

Area Board Project

1. What is the project?

Salt Tailgate Spreader

An opportunity for Parish Councils to purchase a salt spreader with funding matched by the area board

2. Background

To date more than 50 Parish Councils have signed up to Wiltshire Council's self help scheme where Parish Councils can request a bag of salt which they will distribute at locations which they consider to be most important. Certain conditions must be in place prior to agreement including a snow plan indicating when and where their volunteer operatives will spread salt. Wiltshire Council works with the parish Councils to produce this.

One Town and parish council has taken this a step further and have purchased their own mechanical spreader which enables them to increase the areas which they treat helping their residents to be mobile more quickly.

Wiltshire Council has been working with this council and other parish councils to create a model which can be offered to all parish councils. However funding is required to purchase further tailgate spreaders for the scheme to be delivered.

3. Proposal

It is proposed that Parish Councils within the Devizes area are offered an opportunity to purchase a spreader with the area board providing 50% of the funding.

It is not envisaged that all of the Parish Councils will wish to partake. It is therefore suggested that £5k is ring fenced from the area board budget in order to match fund any requests that come from Parish Councils. This would be sufficient to purchase 6 spreaders. The offer will be open until the January area board meeting with the funding awarded on a first come basis.

If demand has outstripped the funding available then the situation can be reviewed again at the January area board meeting with the possibility of more funding being made available. Any funding that remains will be put back into the area board budget.

The rationale behind the proposal is that we do not want to delay those Parish Councils who are able to and want to proceed very quickly as winter is almost upon us. At the same time we are aware that other Parish Councils may need to discuss this at their next meeting which may not be until the new year.

All Parish Councils within the Devizes area will be informed as soon as possible of this offer if this proposal is agreed.

4. Where is the project taking place?

The scheme will operate in those parishes within the Devizes community area, that choose to take part.

5. When will the project take place?

The offer will initially be open to parish councils up until the January area board meeting on January 27th 2014 where the situation can be reviewed.

6. What are the Community benefits/evidence of need/desired outcomes?

The key benefit for the community is that the Parish Councils working with Wiltshire Council will be able to correctly and quickly salt those roads that are likely to become dangerous making them safer for users. The salt spreader will also enable a greater number of roads to be salted

7. Who will manage/be responsible for this project?

The project will be organised and managed by Simon Rowe, the weather and emergency service officer at Wiltshire Council.

8. Costs/quotes/ match funding?

The total cost of a tailgate spreader is £1,649. Parish Councils will be asked to pay 50% of the cost (£824.50) and the area board will provide the other 50% (£824.50)