



To: Communities & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4)

Date: 30th January 2025

Subject: Street Lighting

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To provide the Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board (4) with an update on the Part-night Lighting

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Communities and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Board are recommended to:
- 1) Support the continuation of the Part-night lighting
 - 2) Identify any further recommendations for the appropriate Cabinet Member

3 Information and Background

- 3.1 At their meeting on 20th February 2024, in response to financial pressures the Council agreed, as part of the budget setting process, to introduce citywide part-night lighting. The programming of the streetlights started in May 2024 and all eligible streetlights were programmed by July. It was estimated approximately 70% of lights would operate part night however once the criteria had been applied this has reduced to 60% (excluding the City Centre).
- 3.2 The Part-night lighting estimated to make savings of the street lighting electricity budget by £700,000 per annum so that this funding could be used to protect other vital services. Due to the decrease from 70% to 60% of lights, programming of the lights taking 2 months and the reduction in the cost of energy from October 2024 we have reduced the saving target to £600,000. Savings from the part night from May to December 2024 have been approximately £350,000 based on 38pkwh. The Council's energy price did reduce to 26pkwh from October 2024.
- 3.3 The Police have conducted a review of the part night lighting and there is no evidence of crime going up as a result of the changes in street lighting. We have also noted there has been a reduction in nighttime collisions during the hours of the part night switch off.

- 3.4 We continue to monitor that the part night criteria are being applied correctly for any changes to the highway by working with highways, traffic management and major projects.
- 3.5 We have received a petition bearing 1482 signatures to switch the lights back on. This has been discussed with the Cabinet Member for City Services who has agreed to issue a determination letter advising that the part night lighting policy will continue as there has not been any increases in crime.
- 3.6 The upgrading of 29,500 street lighting to LEDs was agreed at Council on 14th January. The LED lighting will provide a better quality of light but use half the amount of energy. The upgrade also provides the Council with more flexibility over the street lighting.

4 Health Inequalities Impact

- 4.1 An Equality Impact assessment was carried out prior to the decision to progress with the part night lighting. There were groups of people that could be negatively impacted by the part night lighting however as the police have reported there has not been increase in criminal activity.

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