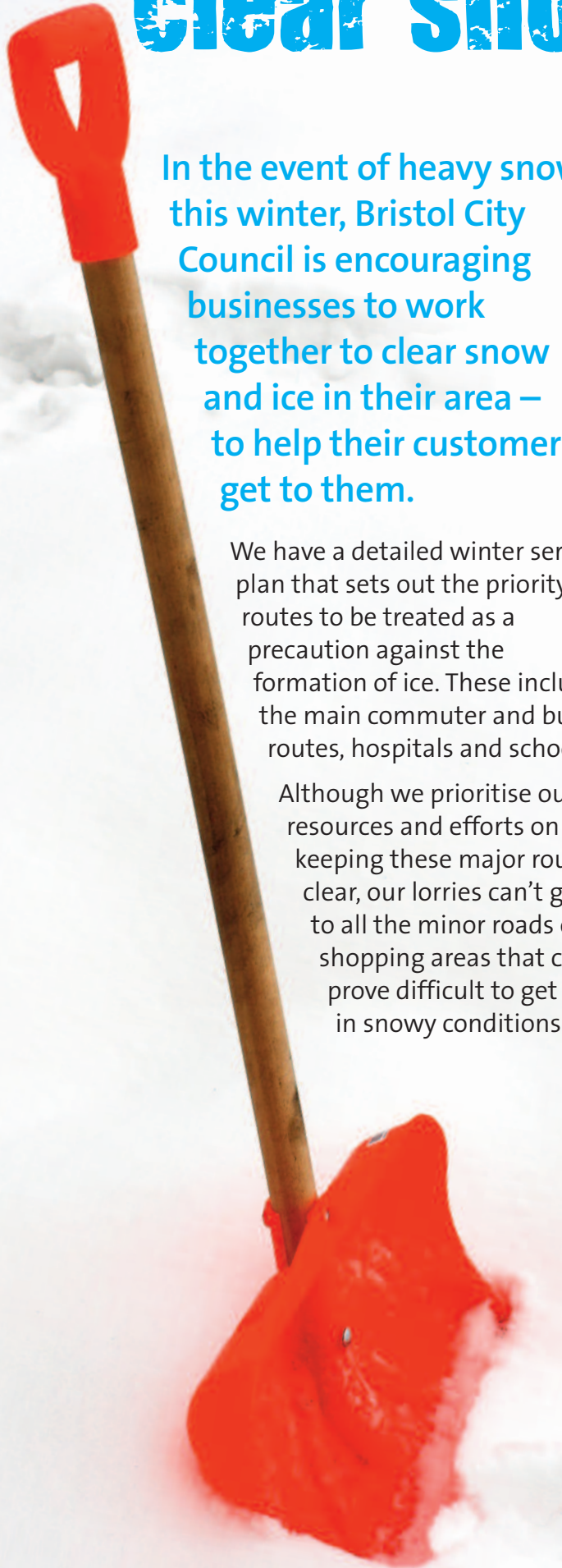


Can your business help clear snow and ice?



In the event of heavy snow this winter, Bristol City Council is encouraging businesses to work together to clear snow and ice in their area – to help their customers get to them.

We have a detailed winter service plan that sets out the priority routes to be treated as a precaution against the formation of ice. These include the main commuter and bus routes, hospitals and schools.

Although we prioritise our resources and efforts on keeping these major routes clear, our lorries can't get to all the minor roads or shopping areas that can prove difficult to get to in snowy conditions.

Tips for clearing snow and ice

- Start early – it's much easier to clear fresh, loose snow compared to compacted ice that has been compressed by people walking on it.
- Don't use hot water - this will melt the snow, but may replace it with black ice, increasing the risk of injury.
- If shovelling snow, think where you are going to put it so that it doesn't block people's paths or drainage channels.
- Make a pathway down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on.
- Spreading grit from the nearest grit bin on the area you have cleared will help stop ice forming. Visit www.bristol.gov.uk/snow to find your nearest grit bin. Table salt or dishwasher salt, sand or ash will also work, but avoid spreading on plants or grass as they may be damaged by it.
- Pay particular care and attention to steps and steep gradients.
- Use the sun to your advantage – removing the top layer of snow will allow the sun to melt any ice beneath; however you will need to cover any ice with salt to stop it refreezing overnight.

The government has produced very clear guidance: as long as you don't make the area clearly more dangerous than you found it, you need not be concerned about taking responsibility for clearing snow and ice.

- For the latest news and up to date information on council services, and further advice visit www.bristol.gov.uk/snow or phone 0117 922 2100

