

Reference: RFI 2483  
Potholes

Request:

Since 1st February 2010:

1. how many pot holes have been filled,
2. how much money has been spent on pot hole repairs,
3. the average number of pot holes repairs per day being made by the council and
4. the estimated number of pot holes requiring repair.

Response:

1. Pothole repairs are not recorded in a separate system, and in order to answer, a search of the whole system would be required, to ascertain how many of those jobs comprised pothole repairs. This would involve a manual search of the records, which would take in excess of the appropriate limit as set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. However, based on the tonnage of tarmac used, the current estimate is around 4000 pothole repairs since the beginning of January.
2. The average cost of a pothole repair is £48 so theoretical spend on potholes is £192,000 since the beginning of January. The figure will actually be less due to economies of scale i.e. savings made by undertaking repairs to potholes in close proximity to each other.
3. In period January to present, between 40 and 50 potholes per day.
4. It takes 6 months to complete a full inspection of the highway network and therefore we cannot provide even an estimate. This is a reactive type of repair and it is not possible to know at any one time how many potholes across the borough require repair.

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