Council warns of bad weather ahead

Is this weather on its way?

With wild and wintry conditions heading our way, the Council is urging Edinburgh's residents to heed advice on how to keep themselves, their properties and their vulnerable neighbours safe in bad weather.

The Council's website is stocked with information on [what to do when gales and storms are forecast](), such as parking vehicles in garages or away from buildings and trees etc or securing loose objects that could be blown away.

As temperatures look set to plummet once again towards the end of the week with snow in the forecast as well, residents can also log on to see an [interactive map of salt bins]() across the city and find out the priority streets and pavements for gritting patrols. You can now use our [online forms]() to report problems with salt bins or to request a new one for your area.

Preparing for wintry conditions is strongly recommended and the [Ready for Winter web page]() includes tips such as investing in a good, strong snow shovel and arranging a winter health check for your car.

During severe weather, remember to check on your neighbours, particularly if they are older or live alone. Keep up to date with roads, schools and travel information on the [website](), via [Twitter]() and local radio.

Councillor Lesley Hinds, Transport and Environment Convener, said: "Winter is definitely here now and the Council has been hard at work for many weeks getting the Capital as prepared as possible for whatever the weather has in store for us.

"We've got 16,000 tonnes of salt stockpiled — more than three times the amount we used in the whole of winter 2013/14 — and gritting teams have been patrolling and on standby since late October, responding to the detailed and regular forecasts we receive from the Met Office.

"As always, we'd remind residents to do whatever they need to do to get themselves 'winter ready' and would urge everyone to look out for those in their community who might be less able to look after themselves."