

Presentation to Internal Scrutiny: Gully Cleaning Policy and Attendance March 2020



Topics:

- Code of Practice on Gully Cleaning
- Performance around incidents
- Review of gullies and implementation of the Code of Practice
- Developing the Gully Cleaning Contract
- Capital Drainage Programme
- Self-help, Reporting (Report It)

Related Codes of Practice:

[Code of practice for the maintenance and cleaning of road gullies within the adopted highway](#)

- This code of practice sets out in detail a process of assessment by which decisions relating to work activities on vehicular highway gullies should be made and is based upon current guidance on best practice.

[Code of practice for trash screens](#)

- The trash screen code of practice outlines the procedures the county council will adopt to inspect clean and maintain its trash screens

Blocked Gully Reports - Response Times and Procedures

Blocked Gully Reports

Reactive

- If a customer reports a blocked gully which is on the reactive only list, gullies will be programmed as far as possible to be cleaned within the service standard of 20 working days.
- If the blocked gully is causing highway flooding or if flooding a neighbouring property/land or at risk of flooding;
 - Category E - Emergency (4 Hours): extremely hazardous that requires emergency attention because they pose an immediate danger to highway users. Priority will be to make safe and prevent property flooding where possible.
 - Category U - Urgent (2 days): require urgent attention because they pose a risk to highway users or because there is a risk of rapid deterioration that would cause the situation to become a Category 1E defect.

Blocked Gully Reports - Response Times and Procedures

Blocked Gully Reports

Priority 1 & 2 gullies

- If a customer reports a blocked gully which is on a Priority 1 or Priority 2 schedule and there are no reports of either highway or property flooding and the next cyclic gully cleanse is due within the next 4 weeks, the gully should be left until the next scheduled cyclic / routine cleansing visit. If the next cyclic / routine cleansing is scheduled is more than 4 weeks away than a works instruction for a reactive cleanse should be issued.

Blocked Gully Reports - Response Times and Procedures

b) Reactive Cleanse Attendance

- When attending to a reactive blocked gully, Operatives will check all gullies 200 metres either side of the blocked gully and cleanse all within that parameter as required. If the lead gully operative feels more gullies are in need of cleaning on the road in question this will be reported back to their line manager for authorisation before further gully cleaning works can be undertaken.
- If during the course of attending a blocked gully operatives become aware of problems with nearby ditches or swales these should be reported back to their line manager

Facts and Figures 18/19

- Total no. of flooding incidents:
 - to the public highway reported in the last year :
 - 3509 18/19 (3462 17/18)
 - property related from highway :
 - 139 18/19 (248 17/18)
- Total no. of drainage general inspections completed in the last year :
 - 184 18/19
- Total Number of Gullies 292030

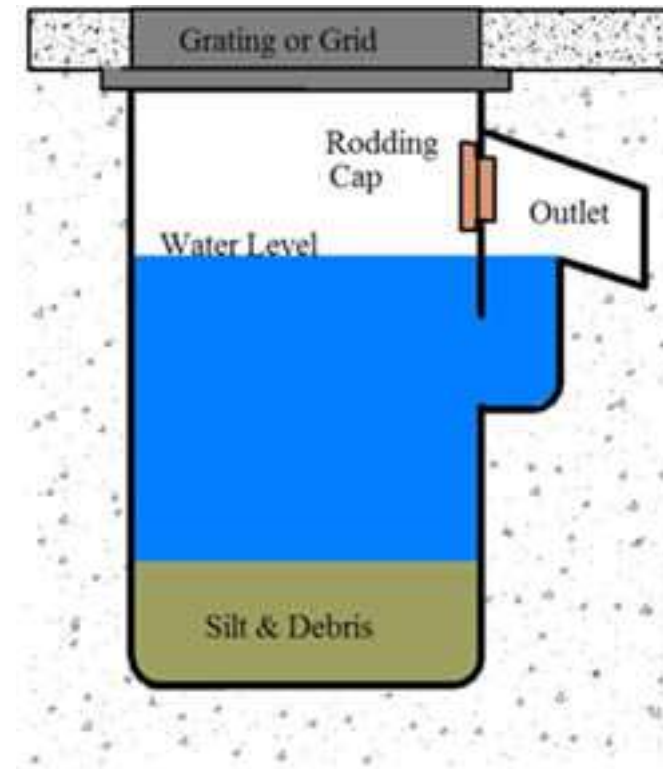
What do we do?

- Clean gully grates
- Empty gullies of silt / debris
- Clear blockages in connections and pipes
- De-silting highway drains
- Identify and repair damage to highway drainage infrastructure.
- Clear LCC Trash Screens



Emptying Gullies

- Highway gullies have a silt trap that collects silt and debris.
- When this is full the trap requires emptying.
- If the debris level fills above the outlet the gully becomes blocked.



When do we do it?

- Historically – common practice to empty all highway gullies once a year.
- No account was taken of silt levels or condition of the gully being cleaned.
- Many gullies ‘cleaned’ that did not require cleaning.

Risk Based Approach

- In accordance with the national guidance the CoP splits gullies into different categories.
 - Priority 1 (P1) – emptied annually
 - Priority 2 (P2) – emptied bi-annually
 - Reactive (R) – emptied on a reactive basis
- Category is not fixed – can be re-classified as circumstances change or new data is identified.

Risk Based Approach

- Advantages of this approach
 - More efficient use of existing resources
 - Resources can be focussed on problem areas resulting in an improved service
 - Reduced incidents of highway flooding as resources target problem areas.

How are gullies categorised?

- Initial Categorisation includes:
 - Local engineering knowledge
 - Known flooding hotspots
 - Volume of traffic using the road
 - Gritting Route
 - Town centres
 - Likelihood of adjacent flooding
 - Areas of leaf fall or windblown sand

Category Reviews

- All gully cleaning is recorded at an individual gully level using mobile handheld devices.
- Data about the condition of the gully, including the silt level, is recorded every time it is cleaned.



Category Reviews

- Annual Process
- Should consider:
 - Records obtained during gully emptying including silt levels
 - Records of remedial works undertaken
 - Feedback from all stakeholders.

How do we do it?

- Cyclic and reactive gully emptying and jetting
 - Currently in house using our own fleet of 12 gully emptiers.
 - Supplemented by contractors.
 - Challenges

Moving Forward

- Service challenge
- Best of both worlds
- Contractor to undertake all cyclic gully emptying
- 6 gully wagons retained to carry out reactive and investigative works
- Contractors remain available to supplement

Flooding...

- Highway Flooding
 - Blocked gullies
 - Highway culverts
 - Trash screens
 - System capacity
- Land drainage flooding
 - Rivers
 - Watercourses / Ditches
 - Inadequate land drainage

Drainage Repairs

- Routine drainage defect repairs



Capital Drainage Repairs



Self Help

- Leaf covered gullies; link to self help page



Reporting Faults

https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it/

My Services Home | Vaisala RoadDSS - Messaging | blocked road gully - Google Se... | 91 Elm Ave to 91 Elm Avenue, ... | Report It - Lancashire Coun... |

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Lancashire County Council | sewer responsibility - Goo...

Lancashire
County Council

Search Lancashire.gov.uk Search All services

Home / Roads parking and travel / Report It

Report It

advertisement

Most popular issues

- Pothole
- Vegetation and trees
- Flooding/blocked drain
- Streetlight
- Traffic light
- Damaged sign

Other issues you can report

- Collapsed road
- Missing manhole cover
- Diesel / oil spillage
- Road cleaning
- Road Marking
- Obstruction on the road
- Tripping hazard
- Works causing a problem
- Broken flag
- Bollard
- Public Rights of Way
- Gritting

Issues we don't manage

Related information

- [Roadworks bulletin](#)
- [Traffic regulation orders](#)
- [Parking](#)
- [Vehicle crossing/dropped kerb](#)
- [Business permits and licences](#)
- [Road adoption - of private streets and estates](#)
- [Damage to a bus shelter](#)
- [Damage to a bridge](#)


Check on progress

Check the status of a highway problem reported to us.

[Check a reported fault](#)

Report It

Report flooding and drainage

 **Warning!** ×

If there is an immediate risk to your life or you are trapped by flood water **call 999**.

If flood water is entering your house, or is over halfway across the road, please telephone:

- Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm (excluding bank holidays) - 0300 123 6780
- Out of office hours - 101 (local Police non-emergency number)

If you are reporting a blocked drain which is covered by leaves - [see our information on how to clear a roadside drain](#).

If this is not an emergency, use this service to report a blocked drain, providing:

- the location of the drain
- a description
- your email address
- up to 5 photographs - max 10mb limit

Photographs are optional - only take a photo if it is safe to do so

Flooding



**During a flood
Act quickly.**

Our [Flooding Website](#) gives advice on what to do before, during and after a flood.

Check on progress

Check the status of a highway problem reported to us.

Flooding

- 0300 123 6780
- 101
- 999

Questions?