

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Executive
Date: 1st December 2014
Report for: Decision
Report of: Executive Member for Environment and Operations

Report Title

Trafford Street Lighting Strategy

Summary

The Trafford Street Lighting Strategy (the Strategy) provides a clear vision to facilitate the delivery of new and enhanced street lighting across Trafford on a consistent basis. The Strategy will support the provision of a modern, well designed and well maintained street lighting stock that delivers better value for money, reduced energy usage and carbon emissions, a safe environment for road users pedestrians and the community and supports economic growth.

Recommendation(s)

That the Executive adopts the Trafford Street Lighting Strategy.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

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Appendix One: Trafford Street Lighting Strategy

Background Papers:

Background Paper 1: Trafford Street Lighting Strategy: Consultation Responses

Implications:

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	The Strategy will contribute to the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities by providing greater value for money, improving community safety and supporting wider economic growth. It will also support the delivery of aims and objectives of other local and sub-regional strategies.
Financial	The Strategy provides a framework for the Council to deliver efficiency savings associated with street lighting. Any financial implications associated with the provision and maintenance of street lighting will be subject to future reports.
Legal Implications:	None as a consequence of this report
Equality/Diversity Implications	None as a consequence of this report.
Sustainability Implications	The Strategy will enable the Council to minimise energy usage and reduce carbon emissions associated with street lighting.
Resource Implications e.g. Staffing / ICT / Assets	Existing staff resources have been identified to support the delivery and maintenance of street lighting in Trafford. Information will be made available on line and documents will be available to access through the Council's web pages.
Risk Management Implications	Any works to street lighting will be delivered in accordance with the appropriate national and European standards.
Health & Wellbeing Implications	The implementation of the Strategy and any changes to the provision or maintenance of street lighting will be subject to health impact assessment where appropriate.
Health and Safety Implications	The Strategy will have a positive effect by supporting the reduction of crime and fear of crime and promote the safety of all users of the highway, with particular consideration for vulnerable user groups.

1.0 Background

1.1 Effective street lighting enables safe use of the highway for road users and pedestrians and supports strong and safe communities. The Trafford Street Lighting Strategy (the Strategy) provides a framework for the provision and maintenance of street lighting across the Borough over the next ten years. It balances the need to provide for the safety of road users and pedestrians and support for safe communities with the need to reduce the energy usage and cost associated with street lighting.

2.0 The Vision and Objectives

2.1 The vision of the Strategy is:

“To provide appropriate street lighting in an efficient and cost effective way that seeks to minimise adverse impact on the built and natural environment, takes

advantage of any opportunities to deliver improved street lighting design, and ensures safety for road users, pedestrians and communities”.

2.2 The objectives of the Strategy are to:

- At least maintain and where possible improve the quality and effectiveness of street lighting across Trafford.
- At least maintain and where possible increase the positive contribution that street lighting makes to the safety of road users, pedestrians and the community.
- Provide street lighting appropriate to the specific natural and built environment in Trafford, recognising the specific requirements of Conservation Areas.
- Minimise the adverse impact of street lighting on the natural and built environment and where possible seek to deliver improved street lighting design.
- Improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions associated with street lighting.
- Reduce the maintenance and operational costs associated with street lighting.
- Ensure due consideration is given to public health issues in implementing the strategy.

3.0 Street Lighting in Trafford

3.1 In Trafford there are approximately 27,100 street lighting units on the highway network. The stock is of mixed age, condition and specification. The lighting units are predominantly SON (High Pressure Sodium) or SOX (Low Pressure Sodium) luminaries (lamps). SOX luminaries are no longer in widespread use nationally due to their higher associated operational costs compared to alternative options.

3.2 Street lighting that is modern, well designed and well maintained can provide significant benefits. The provision of effective street lighting is therefore a key component in the delivery of a safe, secure and prosperous Borough.

3.3 The Strategy supports the delivery of aims and objectives of other local and sub-regional strategies including:

- Trafford Council Annual Delivery Plan
- Trafford Core Strategy
- Trafford Environmental Strategy
- Sustainable Trafford Strategy
- Trafford Community Strategy
- Conservation Area Appraisals
- Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan

4.0 Opportunities

4.1 The Strategy provides a number of opportunities for positive change in Trafford, including:

- Minimising energy usage and reducing carbon emissions in Trafford associated with street lighting.
- Delivering efficiency savings by reducing the costs associated with street lighting.

- Minimising the negative impacts of street lighting on the natural and built environment.
- Promoting the safety of all users of the highway, with particular consideration for vulnerable user groups.
- Supporting the reduction of crime and the fear of crime.
- Creating the conditions that support economic growth.

5.0 Other Options

5.1 Other options are not to adopt the Strategy or to adopt a different strategy. The continued absence of an overarching framework for the provision and maintenance of street lighting across Trafford will not provide the Council with a strategic context within which to make decisions on the future delivery of these services which is why the Strategy has been prepared.

6.0 Consultation

6.1 The Strategy has been developed after a review of current street lighting practice in Trafford. A four week public consultation on the draft Strategy was held from 17 October 2014 to the 13 November 2014.

6.2 On commencement of the public consultation on 17 October 2014 a press release was issued and a dedicated page on the Trafford Council website was launched detailing the consultation process with a link to the draft Trafford Street Lighting Strategy.

6.3 The Council formally consulted key stakeholder groups in relation to the consultation draft Street Lighting Strategy. These included local community groups, statutory consultees and agencies, emergency services, local business organisations, local service providers, utilities companies and transport providers. Key consultees were notified regarding the commencement of the consultation via both email and letter and advised on the process for making representations on the draft Strategy.

6.4 The consultation draft Street Lighting Strategy was made available for inspection at the following locations:

- On the Council's website: www.trafford.gov.uk/streetlightingconsultation;
- Trafford Town Hall; and
- Sale Waterside.

6.5 In total 12 representations were received during the consultation period. The consultation responses raised the following key issues:

- The vision and objectives should be more ambitious with regards to delivering improved street lighting design.
- There is broad support for reducing energy uses, carbon emissions and delivering efficiency savings.
- Street lighting should contribute to reductions in light pollution.
- More recognition should be given to the specific needs of Conservation Areas within Trafford.
- Conservation Areas should have appropriately designed and located street lighting.

6.6 A number of responses raised issues around the use of LED luminaries and their impact on aesthetics, concerns around potential health risks, potential impact on light pollution and their cost effectiveness. It is noted that the Strategy does not prescribe the use of LED luminaries within Trafford. The Strategy does identify LED luminaries as an option for consideration by the Council but this will be subject to a separate decision taken within the context of the vision and objectives of this Strategy and consideration of the issues raised during this consultation.

6.7 Following the consultation the following amendments have been made to the Strategy:

- The vision and objectives have been amended to include the aspiration to improve street lighting design.
- Additional reference is made to the potential negative impacts of light pollution
- Additional recognition is given to Conservation Areas across Trafford and the need for appropriately designed and located street lighting in these areas.

7.0 Next Steps

7.1 Through the delivery of the Strategy Trafford will provide a modern, well designed and well maintained street lighting stock that delivers better value for money, reduced energy usage and carbon emissions, a safe environment for road users' pedestrians and the community and supports economic growth.

Reasons for Recommendation

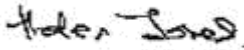
The Executive is asked to adopt the Trafford Street Lighting Strategy

Key Decision Yes

If Key Decision, has 28-day notice been given? Yes

Finance Officer Clearance ...GB.....

Legal Officer Clearance ...JLF.....



CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE

To confirm that the Financial and Legal Implications have been considered and the Executive Member has cleared the report.