

Durham County Council
Freedom of Information Act 2000
Information request



Reference Number:

FOI20187088LJ

26 July 2018

Date Received:

04-July-18

You Requested:

Requestor: Lee Jefferson

Please kindly provide the total compensation paid for damage caused to property or person due to poor condition of roads (potholes, etc) for the years you are able to do so starting with 2015 and work backwards until either the data is no longer reasonably accessible or until you reach the beginning of 1990 (whichever happens sooner).

It is our preference for these figures to include any additional costs (such as legal fees). If this is not possible then please kindly provide the data anyway and state what is included.

It is not our preference for sidewalks/pavement data to be included, but you may do so if it cannot easily be excluded. Please let us know either way.

In terms of which year to put the compensation figures we shall provide an example. If the damage occurred in the year 1998 we would prefer the amount paid to appear in the 1998 column and so on. If you cannot arrange the data in this way then please kindly base it on the year the claim was made. For instance if the claim was made in the year 1999 then kindly arrange for the amount paid to appear in 1999. If however you are again unable to arrange the data in this way then kindly provide it in any available way stating how it is arranged.

For helpful reference we provide equivalent data from an extended version of this request supplied by other councils:

Westminster City Council

https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/roads_compensation_1990_2015_inc_3#incoming-1160339

Barnet Borough Council

https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/roads_compensation_1990_2015_inc#incoming-1158666

The authority is reminded it must provide a valid response within 20 working days of request receipt to comply with Section 10(1).

Our Response:

Please see our response in the table below. We have provided the information from 2010 which is when we set up our database for recording this information. Please note these figures include legal fees as well as compensation payments as we are not able to split these figures on our reporting system.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total claims for compensation your council received for year	175	299	388	469	201	129
Total claims your council paid out compensation for year	10	13	20	24	9	3
Highest single amount paid out in compensation for year (this includes all fees and disbursements)	38,471	35,982	65,584	12,507	10,891	4,250
Lowest single amount paid out in compensation for year (this includes all fees and disbursements)	70	66	72	35	55	122
Average amount paid out in compensation for year (this includes all fees and disbursements)	9,498	10,397	12,752	1,679	4,851	1,539
Total compensation paid out for year (this includes all fees and disbursements)	94,979	135,161	255,038	40,306	43,662	4,617

Attachments: None

Exemptions Applied: None

The Public Interest Test: Not applicable

Review Procedure

I hope that this information is of assistance. However, if you feel that this particular request has not been complied with fully under the terms of the Act then please put your grounds in writing stating exactly why our interpretation of the Act and guidance has been incorrect and email that to: foi@durham.gov.uk.

After you have exhausted our internal appeals procedure, you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:
Telephone: 01625 545 745 Email: casework@ico.org.uk

Christine Paciorek BA(Hons) PC foi and dp
Freedom of Information and Data Protection Officer
Information Management Team
Durham County Council