

Highways Maintenance Newsletter

August 2021



In August, the Highways service encountered an unexpected challenge in the form of widespread drain cover thefts which mainly affected roads across southern Hampshire. Not only did this create a very significant danger for our road users, it also put additional strain on our already busy frontline resources who needed to urgently erect barriers and signage in order to protect the affected sites, while new covers were sourced and installed.

This had an adverse impact on already programmed work that subsequently had to be rescheduled. The overall cost to the County Council as a consequence of the thefts was in excess of £100,000 and the Police are continuing to investigate the matter. It is important that any suspicious activity involving highway apparatus, particularly at night, is immediately reported to the Police on 101 or 999.

You may be aware that there is currently a significant nationwide shortage of qualified HGV drivers. Our winter gritter drivers all require HGV licences in addition to needing specialist training but fortunately we are managing to avoid any significant impact from the shortages by effective resource planning, and we remain in good shape for the impending winter period, which for Highways start in October and runs through until the end of April.

Countywide Statistics for July 2021

360

Emergencies attended

32,339

Square metres of carriageway resurfacing

14

Operation Resilience schemes completed

12,388

Gullies and other drainage cleared

421,483

Square metres of surface dressing and micro asphalt

115

Arboriculture jobs completed

1,194

Square metres of footway repaired/resurfaced

3,020

Potholes repaired (including extra Find and Fix gangs*)

611

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 July 2021

32



Emergencies attended

215



Gullies and other drainage cleared

32



Square metres of footway repaired/resurfaced



250



Potholes repaired (including extra Find and Fix gangs*)

13



Arboriculture jobs completed

151,647



Square metres of surface dressing and micro asphalt

46



Other Jobs completed (outside of all works shown)



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