

Report of the Strategic Director, Regeneration and Culture to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee on 23rd July 2013

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Subject: Street Lighting Column Replacement Programme

Summary statement: This report seeks to advise the Area Committee regarding the replacement of street lighting columns determined as non compliant and the subsequent recommendations as to how the remainder of the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan Funding allocation is most effectively utilised.

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**Portfolio:
Environment and Sustainability**

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**Overview and Scrutiny Area:
Environment and Waste Management**



1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report seeks to inform the Area Committee of the requirement to replace street lighting columns that have been identified as non-compliant. That is, they are in need of urgent replacement due their age and condition based upon the findings of inspections carried out during the planned maintenance regime and reactive maintenance visits.

2.0 **BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Since 2006 there has been a structured programme of planned maintenance replacing the lamps in all street lighting units over a rolling four year rolling period (Bulk Change and Clean Programme), reducing the number of reactive maintenance faults from approximately 12,000 to 7,000 per annum.
- 2.2 An essential part of this programme is to carry out visual inspection of each column, which provides valuable information as to the condition of the unit, specifically the structural integrity of the column.
- 2.3 Despite these inspections there have been a small number of incidents in which street lighting columns have collapsed due to corrosion of the steel on the inside of the column which was not evident from the outside.
- 2.4 Many of these columns were installed around 1974 and although a programme of external painting has prevented the columns from corroding on the outside the inside remains unprotected, and is therefore vulnerable.
- 2.5 There are also a significant number of concrete columns that are in excess of 30 years old which are prone to cracking as a result of corrosion to the steel reinforcing bars inside the columns which also require replacement when identified as non compliant.

3. **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 Although the street lighting asset register contains a significant amount of information related to the type of equipment installed across the district, it does not however contain detailed data regarding the installation dates of equipment installed prior to 1995.
- 3.2 This gap in this information is being updated through knowledge of the equipment and the likely period of installation provided by officers based upon their experience within the organisation, in an attempt to fully utilise the priority scoring module of the asset management system in accordance with the Institution of Lighting Professionals report TR22 as a means of determining future programmes of column replacement.
- 3.6 The replacement schemes listed in Appendix 1 with the relative estimates totalling £206k exceed the funding that is available and therefore each scheme is prioritised with Priority 1 being the highest priority to the value of £85k. Those schemes not completed in this financial year will roll forward into the programme for next year.

3.7 Each of the schemes listed also consider any requests that have been received for improvements or relocations which will be incorporated into the design of the new layouts.

3.8 This year the schemes outlined as Priority 1 across the district equates to £530k, although it has recently been identified that some non-destructive, ultrasonic testing of columns on Shipley Airedale Road is required after a recent incident providing evidence that some of these columns need replacing in the current financial year, for which around £84k may be required. The remaining £225 is to be shared equally between the 5 constituencies for Members to determine which other schemes from the list should be implemented.

4. OPTIONS

4.1 Members may choose to implement column replacement schemes other than those recommended and identified as Priority 1 schemes in Appendix 1. However it may be necessary to remove any non compliant columns for safety reasons should they not be replaced in this financial year.

4.2 Members may also choose to implement further column replacement schemes with the remaining funding to the value of £45k from the Priority 2 and 3 schemes in Appendix 1

4.3 The schemes that are implemented will be fitted with energy efficient white light sources and also be capable of dimming to reduce energy consumption and CO² even further outside peak periods. By installing white light in residential areas this allows the lighting level to be reduced by one category.

4.4 When lighting is replaced as a whole street or scheme there may be some columns that have been previously replaced as a result of accident damage or maintenance replacements, these columns are carefully removed and retained for re-use for reactive maintenance.

5. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE APPRAISAL

5.1 The £130k funding allocated to the Bradford South Area Committee for the replacement of non compliant columns is part of the overall £839k West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan budget allocated to the Council by the Department for Transport.

5.2 The design and implementation of this work can be carried out using the existing resources in the street lighting unit.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

6.1 The Council has a power under Section 97 of the Highways Act 1980 to provide and maintain street lighting columns.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 **Equal Rights**

There are no equal rights implications at this time

7.2 Sustainability implications

7.2.1 Modern street lighting equipment is considerably more energy efficient than older apparatus, and when using dimming and white light can significantly reduce the energy and CO² emissions.

7.2.2 Steel street lighting columns are recyclable when replaced on reaching the end of their design life which is likely to be in excess of 50 years, modern lanterns are constructed so that over 90% of the materials can also be recycled.

7.3 Community safety implications

7.3.1 Street lighting is a highly visible front line service. Good street lighting provides a vital function during the hours of darkness, protecting people and property and enhancing the night-time environment. Effective street lighting deters criminal activity and reduces road accidents.

7.4 Human Rights Act

7.4.1 There are no direct Human Rights implications arising from the recommendations below.

7.5 Trade Union implications

7.5.1 There are no Trade Union implications in this item

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

8.1 There is no restriction on the publication of this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Priority 1 scheme listed in Appendix 1 be implemented as part of the 2013-2014 column replacement programme.

9.2 That further schemes from Appendix 1 to the value of £45k (approx) are selected by Members for implementation in the 2013-2014 column replacement programme

10. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Column Replacement Schemes for Area Committee consideration

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

Appendix 1 Column Replacement Schemes for Area Committee consideration

Ward	Priority	Road		
Bolton and Undercliffe	1	Grove House Road	£	16,242.10
Bolton and Undercliffe	3	Myers Lane	£	36,939.70
Bowling and Barkerend	3	Burras Road	£	8,044.90
Bowling and Barkerend	1	Thurley Road	£	17,217.80
Idle and Thackley	1	Town Lane, Idle	£	26,983.10
Bowling and Barkerend	2	Broad Lane, Laisterdyke	£	19,725.30
Idle and Thackley	3	Leeds Road	£	55,622.70
Eccleshill	1	Rowanberry Close	£	11,007.20
Eccleshill	1	Whitebeam Walk	£	14,428.80
			£	<u>206,211.60</u>