

Open Report on behalf of Paul Coathup, Assistant Director, Highways and Transportation

Report to:	Executive Councillor William Webb
Date:	05 September 2011
Subject:	Street Lighting Policy Amendment and Commercial Proposal
Decision Reference:	01917
Key decision?	Yes

Summary:

Revisions to the street lighting policy regarding the funding of new street lights on the existing highway are recommended. In addition, the continuation of discussions with a commercial organisation that wishes to attach apparatus to existing street lights is recommended.

Recommendation(s):

Recommendations approved by the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee are:

1. The County Council no longer provides its own capital funding for new street lighting on lengths of previously unlit highway
2. Additional street lights designed and installed to the County Council's requirements on the existing highway that are financed by other local councils in Lincolnshire will be adopted and maintained by the County Council without a Commuted Sum providing the street lights have the prior approval of the County Council, are installed on adopted highway and are installed in accordance with Lincolnshire County Council standards.
3. Officers continue discussions with third party service providers e.g. Inkspot and take into consideration the licensing of attachments to street lights for commercial purposes should be charged for. (Currently at a rate of £30 per installation.)

Alternatives Considered:

1. That the recommendations are not accepted.

Reasons for Recommendation:

The proposed revisions to the street lighting policy will save officer time in not

carrying out the assessment process for requests for new street lights; these have, in every case since the policy was amended to take into account actual crime and actual accidents, given negative results.

Agreeing to take over on-highway street lighting, provided and paid for by other local authorities in Lincolnshire without a commuted sum allows the County Council to effectively contribute to such schemes, and ensure that they are designed and installed to acceptable standards.

The Sustainable Communities Strategy includes for the expansion of effective broadband provision through the county. Continuing to work with commercial organisations that support this strategy would aid its delivery.

1. Background

1.1 A paper was presented to the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee on 16 May 2011 reporting on:

- the progress in implementing changes to the street lighting policy made in 2010 particularly in relation to energy consumption and carbon emissions
- a proposal to amend the policy in relation to how the County responds to requests for new street lights
- a proposal from a commercial Wi-Fi internet service provider (Inkspot) to install equipment on street lights and to connect to the same electricity supply.

2. Conclusion

2.1 The recommendations put to the Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee on 16 May 2011 should be implemented.

3. Legal Comments:

The Council as local highway authority is empowered under the Highways Act 1980 to provide lighting for any highway for which it is responsible. This decision is therefore lawful and within the remit of the Executive Councillor provided he has the delegated authority of the Leader.

4. Resource Comments:

This decision accepts amendments to the existing Street Lighting policy and reflects the current financial climate in which the Council now operates.

The Council will receive some income from allowing a commercial organisation to attach apparatus to existing columns, however, this income will only cover any additional costs incurred by the Council

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

Recommendations made by Highways, Transport and Technology Scrutiny Committee.

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Street Lighting Policy - Highways and Traffic Guidance Note (HAT) 49

7. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Street Lighting Policy, paper to Highways, Transportation and Technology Committee (HT&T) 13 September 2010	4th Floor, City Hall, Lincoln

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