March 4, 2018

MEDIA BULLETIN

Storm Emma – Situation Update (20:00)

Met Éireann’s Orange Status Warning has been extended until 12noon tomorrow as widespread lying snow and ice will continue to lead to hazardous conditions. Temperatures are rising and lying snow will continue to melt resulting in localised flooding.

Fingal County Council staff spent today working to ensuring that as many people as possible can make it to work and school tomorrow. Crews worked on removing blockages from roads across the county and ensuring that bus routes are clear. Other crews were deployed into towns and villages to clear footpaths and ensure that there is access to key public buildings such as hospitals, fire stations, Garda stations and train stations.

Estuary Road and Bissetts Strand Road in Malahide are closed due to flooding and there are still some issues with snow on minor roads across the county. Clearing these will be a key part of the work schedule tomorrow.

Fingal County Council is appealing to motorists to continue to drive with caution and to slow down when approaching our crews out clearing snow from roads and footpaths. There were several near misses this morning in different areas across the county from motorists driving recklessly.

With overnight temperatures forecast not to fall below freezing point, there will be no salting of roads this evening or tomorrow morning.

Due to low water levels in several reservoirs in North County Dublin it has been necessary to reduce water supply to users in Skerries, Lusk, Rush, Loughshinny, Balbriggan and Naul. Updates in relation to restoration of normal supply will issue when available. Other water users are urgently requested to ensure that taps are turned off and water usage minimised to help ensure that there will be no need to extend the restrictions to other areas.
For the past two days the Council has been engaged with coastal erosion issues in the Portrane area and several inspections have taken place including visits to one householder. The situation is under review and some temporary measures are being assessed to ensure that any action taken is effective. The Fingal Coastal Liaison Group and local community will be kept informed as matters progress in the coming days.

Communities across the county continued to be active with residents in housing estates clearing their roads to ensure safe access for vehicles to the main road while in rural areas local farmers played an important role in clearing roads that are not designated as Priority Routes.

Volunteers attached to Fingal County Council’s Emergency Management Unit were once again deployed across the county by the Housing and Community Department to make contact with vulnerable residents.

Public Parks reopened today and tomorrow will see the re-opening of all other public buildings, recycling centres and graveyards.

The Council continues to provide emergency assistance through staff in our Operations, Water Services, Housing and Corporate Affairs Departments.

Members of the public can continue to submit reports of issues in their area to www.fixyourstreet.ie. These reports will be logged and assessed.

Reports of people sleeping rough should be phoned to 1800 707 707 or posted online at http://www.homelessdublin.ie/report-rough-sleeper#1

Information is being continually posted on the Fingal Alerts app as well as our Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Fingal County Council Chief Executive Paul Reid has expressed his thanks to the staff and volunteers who have worked tirelessly since last Tuesday to deal with the fallout from the snow storms. He said: “We couldn't be more proud of how they have responded. Public Servants at their best.”

ENDS

For further information please contact press@fingal.ie