

**From:** [FOI](#)  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Request NCC-049765-20  
**Date:** 28 April 2021 15:37:00

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Dear

Thank you for your request for information about potholes in Nottinghamshire.

Please find below our responses to your specific questions:

**1. In the last financial year (2019/20)**

**(a) how much money was paid as compensation for property damage and personal injury caused by potholes (please include legal expenses)**

£69,013

**(b) how many individual claims did this represent?**

136

**2. Please tell me the value of the biggest claim settled in 2019/20, and the location of the pothole that caused the incident. Please provide a brief description of the incident (e.g. cyclist fell off bike going over pothole and broke their leg). If possible, please break up the cost of the claim between compensation paid and legal expenses.**

Information as on 29 March 2021

<b>Claimant Damages</b>	<b>Claimant Costs</b>	<b>Own Costs</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Location</b>
£125,000	£49,673	£21,097	£195,770	Information withheld for DPA
Description Claimant tripped on pothole and sustained an injury				

We are unable to disclose the location of this pothole as to do so could enable the claimant to be identifiable and we therefore consider this to be exempt under S40 of the FOI act

**3. How many potholes did you repair in (a) 2018/19 and (b) 2019/20?**

**4. What was your budget spend on repairing potholes in (a) 2018/19 and (b) 2019/20?**

**5. Do you have a current estimate for the cost to your authority of repairing an average pothole? If so how much is this estimate?**

Your questions are focused on potholes, however, the day-to-day maintenance of the public highway which includes pothole repairs is much wider than just these repairs. This service is known as Reactive Maintenance and includes repairs associated with potholes, small area patching, ironwork make safe/repair, small kerbing repairs and generally anything identified by the Highway Inspectorate necessary to keep the Highway safe for users. Whilst Carriageway and Footway pothole and patching repairs form, by far the majority of the repairs undertaken under the Reactive Maintenance heading, the spend data below will include these other costs and hence the average cost figure for potholes will be slightly lower than that given, due to these costs being included. This is the best data we have as the service is wider than pothole repairs.

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>No. of Pothole Repairs</b>	<b>Spend on Repairs</b>	<b>Average Cost per Pothole</b>
2018/2019	114,205	£4,232,414.27	£37.06

2019/2020      106,910      £4,193,027.25      £39.22

**6. Please provide me with any figure you have for the number of potholes that require repair as of the date of this e-mail, or nearest convenient date.**

As of 16/04/2021 the number of potholes identified for repair was 9,170. Depending on the nature of the defect (pothole) will categories the response time in accordance with County Council's Highway Inspection and Risk Manual. You may find the following link useful with regard to Highway Inspections and the service being provided (<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/highway-inspection-manual>).

**7. (a) What was your budget for the repair of potholes in the 2020/21 financial year?**

**(b) Please provide me with a current estimate of how much over or under budget you expect to be at the end of the financial year in relation to your spend from your pothole repair budget for 2020/21?**

The budget for Reactive Maintenance for 2020/21 was in line with the previous years but as the end of year accounts have not been closed yet it is not possible to provide you with an end of year figure yet. Overall, up until December we had been slightly below budget but since then we have seen a marked increase in the pothole volumes appearing on the network and hence, we are unable to provide an estimated figure given the volumes repaired in the last three months of the year. If you would like to raise this as a question in about a months' time, the data should be available.

I hope that you find this information to be helpful, however if you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, then please email us at [foi@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:foi@nottscc.gov.uk) quoting the reference NCC-049765-20 and we will be happy to review your request

With kind regards

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