

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE & SPORT

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY PANEL		
DATE:	11 NOVEMBER 2009	AGENDA ITEM:	10
TITLE:	STREET LIGHTING REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME PHASE 3		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	COUNCILLOR T PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORT	WARDS:	BOROUGHWIDE
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To inform the Panel of the roads to be included in the next phase (Phase 3) of the replacement programme across the Borough.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the current position be noted.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The proposals are in line with current Transport and Planning Policy.

4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 At its meeting in June 2008 the Panel received a report detailing a list of roads for the first two phases of a programme of replacement street lighting across the Borough. These phases were completed earlier this year. A further allocation of £500,000 for this work has been allocated from existing Transport budgets during 2009/2010.
- 4.2 This sum should enable approximately 300 street lighting units to be replaced on a street-by-street basis. The priority has been to select schemes where street lighting is life expired and in need of replacement. The term maintenance contractor Southern Electric Contracting has recently completed a Borough wide bulk change and inspection/clean, which has identified a number of streets where columns are in poor condition. It is considered that these roads should form Phase 3 of the replacement programme. The list of roads identified are detailed in Appendix 1 attached to this report.

4.3 Detailed design of these schemes will be carried out this year and it is anticipated that works on start will commence in the New Year.

4.4 It is recommended that the Panel note the roads to be treated in Phase 3 of the replacement programme

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

5.1 Improved and energy efficient street lighting will contribute to the environmental sustainability and community safety, meeting the councils strategic aims of: developing Reading as a Green City with a sustainable environment and economy at the heart of the Thames Valley; promoting equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

6.1 There is no statutory requirement to consult residents on the replacement of existing street lighting columns. Ward councillors will be advised of the programme at the appropriate time but it is not intended to write to every household in each road.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The Council has the responsibility to maintain street lighting on the public highway. Although its highway responsibilities are in the main statutory, street lighting is not itself a statutory requirement. However most authorities continue to provide and maintain street lighting as part of their "Duty of Care" to users of the highway.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 £500,000 has been re-allocated from existing transport and highways budgets to works to improve street lighting in this financial year.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Report/Minutes of Cabinet December 2007 and Traffic Management Advisory Panel June 2008.