

**REPORT TO: CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 23 FEBRUARY 2015**

**REPORT ON: STREET LIGHTING PARTNERSHIP**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT**

**REPORT NO: 72-2015**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the progress and performance of the Street Lighting Partnership with Tayside Contracts on the delivery of the Street Lighting Services within Dundee City Council to 31 March 2014.
- 1.2 The report also seeks approval to extend the existing partnership with Dundee City Council, Perth & Kinross Council and Tayside Contracts for the shared service delivery of Street Lighting across the geographical areas of both councils.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the content of this report and agrees the following:
  - to extend the Partnership to 31 March 2018.
  - that the Director of City Development continues to report back annually to the Committee advising on the progress and performance of the Partnership.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **4 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Reference is made to Article I of the City Development Committee of 27 February 2012 (Report 53-2012 refers) when approval was given to extend the Street Lighting Partnership with Perth & Kinross Council and Tayside Contracts by 3 years to 31 March 2015.
- 4.2 The Partnership operates as an integrated team under a single Street Lighting Partnership Manager covering both Dundee City Council and Perth and Kinross Council and has many benefits for both Councils and Tayside Contracts:
  - The larger team is more adaptable in dealing with peaks and troughs in workload.
  - The production of a common specification has reduced the costs of storage of materials, and encourages cost savings through bulk purchase. This approach is supported by Scottish Government initiatives, Procurement Scotland, Scotland Excel and the Tayside Procurement Consortium (TPC)
  - The arrangement also meets the Scottish Governments objectives in increased partnership working and shared services in line with the Efficient Government Agenda.
  - It gives scope for further development of such a partnership, for example by other Councils considering joining, as experience grows over time.
  - The new structure has provided opportunities for efficiencies and reduced staff costs for both Councils and Tayside Contracts.

- 4.3 An Executive group comprising two senior officers from each Council and Tayside Contracts meet three times a year to review performance of the Partnership against a number of agreed criteria.
- 4.4 The present Partnering Agreement ends on the 31 March 2015 after a further successful three year period. Over the last 9 years, the Partnership has consistently performed well against its various objectives and its key service performance indicators. The Street Lighting Partnership is fully committed to the Roads Asset Management Planning framework. All street lighting inspections, repairs, inventory and records are held and updated electronically.
- 4.5 The Street Lighting Partnership has gained national recognition of its level of service and service approach. In 2008 it reached the finals of the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) 2008 awards in the Public/Public Partnership category, in 2010 it was a finalist in the APSE Best Performing category and in 2013, Dundee City Council was shortlisted for a UK National Award 'Best and Most Improved Performer' for the delivery of Street Lighting for 2012/13.
- 4.6 Appendix A contains benchmarking information taken from the SCOTS/APSE (Society of Chief Officers Transport Scotland/Association of Public Service Excellence) benchmarking exercise for 2013/14 which collects and compares the annual performance of all 32 Scottish Councils against agreed key service performance indicators. Dundee City Council forms part of the SCOTS Cities family grouping of Councils and is compared against Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Scottish averages are also referred to where appropriate. Year on year figures are also contained within the report to give an internal annual comparison and an indication of trends.
- 4.7 Some highlights from the comparison and benchmarking exercise for 2013/14 are listed below:
- Scottish Cities Comparison
- Dundee City Council consumes the least amount of electricity annually per street light and has the lowest carbon footprint of any Scottish City.
  - The costs for repairing a routine fault is lower than any other Scottish City
  - The City has the most reliable street lights averaging over 7 years between repairs and the highest percentage of street lights operating correctly on any one evening.
- Scottish Council Comparison
- To assist with facial recognition and reduce the fear of crime, Dundee City Council has the highest percentage of modern white light sources of any Scottish Council.
- 4.8 As part of the Roads Asset Management Planning Framework, projections are made in relation to the increasing price of electricity. Through capital investment and spend to save policies, the Street Lighting Partnership has sought to mitigate these increases largely due to the proactive approach of taking advantage of the developing lighting technology to reduce electricity consumption and reduce maintenance. As a result of this work, the annual electricity cost in 2013/14 reduced by £185,000 compared to expenditure in 2012/13.
- 4.9 The Street Lighting Partnership is already well advanced in many of the new technologies such as the use of energy efficient white light sources and part night dimming. LED lanterns are now becoming more affordable and becoming more attractive as spend to save solutions. As of the 31 March 2014, Dundee City had 1407 LED street lights. This figure was the third highest number in Scotland. This number has since increased and latest figure show that the City now has 2834 LED street lights in operation throughout the city and this number is expected to increase significantly in the coming years. The Street Lighting Partnership has taken advantage of Scottish Government supported funding through Salix provided at 0%

interest. In 2013/14, a loan of £226,000 was granted for the conversion of the City's existing 135w SOX lanterns to LED. This investment project involved the conversion of 519 street lights and based on electricity savings alone will deliver an under eight year payback on investment. The project will save 267,934kWhrs annually and over the 20 year life of the lanterns save 2,591 tonnes of CO2.

- 4.10 The Street Lighting Partnership has introduced a trial Central Management System (CMS) in the City Square which also controls the Christmas lights. The system can adapt the lighting levels of the street lights remotely using RF signal communication. This CMS technology has also been extended to operating the City's 20mph warning signs around schools and ensures that annual term times and operating hours can be instantly changed remotely without the need to visit each site.
- 4.11 There are still opportunities for improvement and the Partnership is one of the leading Councils in the introduction of new technologies to further enhance and build on the successes that have been realised to date. Listed below are the main areas of work where the Partnership is realising further improvements:
- Introduction of LED light technology into street lighting applications to reduce electricity consumption and further improve reliability and extend the operational life of the lamps. To date 2834 street lights have been installed in the City using LED technology.
  - In line with National Guidance and recommendations, street lights with adaptable lighting levels have been introduced as standard in non residential streets where traffic volumes and pedestrian movement reduces significantly outwith peak social hours. This innovative approach reduces electricity consumptions and assists in helping the Council meet its Statutory carbon reduction obligation.
  - Reduction in fuel and repair costs by continuing with a city wide policy of changing from the traditional burn to extinction reactive maintenance approach, to a system of proactive maintenance which involves changing all lamps in an area just prior to their expected end of life.
  - Through the SCOTS Asset Management project the Partnership is undertaking an active role in the introduction and development of Asset Management tools and techniques to help further improve the service.

Some of these initiatives and projects will take time to develop and taking account of this and the evidence of the successes achieved to date, it is recommended that this successful Partnership be extended for a further period of 3 years.

- 4.12 The present Street Lighting Partnering arrangement meets the Scottish Government's objectives in increased partnership working in line with the Efficient Government Agenda and the street services model set by the Regional Transport Partnership.

## **5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

## **6 CONSULTATIONS**

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, the Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

**7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None

Mike Galloway  
Director of City Development

Fergus Wilson  
City Engineer

FW/MS

11 February 2015

Dundee City Council  
Dundee House  
Dundee



Cities Benchmarking Group - Benchmarking KPIs for 2013/14

			Dundee			City A	City B	City C	Scottish Average
Condition/Asset	Headings	Measures	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2013/14	2013/14	2013/14	2013/14
Preservation	Reliability	Faults as a % of street lighting stock	18.89%	16.94%	<b>14.00%</b>	29.76	24.18	23.20%	18.05%
		Mean time between failures (MTBF) Years	5.30	5.90	<b>7.14</b>	3.40	4.10	4.30	5.50
		% of columns which have exceeded expected service life	35.06%	37.04%	<b>32.56%</b>	30.11%	32.28%	44.93%	29.35%
Customer Service	Repair Times	Average time taken to repair (days)	2.83	3.16	<b>4.09</b>	6.26	2.7	3.39	4.10
		Public perception	% of repairs within 7 days	94.31%	96.00%	<b>94.00%</b>	71.19%	No Data	96.76%
	Public calls as a % of faults	30.28%	30.72%	<b>38.63%</b>	41.90%	44.58%	83.16%	65.89%	
	Public calls as a % of street lights	5.72%	5.21%	<b>5.41%</b>	12.47%	10.78%	19.29%	11.77%	
	% of street lights modern white light	49.95%	58.05%	<b>60.72%</b>	38.59%	18.91%	13.71%	20.63%	
Availability		Number of night inspections annually	48	24	<b>24</b>	18	No Data	0	11
		% of street lights not working as planned on any one evening	0.34%	0.50%	<b>0.45%</b>	1.34%	12.27%	11.82%	4.82%
Financial	Financial Costs	Average cost (client) of repairing routine faults (eg component replacement)	£27.01	£29.24	<b>£38.75</b>	£42.28	No Data	No Data	£78.55
	Financial Investment	Total Investment in infrastructure per street light	£49.37	£57.42	<b>£66.66</b>	£32.01	£61.07	£72.74	£60.16
Environment	Energy Consumption	Average annual electricity consumption per street light (kWhrs)	420.07	405.84	<b>409.93</b>	No Data	441.94	596.13	398.75
	Carbon Footprint	Average annual CO2 emissions per street light (kg)	225.58	217.93	<b>221.77</b>	No Data	239.09	322.51	210.67
		No of Street lights	24,363	24,591	<b>25,192</b>	32,257	63,812	71,481	28,793