

**Policy and Performance - Regeneration and Environment  
Committee****Wednesday, 2 March 2016**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Street Lighting Update</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Head of Environment and Regulation</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY****1.0 REPORT SUMMARY**

**1.1** The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the current situation regarding the street lighting maintenance and to report on the progress of the Invest to Save LED street lighting replacement scheme.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION/S**

**2.1** That the Committee note the report and the progress of the LED replacement scheme.

**3.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

**3.1** The Committee requested a report on street lighting maintenance.

**4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

**4.1** None.

**5.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION****5.1 Street Lighting Faults**

**5.1.1** A series of night time street lighting surveys were carried out in November and December 2015 of all highway routes in the Borough to determine the number of street lights and items of street furniture that were unlit at that time. The results of the survey showed that 2,300 street lights were unlit accounting for approximately 7% of the street lighting stock.

**5.1.2** In order to reduce the number of 'outtages' a special programme of maintenance work began on Monday 8 February 2016 to supplement the routine service to the faulty street lights.

**5.1.3** The Council's contractor has been asked to undertake approximately 300 repairs each week and the repair of the faulty lighting will be completed before the end of April 2016. The repairs will be completed in the order of the

night-time survey to allow the contractor to concentrate their resources in a specific area, rather than in various locations spread across the Borough.

- 5.1.4 There are a number of street lights that are unlit due to underground mains cable faults and these locations will require the attendance of Scottish Power to complete the repair.
- 5.1.5 Although these repairs have been issued to Scottish Power, it is unlikely that the repairs will be completed within the same timescale, since Scottish Power cable repairs times are governed by different targets, outside of the Council's direct control.
- 5.1.6 As each route is completed by our contractor it will again be inspected at night time to ensure that all the street lights issued to them for repair are now lit.
- 5.1.7 Any street lights that have been reported to the Council since the special repair plan began on 8 February 2016, which were not unlit at the time of the street lighting surveys are currently being issued to the contractor for repair.

## **5.2 LED Street Lighting Replacement Scheme**

- 5.2.1 The LED street lighting scheme to replace 7,557 existing high energy consuming lanterns with new LED luminaires commenced on 24 August 2015 and is due to be completed on 31 March 2016.
- 5.2.2 By the end of January 2016, 4,117 new lanterns had been installed and the Contractors projected installation figures for February and March 2016 are 1,820 and 1,620 respectively.
- 5.2.3 On completion of the project, the Council's street lighting will use over 3.6 million kilowatt-hours less electricity each year.

## **6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The estimated cost of the special programme of repairs is estimated at £160,000, and this will be funded from available resources within the Council's approved Highway Management and Traffic Management revenue maintenance budgets for 2015/16.
- 6.2 LED lighting will also reduce maintenance expenditure as the lifecycle of an LED system is considerably longer than that for the existing sodium lighting stock. The revenue savings which result from the current LED installation scheme are already included in the Council's approved budget for 2015/16 and also within the base budget proposals for 2016/17 and comprise energy and maintenance savings of £100,000 for the current year 2015/16 and £390,000 in 2016/17, this is in addition to the £85,000 saving already taken in 2014/15.

## **7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 The maintenance of highways, including street lighting, is a statutory duty for the Council under the Highways Act 1980 (as amended).

## **8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

8.1 The management of the special repair plan and the project management of the LED contract is carried out by existing Council staff.

## **9.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

9.1 The special repair plan will enable the Council to carry out repairs more quickly than the allocated budget which will improve residents satisfaction regarding road maintenance.

9.2 No significant risks have been identified in changing from the current form of street lighting to LED street lighting. Lighting will continue to be provided in accordance with British Standards.

## **10.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

10.1 The Wirral resident survey carried out in 2015 identified road maintenance as one of the highest priority of the services provided by the Council, and that residents perceived that improvement is required in the response time to complete repairs.

## **11.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

(b) No because there is no relevance to equality.

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## **APPENDICES**

None

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

Street Lighting Strategy 2014 available at:

<http://s03vs->

[intrcm.core.wcent.wirral.gov.uk/documents/s50021358/rep3645%20Strategy%20final.pdf](http://intrcm.core.wcent.wirral.gov.uk/documents/s50021358/rep3645%20Strategy%20final.pdf)

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
<b>Cabinet – Street Lighting Strategy 2014 and Action Plan</b>	<b>9 October 2014</b>