



How we're spending money to resurface roads



Earlier today, Councillor Chris Watts, the Council's Cabinet Member for the Environment and Transport, spoke to members of the local media about the financial challenges facing local government ahead of Wednesday's (11 June) government spending review.

According to [the latest industry research](#), it would take £17bn and 12 years to clear the backlog of repairs across England and Wales. Here in Swindon, it's estimated it would take £51m to repair our backlog of works. This financial year we have a budget of £2.75m to carry out priority road resurfacing and reconstruction work.

Due to this limited budget, we can't carry out all the preventative road maintenance that's needed. This means that reactive work, including pothole repairs, is essential to address issues that pose an immediate safety risk in advance of when any resurfacing or reconstruction work may be completed.

This £2.75m sits within a larger £5.3m funding allocation which covers a range of additional work including refreshing road markings and upgrading traffic signals.

Fleet Street closed for Fleming Way works



Work to transform Fleming Way is edging closer to completion, but part of the site is still under construction obscured from view to many pedestrians.

The area behind H&M (the former Parade multi-storey car park) will be used as a rural bus hub and is beginning to take shape close to the recently-installed new toilet block.

The hub will host 10 bus services heading to locations such as Cirencester, Cricklade and Witney.

Much like the rest of the scheme, this area will include new bus shelters featuring solar panels, more accessible space and phone charging points, as well as new shrubs and trees to complement the rest of Fleming Way.

To help progress the work, Fleet Street has closed to all traffic.

The new area will mean more buses will be using Fleet Street to exit Fleming Way. As a result, the existing road surface needs to be strengthened to take the increased weight of the buses.

This work may take up to four weeks, meaning traffic will not be able to use the road during this time. The project team is working with local businesses to minimise the impact of the closure, which will include scheduled deliveries for the shops using part of Fleming Way.

Fleming Way is on track to be completed and opened before the end of the summer.

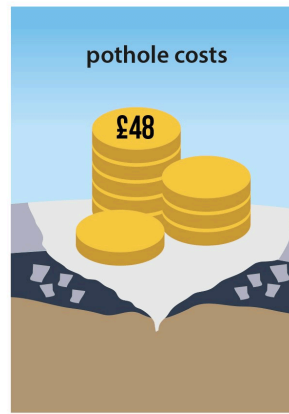
How much it costs to fix a pothole



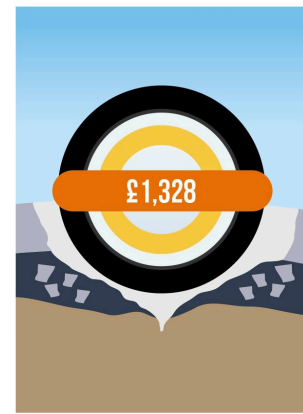
Our limited resources mean we will spend £2.75 million on proactive road resurfacing work in 2025/26.



We will also spend £170,000 on reactive pothole repairs.



A simple pothole costs around £48 to repair each one.



Sometimes a patch repair is needed. On average, a medium patch repair can cost around £1,328.

In 2025/26 we'll be spending £170,000 on reactive pothole repairs, alongside £2.75m on proactive road resurfacing work.

Reactive work, including pothole repairs, is essential to address issues that pose an immediate safety risk in advance of when any resurfacing or reconstruction work may be completed.

Patch repairs of a section of road last for years, but cost over 25 times more than a basic pothole repair as they require more labour, equipment and materials. These often need to be planned months in advance and require road closures and licences.

We inspect busier roads in a slow-moving vehicle on a monthly basis, but also walk and inspect all 522 miles of Swindon's roads at least once a year.

We also investigate and risk assess every report of road damage we receive through [our website](#).

Working to improve local roundabouts