

**Area board highway information**

**Introduction**

This document summarises highway information for your area board, and lists the highway and related work carried out by Wiltshire Council during 2011/12. It also sets out the work proposed for 2012/13 and includes other information which should be of interest. The information is based on the best available at present, but it should be noted that programmes may need to be modified to reflect changing circumstances and conditions on the highway network.

Wiltshire Council is assisted by consultants Mouchel, who provide specialist technical advice and design services and Ringway Infrastructure Services, who are the contractors carrying out most of the work on the highway network. Street lighting is maintained on behalf of the council by Balfour Beatty Living Place and the traffic signals are maintained by Telent Technology Services Limited.

Further information on the council’s activities is available at the website [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk). If you require specific information regarding any aspect of Wiltshire’s highway network please do not hesitate to contact your local highways team. Contact details are provided at the end of this document.

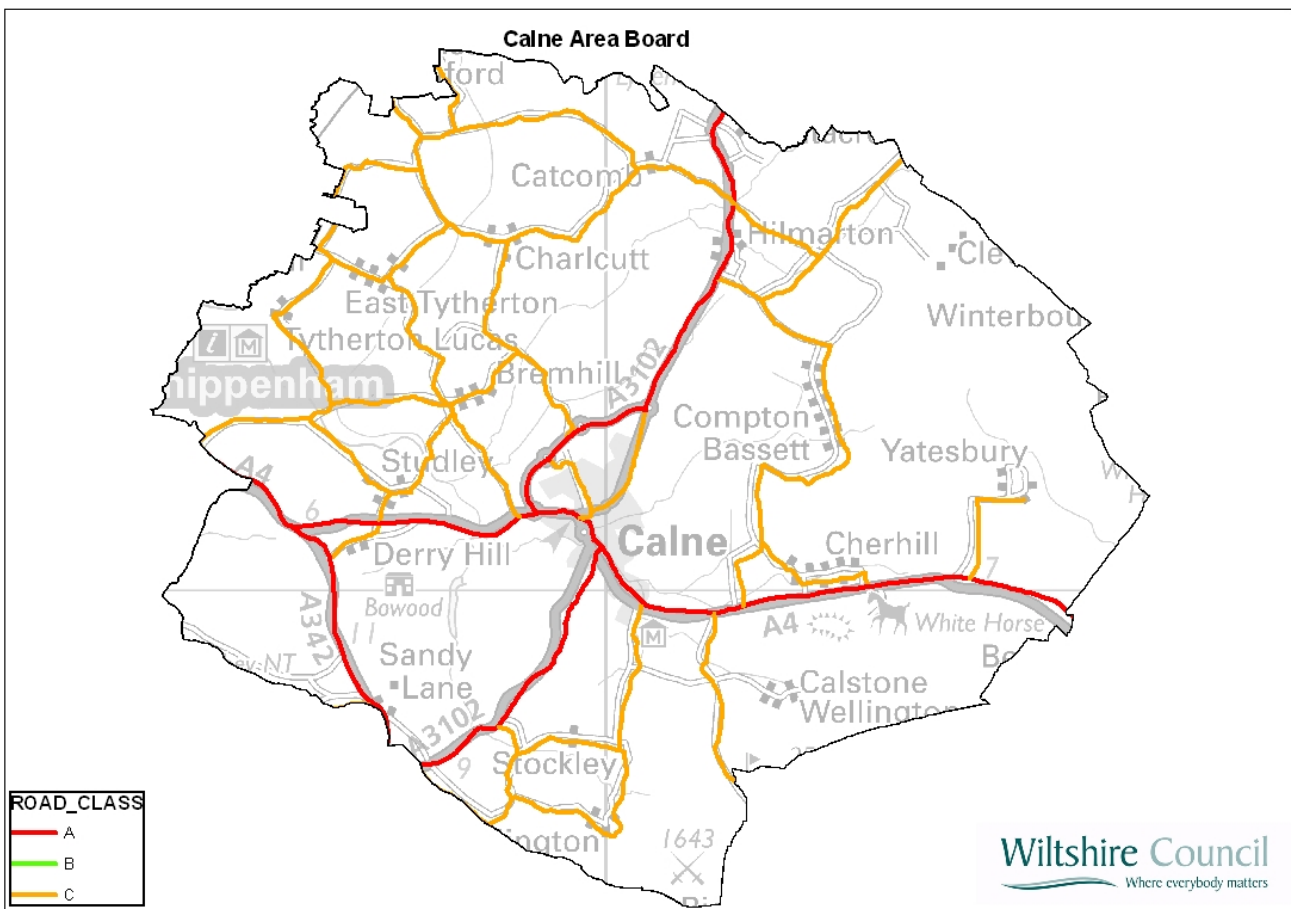
**Parishes in community area**

Bremhill  
Compton Bassett

Heddington  
Calne

Calne Without  
Hilmarton

Cherhill



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## Network statistics

Road type	Urban (km)	Rural (km)
<b>Principal roads</b>		
Class 1 (A)	8.99	21.61
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>8.99</b>	<b>21.61</b>
<b>Non principal roads</b>		
Class 2 (B)	0.0	0.0
Class 3 (C)	15.98	61.19
Class 4 (UC)	43.93	29.08
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>59.91</b>	<b>90.27</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>68.90</b>	<b>111.88</b>

The council categorises its roads to reflect their importance. This enables an effective assignment of highway inspection frequencies and maintenance standards, with Group 1 containing the most important routes. The map at Appendix A shows the road categories and Appendix B shows them by road class. The lengths of each road type for your community area are:

Road group	Urban roads (km)	Rural roads (km)
Group 1	11.38	25.91
Group 2	15.57	47.37
Group 3	41.95	38.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>68.90</b>	<b>111.88</b>

## Highway inventory

A council keeps an inventory of its highway assets in order to assist planning its highway maintenance. Important statistics relating to your board area are:

1. Carriageway 974,070 square metres (180 kms/110 miles)
2. Footways (adjacent to road) 238,908 square metres (104 kms/64 miles)
3. Footways (linked) 21,232 square metres (10 kms/6 miles)
4. White road centre lines 55 kilometres (34 miles)
5. Road kerbs 138 kilometres (85 miles)
6. Grass verge (maintained) 435,203 square metres (272 kms/167 miles)
7. Drainage grips 1,045 number
8. Drainage pipe grips 86 number
9. Drainage gullies 3,353 number
10. Road signs 1,310 number
11. Street lights 1,567 number

## Work carried out in 2011/12

Extensive programmes of maintenance work and schemes on the highway network were carried out during 2011/12.

The main projects carried out within your community area in 2011/12 were:

### Road maintenance

	Town	Location	Works
1.	Hilmarton	New Zealand	Surface dressing
2.	Hilmarton	Goatacre Lane	Surface dressing
3.	Tytherton Lucas	Village Road	Surface dressing
4.	Derry Hill	A4 New Road	Surface only
5.	Sandy Lane	A342 between Sandy Lane and A3102 junction	Surface only
6.	Cherhill	Middle Lane	Micro asphalt
7.	Cherhill	Maiden Lane	Micro asphalt
8.	Cherhill	C138 Park Lane	Micro asphalt
9.	Calne	The Pippin	Micro asphalt
10.	Derry Hill	A4 New Road	Surface only
11.	Sandy Lane	A342 Sandy Lane to A3102 junction	Surface only
12.	Hilmarton	A3102 Goatacre to Hilmarton	Carriageway repairs
13.	Bremhill	Avon Farm Lane	Carriageway repairs
14.	Derry Hill	C136 Church Road	Carriageway repairs
15.	Heddington	Heddington Hill	Retread (recycling)
16.	Bremhill	C134 East Tytherton	Verge overruns
17.	Bremhill	C113 Kellaways	Verge overruns
18.	Langley Burrell	C375 Langley Burrell	Verge overruns
19.	Langley Burrell	Sutton Lane south	Verge overruns

### Footway schemes

	Town	Location	Treatment type
1.	Calne	Churchill Close	Slurry seal footway
2.	Calne	Castle Walk	Reconstruction footway

### Highway drainage maintenance

	Town	Location	Works completed
1.	Sandy Lane	A342 Devizes Road	Drainage investigations & repairs
2.	Derry Hill	A4 New Road	Drainage investigations & repairs

### Transportation schemes

	Town	Location	Scheme
1.	Calne	Priestly School	Taking action on school journeys scheme
2.	Calne	A3102 Greenacres Way, A4 Cherhill/Quemerford	Part night street lighting – Traffic routes
3.	Calne	A3102 Curzon Street/The Square	Sign review on A3102 Oxford Road and A4 (CATG)
4.	Calne	Prince Charles Drive	Pedestrian improvements outside school (TAOSJ)
5.	Yatesbury	Various	Part night street lighting
6.	Hilmarton	A3102 Swindon Road	Pedestrian refuge
7.	Studley	A4 New Road	Improvements to crossing facility (lighting)

## **Bridge maintenance programme**

	<b>Parish</b>	<b>Bridge name</b>	<b>Scheme</b>
1.	Various	Various	Incursions work at various sites with Network Rail

## **Signing and lining improvements**

	<b>Parish/Town</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Scheme</b>
1.	Calne Without	A4 Studley	Pedestrian warning signs
2.	Compton Bassett	Compton Bassett	Cycle warning signs
3.	Studley	A4 Derry Hill	Lining review
4.	Goatacre	Goatacre	Lining review
5.	Bremhill	Tytherton Lucas	Lining review
6.	Calne Without	A342 Sandy Lane	Lining review
7.	Studley	Old Road	Speed limit signing review
8.	Calne	The Pippin	Lining review
9.	Cherhill	Park Lane	Lining review
10.	Cherhill	Middle Lane	Lining review
11.	Compton Bassett	Compton Bassett cycleway	Give way markings

## **Signing and lining (rechargeable & partnership schemes)**

	<b>Parish/Town</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Scheme</b>
1.	Calne	Calne	Direction signs to landfill

## **Tree maintenance**

	<b>Parish/area</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Works completed</b>
1.	Calne Without	A4	Tree work
2.	Calne	A4 to The Rise footway	Tree work
3.	Calne	Castle Street	Tree work
4.	Calne	Wessington Avenue	Tree work
5.	Heddington	Heddington Hill	Tree work

## **Rights of way**

	<b>Parish/area</b>	<b>Path No/location</b>	<b>Works completed</b>
1.	Calne	Footpath 30	Installed steps into the slope to improve safety of users
2.	Calne Without	Bridleway 79	Boardwalk over wet ground built Nocketts, Derry Hill
3.	Calne Without	Footpath 46, Derry Hill	Cleared route
4.	Cherhill	Byway 6, Jugglers Lane	Cleared route
5.	Cherhill	Bridleway 20	Cleared route
6.	Cherhill	Byway 18, Windmill Hill	Cleared route and repaired badger damage
7.	Bremhill	Bridleway 11	Barrier stile installed
8.	Heddington	Byway 17	Hedge cutting
9.	Heddington	Restricted byway 8	Cleared route

## **What the council does**

There are extensive programmes of routine and planned maintenance proposed for 2012/13. These are to improve road safety and the condition of the highway network. The day to day maintenance of the highway is carried out by the Local Highways and Streetscene teams from depots across the county, supported by the council's specialist contractors and service suppliers. The service covers a wide variety of activities, which keep the county's roads in a safe and serviceable condition, and some of these are described below.

The council operates a customer care unit and Clarence (**C**ustomer **L**ighting **A**nd **R**oads **E**nquiry **C**entre) service for reporting road, lighting defects and other hazards including flooding and drainage issues. This enables defects to be reported by telephone (0800 23 23 23 or 01225 777234 from landlines) or through the council's website.

### **Highway inspections**

The council regularly inspects all of the county's roads and footways in accordance with its highway inspection manual. Additional inspections are made in response to reports of defects from the public, councillors, local councils and road users. All road bridges are inspected on a two yearly cycle, or more frequently where bridges have been assessed as sub-standard, in order to ensure that maintenance requirements are identified at an early stage and that no unexpected deterioration has taken place. Regular inspections of street lighting are made at night to ensure they are working properly.

### **Parish steward scheme**

The Parish Stewards will continue regular visits throughout the year. The frequency of visits is evolving as a new approach is being developed in some areas of Wiltshire. Parish Stewards are being teamed with streetscene operatives to provide a proactive team for addressing the normal parish steward highway issues together with verge maintenance issues such as litter picking and grass cutting. Any town or parish affected by these changes will be informed of the proposals when they are to be introduced in their area.

### **Gully emptying**

There is a programme of gully and drainage maintenance, which includes inspection, emptying and clearing of connections by a fleet of four machines equipped with high pressure jetting facilities and satellite tracking. The key objectives of this service are to keep the high speed roads as free of standing water as possible in order to reduce the likelihood of vehicles aquaplaning, and to reduce the formation of potholes. Gullies in Group 1 rural roads are usually visited once per year and gullies in urban Group 2 and 3 roads once every two to three years. Weekends are worked as required to attend traffic sensitive sites.

### **Rural grass cutting**

There are 10,158,978 square metres of rural verges across the county, and these are cut in May/June and again in October/November. The minor roads are cut first, followed by the A and B routes. This ensures that visibility areas at junctions are cut twice during each operation. In addition Unimog machines are used throughout the season to provide additional trimming in visibility areas.

### **Urban grass cutting**

Urban verges generally receive seven to twelve cuts, between April and November, according to the needs of the season.

## **Routine highway maintenance**

During the year the following resources are used on the highway network:

- a. Roadmenders. These special machines provide hot macadam and asphalt for the repair of road and footway surface defects.
- b. Unimogs. Multi-purpose four wheel drive machines that have many uses, including clearing drainage grips, sign cleaning, verge and hedge mowing, kerb and footway scrubbing and winter gritting.
- c. Skilled masonry gangs. These operatives carry out repairs to culverts, drains, iron-covers, parapets, paving stones and walls.
- d. Emergency response teams. Working in partnership with the parish stewards these teams attend to many highway problems, clearing-up after spills, collisions and other events.
- e. Patching/masonry teams. Multi-skilled teams to augment local skills and resources as necessary.
- f. Aids to movement team. They replace, renew and improve road markings, for example at junctions.
- g. Gully tankers. Specialist equipment to clean out highway drains and gullies.
- h. High pressure jetting machine. To cleanse drains and culverts, where there are particular problems.
- i. Velocity repairer. High speed jet patcher used mainly on rural roads to repair carriageways.

## **Annual highway works programmes**

Annual programmes of works are carried out on the highway network, including:

- a. Road sign refurbishment and safety improvements.
- b. Centreline and road markings.
- c. Cat's eye renewal.
- d. Routine maintenance of highway structures – removing vegetation and carrying out minor repairs to bridges and retaining walls.
- e. Tree maintenance and care.

As well as planned programmes of work the highways service also carries out programmes of weed control, grass cutting, leaf clearance and other seasonal operations.

## **Winter and emergency response**

The council responds to incidents on the highway, and salts key routes when there is a risk of ice. Wiltshire has a large road network, and it would be unrealistic and uneconomic to attempt to treat all roads with salt. The network routinely given precautionary salting treatment comprises all class A and B roads, and the more important lower class roads. When temperatures are predicted to remain below freezing after the morning rush, then a larger network may be salted.

In recent years Wiltshire has experienced particularly severe winter conditions. Wiltshire holds a strategic stockpile of salt which has placed the county in a far better position to cope with winter conditions than many of our neighbours. The council has a well maintained fleet of gritters available to treat the network, and when necessary makes use of local farmers and contractors to operate snow ploughs.

The council provides salt bins at key locations, which are filled at the beginning of the season and refilled as necessary. The council operates a scheme to provide 1 tonne bags of salt to parish and town councils so that they can refill grit bins in their areas. In severe weather the council endeavours to refill the grit bins as soon as possible, but keeping the main roads open and responding to emergencies has to take priority.

The council's operatives are ready to be deployed across the county in response to severe weather. The priority is safety, concentrating on accesses in and out of villages, and protecting people. The council's highways emergency response teams operate around the clock to respond to accidents and incidents on the county's extensive highway network, often in conjunction with the police and emergency services.

## **Street lighting and traffic signals**

The council uses specialist contractors to maintain the street lighting, traffic signals and road signs on the county's highway network to ensure they are functioning properly and are in safe condition.

The council is aware of the environmental impact of street lighting in terms of its carbon footprint and pollution of the night sky. Rising energy costs are also a serious concern, and projects to switch off some of the lighting for part of the night have been introduced with the co-operation of the Area Boards and local communities.

Any defects and faults with street lighting or traffic signals can be reported through Clarence (0800 23 23 23 or 01225 777234 from landlines) or on the council's website.

## **Drainage and flooding**

As well as the routine emptying of gullies and maintenance of highway drainage, the council has a major programme of highway drainage investigation and repairs. A specialist team with CCTV survey equipment records the location and condition of the highway drainage systems, and co-ordinates repair work or replacement as necessary. An extensive programme of highway and land drainage improvements includes the repair of damaged systems and improvements to sub-standard drainage to reduce the risk of flooding, particularly where there are safety issues.

The council works closely with the Environment Agency and other organisations involved in drainage matters. Two operational flood working groups in Wiltshire co-ordinate the work of the organisations involved in land drainage. Many drainage and flooding problems can be resolved locally with the help of local councils and landowners, but the more serious problems may need to be referred to the operational flood working groups for consideration.

The council is keen to work with town and parish councils to address problem sites. Local knowledge and contacts are appreciated, and an approach to a landowner from the community can often be more effective and quicker than the use of legal processes. In the first instance drainage and flooding issues can be reported through Clarence (0800 23 23 23 or 01225 777234 from landlines).

## **Road resurfacing**

There is a backlog of maintenance required to the highway network nationally. In Wiltshire sustained investment in recent years has seen a substantial improvement in the condition of our roads, however the funding is limited, and it is necessary to prioritise repairs and surfacing work. Roads for surfacing and reconstruction are reviewed annually because the rate at which carriageways deteriorate depends on a number of factors, including traffic volumes, ground conditions, weather and drainage. Technical surveys of the condition of the highway network are carried out annually and this information helps to prioritise work.

Road safety is a priority. As well as maintaining the structural condition of the network it is important to ensure there is adequate skid resistance. In recent years extensive work has been carried out on many rural A and B roads to bring them up to standard, and to improve skid resistance on rural high speed main roads, especially at locations with poor safety records. A large programme of work has been prepared for 2012/13 to address the structural and safety issues on all types of road on the highway network.

## **Bridges and structures**

The bridge strengthening and replacement programme is gradually reducing the number of sub-standard bridges in Wiltshire, and it has generally been possible to avoid weight restrictions. Where major structural work is necessary, restrictions on the flow of traffic are inevitable and extended road closures may be required. Disruption is kept to a minimum as far as is reasonably practicable in these cases.

## **Rights of way improvements**

The rights of way wardens investigate reports of obstruction of rights of way, and arrange necessary maintenance, including hedge cutting and other seasonal vegetation clearance. They also work with volunteer groups and others to replace stiles with kissing gates, improve rights of way and carry out repairs.

## **Community Area Transport Groups**

The area boards have set up Community Area Transport Groups (CATGs) to identify priorities for transport investments. The schemes can include highway improvements, pedestrian crossings, footways, traffic calming, traffic management and cycle facilities.

In 2011/12 funding of £250,000 was set aside for allocation by the Area Boards to fund highway improvements in the community areas and a further £100,000 was available centrally that CATGs could bid for. For 2012/13 a further £250,000 will be distributed, with a further £250,000 available centrally that CATGs can bid for. The local CATGs are becoming increasingly important in developing schemes to meet local needs.

## Schemes proposed for 2012/13

The list of schemes below is based on the best information currently available. Implementation of the schemes may depend on the successful completion of any legal or other procedures, and may be subject to changes as a result of weather or other factors. The map in Appendix C shows the locations of the main schemes.

### Road maintenance

Town		Location	Works
1.	Calstone	A4 to village road	Surface dressing
2.	Calstone	UC Sprays Farm	Surface dressing
3.	Blackland	Blacklands crossroads to A4	Surface dressing
4.	Calne	C394 Oxford Road	Surface only

### Transportation schemes

Town		Location	Scheme
1.	Various	Various	CATG schemes – to be determined

### Bridge maintenance programme

Parish		Bridge name	Scheme
1.	Calne Without	Over the A4 between Calne and Chippenham	Black Dog Bridge timber treatment
2.	Various	Various	Incursions work at various sites with Network Rail

### Rights of Way

There is also a mowing programme which is ongoing throughout the year to try and keep those paths which are well used clear of nettles and undergrowth. Some of these paths have been mowed in the winter months to try and increase the width by cutting out the brambles and blackthorn. Routine maintenance work continues throughout the area to repair broken stiles, repair gates, clear undergrowth and maintain signs and signposts, etc, to keep paths safe for use by the public. This is outside of the Parish Programme of maintenance and is in answer to requests and complaints from parish councils and members of the public

## **Winter Damage Repairs**

The severe winter weather in recent years has had a serious effect on the highway network, and the deterioration in carriageway conditions has been a problem nationally. This council and the government have continued to invest in highway maintenance, and an extensive programme of repairs is proposed across the county. It is likely that additional sites not listed above could receive localised repairs and treatment to address defects during the year.

## **Road Conditions**

The council has carried out large road resurfacing programmes in recent years, which have seen an overall improvement condition of the highway network despite the winter damage. The roads resurfaced in recent years in your community area are shown in Appendix D, and for comparison purposes the conditions of roads in each of the community areas are included in Appendix E.

## **Useful contacts for your area**

Customer Care Unit 0300 456 0100 e-mail [clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Head of Local Highways and Streetscene – Bill Parks 01225 713000

Area Highway Engineer - Martin Cook 01225 713000

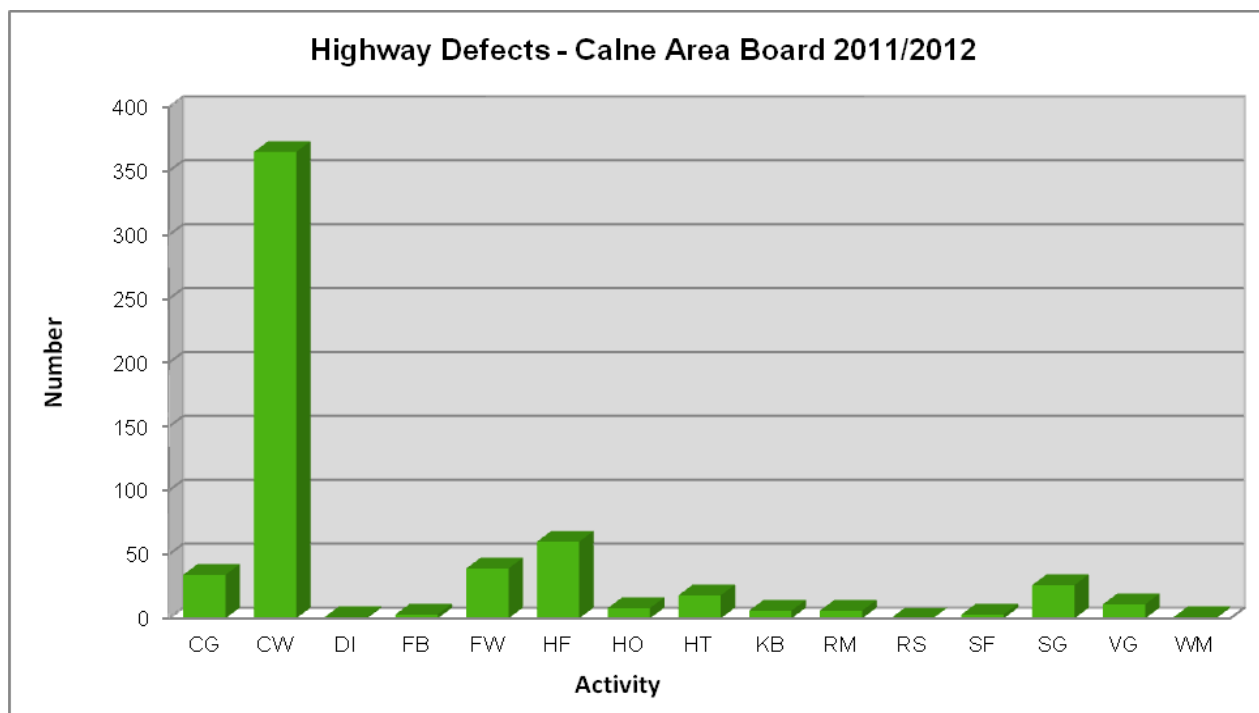
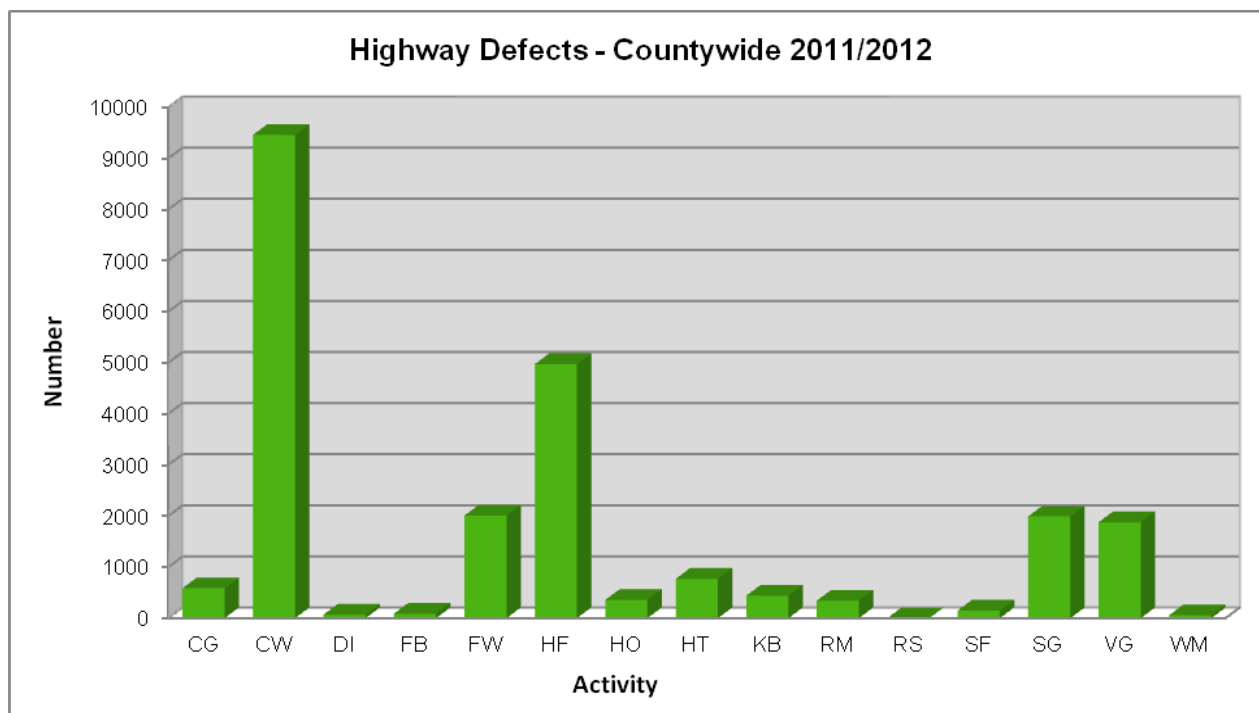
Clarence 0800 23 23 23 or 01225 777234 from landlines

Out of hours number for highway related defects 01722 413834

Website [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)

## Analysis of Highway Defects 2011/2012

The graphs below give details of highway defects recorded over the past year illustrating the activities which generate the most defects across the county and for your community area.



### Activities

**CG** – Covers and Frames, **DI** – Ditches, **WM** – Winter Maintenance, **FB** – Fences & Barriers, **HF** – Flooding & Blockages, **FW** – Footways, **HO** – Obstructions/Cleansing/Spills, **KB** – Kerbs, **CW** – Carriageway, **RM** – Road Markings, **RS** – Road Studs, **SG** – Signs, **SF** – Street Furniture, **HT** – Hedges & Trees, **VG** – Grass Verges.