

Highways Maintenance Newsletter

December 2021



Within days of each other, we recently coped with two significant adverse weather incidents in Storm Arwen and Storm Barra and again, working in intense and difficult conditions, our highways teams kept the roads clear of fallen trees and other vegetation, debris and excess water. While the weather forecast looks set to be relatively stable as we head towards the New Year, we are nevertheless always on alert for any sudden changes and will remain ready to deploy resources as necessary, and to work round the clock if needed.

Highways operations will continue

as normal following the Government announcement on the move to Plan B, and those staff who have roles that allow them to work from home are doing so. Additionally, with winter and emergency operations being so business-critical, we have taken steps to protect our vital front-line workers by restricting visitors to our depots until further notice.

The impact that heavy rainfall and freezing temperatures can have on our road network is well documented and in November, we had cause to welcome some good news when the County Council agreed to put

extra 'recurring' funding into Highway Maintenance, equating to about £7 million per year, from April 2022. We are currently developing a strategy for how we will spend this additional funding over the longer term but it is likely to include more pothole repairs and structural patching, additional drainage cleansing and more Operation Resilience type schemes. More information will follow in future newsletters.

For now, from everyone working in the Highways service, may we wish you a very happy and healthy Christmas, and a joyful New Year.

Countywide Statistics for November 2021

406

Emergencies attended

21,173

Square metres of carriageway resurfacing

10

Operation Resilience schemes completed

18,436

Gullies and other drainage cleared

26,539

Square metres of surface dressing and micro asphalt

182

Arboriculture jobs completed

9,158

Square metres of footway repaired/resurfaced

7,295

Potholes repaired (including extra Find and Fix gangs*)

541

Other Jobs completed (outside of all works shown)

*These repairs were recorded differently on our system. This is an approximate figure.



Test Valley Statistics

for November 2021

50



Emergencies attended



1,001



Gullies and other drainage cleared

4,000



Square metres of surface dressing and micro asphalt

14



Arboriculture jobs completed



1,057



Potholes repaired (including extra Find and Fix gangs*)

41



Other Jobs completed (outside of all works shown)



*These repairs were recorded differently on our system. This is an approximate figure.