

Annual Local Authority Road Maintenance (ALARM) Survey, 2018

Key findings

	TOTAL*	England**	London	Wales
Percentage of authorities responding	↓ 61%	↑ 71%	− 44%	↓ 36%
Highway maintenance budgets				
Average highway maintenance budget per authority	↑ £20.6m	↑ £26.2m	↑ £9.2m	↑ £8.1m
Percentage of highway maintenance budget spent on carriageway	↓ 56%	↓ 56%	↓ 49%	↑ 63%
Average carriageway maintenance budget	↑ £11.5m	↑ £14.7m	↑ £4.5m	↑ £5.1m
Shortfall				
Shortfall in annual carriageway maintenance budget	↓ £555.7m	↓ £389.0m	↑ £97.6m	↓ £69.1m
Average annual carriageway maintenance budget shortfall per authority	↓ £3.3m	↓ £3.4m	↑ £3.0m	↓ £3.1m
Estimated time to clear carriageway maintenance backlog	↑ 14 years	− 13 years	↓ 9 years	↑ 24 years
Estimated one-time catch-up cost	↓ £9.31bn	↓ £8.24bn	↓ £465.9m	↑ £603.4m
Estimated one-time catch-up cost per authority	↓ £55.4m	↓ £72.3m	↓ £14.6m	↑ £27.4m
Road condition				
Frequency of road surfacing (all road classes)	↑ 78 years	↑ 92 years	↑ 31 years	↑ 71 years
Number of potholes filled over past year	↓ 1,534,175	↓ 1,342,592	↓ 60,104	↓ 131,479
Average number of potholes filled per authority last year	↓ 9,132	↓ 11,777	↓ 1,878	↓ 5,976
Average cost to fill one pothole – planned	↑ £52	↑ £49	↓ £56	↑ £61
Average cost to fill one pothole – reactive	↑ £75	↑ £74	↓ £89	↑ £60
Total spent filling potholes in past year	↓ £94.9m	↓ £82.6m	↓ £4.4m	− £7.9m
Compensation claims				
Amount paid in road user compensation claims	↑ £7.3m	↑ £6.7m	↓ £564.6k	↓ £35.2k
Staff costs spent on claims (per year)	↑ £21.0m	↑ £12.8m	↑ £7.6m	↑ £554.7k

* England, London and Wales

** excludes London

↑ Up from ALARM survey 2017

↓ Down from ALARM survey 2017

− Same as ALARM survey 2017