

Environmental Information Regulations – Response - 27285

1. What is the current total Highways maintenance backlog in the Council? Split by carriageways, footways, bridges/Structures, Drainage and Streetlighting.

Carriageway Planned -

At the end of 2025/26 financial year there were 10 planned maintenance schemes outstanding.

Footway Planned --

At the end of 2025/26 financial year there were 4 planned maintenance schemes outstanding.

Drainage -

The annual cyclic gully cleansing programme is track within the allowed plus or minus 15 days tolerance.

There is a long register of sites awaiting planned drainage improvements. The number of known unresolved drainage/flooding issues stands at 980.

Structures -

The current estimated value of the maintenance backlog is circa £400M.

Streetlighting –

At the end of 2025/26 financial year there were 1197 open faults. These include faults which are outside the control of the county council such as underground cable supply failure and faults on assets owned by others.

Safety Defect Repairs –

Safety defects have varying timescales for repair. As of 27/05/2026 there are 2196 safety defects to repair, 167 of these are beyond the designated repair time. However, some of these will have been made safe by the contractor but this figure is unknown.

2. What were these figures in the following years 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025.

This information is no longer held; backlog data is a rolling figure, and Suffolk County Council does not hold data for previous years.

3. What is the length of carriageway, footways maintenance by your highways department?

Asset	Quantity	Unit
Roads (carriageways)	4347	Miles
Pavements (footways)	4855	Miles
Bridges & structures (including. significant public rights of way bridges)	1,979	Number
Street Lighting	63,240	Number

ITS (signalised junctions)	128	Number
ITS (signalised crossings)	230	Number
Road signs (warning, regulatory, directional, informational)	72,450	Number
Drainage (gully cleansing)	142,545	Number
Drainage (grips)	189,588	Number

4. How many Bridges and Structures do you maintain?

1884 (including significant public rights of way bridges)

5. What's the length of your road Drainage network and how many surface water drains do you maintain?

With an inherited system including Victorian and mediaeval pipes and culverts we do not have definitive records, but our highways drainage asset is estimated to be in the order of 6000 miles of underground drainage.

As at 12/05/2026 Suffolk Highways currently maintains 153974 gullies and offlets.

However, it should be noted that this number increases regularly as new development are adopted.

6. How many Streetlights do you have on your network?

See 3 above.