

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
C O U N C I L

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 001147  
Date            16 May 2017

### ***Potholes***

#### **Request:**

Could you please provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act:

1. The number of potholes reported within your local authority area in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 (to date), broken down by year.

#### **Customer Enquiries**

##### **Only**

2014 = 35  
2015 = 699  
2016 = 781  
2017 = 519

2. The minimum depth and width (in inches or cm) a reported pothole must be in order to be recorded as a pothole by your local authority.

In respect of question 2, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information as we do not have a minimum depth and width that a pothole should be in order for it to be reported to City of Wolverhampton Council. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

3. The number of potholes repaired within your local authority area in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 (to date), broken down by year.

2014 - 971  
2015 - 1,493  
2016 - 1,982  
2017 - 644

4. The amount of money the local authority has spent on repairing potholes within your local authority area in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 (to date), broken down by year. In respect of your question 4, it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold the above information in the specific category you are requesting as we do not hold the cost of pothole repairs separately. Costs are met from an allocated revenue budget for Patching, of which repairing potholes is an element.

Consequently, we are unable to provide the actual cost of pothole repairs separately, and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

However, we can provide you with the actual expenditure figures against this budget which are as follows:

2014/15	£1,241,948*
2015/16	£ 911,230
2016/17	£1,241,638**

\*includes £146,845 one off grant allocation to repair flood damaged roads

\*\*includes £110,000 of Department for Transport pot hole action funding

5. The amount of money the local authority has spent in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 (to date), broken down by year, on paying compensation to claimants where vehicle damage was caused by potholes/damaged road surfaces.

	Amount Paid £
2014	2,578.76
2015	3,123.47
2016	5,781.50
2017	3,578.10