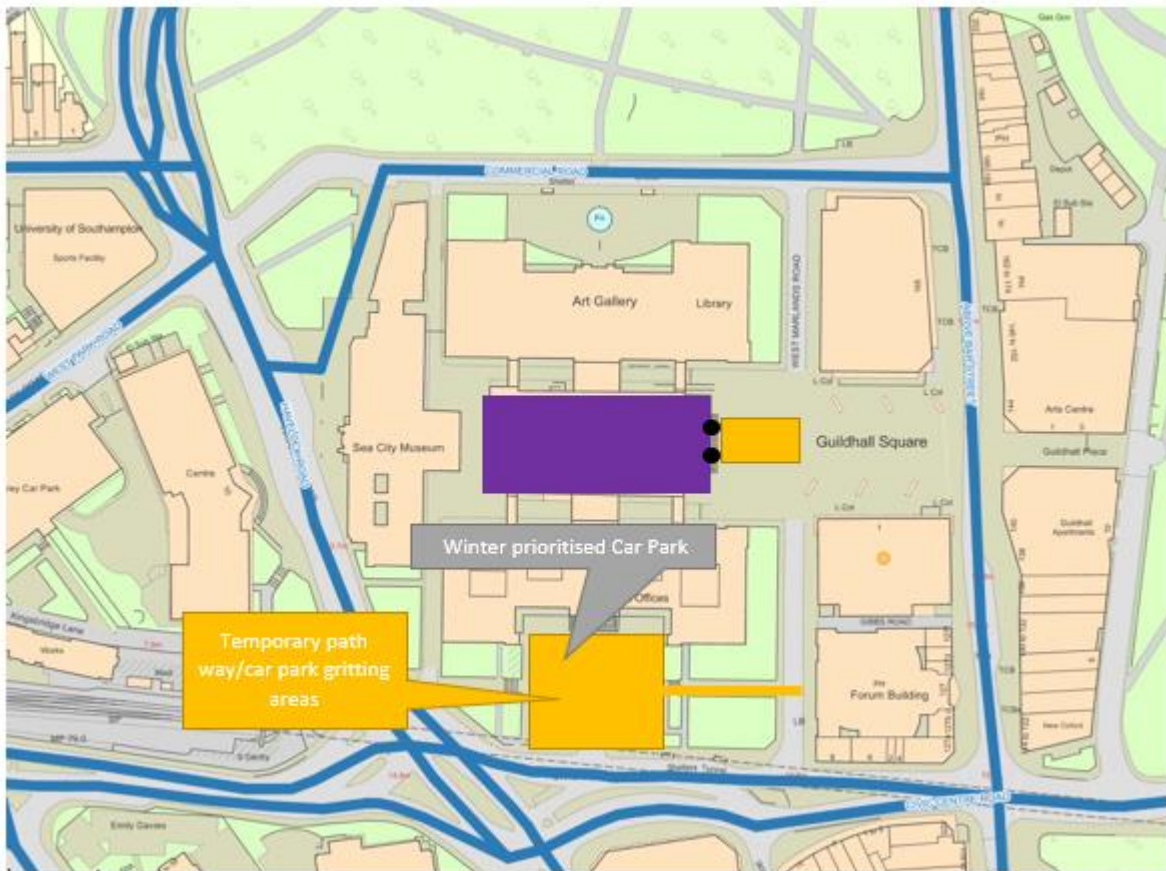




### Woodley Road Car Park (East) – Temporary Pavement and Car Park gritting areas



### Guild Hall (Centre) - Temporary Pavement and Car Park gritting areas





## Marlborough Road South Car Park (West) – Temporary Pavement and Car Park Gritting Areas



### 3.3 Severe Weather (Snow) Response

The risk of cold and snow in HIOW has been rated on the Community Risk Register (CRR) as a Very High risk.

On 1st March 2018 Storm Emma (Beast from the East) saw significant snowfall and cold weather in the west of Hampshire which had a direct impact on Southampton. This incident severe weather saw up to 10,000 vehicles trapped on the West Bound M27 from Junction 2 and resulted in significant disruption to public transport (bus and rail).

There is currently no clear direction from DHSC around operation of LTS during periods of snow.

In the event of snow in Southampton, SCC's City Services Team will be redirected to ensure essential services (Hospitals and GPs) access is maintained and as a result the areas outlined in this plan may not be gritted.

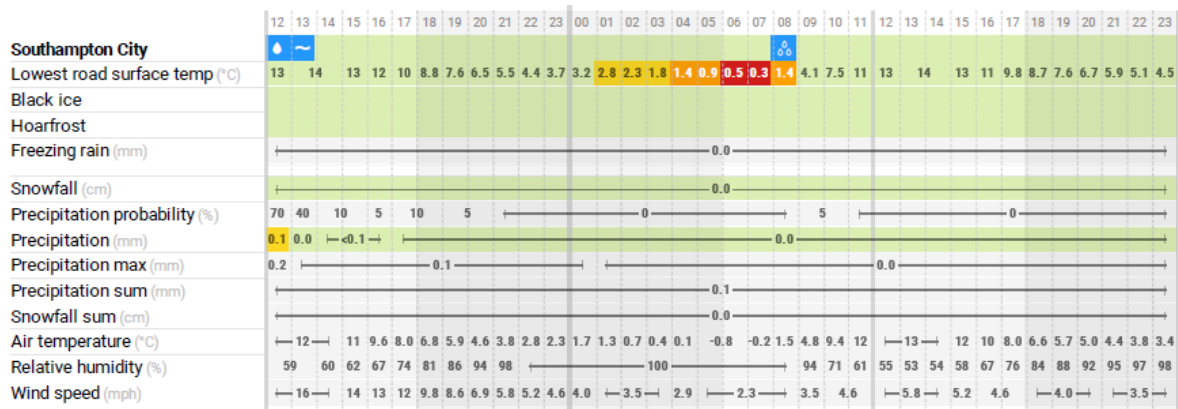
## 4.0 Activation and Response

The activation of this plan will be in line with existing Southampton City Council winter arrangements

### 4.1 Triggers and Notification

Balfour Beatty (Southampton City Council’s Highways Contractor) receive a road temperature forecast x 3 times a day. This forecast is monitored by highways experts who decide on the appropriate action based on the predicted temperature outlined on the forecast.

The forecast takes into consideration the temperature, predicted rain fall and rates each hour as Red, Amber and Green.



Based on this information an email is sent to appropriate teams within the Council to advise them on the decision to activate or not activate the P1 routes. Triggers include projected air temperature, road surface temperature, precipitation type and rates, humidity levels and residual salt levels.

#### Example Decision for No Action:

Please find attached decision for 25.11.20.

**No Action** – Min RST = +2.4 @ 07.00

#### Example Decision for P1 Routes

Please find attached decision for 01.12.20.

**Action** – Min RST = -0.3 @ 07.00

P1 routes to be treated at 19.00

## **4.2 Activation**

P1 Routes will be activated under normal winter arrangements. City Services will also be linking into these arrangements and activate gritting teams using the information Balfour Beatty issues on the decision for P1 routes as shown in Section 4.1.

City Services will grit areas the evening before any expected cold weather in accordance with any email notifications.

## **5.0 Records**

Priority 1 routes are recorded each time Balfour Beatty activate under normal winter arrangements.

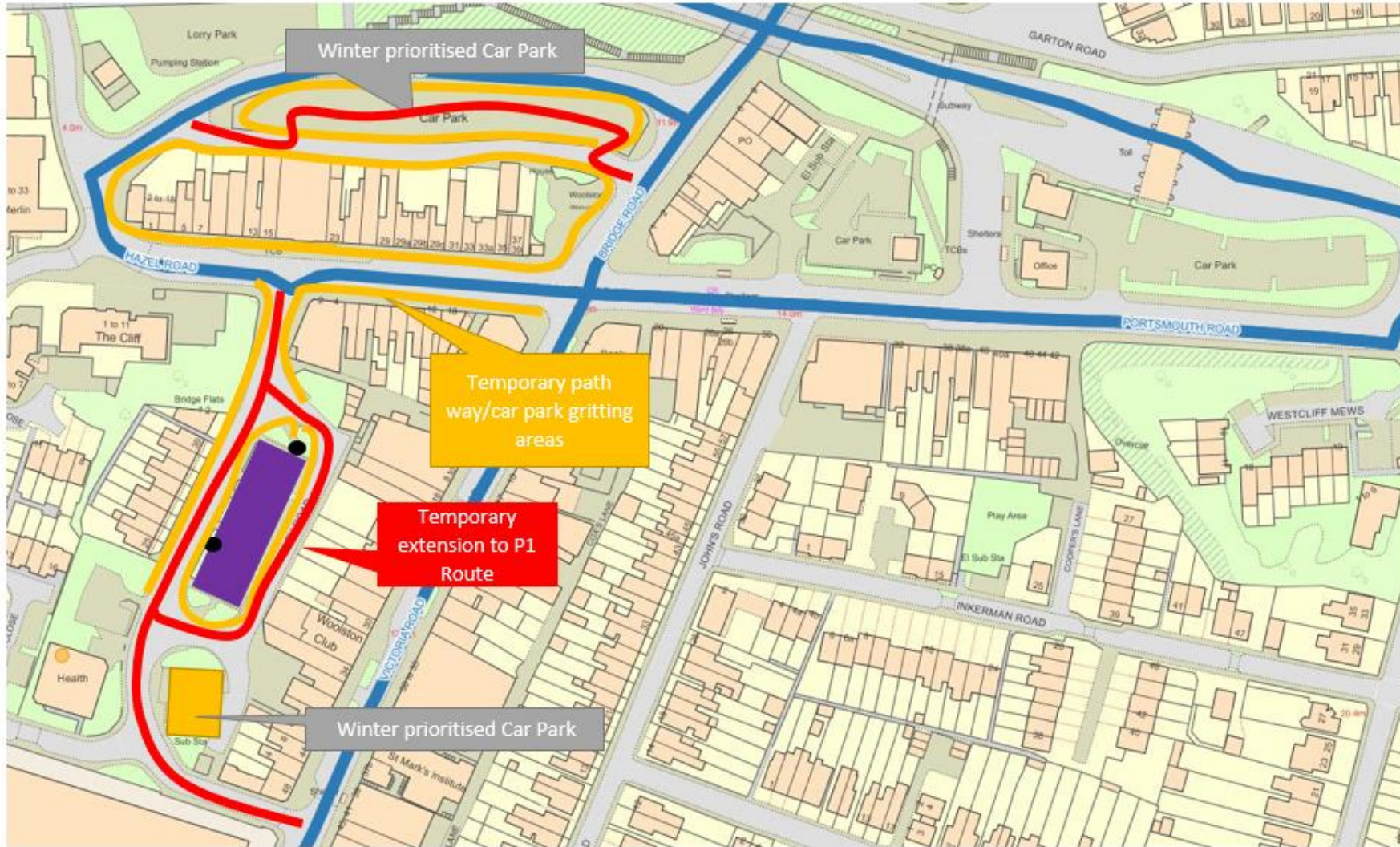
City Services will record the number of activations along with the time taken to grit each pavement area.





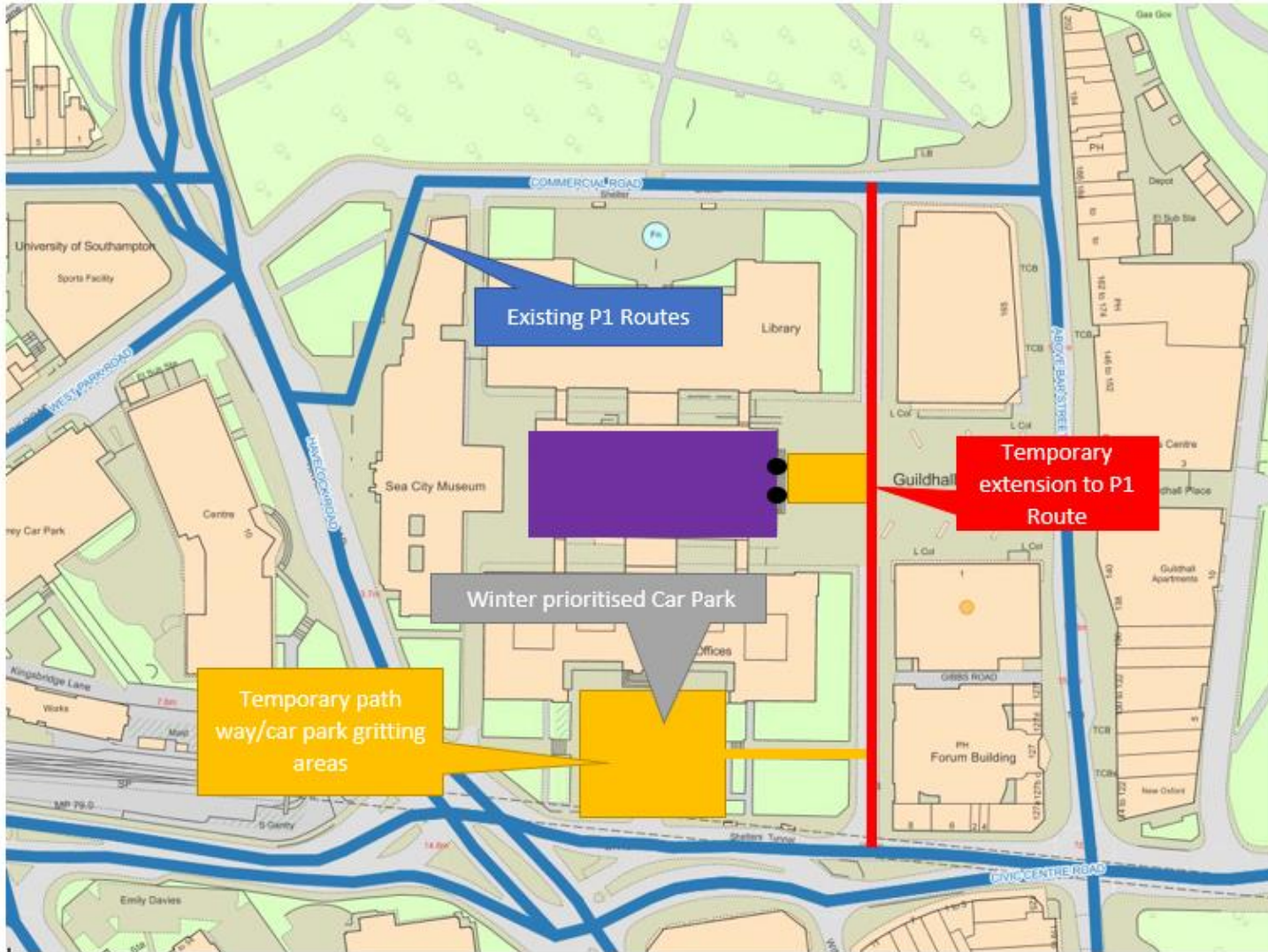


### Woodley Road Car Park





### Guild Hall





### Marlborough Road

