

Dear Requester

I refer to your recent Freedom of Information request. The response is as follows:

Further to your recent enquiry regarding potholes and the condition of the highway network. We'll try and answer your specific questions in order as set out below.

What does the council spend on pot holes throughout the year?

Potholes are only one type of highway surface failure and hence the budget is not assigned to just potholes but the management of the Highway Network to maintain it in a safe condition for use. This is known as Reactive Maintenance and is an outcome of enquiries/reports to the County Council along with actionable defects identified through the planned inspection regime. The annual expenditure for this type of work, excluding Planned Structural Patching and Planned Resurfacing work is in the region of £4.2m depending on the type of Winter we experience and the level of deterioration on the Highway Network. We have included the number of potholes repaired in the previous financial years - the data for 2020/21 is not available yet as the associated financial accounts have not been closed.

YEAR	No Pothole Repairs	Spend on Repairs
2018/2019	114,205	£4,232,414.27
2019/2020	106,910	£4,193,027.25

The government announced that road tax would be used for roads again.

The level of expenditure on the country's road network does not directly correlate with the road tax fund collected. Historically the figure circulated by bodies such as the AA and RAC was that approximately 5% of the money collected actually was spent on the roads in the England. Whilst central government has changed the way in which it funds highways and there is a prerequisite to following Asset Management principles to safeguard a similar level of funding overall, the level of funding has increased slightly year on year, but this is subject to variation.

What is the council doing about our badly repaired roads?

We maintain Nottinghamshire's Highway Network (approximately 2500 miles) in line with central governments directives and our own local policies. Every stretch of road and footway forms part of a planned highway inspection regime and we inspect these routinely based on their use and their locality to maintain them in a safe condition for users. In addition to this the County Council offer a means by which the public can report such defects, which are inspected and repaired accordingly. This day-to-day maintenance is known as Reactive Maintenance and whilst keeping the network safe does result in areas that are deteriorating over time receiving numerous pothole/patching repairs. Alongside the planned Inspections regime, we undertake technical surveys in accordance with Department for Transport (DfT) directives to monitor the highways condition and deterioration. Using the data collected from these surveys we are able to produce a long-term programme of those streets where work is required, prioritised based on condition, traffic use, hierarchy, local importance and

amenities to provide a weighting and hence indicative order of repair. Such works/repairs comprise of reconstruction, resurfacing, large scale structural patching to restore the surface to a 'new' condition' and forms the Capital Maintenance programme with sites being drawn from the long-term programme known as the Candidate List.

Pot holes are everywhere now and damage tyres and bad for cyclists safety.

During the winter period we experience an increase in the number of potholes appearing on the network. This is a result of the freezing/thawing of the road surface under trafficked conditions. We receive many reports relating to these and through inspections associated with these enquiries and our planned inspection process, repairs are organised to the respective areas to keep them same.

We pay billions in council tax to NCC for what reasons? You also get government grants too.

Highways are only a small part of the services offered by Nottinghamshire County Council and information relating to how the money is allocated is circulated at the time the Council Tax review is sent to households and available online.

Highways receive a percentage allocation in line with the Council Tax review and in addition to this, central government through the DfT provide funding based on set parameters. Year on year the DfT element is the bigger allocation.

This funding is used to pay for the day-to-day maintenance (Reactive) of the network and the planned programme of work through the Capital Maintenance programme.

There is never anyone repairing roads look at the condition of the A609.

We are aware that the A609 is deteriorating, and pothole repairs have been undertaken. We are responsible for the section between Ballon Woods traffic lights and the county boundary near Ilkeston. There are two sections on the Candidate list which are identified for repair, and these are:

Broxtowe	A-Roads PRN	A609 Nottingham Road, Trowell	Structural patching	From M1 bridge to A6002 junction Balloon woods	A609	Trowell
Broxtowe	A-Roads PRN	A609 Nottingham Road, Trowell	Resurfacing / Structural patching	From M1 bridge to start of new surface dressing (travelling West)	A609	Trowell

The term structural patching in this context means large, machined patches which are excavated and laid using resurfacing equipment. This treatment will make good the deteriorated areas and prepare the site for a follow up treatment, when required, such as surface dressing.

Are we just paying our council tax to pay for your CEOs wages and management wages? We pay our car tax and council tax to get thing done on our roads before someone is killed. No doubt this had happened already and you just keep paying compensation and for those that have had car damage done. I am disgusted that you have neglected our roads as a council.

May I have a copy of your accounts under the freedom of information act 2000 for last year to my email dave@gizzy.plus.com Thanks I will not stop. I will be spraying every put hole with yellow paint that you use on the roads to alert people to potential dangers.

We hope the above goes some way in answer the final part of your questions. The following provides a link to the County Councils Committee structure and their associated documentation [Committees | Nottinghamshire County Council](#). From this you have access to each committee's accounts, plans, and programmes.

With respect to your final comment 'I will be spraying every put hole with yellow paint that you use on the roads to alert people to potential dangers'.

For your own safety and the safety of others we respectfully suggest that you don't do this. Instead report the pothole either by NCC website ([Home | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)) where 'Report a pothole' is on the front page or use this site to contact the Customer Service Team. Every report is inspected, and a repair organised as required.

I hope this assists. Should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly on the details below.

Complaints, Information and Mediation Officer
Nottinghamshire County Council

In addition to this and for future reference Nottingham County Council regularly publishes previous FOIR,s and answers on its website, under Disclosure logs. (see link)
<http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/>

You can use the search facility using keywords.

If you wish to raise any concerns about the way your request was dealt with, then please write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail foi@nottscc.gov.uk quoting the reference number above.