

REPORT OF CHAIR OF TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

STREET LIGHTING ENERGY SAVING POLICY – AMENDMENT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval of amendments to the policy on part night lighting.

Information and Advice

2. The current policy on part night lighting was approved by Policy Committee on 18th September 2013. It was agreed that should a community request the reinstatement of all night lighting and the local Councillor support this proposal, all night lighting would be returned as soon as possible.
3. Many communities have had all night lighting reinstated as a result of the policy change but there have been some practical problems with its implementation. If the local Councillor does not support a proposal, then even if the majority of residents support it, lighting cannot be reinstated.
4. To resolve this practical problem it is proposed to amend the policy to allow for lights to be reinstated where evidence of the majority views of the local area, for example a petition or survey, is provided to the Council. The local Councillor will be kept informed but their approval will not be required.
5. In addition, requests will be considered on a street by street basis where a majority cannot be reached for a whole community. This should ensure that arrangements for lighting reflect the views of the majority of local residents as far as possible.

Financial Implications

6. The costs of reversing the part-night lighting programme as outlined in paragraph 4 will need to be found from existing street lighting budgets.

Other Options Considered

1. An alternative option is to refer matters to Transport and Highways Committee for decision, but this is not considered necessary as decisions will follow the majority views of residents. Any unusual or difficult matter can be referred to Committee for decision.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

2. To ensure the policy on part night lighting achieves its aim of ensuring lights are switched back on where communities request it.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in the Public Sector Equality Duty and in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. It is recommended that Committee:
 - a) Approves an amendment to the policy on part night lighting to allow for lights to be reinstated where evidence of the majority views of the local area is provided to the Council. The local Councillor will be kept informed but their approval will not be required.
 - b) Approves an amendment to the policy on part night lighting to allow for requests to be considered on a street by street basis where a majority cannot be reached for a whole community.

Andrew Warrington
Service Director Highways

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments (SLB11/03/2014)

Policy Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report

Financial Comments (TMR 11/03/2014)

The financial implications are set out in paragraph 7 of the report.

Background Papers

Cabinet Report 8th September 2010 – Street Lighting Energy and Cost Saving,
Report to Policy Committee 18th September 2013 – Street Lighting Energy Saving -
Update

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected
All