

Request for Information: Ref NCC-032259-18 Pothole Maintenance Projects

Thank you for your request for information relating to pothole maintenance projects. I can now let you have the following information in response to the questions you raised.

Q1. How many pothole maintenance projects are currently outstanding in your area? 592 Reactive Maintenance Pothole Jobs on Confirm as on 25/07/2018

Q2. If different to the answer to Q1, how many potholes do you currently have in your area? We manage the day to day works on the Highway through a Highway Asset Management System (HAMS). The actual number of potholes and areas for repair being identified on the Highway Infrastructure will vary day by day, hour by hour so it is not really possible to answer this question without a specific date and time. An approximation

Q3. How many pothole maintenance projects have you completed this year to date (2018/2019), and did you complete last year (2017/2018), in 2016/2017 and 2015/2016. (Please provide in calendar years if you don't have the data by tax year).

201816985 to 25/07/2018201716844201613698201510858

To put this into context between 01/04/2017 and 31/03/2018, 87,304 carriageway pothole repairs were undertaken.

Supporting notes to these figures:

Prior to 2017 there was inconsistency in way pothole repairs were issued and recorded in the HAMS. The reported data above is the number of jobs, therefore, a job may consist of multiple repairs. Since May 2016, the working and recording methods were changed to allow individual repairs to be quantified since that date and hence the figure above for 17/18. Therefore, given your overall request and the time period involved we have provided job data.

Q4. How much (£) have you spent on resurfacing and fixing potholed roads over the past four years? Could you please provide separate figures for each year: 2018/2019 (to date), 2017/2018, 2016/2017, 2015/2016? (Please provide in calendar years if you don't have the data by tax year). Potholes can be repaired as part of the day to day maintenance of the Highway Network (termed Reactive Maintenance) or as part of the long term capital investment

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associated with more major maintenance activities and the planned maintenance programmes. These year on year maintenance programmes are termed Capital Maintenance and include maintenance activities associated with many highway assets. In recent years the Department for Transport has provided additional funding, as indicated below, under the Pothole Fund and Weather Repair Fund, which has been predominantly targeted at the maintenance of carriageways. This funding can not only be used to undertake small repairs but can also be utilised to fund resurfacing activities. Therefore, whilst this data is an accurate record of funding it does not provide the exact breakdown you are after because the focus of highway maintenance is not just repairing potholes and resurfacing but the long term Asset Management of the Highway Infrastructure. We have provided greater detail here on funding so you can appreciate the variations in funding levels, but we cannot provide in the specific form being requested.

2018/19

Reactive Maintenance - \pounds 2.4m + \pounds 1.635m DfT Pothole Funding = \pounds 4.035m. Capital Maintenance - \pounds 15.5m.

2017/18 Reactive Maintenance - £2.4m + £1.174m DfT Pothole Action Fund + additional £815k DfT Pothole Fund allocation = £4.389m. Capital Maintenance - £15.4m.

2016/17 Reactive Maintenance - \pounds 2.4m + \pounds 0.839m DfT Pothole Action Fund = \pounds 3.239m. Capital Maintenance - \pounds 15.3m.

2015/16 Reactive Maintenance - £2.4m. Capital Maintenance - £14.9m.

2014/15 Reactive Maintenance - \pounds 2.4m + \pounds 2.781m DfT Pothole Fund = \pounds 5.181m. Capital Maintenance - \pounds 14.1m.

2013/14 Reactive Maintenance - \pounds 2.4m + \pounds 1.565 DfT Weather Repair Fund = \pounds 3.965m. Capital Maintenance - \pounds 14.1m.

Q5. What is the name of the road in your council area that is worse for dealing damage to cars (i.e. damaged more cars than any other road in the area). Please let us know the name of the road, how many cars have been damaged on that road, and over what time period). If you don't have this exact data, please provide the road responsible for the most compensation claims for pothole damage from drivers. We are unable to answer this question, as we do not record the road in a reportable format and we do not record the type of vehicle.

Q6. Have your budgets for maintaining road surfaces and filling potholes been cut this year compared to last year? (Yes/No) Internal - No, Nationally - Yes, but the years not over so there may still be further settlements from the DfT.

Q7. How many miles of road in your area do you estimate currently need maintenance work because of uneven road surfaces or potholes? We don't record data in this way. We routinely inspect the Highway Infrastructure in Nottinghamshire and from these inspections, certain streets are identified as being potential future sites for highway maintenance given their condition. These conditional reports are divided into two types; those sites that are suitable for surface dressing/micro asphalt and those sites were resurfacing/reconstruction could be considered. From this a candidate list of sites is maintained for the county which can be termed a future maintenance programme (or as we call it a Candidate Site List). From this list, every year, the in-year maintenance programme is developed based on a Detailed Visual Inspection

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(DVI) and the level of funding available that year. We do not measure the length of such as it is meaningless. Our focus is on treatment necessary and benefit to the Infrastructure.

Q8. Approximately what proportion of the roads in your area now need maintenance because of uneven surfaces or potholes? The figures below are the Road Condition Indicators for Nottinghamshire for 17/18 (18/19 - network is currently being surveyed):

% of Principal Roads where maintenance should be considered (A Roads) - 1.7% % of Non-principal Roads where maintenance should be considered (B&C Roads) - 3.9% % of Unclassified Roads where maintenance should be considered (U Roads) - 20.8%

We hope this now satisfies your request, and should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly using the contact details below. In addition and for future reference Nottinghamshire County Council regularly publish previous Freedom of Information Requests and answers on our website, under Disclosure logs, available at the following link:

http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information Team, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or email complaints@nottscc.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Name Jilly Walden Position Complaints information and Mediation Officer Nottinghamshire County Council