

Winter Services

Grit bins



Winter
2024/25

Grit bins in MK

MK City Council has over 400 yellow and grey (CMK) grit bins in local areas to help residents keep the roads, redways and footways safe to use during cold, icy weather.

In autumn, we check these grit bins to make sure they are in good condition and to fill up any that are low on rock salt (grit). To fill up all these bins in one visit we would need 190 tons of rock salt.

If any of these grit bins are damaged, we'll remove them for safety but due to budget pressures, there will be no replacement bin. However, in severe weather we may deliver additional salt bags to any location that we consider high risk for residents to use on the public highway.

There are some grit bins around MK that are owned and managed by the local parish council. These grit bins are green. If a green grit bin is damaged or empty, contact the local parish council. All the parish council details are on our website, www.milton-keynes.gov.uk

When to use the grit bin

If snow or icy conditions are forecast for MK, you can use the rock salt in the grit bin on public footways and roads.

Salt (grit) is not provided for use on private driveways or private pathways.

Be sparing with any application of salt.

If you are hand salting an area, 2 teaspoons is enough to cover 1 square metre of road or footway.

How to find your nearest grit bin

You can check where your nearest grit bin is on our My MK Mapping tool on the Council's website, www.milton-keynes.gov.uk

A link to this is also on the 'Salt Bins' section on the Winter Services section of the Highways pages. www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/highways

On the My MK Mapping tool, enter the street name and on the map, select 'Winter Maintenance'. Any MKCC grit bin will be shown with a G inside a yellow square.

For unadopted roads (not Council maintained) including new development areas, contact the landowner about providing grit bins in area. We do not grit unadopted roads or footways.

New or replacement MKCC owned grit bins

MK City Council will not install any new yellow grit bins. The exception is when we adopt a new road and decide that a grit bin is required for safety reasons.

If an existing yellow grit bin is damaged or removed, we may replace it only if there is a safety need to do so. This will be determined by the Highway Service Manager.

Keeping over 400 grit bins maintained and topped up is very costly and some of these grit bins may no longer be required as most local main roads are included in our gritting runs. During extreme conditions, additional bags of rock salt may be delivered to locations where they can be used by residents on the public highway.

Requesting a grit bin - for parish councils

Parish councils can purchase their own grit bins if they wish however if they want to place a grit bin on the public highway, they will need to apply for permission from MKCC Highways. The grit bins must also be green.

Parish councils can also order a green grit bin plus rock salt from MKCC Highways and place it on their own land.

The cost for a new, green grit bin including rock salt is £469.17. This also includes a site visit and assessment plus delivery and installation.

Please note, it can take between 6-8 weeks to process a grit bin order. During busy winter periods, top up of non-MKCC grit bins will be subject to available resources.

To request a grit bin/s, contact the Highways Liaison Team at highways.liaison@milton-keynes.gov.uk or call 01908 252353.

To report a highways issue to us, please get in touch by:

Phone

01908 252353

Monday to Friday 9am to 5:15pm.

Email

customerservices@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Online

Use the Report It section on www.milton-keynes.gov.uk