

**COUNCIL MEETING – 20th MARCH 2024**

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP1	11/3/24	12/3/24

Submitted by:	Councillor Alan Lamb
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Sustainable Development & Infrastructure)
Relevant Director	Director of City Development

This Council notes with concern that the Administration are not doing enough to address the pothole crisis we have on Leeds’ roads and are showing no signs of developing a meaningful strategy for highway maintenance to address the woeful state of so many of our city’s roads and pavements.

Potholes create safety hazards and misery for road users, cause damage to vehicles, and cost the Council thousands of pounds in compensation pay outs to those affected.

Recent data shows the number of potholes reported in Leeds has risen by almost 60% under the last five years of the Labour administration, with 13,722 potholes reported last year alone. There were more than 300 accidents relating to potholes in 2023, compared to an average of 190 between 2019 and 2022, and compensation paid out to those affected by potholes has also nearly doubled in recent years. Estimates suggest there is a mean average of 19.5 years backlog in highways maintenance and it would take £288 million to bring all roads up to an acceptable standard.

Council welcomes the huge amount of government funding provided to local authorities, including Leeds, to help repair potholes. This includes £17,719,592 in 2023 for road resurfacing works in Leeds, allocated by WYCA from the government’s City Regions Sustainable Transport Settlement. But the Council should be investing more of its own money in improving the condition of the city’s roads.

Council calls for a report to be presented to Executive Board laying out a clear plan for pothole repair, including addressing the large disparities between the average time it takes to fix potholes in different parts of the city, and setting out a long term strategy for addressing the backlog in highways maintenance work.



Councillor Alan Lamb

**Deadlines for submission**

White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons

- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
- Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting  
(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)

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