

# Report to Executive

Agenda  
Item:

**A.4**

Meeting Date: 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Portfolio: Environment and Transport

Key Decision: Yes

Within Policy and  
Budget Framework Yes

Public Yes

Title: LED Footway Lighting Installation

Report of Director of Governance and Regulatory Services

Report Number: GD 36/20

## Purpose / Summary:

The City Council maintains Footway Lights throughout the District. This report sets out a plan to upgrade 1073 of these lights to LED lanterns. The new lanterns will result in energy savings of 60%+ as well as greatly increasing the reliability of the lights which should reduce future maintenance costs. Capital funding for this work is already included in this year's budget and subject to release of the funding work should be completed by the end of November 2020.

## Recommendations:

It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Authorise officers to progress the plan to upgrade footway lights to LED lanterns, as outlined in the report; and
- (ii) Approve the release of £203,100 to enable 1073 existing footway light units to be replaced with LED lights.

## Tracking

Executive:	<b>17 August 2020</b>
Scrutiny:	
Council:	

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The City Council has a responsibility to maintain any Footway Lighting which it has provided in the past, the City currently has a total of 1397 footways lights located around the district, approximately 50% rural area, 50% urban. Unlike the Street Lighting, which is provided by the County Council, and is intended to illuminate roads, the footway lights are located in a wide variety of locations, quiet roads, car parks, back lanes, cuts and footpaths etc. Most of these lights use light units which were installed many years ago and use old technology which is not very energy efficient.
- 1.2 Of the existing lighting stock 177 lights have already been converted to energy efficient LED light units, these are mainly the lights in our car parks and some parks. There are a further 147 lights which cannot easily be converted to LED lighting due to other work being required, such as painting, upgrading of lanterns etc. These are the ornamental lights in the City Centre, bridge parapets lights on the main bridges in the City, cast iron and concrete lights. It is expected that these lights will be upgraded over the next few years as part of public realm improvements or in connection with routine maintenance. This leaves 1073 lights which it is proposed to upgrade to LED lighting as detailed in the proposals below.

## **2. PROPOSALS**

- 2.1 The proposal is to convert 1073 City Council Footway Lights to LED lighting units. The work will also include the replacement of the existing electrical cut-outs, photocells and earthing connections, in effect most of the electrical equipment which makes the lights work. As a result of this work the energy consumption of the lamps will be reduced by 60%+, the reliability of the lamps will be greatly improved which will result in lower maintenance costs. The light emitted by the LED lights will be more natural thus improving colour rendition, this is better than the orange light emitted by most of the existing lights.
- 2.2 The light units and associated electrical equipment are to be purchased from the County Council making use of their purchasing framework, this ensures value for money. With regard to the installation of the new lights this work will be undertaken by a contractor, tenders for this work are currently being invited. If the release of money is agreed it is hoped to have work completed by the end of November 2020.

### **3. RISKS**

- 3.1 In preparing the details of this project extensive consultation has taken place with County Council officers to learn from their experience in doing similar work. The materials to be purchased and the installation procedures to be used are based on the work carried out by the County Council. This will hopefully reduce the potential for any unexpected problems and costs arising.
- 3.2 Over the last 4 years all our steel lighting columns have been checked for structural strength, a small number were defective and required replacement, it was considered prudent to do this work prior to any LED conversion programme. There is still a risk when the proposed works are carried out that further faults may be identified. At this stage it is envisaged that any issues will be small in number and repairs can be funded from the maintenance budget.

### **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Consultation has taken place with Cumbria County Council lighting engineers to discuss any issues or problems they have experienced with their LED lighting replacement programme which is currently well underway. The works which it is proposed to carry out to replace the City Council footway lights is based on the same standards and specifications used by the County Council. It is hoped this will minimize the likelihood of problems arising.

### **5. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the funds of £203,100 are released to enable the conversion of the existing lights to LED lighting. This project is an “invest to save project”, the costs will be recovered in reduced energy costs and reduced maintenance costs within 5 years. The new lights will also provide a more natural light with better colour rendition than the existing lights. The reduction in energy consumption will help to contribute in the reduction of CO2 and reduce the council’s exposure to ever increasing energy costs.

### **6. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES**

- 6.1 The fitting of LED lights will support the Carlisle Plan priority to “Continue to improve the quality of our local environment and green spaces so that everyone can enjoy living, working in and visiting Carlisle”

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**Appendices**                      **None**  
**attached to report:**

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:**

- **None**

**CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:**

**LEGAL** – This Report seeks the release of the budget to fund the previously approved LED lighting scheme. Relevant contracts should be properly procured and legal documentation prepared by legal services.

**PROPERTY SERVICES** – No Property implications

**FINANCE** – A budget of £203,100 was approved by Council in the 2020/21 capital programme for LED Footway Lighting Installation and was subject to further reports to the Executive prior to the release of the earmarked reserve and any expenditure being incurred. This report satisfies that requirement and requests release of the earmarked budget. Recurring revenue saving of £46,000 from 2021/22 (£26,000 in 2020/21) were also approved as part of the 2020/21 budget in relation to this invest to save project.

**EQUALITY** – The new lights will also provide a more natural light with better colour rendition than the existing lights.

**INFORMATION GOVERNANCE** – There are no Information Governance Implications with this report.