

REPORT TO CABINET

Open/Exempt		Would any decisions proposed:			
Any especially affected Wards	Mandatory /	Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide?		YES/NO	
	Discretionary	Need to be recommendations to Council?		YES/NO	
	/ Operational	Is it a Key Decision?		YES/NO	
Lead Member: Cllr Paul Kunes E-mail: cllr.paul.kunes@west-norfolk.gov.uk			Other Cabinet Members consulted:		
			Other Members consulted:		
Lead Officer: Matthew Henry E-mail: matthew.henry@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial:			Other Officers consulted: Various		
Financial Implications YES/NO	Policy/ Personnel Implications YES/NO	Statutory Implications YES/NO	Equal Impact Assessment YES/NO If YES: Pre- screening/ Full Assessment	Risk Management Implications YES/NO	Environmental Considerations YES/NO

Date of meeting: **21/09/2021**

Re:fit 1 Streetlighting Project

Summary:

Whilst our outstanding Re:fit 1 streetlighting project is within the £2million provision the payback period of 22.95 years is above the agreed payback terms in the original delegated decision.

Recommendation:

That we go ahead with this streetlighting replacement scheme with the longer payback period.

Reason for Decision:

To improve the council's streetlighting (some of which have columns in need of replacement), achieve wider energy savings and help reduce the Borough Council's carbon footprint to net zero.

1. Background

1.1 In 2018 we started Re:fit Phase 1, in which Ameresco were selected to deliver energy efficiency and emissions reduction projects. Ameresco produced an investment grade proposal (IGP) for our last remaining project; improving the streetlighting portfolio.

1.2 Streetlighting was slipped from Phase 1 following an assessment of all of the Council streetlighting stock, which identified significant additional work required to identify what was required to allow all columns to be fitted with the new LED heads.

1.3 Ameresco will install high efficiency LED lighting, by replacing units on a one for one basis. Streetlighting columns are also included within the replacement scope.

From our 684 streetlights, 126 columns need replacement due to having serious defects or having defects whilst being situated in a high-risk area.

1.4 Council approved £2,000,000 of capital funding on 29 November 2018 to progress the projects. This approval was granted assuming the identified schemes remained at or improved the agreed payback. Payback for the streetlighting project was identified at 17.30 years and for the total Re:fit project, at 10.50 years.

1.5 Following the streetlighting IGP, the payback period of 22.95 years was identified, which is outside of the above agreed payback terms.

2. Options Considered

2.1 Option 1: Approve the Streetlighting works

Go ahead with the project despite the longer payback period to improve streetlighting and achieve further energy savings for the borough council. This is in line with the council's climate change policy and agenda and will replace columns with serious defects.

2.2 Option 2: Decline the Streetlighting works

This is an option; however, this goes against the council's climate change policy and agenda and will leave 126 columns standing that need replacement.

3. Policy Implications

3.1 This project will follow the aims set out in the Borough Council's Climate Change Policy to reduce its carbon footprint to net zero. This work will also tie in with the draft Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. It follows best practice in reducing the energy required for street lighting.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 The total spend on Re:fit Phase 1 to date is £1,404,399. The streetlighting estimate of £598,258 will bring total spend to £2,002,659 which is £2,659 above the approved budget. If approved, this additional cost can be met by a transfer from the streetlight reserve.

5. Personnel Implications

5.1 The council will use our project manager, Mayra Torres from Local Partnerships to act for us. The project will be delivered by Ameresco. Ameresco were appointed following the initial Re:fit procurement process.

5.2 Property Services have responsibility for streetlighting, and therefore, will manage this project internally.

6. Environmental Considerations

6.1 The council's streetlighting consumption of 406,961kWh represents emissions of 155tCO₂e, around 3% of the BCKLWN carbon footprint. The proposed LED replacement will provide annual savings of 71tCO₂e through reduced consumption.

6.2 This work forms part of the draft Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan which has been drawn up to deliver the Borough Council carbon net zero target of 2035.

6.3 Options will be considered to minimise the impact of LED lighting heads on local wildlife.

7. Statutory Considerations

7.1 The Borough Council has a health & safety general duty of care regarding the maintenance and safety of its assets. This project demonstrates that the Borough Council is ensuring that the street lighting assets are being maintained so far as reasonably practical in a safe working condition.

7.2 A new JCT works contract will be completed between Ameresco Ltd and the Council to cover the streetlighting works. This is the format provided for under the original agreement with Ameresco and is in full compliance with Public Contract Regulations 2015.

8. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 A pre-screening EIA has been completed and is attached. No adverse issues have been identified.

9. Risk Management Implications

9.1 This work aligns with the council's climate change policy and will also tie in with the draft strategy and action plan. Replacement for LEDs will help reduce the council's energy consumption and therefore emissions. Failure to achieve emissions reductions in line with the council's net zero target could lead to significant negative press. This work can help mitigate this and therefore, negative reputation.

9.2 With 126 columns having been identified as requiring replacement due to defects, failure to replace these could expose the council to negative press. Replacement of those in poor condition can help mitigate this negative press and therefore, negative reputation.

9.3 There is the potential risk that no actual cost and energy savings are realised from the installation of LEDs to the council's streetlights.

10. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted

10.1 None.

11. Background Papers

1. Officer Delegated Decision

**Pre-Screening Equality Impact
Assessment**

Borough Council of
**King's Lynn &
West Norfolk**



Name of policy/service/function	Replacement of public streetlighting equipment				
Is this a new or existing policy/service/function?	Existing				
Brief summary/description of the main aims of the policy/service/function being screened. Please state if this policy/service is rigidly constrained by statutory obligations	This will improve King's Lynn and West Norfolk streetlights, by replacing the lights with LEDs and replacing columns with serious defects or minor defects in high-risk areas. This will help reduce energy consumption also with the associated emissions.				
Question	Answer				
<p>1. Is there any reason to believe that the policy/service/function could have a specific impact on people from one or more of the following groups according to their different protected characteristic, for example, because they have particular needs, experiences, issues or priorities or in terms of ability to access the service?</p> <p>Please tick the relevant box for each group.</p> <p>NB. Equality neutral means no negative impact on any group.</p>		Positive	Negative	Neutral	Unsure
	Age			x	
	Disability			x	
	Gender			x	
	Gender Re-assignment			x	
	Marriage/civil partnership			x	
	Pregnancy & maternity			x	
	Race			x	
	Religion or belief			x	
	Sexual orientation			x	
Other (e.g. low income)			x		

Question	Answer	Comments
<p>2. Is the proposed policy/service likely to affect relations between certain equality communities or to damage relations between the equality communities and the Council, for example because it is seen as favouring a particular community or denying opportunities to another?</p>	No	
<p>3. Could this policy/service be perceived as impacting on communities differently?</p>	No	
<p>4. Is the policy/service specifically designed to tackle evidence of disadvantage or potential discrimination?</p>	No	
<p>5. Are any impacts identified above minor and if so, can these be eliminated or reduced by minor actions?</p> <p>If yes, please agree actions with a member of the Corporate Equalities Working Group and list agreed actions in the comments section</p>	No	<p>Actions:</p>
		<p>Actions agreed by EWG member:</p>
<p>If 'yes' to questions 2 - 4 a full impact assessment will be required unless comments are provided to explain why this is not felt necessary:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Decision agreed by EWG member:</p>		
<p>Assessment completed by:</p> <p>Name</p>	<p>Henry Saunders</p>	
<p>Job title</p>	<p>Climate Change Officer</p>	
<p>Date</p>	<p>23.08.2021</p>	