



**Comhairle Cathrach
na Gaillimhe**
Galway City Council

Winter Service Plan

2026/2027

Galway City Council
City Hall
College Road
Galway

Phone: 091-536400
roads@galwaycity.ie

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Document Control

	Name	Date
Prepared	Orla Meaney	28/10/26
Checked	Fran McEvoy	28/10/26
Acting Senior Engineer	Pádraic Mac Giolla Bhríde	28/10/26
Director of Services	Patrick Greene	28/10/26

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1 Distribution List

Issued To	Organisation / Company	Location
Patrick Greene,DOS	Galway City Council	City Hall, College Road, Galway.
Pádraic Mac Giolla Bhríde Acting Senior Engineer	Galway City Council	City Hall, College Road, Galway.
Fran McEvoy Senior Executive Engineer	Galway City Council	City Hall, College Road, Galway.
Orla Meaney Executive Engineer	Galway City Council	City Hall, College Road, Galway.
Keith Wynne Winter Service Supervisor	Galway City Council	Sandy Road, Galway.
John Lardner Health and Safety Officer	Galway City Council	City Hall, College Road, Galway.
Marta Duddy Customer Service Centre Manager	Galway City Council	City Hall, College Road, Galway.
Stephen O'Rourke	Department of Transport	
Stephen Smyth Senior Manager	TII	
Kevin Finn Senior Executive Engineer	Galway County Council	County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway
John Coyle Senior Executive Engineer	Galway County Council	County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway
Gerard Haugh Senior Executive Engineer	Galway County Council	County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway
TJ Redmond Senior Executive Engineer	Galway County Council	County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway
Derek Troy Senior Executive Engineer	Galway County Council	County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway
Sean Whelan Senior Executive Engineer	Galway County Council	County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway
Padraic Lydon Maintenance Manager	N6 Concessions	
Head of Forecasting	Met Éireann	Glasnevin Hill, Dublin 9
Gerard Roche Chief Superintendent	Garda Siochana	Murrough, Renmore, Galway
Brian Connolly Operations Manager - West	Bus Eireann	Ceannt Station, Galway
Gerard Bartley Operations Manager	City Direct	Rahoon, Galway

2 Purpose and Scope of Winter Service Plan

The purpose of the Winter Service Plan is to identify the processes, procedures and key personnel employed by Galway City Council, to deliver the winter service for Galway City.

3 Winter Service Policy

It is the intention of Galway City Council to deliver a coordinated programme of winter service operations on routes of given designated priority. Routes are designated a priority rating of between 1 and 3 based upon the particular class of public road, traffic volumes carried and the importance of the route on a national, regional or local level. The priority rating assigned to a particular route also has an associated stated level of service to be delivered on the route.

Route Designation	Description	Level of Service
Priority 1	Those routes which are essential to be kept serviceable in all weather conditions, as far as reasonably practicable – dual carriageway, national primary & national secondary	To be treated during all weather events
Priority 2	Those routes which are desirable to be kept serviceable in the normal winter weather conditions, as far as reasonably practicable – local roads, bus routes. Priority 2 routes could include those routes which are important regionally, such as (for example) principle public transport routes, or the main commuter routes	To be treated as part of the normal winter service but may have interruptions to treatment in certain severe weather events
Priority 3	Those routes that could be kept serviceable once Priority 1 and 2 routes have been treated, if resources allow	Not treated as part of the normal winter service but may receive intermittent treatment during certain severe weather events

It should be noted that the N6 from Coolagh Roundabout to the City Boundary is not included for winter service treatment by Galway City Council as an arrangement has been entered into with the MmaRC to carry out winter service treatments on this section of roadway.

Other local roads and footpaths will not be considered for treatment except in severe or prolonged winter weather and then only when resources are available. It is not possible to provide the service to all parts of the network with regard to the scale of the resources involved in delivering winter maintenance. Galway City Council is constantly striving to improve its winter maintenance service subject to the available resources.

When ice is forecast precautionary salting on the road network should be completed within 4 hours from the start of salting, but this treatment time may be effected by weather conditions during salting. Should conditions deteriorate, improve or change, such decisions on levels of treatment & mobilisation time can be reconsidered using the available information to the Duty Engineer.

Treatment Route	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Mobilisation Time	1 hr	1 hr	When possible
Treatment Time	2 hr	4 hrs	When possible

4 Overall Map of the Service Plan Area

A map of the Winter Service Plan area is contained in Appendix A. The map shows the following:

- Galway City Boundary,
- The extent of the network covered by the Winter Service Plan
- The treatment routes and their priority
- Location of Galway City Council Depot

5 Rosters

Rosters are prepared for personnel involved with the delivery of winter service operations and these are contained in Appendix B:

6 Contacts

The table below contains contact details for the individuals named in the plan.

NAME	ORGANISATION
Pádraic Mac Giolla Bhríde	Winter Service Manager, Acting Senior Engineer, Galway City Council
Fran McEvoy	Senior Executive Engineer, Galway City Council
Orla Meaney	Duty Engineer, Galway City Council
Keith Wynne	Winter Service Supervisor, Galway City Council
John Lardner	Health & Safety Officer, Galway City Council
Kevin Finn	Machinery Yard, Galway County Council
Tony Kelly	ICE Casting, Galway County Council
Padraic Lydon	Maintenance Manager, N6 Concession
Duty Forecaster	Met Eireann
An Garda Siochana	Garda – Galway Division
Fire Service	Galway City Fire Station on Fr. Griffin Road
Operations Manager - West	Bus Eireann
Operations Manager	City Direct

7 Decision Matrix

The decision matrix for Galway City is based on Table 6.1 from the Winter Service Manual and is shown below:

Note: The decision makers will use a combination of the following weather warning systems to aid in the delivery of the winter service. Galway City Council avail of the Galway County Council service for decision making in relation to road gritting/ salting and to provide continuity of gritting on the public road network between Galway City & County Councils.

Road Surface Temperature	Precipitation	Predicted Road Conditions		
		Wet	Wet Patches	Dry
May fall below 1°C	No rain No hoar frost No fog	Salt before frost	Salt before frost (see note a)	No action likely, monitor weather (see note a)
Expected to fall below 1°C	No rain No hoar frost No fog		Salt before frost (see note b)	
	Expected hoar frost Expected fog			
	Expected rain before freezing	Salt after rain stops (see note c)		
	Expected rain during freezing	Salt before frost, as required during rain and after rain stops (see note d)		
	Possible rain Possible hoar frost Possible fog	Salt before frost		Monitor weather conditions
Expected Snow		Salt before snow fall		
The decision to undertake precautionary treatments should be, if appropriate, adjusted to take account of residual salt or surface moisture.				
All decisions should be evidence based, recorded and require careful monitoring and review.				

Notes:

- Particular attention should be given to the possibility of water running across carriageways and other running surfaces e.g. surface water off adjacent fields after heavy rains, washing off salt previously deposited. Such locations should be closely monitored and may require treating in the evening and morning and possible other occasions. Ideally the source of the run-off should be diverted from the roadway.
- When a weather warning contains reference to expected hoar frost, considerable deposits of frost can occur. Hoar frost usually occurs in the early morning and is difficult to cater for because of the probability that any salt deposited on a dry road too soon before its onset, may be dispersed before it can become effective. Careful monitoring is required under this forecast condition which should ideally be treated

just as the hoar frost is forming. Such action is usually not practicable and salt may have to be deposited on a dry road prior to but as close as possible to the expected time of the condition. Hoar frost may also be forecast at other times of the day, in which case the timing of salting operations should be adjusted accordingly.

- (c) If under these conditions, rain has not ceased by early morning, crews should be called out and action initiated as rain ceases.
- (d) Under these circumstances rain will freeze on contact with running surfaces and full precautionary treatment should be provided even on dry roads. This is a most serious condition and should be monitored closely and carefully throughout the danger period.

8 Treatment Matrix

The decision matrix for Galway City is based on Table 6.2 from the Winter Service Manual and is shown below:

Weather Conditions Road Surface Conditions Road Surface Temperature (RST)	Treatment Air Temperature	Salt Spread Rate (gm/m ²)	Ploughing
Frost or forecast frost RST at or above -2°C		10 Also refer to Note (b)	No
Frost or forecast frost RST below -2°C and above -5°C		20	No
Frost or forecast frost RST below -5°C and above -10°C and dry or damp road conditions		20	No
Frost or forecast frost RST below -5°C and above -10°C and wet road conditions (existing or anticipated)		2 runs X 20	No
Light snow forecast (<10mm)		20	No
Forecast for Medium/heavy snow or a freezing rain forecast		2 runs X 20	No
Ice formed	Above -5°C	20	Not possible
Ice formed	At or below -5°C	2 runs X 20	Not possible
Snow covering exceeding 30mm		20 to supplement ploughing, up to 40 if temperatures are falling	Required
Snow accumulations due to prolonged falls		20 to 40 to supplement ploughing	Required
Hard packed snow/ice	Above -8°C	Successive treatments	Not

Weather Conditions Road Surface Conditions Road Surface Temperature (RST)	Treatment Air Temperature	Salt Spread Rate (gm/m ²)	Ploughing
		at 20 to 40 (repeat as needed)	possible
Hard packed snow/ice	At or below -8°C	Successive treatments at 20 to 40, supplemented by abrasives (repeat as needed)	Not possible
Sustained low temperatures	Below -10°C	Successive treatments at 20 to 40 (repeat as needed)	Not possible

Notes:

- (a) Rate of spread for precautionary treatments may be adjusted to take account of variations occurring along the route such as residual salt, surface moisture (in the air or on the road surface) and traffic density.
- (b) For salt stored outside, it may be necessary to increase the spread rate for precautionary treatment salting from 10gm/m² to 15-20gm/m².
- (c) All decisions should be forecast based, recorded and require careful monitoring and review.
- (d) Ice refers to all ice on the road surface, including black ice.

Target Spread Rates by Location

Location	Salt Spread Rate
Carriageways	As described in the Treatment Matrix Guide
Hard shoulder or carriageway marginal strips	50% of selected treatment
Porous Surfacing	<u>Plus</u> 25% of selected treatment
Footways, cycle lanes and pedestrian areas	25 gm/m ²

9 Plant, Vehicles and Equipment

Galway City Council's plant and vehicles are listed in the table below:

Plant Description	Depot Location	Capacity	Date Calibrated	Date Serviced	Date of next Calibration	Date of next Service
Demountable salt spreader	Sandy Road	7 m ³	Nov 2025	Nov 2025	Nov 2026	Nov 2026
Demountable salt spreader	Sandy Road	7 m ³	Nov 2025	Nov 2025	Nov 2026	Nov 2026
Demountable mini-spreader	Sandy Road	1 m ³	Nov 2025	Nov 2025	Nov 2026	Nov 2026

Snowploughs & Loading Shovels	Depot Location	Fitted to	Date Serviced	Date of next Service
Snowplough	Sandy road	Mounted to various vehicles	Nov 2025	Nov 2026

10 City Council Depot Details

Map Ref.	Salt Depots	Routes Serviced	Indoor or Outdoor	Max Capacity	Minimum stock levels at:		
					1 st Oct	15 th Dec	1 st Mar
R/GS2010-2	Sandy Road	All	Outdoor + Indoor	260 tons	245tons	120	Insert tonnage
		TOTALS		260 tons	245 tons	Insert tonnage	Insert tonnage

11 Materials and Spares

Salt

The salt for Winter Service Operations is supplied by the TII through a framework agreement. Salt orders are carried out on the National Salt Management System: <https://kildarenrdo.sharepoint.com/sites/NSMS>

Fuel

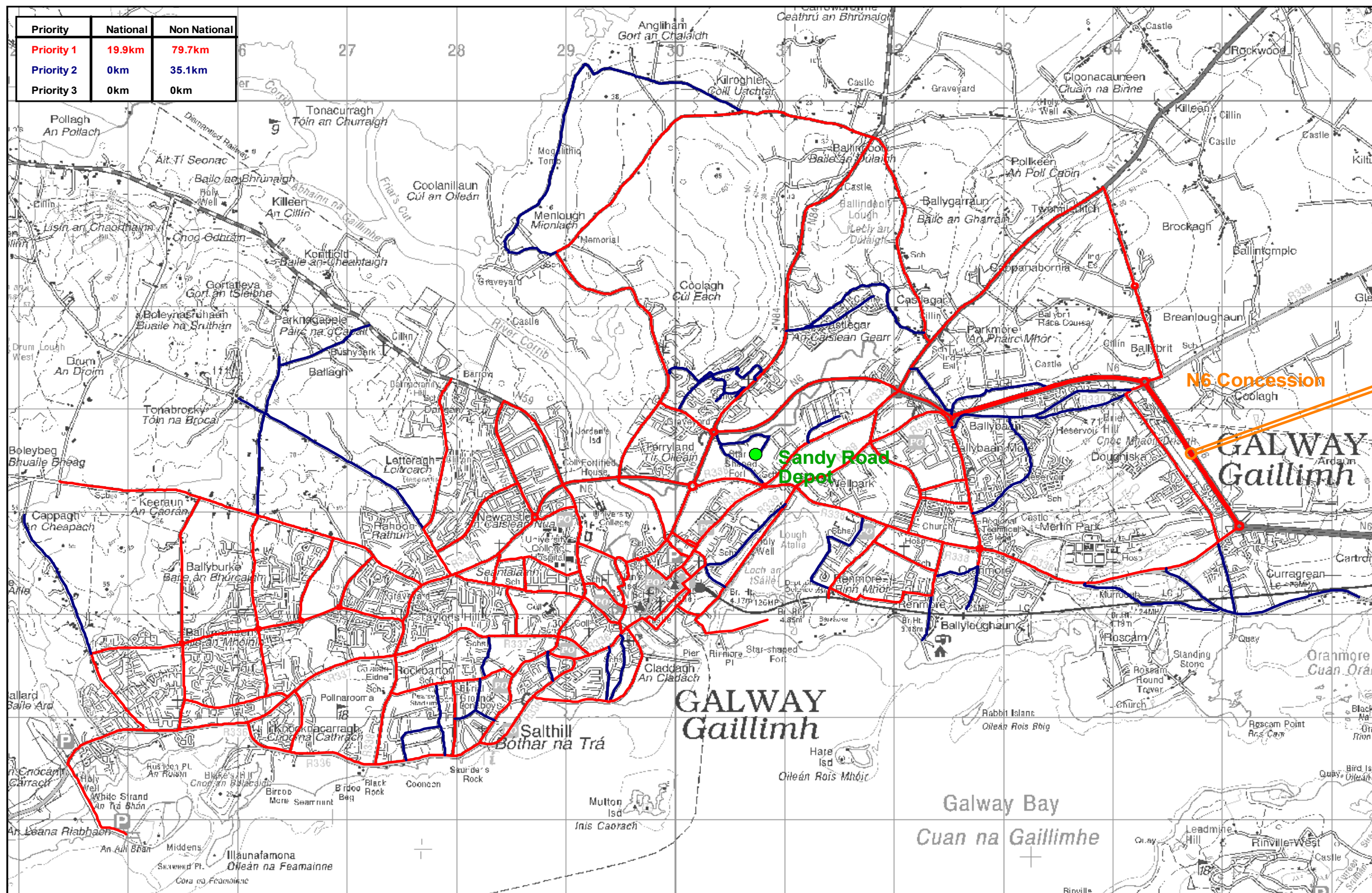
Fuel for the winter service period is stored at the Machinery Yard, Sandy Road. The Galway City Council Fleet Management Unit is responsible for re-ordering of fuel and should be contacted when fuel reserves are approaching 50% of capacity.

Spares

Spare parts for winter service machinery are stored at the Machinery Yard, Sandy Road. The Galway City Council Fleet Management Unit is responsible for the ordering of all parts associated with the maintenance or repair of Galway City Council's Winter Service Fleet. The Fleet Manager should be contacted immediately in the event of a failure or breakdown of any piece of winter service plant or equipment.

Appendix A

Winter Service Area Plan



Appendix B

Duty Rosters

Duty Engineer (throughout period):

Orla Meaney, Executive Engineer

Winter Service Supervisor (throughout period):

Keith Wynne, General Site Supervisor

Appendix C

Route Cards

LENGTH OF ROAD TREATED:

NATIONAL:

39KM

REGIONAL & LOCAL: 117KM

<p>SCHEDULE FOR GRITTING/SALTING EAST OF CITY</p>
--

Sandy Road
Cemetery Cross
Sean Mulvoy Road, South Side
N6 by Dunnes, Westside
N84 Headford Road to Borough Boundary at shop, return to Terryland Roundabout
Bothar na Coiste
Flemings Garage
Tuam Road (N17) to boundary at Roadstone back into Flemings
N6 to Ballybane Road Roundabout
By Tom Hogan Motors
Briarhill Roundabout, Western Motors
Doughiska Roundabout
Return same route to Sean Mulvoy Road Roundabout

Sean Mulvoy Road
Cemetery Cross
Moneenageisha Road Roundabout
Dublin Road by Ryan Hotel
Corrib Great Southern Roundabout
By Merlin Park Gate
Doughiska Roundabout
Old Dublin Road, Coast Round
Gerry McSweeneys House i.e Borough Boundary

Corrib Great Southern Roundabout
Into Lurgan Park part of straight stretch/hill to roundabout
Ballybane Road
Old Monivea Road
Out by Windsor Motors
Briarhill Road Roundabout (Western Motors)
Remainder of Old Monivea Road
From Ballybane Road Roundabout
By Eircom Buildings
By Thermoking
Moneenageisha Junction
Harbour Roads
College Road
Forster Street
Bohermore
Cemetery Cross Roundabout
Flemings Garage

<p style="text-align: center;">SCHEDULE FOR GRITTING/SALTING WEST OF CITY</p>
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From:

Mulvoy Road Roundabout
 New Bridge Quincentenary Bridge
 Seamus Quirke Road Roundabout
 Thomas Hynes Road
 Turn left at Westwood
 To Borough Boundary

At:

Glenlo Abbey Gate
 Return to Ballagh Road Hill
 Circular Road Hill (at past school)
 Westwood and straight on to
 Upper Newcastle
 Traffic Lights at New Bridge
 Left over Quincentenary Bridge
 Mulvoy Road Roundabout

In:

Headford Road
 Woodquay
 Town Hall
 Salmon Weir Bridge
 University Road
 Right at UCHG Hospital
 Left at Traffic Lights
 Seamus Quirke Road
 Bishop O'Donnell Road
 Western Distributor Road
 Cappagh Road, having covered the roundabouts
 All approaches to roundabout
 From Bothar Stiofain
 Clybaun Road
 Ballymoneen Road
 Cappagh Road
 Cappagh Road Roundabout
 Barna Road Junction and turn right to
 Silver Strand Junction
 Return Barna Road to
 Knocknacarra Cross Junction
 Kingston
 Traffic Lights at Taylor's Hill
 Left to Bishop O'Donnell Road Roundabout
 Return to Traffic Lights at Taylor's Hill
 Straight through to Threadneedle Road
 Promenade at small roundabout
 Left to Upper Salthill
 Roundabout in Salthill

Through Old Salthill
 Nile Lodge
 St. Mary's Road
 Newcastle Road (Cooke's Bar)
 UCHG Hospital
To: Shantalla Road (Cooke's Bar)
Up: Shantalla Road
 Ragoon Road (by Highfield Park)
 Seamus Quirke Road
 Right to Traffic Lights
 Right to Old Quirke Road (by Aldi)
 Ragoon Road
 Maunsells Road turning right at Higgins Hardware
To: Taylors Hill
 Right at Taylors Hill
 Threadneedle Road Junction
 Straight out Kingston
To: Knocknacarra Cross
 Left by Golf Club to small roundabout at Threadneedle Road
 Colohan Road at Seapoint
 Fr. Griffin Road
 Fr. Griffin Avenue
 The Crescent
 Taylors Hill to Maunsells Road
 To Fr. Griffin Road again
 Wolfe Tone Bridge
 Merchants Road
 Lough Atalia Road
 College Road Junction

Small Isolated Areas

Up: Hidden Valley and down Bothar na mBan
Link from Lough Atalia Road to Forster Street by Radison (travel up hill)
Entrance to City Hall
Williamsgate Street (by Fallers)
Eglinton Street
Francis Street
Salmon Weir Bridge
Nuns Island
Dominick Street Upper and Lower
Henry Street
Helen Street to Cooke's Corner
Presentation Road
Mill Street
Bridge Street
Lombard Street
Market Street
Mary Street
Eyre Square, 4 sides