

Appendix C OSC Recommendations and feedback.

Serial	Recommendation	Feedback	Timescale	Progress/Issues	Linked to WBC Action Plan
1	<p>The Civil Contingencies Manager should establish a policy and process to allow drivers of 4x4 vehicles to assist the Council when required in severe weather. Drivers of these vehicles might be private individuals, taxi operators or farmers. The mechanism should cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The arrangements to safeguard vulnerable people. • How help can be offered. • How help can be requested. 	Noted.	Oct 10	Refer to Appendix E – draft 2010/11 Highway Winter Service Plan.	H&T Point 10
2	The Civil Contingencies Manager should formulate a contingency plan specifically to respond to severe weather.	Noted - although it must be borne in mind that some generic actions are covered in the Major Incident Plan.	Oct 10	Plan – in final draft stages to be issued by end Nov when new EA info available.	Civil Contingencies 6
3	The Civil Contingencies Manager should strongly encourage Parish and Town Councils to develop their own severe weather emergency plans.	Noted	On-going	A number of meetings have been held with Town & parish Councils including Pangbourne, Midgham, Speen – more along Lambourn valley and Chieveley in November. A Thames Valley Community Day and Exercise is due to take place in Mar 2011. This is a continuing project.	Civil Contingencies 7
4	The Civil Contingencies Manager should articulate, develop and communicate the valuable community engagement role for district and town/parish councillors. If	Noted	On-going	As above.	

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	necessary training for those involved should be given.				
5	Working with the Head of Legal and Electoral Services, the Civil Contingencies Manager should seek clarification on the insurance and other legal liability of individuals and businesses clearing snow from their property or public areas. If a real risk of liability exists then steps should be taken through the national infrastructure to obtain its removal. If no risk exists then a plan to communicate this to the public should be developed and delivered.	Noted.	Update 6 Months	<p>Guidance issued by Gov't on 25th Oct – inserted as guidance in the Severe Weather plan.</p> <p>Details relating to communications in the plan.</p> <p>Completed – to be issued in Nov 10 with final issue of plan.</p>	Civil Contingencies 8
6	Working with her counterparts in other organisations, the Civil Contingencies Manager should establish a mechanism for the pooling of resources, such as vehicles or staff, available to local organisations during severe weather. The arrangements should include procedures for the notification of both supply and demand to be made.	Noted		<p>There is already a process via the Strategic Coordinating group or the Tactical Coordinating Group as necessary. In addition there is an MOU within Berkshire to share resources including a database of equipment. This is currently being expanded. There is also a process via GOSE to request support. However IF as was the case in this situation everyone is in the same situation mutual aid may not be forthcoming. To be reflected in Severe weather plan.</p> <p>Work is still ongoing with H&T service re 4x4's pooling and the use of voluntary agencies.</p>	Linked to H&T 8, 10 plus others

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7	<p>The Head of Highways and Transport should review the Winter Service Plan, specifically examining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy in place for the gritting of frequently used pavements, cycle ways and car parks. • The amount, type and location of roads to be treated, when and how. Factors to be taken into consideration might include gradient and access to key public services. • The appropriateness of contingency plans in place. <p>When revised, Ward Members, Parish and Town Councils, other public sector service providers and private sector transport companies should be consulted and encouraged to give their views.</p>	Noted	Nov 10	Refer to Appendix E – draft 2010/11 Highway Winter Service Plan.	Linked to H&T actions.
8	The Head of Highways and Transport should increase the Council's salt storage to 4,000-5,000 tonnes.	Noted	Aug 10	5000 tonnes are now in stock	
9	The Head of Highways and Transport should review the Council's grit bin policy. Consideration should be given to the views of Ward Members and Parish and Town Councils. The policy should address the number, size and location of the salt bins, the arrangements for replenishment and	Noted	Nov 10	Refer to Appendix E – draft 2010/11 Highway Winter Service Plan.	Linked to H&T 1, 2 & 3

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	acceptable use of them by the public. The monitoring by Parish and Town Councils of the state and use of bins should also be considered.				
10	The Head of Highways and Transport should develop and implement an appropriate communication strategy to advise members of the public on the use of salt provided in bins by the Council. Measures might include use of the website and labelling on the bins.	Noted	Nov 10	Refer to Appendix E – draft 2010/11 Highway Winter Service Plan.	Linked to Communications Plan
11	The Head of Highways and Transport should establish a mechanism to allow the engagement of local farmers to provide assistance in the clearance of roads, particularly in rural environments.	Noted	Nov 10	Refer to Appendix E – draft 2010/11 Highway Winter Service Plan.	
12	Working with the Civil Contingencies Manager, the District Council's Head of Highways and Transport should establish procedures to allow the redirection of staff from their normal duties to snow clearance in the event of severe winter weather. Staff should be drawn from waste collection teams and assistance may be available externally from Neighbourhood Wardens, the fire service and elsewhere	Noted	Nov 10	Reflected in the Severe weather plan - subject to final consultation.	Linked to BCM 5

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1 3	<p>The Head of Adult Social Care should establish a mechanism to allow the authority to provide assistance to vulnerable people not already in receipt of help from the Council. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying those in need, for example through Parish and Town Councils or GPs. • Advising them how to request help and when. • Identifying and recording the details of those in local communities able and willing to provide assistance. <p>The measures that should be taken to ensure the safety of the vulnerable is maintained.</p>	Noted	Oct 10	There is a draft Vulnerable People Plan developed by Civil Contingencies Manager which is under consultation prior to sharing with external providers. Processes are being checked to ensure support is provided to all in need.	Linked to Community Care 1 & 4
14	Building on the good work undertaken during the severe weather, the Head of Adult Social Care should examine the opportunities for further provision of mutual aid between the authority and private sector social care providers. A protocol governing the arrangements should be agreed and put in place.	Noted	Oct 10		Linked to Community Care 5
15	The Head of Education should share with all schools the results of the consultation undertaken to identify what worked well in schools and what lessons could be learnt.	Noted	Oct 10	Completed and sent to Headteachers in March 2010.	

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16	The Head of Education should examine the opportunities for schools to adopt a mutual aid scheme that would allow members of staff who are unable to reach their usual place of work in severe weather to report to their nearest school. Advice on the practical application of the scheme might be obtained from Thames Valley Police.	Noted	Oct 10	This was examined, but was found not to be viable due to issues regarding safeguarding and child protection.	
1 7	<p>The Head of Education should encourage all schools to adopt a severe weather plan. The plans might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resource plan. • Mutual aid. • Communications with the public 	Noted	Oct 10	Severe winter weather guidance developed and issued to all schools in October 2010. Strong recommendation that all schools review their readiness for severe weather has been issued via key meetings, and to governors via their e-magazine and at Chair's briefings in October 2010. Also, shared with school business managers and admin staff at the Admin Briefings in October 2010.	Linked to Education 1,2,6,9
18	The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission should write to the Secretary of State for Health to request that any financial penalties applied to the South Central Ambulance Service in respect of their failure to meet attendance time targets arising from the severe weather be dropped.	Noted		Letter sent on 20 September 2010. No response received as of 27 October 2010.	

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19	In order to avert gridlock caused by many organisations simultaneously sending home their employees early in the event of severe weather, Thames Valley Police should develop and when necessary implement procedures to ensure that the numbers of vehicles entering the road network are appropriately controlled.	Noted	Oct 10	Letter sent to BCU Commander. Civil Contingencies Manager to liaise via TV LRF. The response to this letter is included in the OSMC papers for 2 November 2010 – Appendix D.	