

**REPORT TO: CITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT - 27 FEBRUARY 2012**

**REPORT ON: STREET LIGHTING PARTNERSHIP**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT**

**REPORT NO: 53-2012**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report 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 Committee note the contents of this report and agree:
- i To further extend the Partnership scheme to 31 March 2015
  - ii That the Director of City Development be remitted to report back annually to Committee advising on progress and performance.
  - iii That further discussions take place with Angus Council to encourage them to become part of the Partnership which would then cover the whole of Tayside.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION**

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

## **4 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 Reference is made to Article V of the Planning and Transport Committee of 9 March 2009 when approval was given to extend the Street Lighting Partnership with Tayside Contracts and Perth and Kinross Council for a further period of three years.
- 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 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 The present Partnering Agreement ends on the 31 March 2012 after a further very successful three year period. Over the last 6 years the Partnership has consistently performed well against its various objectives and its key service performance indicators. A summary of the latest results from the SCOTS Lighting Cities benchmarking exercise for 2010/11 is attached in Appendix 1. In summary, the Street Lighting Partnership has continually improved in performance over the period. Street Lights in Dundee have fewer faults, which are fixed more quickly and cost of repairs is lower than in any other major Scottish city. The comparisons also show that on any one evening, Dundee has only three lights per 1000 not working compared to five times as many in City A and twelve times as many in City C.
- 4.4 The 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, and in 2010 the Street Lighting Partnership was a finalist in the APSE Best Performing category.
- 4.5 The Partnership played a major role in establishing a collaborative street lighting procurement contract through Scotland Excel which has significantly reduced tender administration cost and seeks to provide best value in the procurement of street lighting equipment by standardising the use of equipment across Scotland and achieving economies of scale.
- 4.5 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 287 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 playing a leading 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

- 4.6 Dialogue is ongoing with representatives of Angus Council with a view to them becoming part of the Partnership to deliver a Street Lighting service across the whole of Tayside.

## **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, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Director of Finance, and Managing Director Tayside Contracts have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

## **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 Report No. 135-2009 to the Planning and Transport Committee of 9 March 2009

Mike Galloway  
Director of Planning & Transportation

Fergus Wilson  
City Engineer

FW/LMcG/EH

9 February 2012

Dundee City Council  
Dundee House  
Dundee

## Cities Benchmarking Group Benchmarking Parameters for 2010/11

	Headings	Measures	City A	Dundee			City B	City C
			2010/11	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2006/7	2009/10
Condition/Asset Preservation	Reliability	Faults as a % of street lighting stock	31.50%	20.54%	22.11%	20.00%	38.5%	65.53%
		Mean time between failures (MTBF) Years	2.47	4.87	4.52	5.00	2.6	1.53
		% of columns over 30 years old	37.34%	32.31%	35.85%	35.43%	n/a	49.62%
Customer Service	Repair Times	Average time taken to repair (days)	3.2	2.10	1.90	2.5	3.5	6.30
	Public perception	% of repairs within 7 days	84.96%	94.60%	95.60%	92.50%	92.71%	90.03%
	Staffing	Public calls as a % of faults	45.42%	20.54%	28.72%	32.03%	44.0%	55.41%
	People Management (HR)	Public calls as a % of street lights	14.3%	5.39%	6.35%	6.41%	15.5%	36.31%
		% of street lights modern white light	39.23%	41.66%	45.04%	49.42%	n/a	12.58%
Availability		Number of night inspections annually	17	48	48	48	6	10
		% of street lights not working as planned on anyone evening	1.21%	0.33%	0.35%	0.35%	3.3%	4.41%
Financial	Financial Costs	Average costs (client) of repairing routine faults (eg component replacement)	£44.43	£28.00	£26.84	£27.12	£37.36	£67.73
	Financial Investment	Individual cost of night inspecting a street light	£0.06p	£0.03p	£0.04p	£0.03p	n/a	£0.14p
Environment	Carbon Footprint	Total Investment in infrastructure per street light	£43.90	£43.75	£47.22	£52.72	n/a	£86.33
		Average connected load per street light (watts)	136.65	104.52	103.73	103.53	111	116.33
	Energy Consumption	Average annual electricity consumption per street light (kWhrs)	565.60	408.88	405.79	424.14	n/a	479.03
		% Dimmable Street Lighting	0%	0%	0%	1.69%	n/a	0%
Number of Street Lights			32,166	22,287	22,300	24,129	54,991	71,945

Note - City B were unable to submit KPI's for 2007/8 to 2010/11 and City C have not yet submitted figures for 2010/11