

**REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT****LED STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BASSETLAW  
AND NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICTS****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for a variation to the Transport and Environment Capital Programme to reflect the £2,105,000 required to fund and complete the County Council's Street Lighting LED Conversion Project (*The Project*).
2. The proposed expenditure will be funded from the Capital Contingency Budget
3. This is a Key Decision because it will have significant effects on two or more electoral divisions.

**Information**

4. Since it began in 2014/15 the LED (*Light-Emitting Diode*) Conversion Project has converted approximately 85,000 streetlights. The first phase involved replacing all of the County's low-pressure lanterns as these were the least efficient. Phase two has addressed the remaining high-pressure lanterns.
5. All of the high-pressure lanterns in the County have now been replaced except those in the Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Districts.
6. Until recently The Project was funded using Salix interest free loans. These loans are paid back using the savings generated from reduced electricity consumption.
7. Salix is a not-for-profit organisation funded by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial strategy, the Department for Education, the Welsh Government and the Scottish Government, its purpose is to assist public sector organisations to switch to energy saving technologies by removing '*up-front*' capital costs.
8. Salix no longer provides loans for streetlighting conversions, this is because it now funds the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme which supports the Government's aim of reducing emissions from public sector buildings by 75% by 2037.
9. There are approximately 11,000 high-pressure streetlights in the Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood areas. If these were converted to LEDs the whole County would have the most up to date and efficient street lighting available, delivering energy savings and requiring less maintenance.

10. Delivery of The Project thus far has been undertaken by Via East Midlands Ltd., and it is intended that they will also undertake the remaining works in the Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Districts.
11. A paper recommending the proposed variation to the capital programme was taken to the Corporate Asset Management Group (CAMG) on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2022. The CAMG approved taking this matter forward for consideration by Cabinet.

### **Link to Nottinghamshire Plan/Annual Delivery Plan**

12. To date The Project has saved over 88,980 tonnes of carbon, this has been achieved without any reduction in the service provided to the public. Completing The Project will result in the County Council's lighting stock being highly efficient and help toward its goal of being carbon neutral by 2030.
13. This proposal supports Ambition 9 of the Nottinghamshire Plan, protecting the environment and reducing the County Council's carbon footprint

### **Other Options Considered**

14. Not to undertake any further LED streetlighting conversions, leaving the overall Project incomplete in the Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood districts.
15. If the aging streetlighting stock in these districts were not to be replaced it will become increasingly prone to faults resulting in increased maintenance costs and complaints being received from residents / highway users.
16. The conventionally illuminated streetlights in these districts are significantly less efficient than LEDs, leaving them in place would expose the County Council to the risk of increasing energy prices.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

17. Converting the streetlighting stock in the Bassetlaw and Newark districts to LEDs will reduce the County Council's maintenance costs, energy consumption and carbon footprint.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

18. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Financial Implications**

19. The proposed streetlighting LED conversions will reduce the County Council's electricity consumption, it is anticipated this will result in the revenue savings shown below:

**Bassetlaw Area - £321,340 p.a.**

**Newark Area** - £288,400 p.a.

20. It should be noted that these revenue savings have been calculated using current electricity costs (*i.e., 18p per kWh*). It is probable that the cost of electricity will increase substantially in the short to medium term therefore, the actual savings achieved could be significantly greater than those shown above.
21. If approved, it is anticipated that the remaining streetlighting LED conversions in Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood will be completed by April 2023.
22. The 'payback-period' for the proposed streetlighting LED conversions (*i.e., the time taken for revenue savings to equal the initial capital outlay*) will be 3.16 years for Bassetlaw and 3.78 years for Newark. These durations are based on energy savings alone as it is problematic to quantify the associated maintenance savings.
23. The proposed streetlighting LED conversions will save approx. 3,387,432 kwh in energy and 708 tonnes of carbon per annum.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

1. That the Street Lighting LED conversion Project be undertaken in Bassetlaw and Newark & Sherwood Districts.
2. That approval be granted for a variation to the Transport and Environment capital programme to reflect the £2,105,000 required to complete The Project, this amount will be funded from Capital Contingency Budget.

**COUNCILLOR NEIL CLARKE MBE**

**CABINET MEMBER – TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT**

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### **Constitutional Comments (CEH 01/08/22)**

24. Cabinet has the authority to approve the variation to the capital programme and consider the contents of and recommendations in this report. 7

### **Financial Comments (GB 22/07/22)**

25. It is proposed that the £2.1m costs set out in this report are funded from the capital contingency budget.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

### **Bassetlaw**

Blyth and Harworth - Councillor Sheila Place  
Misterton - Councillor Tracey Taylor  
Retford East - Councillor Mike Introna  
Retford West - Councillor Mike Quigley MBE  
Tuxford - Councillor John Ogle  
Worksop East- Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle  
Worksop North - Councillor Callum Baily  
Worksop South - Councillor Nigel Turner  
Worksop West - Councillor Sybil Fielding

### **Newark & Sherwood**

Balderton - Councillor John Lee  
Blidworth - Councillor Tom Smith  
Collingham – Councillor Debbie Darby  
Farndon and Trent - Councillor Mrs Sue Saddington  
Muskham and Farnsfield - Councillor Bruce Laughton  
Newark East - Councillor Sam Smith  
Newark West - Councillor Keith Girling  
Ollerton - Councillor Mike Pringle  
Sherwood Forest - Councillor Scott Carlton  
Southwell - Councillor Roger Jackson