



ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Report of: Councillor Mike Exton
Chairman of Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Report to:	Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	20th November 2018
Subject:	Street Lighting - Report Number CO0001

Decision Proposal:	To provide the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the options considered at Discussion Briefings dated 11 th September 2018 and 23 rd October 2018 and subsequent recommendations.
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Dr Peter Moseley Cabinet Member for Environment
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Approved for publication	Councillor Mike Exton 9 November 2018

SUMMARY

South Kesteven District Council (“the Council”) owns and manages a significant number of street lights across the District. The Cabinet, as part of an on-going review programme, needs to ensure that the provision is delivered in the most cost effective way for residents.

RECOMMENDATION

Following the most recent Discussion Briefing on 23rd October 2018 it was recommended that the Council continues with the current protocol for replacement of existing street light lanterns as follows:

1. Conservation style lighting columns in villages will only be provided by the Council upon request by the Parish Council, who will be required to fund the installation and all initial costs. Thereafter, the Council will take responsibility for on-going maintenance and energy costs. Conservation lights will be compatible with LED replacement bulbs.
2. Continue to replace existing stock with LED lanterns as and when required, ie, at end of life due to current budget pressures.

1. BACKGROUND TO REPORT

- 1.1 The Council has responsibility for 3,593 footway lights across the district - this number does not include footway lights on Council owned housing estates which are funded through the Housing Revenue Account. The current energy bill is approximately £121,000 per annum, which equates to £34 per light per annum.
- 1.2. Currently the Council only installs LED lighting when existing lanterns fail or reach end of life. To date, there are some approximately 40 LED lanterns spread across the District. Each replacement LED lantern reduces the maintenance contract cost.
- 1.3 There are currently approximately 15 Conservation style lights in the District. These have been provided and funded by respective Parish Councils upon request dating back some 15 years.

2. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 At the Discussion Briefings a number of options have been discussed:
- 2.2 Capital Funding:
Investing capital funds to fund a scheme to fully replace existing lanterns with LED. This would reduce the timescale for a full stock replacement. A total capital investment of approximately £1,257,550 would be required to complete a full replacement programme. Options were considered which had varying

levels of investment from years 1 to 15, which showed savings and associated payback periods, depending on the investment made (23rd October 2018).

2.3 Use of Salix Funding:

Salix funding could also be considered to support the investment programme. The amount provided can be up to 5 times 1 year's energy savings. However, this funding is a loan and not a grant, which is repayable interest free over a five year period.

2.4 Savings in energy costs from replaced LED lanterns will be incorporated into the Council's overall cost saving targets. However, it was felt that a modest amount should still be invested in LED lighting to speed up the replacement programme. Eg. an additional investment of £10,000 would upgrade 30 lights to LED.

3. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are minimal resource implications as the recommendation is to continue current arrangements to replace LED lanterns as and when required. This is within current budget allocations with a small investment from on-going energy savings.

4. RISK AND MITIGATION

4.1 Risk has been considered as part of this report and any specific high risks are included in the table below:

Category Risk	Action / Controls
N/A	

5. ISSUES ARISING FROM IMPACT ANALYSIS (EQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING etc.)

5.1 Not applicable.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Not applicable if the recommendation in the report is followed.

7. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

7.1 The latest forecast position with respect to this service area is currently showing an underspend of £10,000 compared with annual budget of £123,200. However, this underspend is incorporated into the overall position of the General Fund is showing a combined forecast overspend of circa £680,000 at service level. Therefore, there is no opportunity to utilise the forecast

underspend to reinvest in the proposals. The Committee is also reminded that the Council approved a corporate savings target of £50K for utilities expenditure across the General Fund which is not currently being achieved.

8. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

- 8.1 The provision of footway lighting is the responsibility of the highway authority (Lincolnshire County Council) in accordance with the Highways Act 1980 (the Act). South Kesteven District Council is a lighting authority for the District. The District Council has been delegated responsibility for footway lighting in rural areas.

9. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES

- 9.1 None.

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 None.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Report number FM0007 to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 18th July 2017.
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=630&MId=3432&Ver=4> -
- Report number FM0012 to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 5th Dec 2017.
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=630&MId=3487&Ver=4> -
- Street Lighting Workshop held 20th February 2018.
- Report number FM0013 to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee dated 24th April 2018.
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=630&MId=3489&Ver=4>
- Cabinet Report FM0014 on 12th July 2018.
<http://moderngov.southkesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=164&MId=3624&Ver=4>
- Discussion Briefing held 11th September 2018.
- Discussion Briefing held 23rd October 2018.